

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2018 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Tuesday, February 27, 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
Anthony J. Zevgolis, Councilor
Janice B. Denton, Councilor
Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor

John M. Altman, Jr., City Manager
Charles Dane, Assistant City Manager
Stefan M. Calos of Sands Anderson PC, City Attorney
Ronnieye L. Arrington, City Clerk

ABSENT:

ROLL CALL

Mayor Shornak opened the meeting at 6:31 p.m. Roll call was taken as follows:

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

RECONVENE MEETING OF 2-13-18

Council reconvened the February 13, 2018 meeting in which Council did not come out of Closed Session, 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:

Mayor Shornak	-	yes
Vice Mayor Gore	-	yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Holloway	-	---- (absent 2-13-18)
Councilor Denton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Councilor Zevgolis	-	yes

ROLL CALL

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

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

CLOSED MEETING

At 6:37 p.m. Councilor Pelham moved to go into closed meeting for 1) discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for employment (city attorney); (2) discussion of appointment of specific appointees of city council (District 19 Community Services Board, HRHA); (3) discussion of specific appointees of city council (city clerk); (4) 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, CSA, cemetery, fire department, police department); 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 (Beacon), in accordance with Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A) (1) [three items], (7), and (8), respectively. The motion was seconded by Councilor Luman-Bailey. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

Motion passed 7-0

Council returned to the dais at 7:30 pm, but did not come out of Closed Meeting.

AMEND/ADOPT AGENDA

Councilor Holloway made a motion to adopt the agenda, which motion was seconded by Councilor Luman-Bailey. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

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

Motion passed 7-0

**February 27, 2018
Regular Meeting**

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 Zevgolis	-	present
Councilor Denton	-	present
Councilor Pelham	-	present

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 Chaplain Deidre Bryant of the John Randolph Pastoral Care, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, led by Mayor Shornak.

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:** March 1, 2018 – Joint Work Session between City Council and the School Board
- C-4 Personnel Change Report & Financial Report:** Financial Report
- C-5 Ordinances on Second & Final Reading:**
- C-6 Routine Grant Approval:**
- C-7 Public Hearing Announcement:** March 27, 2018 - Joint Public Hearing between Planning Commission and Council
- C-8 Information for Council Review:** February 7, 2018 Recreation Commission Minutes
- C-9 Resolutions/Proclamations/Presentations:**
- C-10 Additional Announcements:** March 12, 2018 - Public meeting on Comprehensive Plan; Hopewell Water Renewal Nitrogen Reduction Project and HDR design engineers received the American Council of Engineering Companies of Virginia Grand Award for innovation. The project will advance to the organization’s national competition in April; April 10, 2018 - Council approval of Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Shornak went over the items in the Consent Agenda. Councilor Denton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Vice Mayor Gore. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

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Motion passed 7-0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS

Katherine Podlweski of Ward 1 came before Council. She noted that the Comprehensive Plan was out and she was very disappointed in its plans for her area. She said she was very upset that Patrick Copeland was torn down, and is concerned about stormwater. She noted that Patrick Copeland was a historic building, and since its demolition nothing had been done with the site. Ms. Podlweski also commented on the Keopone disaster. She said that Keopone had a large impact on her life. She said it's been 40 years, and there is still evidence of the chemical in the water and the fish. She said that William & Mary are writing a report on the fish and the water, and that Dr. Greg Wilson was working on a book about Keopone and its affects. Ms. Podlweski said that she hoped there would be adequate warnings on the Riverwalk regarding contamination.

Iris Walker of Ward 4 then came forward. She said at the last meeting there had been people visiting for the first time. She said that bullying and mean behavior was displayed. She said that she had 350 signatures on the petition for Rev. Harris' bust. She said she enjoyed speaking with people as she obtained the signatures, and hearing their memories of Rev. Harris and his work. She spoke of a councilor having a personal issue that should have been a point of order, and that councilor should not have been allowed to speak. Ms. Walker asked that council allow the Harris bust and move on. She said that she had been asked would Rev. Harris approve of the bust in the plaza, and said that he would because they asked him two years before he died, and he was excited about it.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Reports of City Manager:

R-1 Report to City Council – Aaron Reidmiller gave the Recreation Commission's annual report. He introduced Anthony Sylvester the chairman of the Commission, as well as Faithea Flowers, the newest member. Mr. Sylvester came forward. He said they were working on revising the bylaws, and said that he board is still too small. He said the Director has done a wonderful job, and noted the challenge of the Commission to raise revenue. Thanked Council for its financial support. He said that Parks & Rec are integrated into Economic Development. He had to leave, but asked Council to call him if they had questions. Mr. Reidmiller gave names of other members of the Commission: Janelle Taylor, Greg Cufee, and Terrence Doctor. Councilor Luman-Bailey said she would love for Mr. Reidmiller to work on rejuvenating the National Park Service Waterfront Committee. Mr. Reidmiller said they already have a workshop planning. Councilor Zevgolts asked if the Commission worked with AARP. Mr. Reidmiller said they used the safe driver program through AARP. Councilor Gore noted that the Rec Center transportation was good. She also noted that having PETA come there was wonderful and stated that both she and the Clerk had used that service. The Mayor thanked Mr. Reidmiller, the Commission and his staff.

R-2 Recreation and Parks appropriation of \$15,970 from auction – Aaron Reidmiller explained to Council why the requested appropriation was needed. Councilor Zevgolts move to approve the appropriation of \$15,970 in auction proceeds to the Recreation and Parks Department to be used towards operating expenses related to maintenance and recreational programming. The motion was seconded by Councilor Denton. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

Motion passed 7-0

R-3 Re-appropriation of Capitol Project Funding for the Arlington Park Renovation Project – Mr. Reidmiller advised Council that the requested \$20,000 was needed to complete the work on Arlington Project. He also note that several other parks, including Atwater, needed work. He mentioned that there was a ten-year plan, but that the needed work is beyond that. He did note that he will be back before Council in FY20 for funds for additional renovations to other parks. Councilor Holloway moved to approve the \$20,000 currently assigned to Atwater Park be re-appropriated to the Park Improvement capital account to assist with the completion of the Arlington Park Renovation Project. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Gore. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

Motion passed 7-0

R-4 Treasurer request to extend penalty and interest for late payment of taxes to March 1, 2018 - Mr. Altman advised Council that, due to a computer error, the tax bills were late being sent out, and that the Treasurer’s office proposed that the interest and penalty be extended to March 1, 2018. Councilor Pelham moved to approve the Treasurer’s request to extend the penalty and interests for late payment of taxes to March 1, 2018, which motion was seconded by Councilor Pelham.

Stefan Calos advised that, in case this request required a resolution, the motion should be amended to include the phrase “resolve to.” Councilor Pelham amended the motion to resolve to approve the Treasurer’s request to extend the penalty and interest for late payment of taxes to March 1, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Luman-Bailey. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

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

Motion passed 7-0

Reports of City Attorney – Nothing to report.

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Reports of City Clerk – Nothing to report.

Reports of City Council.

Individual Councilors

Gore – Youth Services Commission had its second meeting February 26, 2018. She noted that Councilor Zevgolis attended and thanked him and others for their support.

Zevgolis – attending Virginia First Cities meeting. Said the fees for the city are from \$13,922 - \$18,299.

Denton – thanked all who attended her first Ward meeting.

Luman-Bailey – attended Crater District Planning Commission meeting. She said the Go Virginia Program is still going strong and is very beneficial to the City. She said she attended the HPG annual meeting and appreciated that the awards were more holistic.

Shornak – Crater Workforce Development tries to find jobs. She said they have restructured the board and will have the Executive Director come to Council and explain what it does for Hopewell. She also thanked the Fire Department and EMS for recent personal emergency with which they aided her. She also thanked Fox for the videos honoring Dr. Harris.

Zevgolis – Said he read for Ms. Moore's 8th grade class. He also attended program to honor Veterans who had been decorated for heroism. There was also a banquet for veterans.

Gore – Said she recently spoke at New Hope Academy for Black History month. She said the students were very interested in speaking to Council. She asked the Mayor and City Manager about information on the Workforce Initiative. She also asked about increasing the allocation to Youth Services.

Citizen Councilor Requests

PRESENTATIONS FROM BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Johnny Partin, Chairman of Keep Hopewell Beautiful gave his annual report. He advised of all of the projects KHB has done and how much total trash was retrieved from various places, including ravines, ditches, etc. Vice Mayor Gore thanked Mr. Partin and KHB for their hard work. Councilor Denton suggested that Council get together for a Saturday clean up. Councilor Zevgolis wondered how much people were fined for illegal dumping. Shornak suggested appropriating more funds for Keep Hopewell Beautiful. Vice Mayor Gore said the City should look into hiring people from the jail for beautification.

At 9:59 pm, Council went back into Closed Session.

RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

Council convened into Open Session at 10:50 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-

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meeting requirements and (II) identified in the closed-meeting motion discussed in closed meeting? Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

APPOINTMENTS

Councilor Holloway moved to reappoint Sheila Flowers to the HRHA and Ray Spicer to the District 19 Community Services Board. Councilor Denton seconded the motion. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

Motion passed 7-0

ADJOURN

At 9:59 p.m. motion was made by Councilor Denton and seconded by Councilor Zevgolis to adjourn. All council responded “aye” to the question.

/s/ Jackie Shornak
Jackie Shornak, Mayor

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