

February 23, 2017
Special Joint Works Session Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT WORK SESSION MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL AND
THE HOPEWELL SCHOOL BOARD HELD FEBRUARY 23, 2017**

A Special Joint Work Session Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Thursday, February 23, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the Hopewell High School Library, 400 S Mesa Drive, Hopewell, Virginia.

PRESENT: Jackie M. Shornak, Mayor
Jasmine E. Gore, Vice Mayor
Christina J. Luman-Bailey, Councilor
Arlene Holloway, Councilor
Janice B. Denton, Councilor
Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor

Charles Dane, Assistant City Manager
Stefan M. Calos, City Attorney
Ross A. Kearney III, City Clerk
Lance Wolff, Interim Finance Director

ABSENT: Anthony J. Zevgolis

TOUR OF THE CTE CLASSROOMS AT HOPEWELL HIGH SCHOOL

A tour of Hopewell High School's Career and Technical Education wing began at 6:00 p.m. prior to convening the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Shornak called the joint meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken as follows:

Mayor Shornak	-	present
Vice Mayor Gore	-	present
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	present
Councilor Holloway	-	present
Councilor Zevgolis	-	absent
Councilor Denton	-	present
Councilor Pelham	-	present

Chairman Reber called the School Board to order and delivered the opening prayer and then roll call was taken:

Mr. Reber, Chairman	-	present
Ms. Hyslop, Vice-Chairman	-	present
Mr. Cuffey	-	present.
Mrs. Jefferson	-	absent
Dr. Marks	-	absent

February 23, 2017
Special Joint Works Session Meeting

Dr. Hackney	-	Superintendent
Dr. Evans	-	Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Barnes	-	Director of Finance

Motion to Adopt Agenda

Upon motion of School board member N. Greg Cuffey, and seconded by Vice Chairman Linda Hyslop, the School board adopted the agenda as they presented by all voting aye.

SPECIAL MEETING

FY 2018 Budget:

Mrs. Barnes presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Division's specific budget initiatives. She shared that based on the Governor's proposed budget and the Division's 2018 priority funding areas, \$515,179 thousand would be needed in additional funds.

Mrs. Barnes explained the money that will be required for additional mandated programs. She shared the budget request including expansion of Summer school, adjusting the custodian salaries based on recommendations from the Classification and Compensation Study and an estimated increase in Healthcare costs.

Dr. Hackney explained that the research is clear about the need to decrease the amount of time children spend away from the classroom. She also noted in comparing the salary groups, the custodian's salaries are the furthest below market average. The Councilors asked questions and made comments as the presentation progressed. Mr. Reber reminded those present that with Amazon moving to the Tri Cities area, salary competition increased. Ms. Hyslop mentioned that we are in competition with three larger school divisions. Dr. Hackney reassured the Councilors that a great deal of time had been spent looking over the existing budget, reorganizing and reallocating lines to see where money could be adjusted. She explained that this really is new money that is needed. Mayor Shornak suggested that once the State's budget was finalized that the School Board and City Council have another work session. Vice Mayor Gore expressed her gratitude in our proactive efforts to address the custodian salary needs. She thanked the division for working towards its strategic plan. Councilor Luman-Bailey asked about CodeRVA. Dr. Evans responded that it was a four year program where the student would finish high school in two years and be working on an Associates Degree the final two years, and that during those last two years the student would be employed in their field of study. Mr. Cuffey expressed how proud he was of the CTE program and how we are creating career paths for students early in life. Mr. Cuffey also noted how impressed he was with New Hope Academy. Vice Mayor Gore asked about the status of the Education Foundation. Dr. Hackney shared that it was in transition and they are focusing on real fundraising. Dr. Hackney explained that some of the purchases we have made around curriculum and assessment are showing results. She extended her thanks to City Council for their support. Mayor Shornak thanked all present for allowing the meeting and shared that it helps to know that we are all working together for the betterment of our kids. No additional comments were made with regard to the division's budget presentation.

ADJOURN

February 23, 2017
Special Joint Works Session Meeting

Motion was made at 7:50 p.m. by Councilor Pelham, seconded by Councilor Denton, and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting.

Jackie M. Shornak Mayor

Ross A. Kearney III, City Clerk