

Regular Meeting
July 12, 2022

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD JULY 12, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

John B. Partin, Vice Mayor, Ward 3
Deborah B. Randolph, Councilor, Ward 1
Arlene Holloway, Councilor, Ward 2
Jasmine E. Gore, Councilor, Ward 4
Janice B. Denton, Councilor, Ward 5 (arrived during closed session)

John M. Altman, Jr., City Manager
Danielle F. Smith, City Attorney
Mollie P. Bess, City Clerk

Vice Mayor Partin opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and requested a roll call.

ROLL CALL:

Vice Mayor Partin	present
Councilor Randolph	present
Councilor Holloway	present
Councilor Gore	present

Quorum established.

CLOSED MEETING

Vice Mayor Partin asked for a motion to go into closed session.

A motion was made by Councilor Holloway and seconded by Vice Mayor Partin to enter into a closed meeting pursuant to Va. Code Section §2.2-371.1 (A) (1) to interview prospective appointees to the School Board, discuss appointees to various other boards and commissions and to discuss City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk. There was no discussion. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:

Councilor Randolph	yes
Councilor Holloway	yes
Vice Mayor Partin	yes
Councilor Gore	no

Motion passes 3-1

RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

Motion made by Vice Mayor Partin and seconded by Councilor Gore to come out of closed session. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:

Councilor Randolph	yes
Councilor Holloway	yes

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Vice Mayor Partin	yes
Councilor Gore	yes
Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passes 5-0

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO VA. CODE §2.2-3712 (D): Were only public business matters (1) lawfully exempted from open-meeting requirements and (2) identified in the closed-meeting motion discussed in closed meeting? At the roll call, the responses resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Certification passes 5-0.

Motion made by Councilor Holloway and seconded by Councilor Gore to reappoint Mr. John Griffin and Mr. Christopher Reber to the School Board. There was no discussion. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	no
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	no

Motion passes 3-2.

Vice Mayor Partin adjourned meeting at 6:58 p.m.; Council will reconvene for the work session at 7:00 p.m.

WORK SESSION

WS-1 -Proposed Rezoning of Anchor Point Development

After a brief overview by Mr. Altman, the floor was given to Mr. Chris Ward, Interim Director of Development, to provide some background and history of the project. After a brief discussion, he introduced Mr. Philip Martin and Mr. Hans Klinger, representatives of HHHunt.

Mr. Martin thanked Mr. Ward and introduced himself, Mr. Klinger and Mr. Kevin Walsh, representative of the owner of the property. Mr. Martin also thanked the staff for being so helpful. After a brief history of the company, he presented the proposal and the plans, and left the floor open for Council's questions.

Council Randolph asked about the easement extensions, what were they for.

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Mr. Paul, Chairman of the Planning Commission, explained that the two easements gives the City the opportunity to provide a better entrance into Anchor Point and other single entry communities. Councilor Randolph's other question was in reference to the single family minimum. She asked what the average for single family and townhomes were going to be. Mr. Martin responded, stating that the townhomes will have the same size, 1,300 square feet with two or three bedrooms; the three story homes will be bigger, ranging from 1,500 to 2,750 square feet, with three or four bedrooms.

Councilor Denton asked about the square footage of the townhouses, which Mr. Martin explained again that the square footage of the town houses will be 1,300 and the single family units will be larger. A sidewalk will be added.

Vice Mayor Partin asked Mr. Edwards to come to the podium to discuss the concerns of the residence about worsening erosion and inadequate BMPs; asked for some analysis or improvements that had been discussed and talked about.

Mr. Edwards had discussions with the Wetlands solutions engineer, they are working with Virginia Tech to create a plan that will resolve the erosion issue. He was not sure of the inadequate BMPs. He stated that the existing phase is already in place, and everything else that they are proposing will have to meet the new current standards such as the ChesBay requirements, and the Stormwater Quality and Quantity requirements.

Vice Mayor Partin asked Mr. Altman if the sewer pump issue due to the flow from the prison to the pump station at Queen Anne will be impactful at Queen Anne. Mr. Altman stated that this is an intermittent issue, work and improvements were done on the pump to the point in which impact will be negative, depending on the flow occurrence. Vice Mayor asked for a quick analysis report for Council to review.

The Vice Mayor then asked Mr. Ward about the ingress and egress access roads, and asked for more information to Council regarding the exact location of those easements.

Councilor Gore gave her contact information to Mr. Austin Anderson to share with residents and citizens for additional concerns, as both neighborhoods fall under Ward 4. She also mentioned that even though the Planning Commission suggested this project, this is not something that will be a part of this approval if Council does not authorize it. Also, she stated that there is a lot of cost and environment factors. This is a large multimillion endeavor, just like the other multimillion dollar endeavors that had to wait due to the CAFR delays and other reasons.

Mr. Anderson described the layout and expense of the project. He envisioned the Broadway part of the project being over \$10 million, while the Queen Anne location being way less expensive (about \$250,000-\$500,000). Mr. Altman's cautionary suggestion regarding Queen Anne was to consider the dissatisfaction of the residents if roads run through their neighborhood.

Councilor Gore suggested, based on previous experience, to make sure that this is a slow process, with all impacted communities at the table for discussion. Also, she suggested that a multi-year financial plan be put into place to back the project.

Councilor Randolph stated that she agrees 100% with Councilor Gore, and is looking forward with HHHunt coming in and improving the area.

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Councilor Denton also expressed thanks to the gentlemen for coming to the meeting and for their interest in Hopewell.

There was no further discussion, so Vice Mayor Partin moved on to the Regular Meeting, and asked Ms. Mollie Bess, City Clerk, for a roll call.

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Quorum established.

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Prayer was led by Rev. Danny Tucker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, led by Councilor Denton.

Vice Mayor Partin introduced the new City Attorney, Ms. Danielle Ferguson Smith, the former Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney of Petersburg. Ms. Ferguson Smith stated that she is looking forward to serving the citizens of Hopewell.

Vice Mayor Partin called for a motion to adopt or amend the regular meeting agenda. Councilor Denton made a motion to amend the agenda to move the Communications from Citizens up to just before the Financial Report. Her motion was seconded by Councilor Holloway.

Councilor Gore asked for a friendly amendment. She asked for R3 (School Resource Officer Grant Program) and RS (Meridian Waste Contract Modification) to be moved up to RI and R2, given the nature of the funding and then the contract with Meridian. Councilor Denton agreed with the friendly amendment.

Vice Mayor Partin recapped the order of the Regular Business:

School Resource Officer (R-1)
Meridian Waste Contract (R-2)
VDOT Smart Scale (R-3)
Resolution to Support IRF for Lamb Arts (R-4)
Part-Time Detective with the Police Department (R-5)

There was no further discussion. Vice Mayor Partin requested a roll call, and the vote resulted as follows:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passed 5-0

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CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Mayor Partin asked if there was a motion to amend or adopt the Consent Agenda. Motion made by Councilor Denton and seconded by Vice Mayor Partin to accept the consent agenda. There was no discussion. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passed 5-0.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

There being no information or presentations, Vice Mayor Partin moved on to Communications from Citizens.

Ms. Rosie Riley, marketing communications specialist for Hopewell/Prince George Chamber of Commerce, introduced herself to the Vice Mayor, City Council and the City Manager.

This email communication was presented by Mollie Bess, City Clerk. Ms. Kelly Tiller, Ward 3, asked Council to support joining the James River Soil and Water conservation district or sign an MOU (memorandum of understanding) with the district to give all residents in Hopewell access to thousands of dollars in technical and physical drainage assistance with their yards. A program called VCAP (Virginia Conservation Assistance Program) reimburses residents up to 75% of drainage improvement projects in their yards. Projects that qualify for this program include rain barrels, rain gardens, permeable pavers, green roofs and more.

Vice Mayor Partin thanked Ms. Bess and asked if anyone from the audience wanted to come forward. Hearing none, he moved on to the Financial Report, presented by Mr. Michael Terry, Finance Director.

The highly detailed financial report for this month will cover the period of June 30, closing out Fiscal Year '22. Topics covered in the report: Finance Compliance Report; Detail on City and School Progress Report; Operations and Assignments; Budget for FY '22-'23; and finally the Internal Report. After Mr. Terry concluded his presentation, Vice Mayor Partin asked if there were any questions or comments, and there were none. He moved onto

PUBLIC HEARING

PH-1: FY 2022-2023 CDBG Annual Allocation

Presentation by Mr. Chris Ward, Director of Development. This is an opportunity for the citizens of Hopewell to provide comments regarding the proposed Community Development Block Grant program for program year 2022-2023. As a CDBG entitlement community, the City of Hopewell receives an annual allocation of funds from HUD. The City is required by HUD to develop a consolidated plan that outlines or provides guidelines for how this money should be spent each year. The goals of this year's

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consolidated plans are as follows: 1) rehabilitation of housing, 2) education, primarily adult and preschool literacy, 3) household services including elderly and disabled, 4) infrastructure, and 5) homeless prevention. Since 2017, including this year, the City has received \$1.2 million in CDBG funds. Last year, the City has received \$225,305.00.

The grant is divided into three categories: 1) administration, in which HUD caps at 20%, 2) public service programs, in which up to 15% can be spent on that, and 3) infrastructure and housing rehabilitation, in which the remaining money is spent on that.

The CDBG Committee, appointed by City Council, consists of four City Councilors whose wards include HUD eligible areas: Ward 1 (Councilor Randolph), Ward 2 (Councilor Holloway), Ward 6 (Councilor Pelham), and Ward 7 (Mayor Bennett). The Committee met twice this year to finalize the funding recommendation to City Council.

The recommendation is as follows:

General administration, an automatic line item in the CDBG budget, \$45,061.00 (20% cap set by HUD), used to implement and manage the grants to sub-recipients.

Under public service, \$33,796.00, (15% cap set by HUD), the Committee recommends funding the Hopewell Food Pantry \$5,000.00 for their yellow card program; \$4,000.00 to STORY for their ML2 Youth Development Program; \$9,000.00 to the James House for domestic violence intervention; \$15,796.00 to Commonwealth Catholic Charities for a financial literacy program for persons who participated in the RMU program (an outgrowth from the Rent, Mortgage and Utility Program established by Council using the COVID funds from two years ago).

Under infrastructure and housing rehabilitation, \$75,000.00 for Project Homes (emergency home repair program); and \$71,448.00 for the City to use on two different programs, one located in Ward 6, the other in Ward 2 to improve storm drainage.

The Committee and the Department of Development asked City Council to approve the FY 2022-2023 CDBG budget for \$225,305.00, and to provide authorization for the City Manager to submit the third year annual action plan to HUD.

Vice Mayor Partin gave the floor to Councilor Randolph, who thanked Mr. Ward and staff for making the infrastructure process easy and simple.

Councilor Gore asked Mr. Altman about the update on Mr. Ray Spicer and the Medicaid expansion position, and because her question crosses over into Development, she also asked Mr. Ward about crisis support and what was the list of resources on hand. This is really a question for Mr. Spicer, but rental assistance went to Planning during COVID, so the question doubles with Mr. Ward and the Catholic Charities in particular.

Mr. Altman stated that he did have a meeting with Mr. Ward and Mr. Spicer and discussed homelessness services and transitioning back to the warming shelter. He also mentioned that Mr. Commander was also present at that meeting to express interest in providing a fresh food element to the food pantry, so there may be a request for funding from an ARPA perspective.

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After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Ward asked if there were any other questions about the action that he was asking of Council to take this evening. Vice Mayor Partin noted that there were no further questions, and he opened the floor for public hearing. Seeing none, he closed the public hearing, and asked for a motion.

Motion made by Councilor Denton and seconded by Councilor Randolph to approve the FY 22-23 CDBG Block Grant for 225,305 and provide authorization for the City Manager to submit the third year action plan to HUD. There was no discussion. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passed 5-0

There was no Unfinished Business, so Vice Mayor Partin continued with the Regular Business, but asked if there was a motion to extend the meeting. According to City Attorney Cynthia Hudson, the three hour mark started at 7:30 pm, so Council was good to go until 10:30 p.m. Vice Mayor moved forward to the Regular Business.

REGULAR BUSINESS

R-1: FY23 School Resource Officer Grant Program - Second Round Funding Opportunity

What is presented for Council's consideration is a submission by the Hopewell Police Department to apply for \$98,546.22 for the SRO (School Resource Officer) program, Chief Starke presenting, and Ms. Kim Parsons is also present to provide backup if necessary. Ms. Parsons announced that the Police Department received this opportunity to apply for this grant on or about June 24¹ h. At the Governor's direction, this is the second round of funding for school resource officers. On June 30, the four-year grant was completed, and normally, that position will need funding for another four years. With this second round funding, the Police Department gets a fifth year if awarded this funding. She asked the Council for permission to apply for this grant for \$98,546.22 to continue the SRO position at Hopewell High School.

Vice Mayor Partin opened the floor for discussion, starting with Councilor Randolph and then Councilor Gore.

Councilor Randolph moved to authorize the Hopewell Police Department to apply for a \$98,546.22 grant funding to sustain the current School Resource Officer position at Hopewell High School. Her motion was seconded by Councilor Gore. There were no questions or comments. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes

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Councilor Denton moved to amend the service agreement with CVWMA to increase the household rate by \$3.22 a month, and direct CVWMA to negotiate an early termination of the solid waste collection and disposal contract with Meridian Waste for the City of Hopewell. Her motion was seconded for discussion by Vice Mayor Partin.

Vice Mayor Partin asked Mr. Altman how much this monthly increase was. Mr. Altman stated that at \$3.22 per month, it's about \$28,000. Over a six month period, \$168,000; over a 12 month period, \$336,000 additional dollars.

Vice Mayor Partin asked Mr. Altman of the amount of money in the solid waste fund at this time, and Mr. Altman stated that as of the last audits, the amount was \$2.5 million. Vice Mayor Partin asked if it was possible to use some of the money in the solid waste funds to offset the increase for a short time to ease the citizens into this increase, and Mr. Altman answered affirmatively.

Vice Mayor Partin asked Councilor Denton if she was willing to do a friendly amendment to allow the City's solid waste fund to absorb the first five months of this rate increase, and Councilor Denton agreed. At this point, the Vice Mayor gave the floor to Councilor Gore, who asked if Mr. Michael Terry, Finance Director, was made aware of this arrangement. Mr. Altman stated that funding was based on audit findings; there was conversation when the question was asked regarding status of the money in the solid waste fund; however, he and Mr. Terry had not discussed anything as of yet.

Councilor Gore stated that she was not going to vote on it, but suggested the verbiage "pending the Finance Director's confirmation" to make sure that everything was kosher. Vice Mayor Partin agreed to add the verbiage to the motion.

After a lengthy discussion, the floor was given to Councilor Holloway, who expressed that the feelings of the constituents should be taken into consideration regarding the service provided and the increase. Mr. Webb stated that although it hasn't been perfect, there have been improvements and issues have been addressed and resolved with the help of City Manager and staff, apologizing for the way in which things have been presented, and with new equipment coming in, this will help with things getting better.

Councilor Randolph agreed with Councilor Gore; she was not happy with CVWMA not being present at the meeting; they should be doing the negotiations. She was not on board with this motion as it was; this looks for an early out, and if the City has to select another company the increase will be much bigger than \$3.22. She asked Mr. Webb how long this \$3.22 increase will last.

Mr. Altman stated that the \$3.22 increase will raise the current rate, \$8.10, up to \$11.32. What Waste Management's rate would be under the new agreements is \$14.11 for FY23. There are annual escalators built into that contract, unlike the current agreement with Meridian, based on conditions. He also stated that there has been significant improvement in the reduced number of calls and emails, and he appreciated all that Mr. Webb has done since his return. He added that bringing in someone else on a short term, emergency basis will be a higher cost than Waste Management is asking for; this is the cheapest alternative from a cost perspective. Mr. Webb firmly assured that if the \$3.22 is approved, he will hold to that increase, and encouraged Council and staff to contact CVWMA with any issues they have, and if the citizens are not getting what they need to please call him; he will get issues resolved.

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Danielle F. Smith, City Attorney, opined that it would have been helpful if she could look at the notice requirement and the contract between Waste Management and the City of Hopewell; it seemed that there was no notice requirement regarding pay increase and communicating that to City Council. Perhaps if there was a notice requirement that stated "next 60 days if the matter is not addressed" instead of "need a pay increase or trash service is cut off in 30 days", that would have been a better approach.

After a lengthy discussion, the floor was given to Councilor Denton, who addressed the current motion. Instead of the verbiage "negotiation for early termination," she suggested that they are given six months, then see where they are, then if things have not improved, look to CVWMA to see what they can do to help. Then, get the help of the money from the trash fund for six months so that the increase does not hurt the citizens,

Vice Mayor Partin asked Councilor Denton if she agreed to the friendly amendment to strike out "negotiation for early termination," and she agreed, adding to revisit the contract in six months.

Councilor Gore stated for clarity that earlier in the discussion, it was mentioned as five months, but in the motion the timeframe is stated as six months, and the months need to match. Vice Mayor Partin stated that he was fine with the timeframe of six months. Councilor Gore asked if this was a contract extension for six months; was this an amendment to the contract

City Attorney Hudson stated that this was not technically an amendment to the contract, but giving what is being requested for six months, which is under the terms of the contract. They are asking for more money, and Council is meeting their request. However, in the next six months, Council will have to decide whether or not to continue payments.

There was a discussion regarding the six-month timeframe. Councilor Gore suggested the verbiage "provide the increase in payment through December 31, 2022," and then Council needs to have a work session in November's timeframe for discussion in December. She asked if Council can to a friendly amendment to say that to approve their increase effective July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. Vice Mayor Partin stated that he was fine with that verbiage. Councilor Gore is adding a second motion following the first motion.

The first motion, made by Councilor Denton and seconded by Vice Mayor Partin, stated as follows: to amend the service agreement with CVWMA to increase the household rate by \$3.22 per month effective July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, and allow city solid waste fund to absorb the first six months of the increase in the trash fee pending the Financial Director's recommendation.

Councilor Gore asked for a repeat of the motion; the verbiage was collectively agreed upon by Council.

Mr. Altman stated that the Finance Director, Mr. Michael Terry, is available to address issues.

Mr. Terry announced that \$2,503,971.00 was available, that Mr. Altman will get that in writing and also point to the website for the audit amount.

Mr. Watson was asked if any of those funds were encumbered, and Mr. Watson said no; Mr. Terry added that these were unrestricted funds.

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Councilor Gore called for the vote. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Webb thanked Council for the approval.

A motion was made by Council Gore to schedule a work session with CVWMA for no later than August of this year, and to tentatively schedule a joint meeting with Meridian and CVWMA for November of 2022. Her motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Partin, who asked for a roll call. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passed 5-0

R-3: VDOT Smart Scale

Mr. Austin Anderson presented the FY22 VDOT Smart Scale applications. This is Round 5, started in 2015, 2016, and then '18, '20, and again in 2022. These are biennial applications and he has 5 of them. Four are City applications, and one applications is going to be through the Tri-Cities MPO because it has regional implications in both Hopewell and Prince George.

Application 1 - Cedar Level Road, southern segment, which is extending the improvements done during 2018 through 2020. That's extending from Cobblestone Parkway down to Smithfield with the Cedar Level Road improvements.

Application 2 - Courthouse Road pedestrian improvements; this is adding sidewalks and curb cuts and improving the road on Courthouse Road.

Mr. Altman asked if this was part of the City's submission to the Congressman's Office, and Mr. Anderson answered affirmatively; this was submitted as an earmark back in April through both Senators and also Congressman McEachin; he asked for an update from Mr. Altman.

Mr. Altman had a call with the Congressman; he indicated that the project had made it through the subcommittee; was only able to fund half of that (it was an \$8 million dollar project, and the City is receiving \$4 million). The Congressman committed to continue to try to find additional funds to fully fund the project, there is hope that since it was submitted to the Senate side, that maybe there will be additional funding for the project.

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Application 3 -Route 36, Oakland Boulevard Stars Project, traffic signals improvements at Tri-Cities Crossings Boulevard and Rt. 36. These are called restricted U-turns; safety improvements to improve efficiency of traffic flow and also adding sidewalks and crosswalks.

Application 4 -West Randolph Road shared use path, brought to Council last fall as a TAP project (transportation alternatives); adding a shared use path on the south side of Route 10. Weren't successful with that, but going again with Smart Scale. If chosen as a Smart Scale project, it doesn't have a local match which is actually better for the city and also there is no funding limitations, unlike TAP which has a \$2 million dollar funding limitation. Can do some much needed improvements to the 6th Avenue traffic signal, which has reliability issues.

Application 5 -Tri-Cities NPO project, submitted as a City application two years ago in Round 4. It is part of the Appomattox River trail (starts at Cameron's Landing, goes under 295 on an access maintenance road, and then comes out on the other side of POLAR Way. It has improvements in both Hopewell and Prince George, so they were able to go to the Tri-Cities MPO and through a vote, they accepted as one of their four applications so they can also submit four applications.

Mr. Anderson has sketches available for display and for any questions from Council.

Vice Mayor Partin asked if there were any questions, and Councilor Gore asked to review the sketches. Mr. Anderson presented each sketch as they had been discussed.

Councilor Gore asked if there will any improvements for Mount Calvary Church, as they have someone on Sundays to assist people to cross the street and stop traffic because it is so dangerous. There needs to be a crosswalk or something there.

Mr. Anderson stated that he was not aware of that, but will evaluate that concern.

Vice Mayor Partin asked for a motion on the floor to extend the meeting until the regular business items are finished. There was no response, so he asked Mr. Anderson to continue with his presentation.

After the presentation was completed, Councilor Randolph made a motion to endorse the project applications and complete the draft resolution letter of support for both the City applications and the Tri-Cities area MPO application. Her motion was seconded by both Vice Mayor Partin and Councilor Gore. Councilor Gore had a question regarding the middle light by the Baskin-Robbins ice cream place. She asked was that light still going to go across or will it be changed. Mr. Anderson stated that this one will be changed to an arc as well. Vice Mayor Partin requested a roll call, and the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passed 5-0.

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R-4: Resolution to support IRE Application for Lamb Arts

Brief introduction by Mr. Altman. This is a request from Lamb Arts, a resolution of support for their Industrial Revitalization Fund Grant application to the Department of Housing and Community Development. Lamb Arts plans to apply for \$1 million in funding to further redevelop their location at 230 East Broadway, with no city match this year because of use of ARPA funds from the State regarding this and they actually increased the amount of money they can request and the number of projects. This is time sensitive because they have a July deadline.

Councilor Gore made a motion to approve Lamb Arts & Healing's resolution to submit the Industrial Revitalization Fund Grant application to the Department of Housing and Community Development. Her motion was seconded by Councilor Randolph. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passed 5-0.

R-5: Part-Time Detective with the Police Department

Presented by Police Chief Antonio "AJ" Starke. He asked Council for approval to add a part-time police detective to the staff. There are 14 unsolved homicides in the City, and the goal is to assist grieving family members with finding closure. He wants to continue strengthening relationships in the community, and he believes that by adding this part-time experienced detective to the staff, they can do just that. Also, he wants to send a strong message to anyone who wants to commit a crime here -they will be held accountable. The Commonwealth's Attorney stands in partnership with the Police Department to revisit unsolved homicides. The part-time position can be filled at a reduced cost and enhance effectiveness of the full-time staff, just over \$37,000 for the part-time position, as opposed to \$98,000 for a full-time detective. Reduced by going part-time with an experienced retired police officer. Chief Starke was available for questions from Council.

Councilor Randolph asked Chief Starke if the \$37,000 included everything that the person will need to do their job, and the Chief answered affirmatively.

Mr. Altman mentioned previous CAFR discussion regarding the use of the unassigned fund balance, and the assumption that the Police Department was going to exhaust their entire budget; however, because of vacancies and turnovers, that does not happen. So if the position is approved, the department can use its own budget through the year and if there is a need to do so, they can come back on the 4th quarter of the fiscal year to appropriate funds. Right now, more than likely based on vacancies, the money is there to do this.

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Motion was made by Councilor Randolph to approve the Hopewell Police Department's request to add one additional part-time employee to the Police Department's authorized number of employees, track expenditures, and if necessary, use unassigned fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gore.

At discussion, Councilor Denton asked clarity of use of available funds left in the Police Department right now and when the unassigned fund balance is needed, the matter will be put in the motion to be addressed.

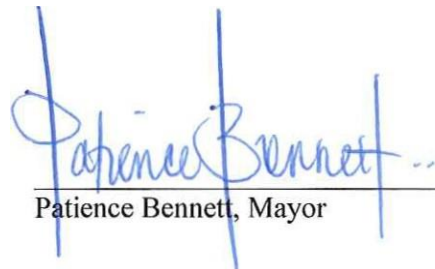
Councilor Gore thanked Mr. Altman for finding that compromise and Mr. Terry for looking at those numbers and for his patience of and giving what Council asked for.

There were no further comments, and Vice Mayor Partin requested a roll call. At the roll call, the vote resulted:

ROLL CALL:	Councilor Randolph	yes
	Councilor Holloway	yes
	Vice Mayor Partin	yes
	Councilor Gore	yes
	Councilor Denton	yes

Motion passed 5-0.

Councilor Gore made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Vice Mayor Partin. All was in favor, with none opposing, and the meeting was adjourned.


Patience Bennett, Mayor

/s/ Mollie Bess
Mollie Bess, City Clerk