

**January 9, 2018  
Regular Meeting**

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

A Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Tuesday, January 9, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 300 North Main Street, Hopewell, Virginia.

**PRESENT:** Jackie Shornak, Mayor  
Jasmine E. Gore, Vice Mayor  
Christina J. Luman-Bailey, Councilor  
Arlene Holloway, Councilor  
Anthony J. Zevgolts, Councilor (arrived at 6:33 pm)  
Janice B. Denton, Councilor  
Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor

Charles Dane, Interim City Manager  
Stefan M. Calos of Sands Anderson PC, City Attorney  
Ronnieye L. Arrington, City Clerk

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Shornak opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken as follows:

Mayor Shornak	-	present
Vice Mayor Gore	-	present
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	present
Councilor Holloway	-	absent
Councilor Zevgolts	-	absent (arrived at 6:33 pm)
Councilor Denton	-	present
Councilor Pelham	-	present

**CLOSED MEETING**

At 6:31 p.m. Councilor Denton moved to go into closed meeting for (1) discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for employment (city manager); (2) discussion of specific appointees of City Council (CPMT); (3) discussion of appointment of specific appointees of city council (HRHA, Recreation Commission, Hopewell Water Renewal Commission); (4) discussion concerning a prospective business where no previous announcement has been made of the business' interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community; (5) consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of City Council (EEOC); and (5) consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by city council related thereto and regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, in accordance with Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A) (1) [two items], (5), (7), and (8), respectively, which motion was seconded by Councilor Pelham. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes

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Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes
Councilor Zevgolis	-	---- (arrived at 6:33 pm)

**Motion passes 6-0**

**Councilor Zevgolis left the meeting at 7:37 pm**

**RECONVENE OPEN MEETING**

Council convened into Open Session at 7:43 p.m. and responded to the question pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3712 (D): were only public business matters (I) lawfully exempted from open-meeting requirements and (II) identified in the closed-meeting motion discussed in closed meeting? Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

**AMEND/ADOPT AGENDA**

Councilor Denton made a motion to amend the agenda to remove Public Hearings 2 and 3 from the agenda, and to change the location of the January 18, 2018 Joint Meeting between Council and the Planning Commission to the Beacon, which motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Gore. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

**Motion passes 6-0**

Mayor Shornak requested a roll call, the result of which was:

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

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**PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Mayor Shornak called the meeting to order, and thanked all for attending. The prayer was led by Herbert Bragg, Director of Intergovernmental and Public Affairs, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, led by Vice Mayor Gore.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine by Council and will be approved or received by one motion in the form listed. Items may be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion under the regular agenda at the request of any Councilor.*

- C-1 Minutes:**
- C-2 Pending List:**
- C-3 Routine Approval of Work Sessions: January 18, 2018 - Work Session between the Planning Commission and City Council; February 1, 2018 – Work session with Springsted on Compensation Study and Plan, and HPD recruitment and retention**
- C-4 Personnel Change Report & Financial Report: Personnel report**
- C-5 Ordinances on Second & Final Reading:**
- C-6 Routine Grant Approval:**
- C-7 Public Hearing Announcement: January 23 - Request to amend the Hopewell Zoning Ordinance, Article III-A; Request to vacate a portion of an approximate 6,882 square foot undeveloped right-of-way known as Walnut Street, adjacent to 401, 310 and 309 Delton Avenue**
- C-8 Information for Council Review: Minutes: Youth Services Commission (December 2017) Recreation Commission - (November, 2017); EDA minutes (November, 2017); Hopewell Water Renewal Commission (January 2017, April 2017, April 2017, May 2017, July 2017)**
- C-9 Resolutions/Proclamations/Presentations: Presentation by WRLH TV Fox Richmond regarding Rev. Dr. Curtis Harris**
- C-10 Additional Announcements:**

Vice Mayor Gore made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Councilor Luman-Bailey. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0**

Fara Jenkins of WRLH TV Fox gave a presentation on a proposed series of 60-second vignettes highlighting Rev. Dr. Curtis Harris to celebrate Black History Month. She said the series of videos would be shown throughout the month of February. She requested \$5,000 to create, edit and run the videos. Councilor Luman-Bailey suggested that the Gilliam family be included as they, too, were well known as the family that desegregated Hopewell schools. Vice Mayor Gore confirmed that the requested \$5,000 would only fund the Hopewell portion of the project. Councilor Pelham confirmed it was okay to use money from Council's marketing fund in this way. Since Ms. Jenkins was requesting money, Council decided she needed to be added to the agenda. Councilor Denton moved to add Ms. Jenkins to the agenda. Mayor Shornak seconded the motion. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Excused
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

**Motion passed 5-0**

There was considerable and lengthy discussion regarding this project. Mayor Shornak called for the vote. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Gore	-	No
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	No
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	No
Councilor Holloway	-	No

**Motion failed 4-2**

Discussion continued. Councilor Pelham called for a special meeting to discuss the project. Ms. Jenkins said that next week would be too late for Fox to act on the project. Councilor Pelham withdrew her motion. Discussion continued. Vice Mayor Gore moved to use \$5,000 from the marketing fund to do the project with Fox for both Rev. Dr. Harris and the Gilliam family. If the Gilliam family refused or could not participate, the project would be Rev. Dr. Harris. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Excused
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

**Motion passed 5-0**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The Clerk read the rules regarding Public Hearings.

**PH-1 Noble Oil Services, Inc. request for an easement for pedestrian and vehicle traffic on the entrance road into the Hopewell Water Renewal Treatment Plant** – There was a public hearing to get citizen input on Noble Oil’s request for an easement. Interim City Manager Dane provided Council with information regarding the need for Noble Oil Services, Inc. to have an easement for pedestrian and vehicle traffic on the entrance road into the Hopewell Water Renewal Treatment Plant. Mayor Shornak opened the public hearing. Darlene Thompson of Ward 6 signed up to speak, but when asked by the Mayor, declined to do so. The Mayor then closed the public hearing. There being no discussion of Council, Councilor Luman-Bailey moved to approve Noble Oil Services, Inc.’s request for an easement for pedestrian and vehicle traffic on the entrance road into the Hopewell Water Renewal Treatment Plant. Councilor Denton seconded the motion. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

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Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0**

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:**

Debbie Randolph, Chairman of the EDA came forward to speak on issues regarding the Treasurer's office delay in disseminating the personal property tax bills. She asked if the City could put something on the website to let the citizens know. Mr. Dane assured her that a notice would be issued the next day and it would also be posted on the website.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**Reports of City Manager:**

**R-1 Report to City Council** – Mr. Dane thanked everyone for their help and hard work on the snow and ice removal. He specifically thanked Aaron Reidmiller, Director of Parks & Recreation, Ed Watson, Director of Public Works, Donald Hunter, Hopewell Fire Chief, John Keohane, Hopewell Police Chief and anyone else that had a hand in the great work that was done keeping the streets clear. Mr. Watson thanked the City Manager. Mr. Dane told Council that the Riverwalk project contract had been signed and work should begin in the next 60 days. He also advised that the new Real Estate Assessor look up site was up and running. He asked Ray Spicer, Director of the Department of Social Services to give a report on the Warming Shelter. Mr. Spicer gave a history of the Warming Shelter and explained the relationship between it and the City and staff. He said that it opened November 6 this year, and is open from 8:00 am to 8:00pm unless the weather is severe, in which case the shelter is open 24 hours. He said it serves between 8 and 14 people and that the maximum capacity is 20 people. She said the Shelter is now serving more people with chronic mental illness or drug abuse issues because, as part of its mission, the Shelter was assisting the able-bodied with jobs and/or housing. Mr. Spicer said there had been a few issues where the police had been called, but they were minor. He also said that volunteers were needed badly.

**R-2 Finance Department Turnover Assessment** – Michael Terry, the Finance Director, reported to Council regarding the City's financial status. He also presented an organizational chart to Council which contained revisions based on certain needs related to the CAFR work. **No action was required of Council** on this item.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Councilor Denton moved to appoint Christina Luman-Bailey to the Hopewell Water Renewal Commission. Councilor Holloway seconded the motion. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

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**Motion passed 6-0**

Councilor Denton moved to appoint Brian Johnson to the Hopewell Water Renewal Commission. Councilor Luman-Bailey seconded the motion. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Reports of City Attorney** – Nothing to report.

**Reports of City Clerk** – Nothing to report.

**Reports of City Council.**

**Individual Councilors**

IC-1 Gore – City Boards, Authorities and Commissions Update/Outreach Plan – Councilor Gore discussed the need for an in-depth review of the City Boards. She noted that some of them were outdated, some had no membership, and others had members but were not active. Councilor Pelham agreed with the Vice Mayor and requested a 2-hour work session. She also requested that there be a staff member present at every board, committee or commission meeting so that Council could get minutes.

Councilor Pelham also noted that they needed a work session on the travel policy and that we should add that to the work session for the Human Resources Manual. Council reminded Councilor Pelham that she needed to amend the agenda to add this item. Councilor Pelham moved to amend the agenda. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Gore. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0**

Councilor Pelham moved to add travel to the Human Resources Manual and include both in one work session. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Gore. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes
Councilor Pelham	-	Yes
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes

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Councilor Holloway - Yes

**Motion passed 6-0**

Mayor Shornak submitted a Transactional Disclosure Statement.

**Individual Councilors:**

Pelham – Thanked Mr. Butler for work done on Mesa. She said he was doing a great job. Mr. Dane remarked on the good work done getting the traffic light back up.

**ADJOURN**

At 10:43 p.m. motion was made by Councilor Denton and seconded by Councilor Pelham to adjourn. All council responded “aye” to the question.

/s/ Jackie Shornak  
Jackie Shornak, Mayor

/s/ Ronnie L. Arrington  
Ronnie L. Arrington, City Clerk