

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; SEPTEMBER 18, 2017; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regular meeting on Monday, September 18, 2017, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Roy Hollingsworth, Chairman; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Vice Chairman; Isaac Smith; Shedron D. Williams and Ronald G. "Breeze" Winn. Council Member(s) absent: None. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council; A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Hollingsworth called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Council Member Smith gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2017 HAMPTON COUNTY AGENDA AND AGENDA:

Chairman Hollingsworth requested that following revisions be made to the agenda, (1) Defer July 17, 2017 and August 21, 2017 meeting minutes until the next meeting. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to accept the Consent Agenda and the September 18, 2017 Agenda and the approval of the meeting June 30, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carried with Council Member Hollingsworth, Phillips, Smith and Winn voting in favor and Council Member Williams voting against.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There was no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 19, 2017 HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to approve the June 19, 2017 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

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PRESENTATION(S)

MR. SCOTT ALLEN, HAMPTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 FINANCIAL CONSULTANT, REGARDING UPDATE:

Mr. Allen came before council regarding an update for Hampton County School District 2 financial report.

MRS. ANNETTE TUTEN, HAMPTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL:

Mrs. Annette Tuten, Chairman, Hampton County Arts Council, came before council and presented the bylaws as approved by the Hampton County Arts Council. Mrs. Tuten also stated that the Hampton County Arts Council would like to have the transactions run through the county procurement system. Council Member Williams informed Mrs. Tuten that the Hampton County Arts Council had \$30,000 in their budget.

MS. CHRISTINE JAMES, FINANCE DIRECTOR, QUARTERLY REPORT:

Ms. Christine James, Finance Director, Quarterly Report, came before council to give the quarterly report.

MR. GREGG COOK, HAMPTON COUNTY FIRE CHIEF, UPDATE:

Administrator Dobson-Elliott reported Mr. Gregg Cook, Hampton County Fire Chief, would not be present. He has a new grandbaby.

APPOINTMENT(S)

HAMPTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:

Council voted by ballot to appoint Dr. Ronald Wilcox and Clay Bishop (Ad Hoc) to the Hampton County Economic Development Commission.

HAMPTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL:

Council voted by ballot to appoint Ashley Bush and Leah Stanley to Hampton County Economic Arts Council.

RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

There were no resolutions/proclamations.

ORDINANCE(S)

SECOND READING TO AIRPORT NAME CHANGE – REQUEST TO CHANGE NAME OF HAMPTON-VARNVILLE AIRPORT TO HAMPTON COUNTY AIRPORT:

Moved Council Member Smith, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to give second reading to the ordinance to change the name of the Hampton – Varnville Airport to Hampton County Airport.

Motion carried with Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips, Smith and Williams voting in favor

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and Council Member Winn opposing.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Hollingsworth reported that he spoke at the Rotary Club along with Administrator Dobson-Elliott and gave info about Air Methods, economic development projects and the creation of the Hampton County Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. Chairman Hollingsworth thanked Mr. Brantley Strickland, SCA, for the information provided for the presentation.

Chairman Hollingsworth reminded council of the meetings Revenue, Economic Development Policy on 09/20/2017; LCAA meeting in Hampton on 09/21/2017, Council's Monthly Retreat on 09/22/2017 and the Property Taxes Incentive Training in Barnwell on 09/26/2017.

DISCUSSION POINTS (COUNCIL MEMBERS):

Council Member Smith

Council Member Smith wanted to say to the community that Hampton County was blessed during the hurricanes and commended Suzanne Peebles for letting us know what to do and what not to do.

Chairman Hollingsworth

Chairman Hollingsworth stated that Ms. Peebles and staff did a top notch job and we were ready and appreciate everything that you do.

Vice Chairman Phillips

Vice Chairman Phillips stated that he wanted to reiterate what Council Member Smith said. He stated that Hampton County has some of the best employees in the state.

Council Member Winn

Council Member Winn wanted to know about the training, because it was several others that did not receive the training, but he was informed that he couldn't touch a cup of water without training. Council Member Winn inquired about Hampton County being an evacuation county. Ms. Peebles responded that there are classroom trainings for elected officials. She reported that Hampton County is not an evacuation county. She reported that Hampton County is a volunteer evacuation county. Administrator Dobson-Elliott commended Thomas Watson for his hurricane tracking.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE:

County Attorney Solomons stated that his report needs to be in executive session. He reported that he is waiting on the deed from Clemson for the Aquaculture property.

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CLERK TO COUNCIL'S UPDATE:

The Clerk to Council had no update.

HAMPTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL BYLAWS:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to give first reading to the Hampton County Arts Council Bylaws. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE REGARDING UNPAID BUSINESS TAXES (COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS)

Council Member Williams presented a report regarding the unpaid business taxes in Hampton County. He reported that the report he received shows a total of \$3,229,058.91 in unpaid business taxes. Council Member Williams stated that the County needs to come up with some solution like using the Set Off Debt Collection through the South Carolina Association of Counties for collecting or whatever method that is available to the county. Administrator Dobson-Elliott reported that this is through the Auditor and the Tax Collector. Chairman Hollingsworth wanted to know if the county was legally entitled to the money owed to us. Council Member Williams stated that the same businesses pay the taxes in other counties but not Hampton County.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Dobson-Elliott gave her employee update and reported that Hampton County will be receiving all the money for Hurricane Matthew.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LEGAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MATTERS REGARDING CORONER'S VAN, LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION (JASPER
COUNTY), COMPANY TWO AND ESTILL TRAFFIC
COURT-INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT:**

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to go into executive session to discuss legal and economic development matters regarding the Coroner's Van, Legislative Delegation (Jasper County), Company Two and Estill Traffic Court – Intergovernmental Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

**REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LEGAL AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT MATTERS:**

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to come out of executive session concerning legal and economic development matters regarding the Coroner's Van, Legislative Delegation (Jasper County), Company Two and Estill Traffic Court – Intergovernmental Agreement. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hollingsworth reported that economic development and legal updates were taken under advisement.

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ESTILL TRAFFIC COURT:

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Winn, not to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Town of Estill Intergovernmental Agreement Regarding Estill's Traffic Court. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Winn, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hollingsworth adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p. m.