

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 23, 2018 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

A Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Tuesday, January 23, 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. Zevgolis, Councilor (arrived at 6:33pm)  
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	-	present
Councilor Zevgolis	-	absent (arrived at 6:33 pm)
Councilor Denton	-	present
Councilor Pelham	-	present

**CLOSED MEETING**

At 6:33 p.m. Councilor Denton moved to go into closed meeting 1) discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for employment (city manager, city attorney); (2) discussion of specific appointees of city council (CPMT, city clerk) (3) 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 (CSA); and (4) 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], (7), and (8), respectively. The motion was seconded by Councilor Pelham. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

**Motion passed 7-0**

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**RECONVENE OPEN MEETING**

Council convened into Open Session at 7:36 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:

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

**AMEND/ADOPT AGENDA**

Councilor Denton moved to amend the agenda, to move Public Hearing 2 to number one, and to put Public Hearing 3 on the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, and to add the phrase “accept and appropriate to the grant in Section C-6 of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Gore. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

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

**Motion passed 7-0**

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 Zevgolis	-	present
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 at 7:39 p.m., 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 Councilor Denton.

**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:** February 1, 2018 – Work session with Springsted on Compensation Study and Plan, and HPD recruitment and retention; February 27, 2018 – follow-up work session with the Planning Commission regarding the Comprehensive Plan
- C-4 Personnel Change Report & Financial Report:**
- C-5 Ordinances on Second & Final Reading:**
- C-6 Routine Grant Approval:** \$20,000 Grant from John Randolph Foundation to Hopewell Recreation and Parks
- C-7 Public Hearing Announcement:**
- C-8 Information for Council Review:** Minutes: Hopewell Water Renewal Commission – 10-17-17; EDA – 12-4-17; HRHA – 10-9-17; ARLS January 2018 Abbreviated Board Report
- C-9 Resolutions/Proclamations/Presentations:** Presentation by WRLH TV Fox Richmond regarding Rev. Dr. Curtis Harris; Hopewell Police Department Year-End Review
- C-10 Additional Announcements:**

Councilor Denton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, which was seconded by Councilor Pelham. Councilor Pelham withdrew her second, which was then made by Mayor Shornak. 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**

Fara Jenkins of WRLH-Fox gave an update presentation regarding the Rev. Dr. Curtis Harris videos. John Keohane, Chief of Police, presented to Council on how things went in 2017 regarding the Police Department. He noted the crime reductions, additional training for officers, and increased professional standards. He also advised Council that he would be coming back before then with some budget items and major projects and issues for 2018.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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The City Clerk read the rules regarding Public Hearings.

**PH-2 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** – A public hearing was held to get citizen input on a request to vacate a portion of Walnut Street. Tevya Griffin, Director of the Planning Department presented information related to this request. She noted that Staff suggested granting only 3,100 feet of the requested vacation. Councilor Pelham moved to approve the request to vacate a portion of an approximate 3,900 square feet undeveloped right-of-way directly adjacent to Walnut Street. 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**

**PH-3 Request for a Conditional Use Permit to build a self-storage facility in the Corridor Development District (B-4) at 4013-4017 Old Woodlawn Street** – a public hearing was held to get citizen input on a request for a CUP to build a self-storage facility. Ms. Griffin presented information to Council, including pictures of the proposed storage unit. Mayor Shornak noted that the proposed storage facility would be in her ward, and she welcomed it. Councilor Pelham asked if the pictures were an accurate representation of the facility, to which Ms. Griffin replied in the affirmative. **No action was required of Council for this time.** It was placed on the February agenda, per amendment of Council.

**PH-1 Request to amend the Hopewell Zoning Ordinance, Article III-A, Residential, Low Density District (R-1 and R1-A, respectively), Section E. Yard Regulations, Accessory Buildings, to reduce the setback of accessory structures on corner lots from 20 feet to 15 feet** – A public hearing was held to get citizen input on a request to amend the Hopewell Zoning Ordinance. Ms. Griffin presented information to Council regarding this request, and fielded their questions. She explained that an accessory structure could be a shed or pool or other structure as defined in the ordinance. Councilor Pelham moved to approve the request to amend Article II-A, Residential, Low Density District (R-1 and R1-S, respectively), Section E, to reduce the setback of accessory structures on corner lots from 20 feet to 15 feet. The motion was seconded by Councilor Denton. 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**

**COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS**

The City Clerk read the Rule regarding Communication from Citizens.

Steve Romano came forward and began to speak about the City Manager and about Council's failure to appoint one. Vice Mayor Gore called for a point of order and noted that the City Manager was on the agenda and therefore could not be discussed under Communications from Citizens. Stefan Calos agreed that it could not be discussed. Mr. Romano left the podium.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**Reports of City Manager:**

**R-1 Report to City Council** – Charles Dane, Interim City Manager gave update on finance. We continue to communicate with stakeholders on CAFR. We have made agreements with many of them. The APA is in agreement with proposed schedule. Met with school superintendent and introduced Mr. Terry to them as they will be working together. Cherry Bekaert said they submitted information to APA. Mr. Terry released some emails to departments giving assignments for them to respond to requests for information for the next CAFR. Saucy's will open on Monday. The facility is very nice. Guncotton will be open the week after Saucy's. They will have a private event first, and then an opening. **This did not require an action of Council.**

**R-2 City Stormwater Program and Riverside Park Stormwater Greenway** – Joe Battiata, Stormwater Program Manager, Ed Watson, Director of Public Works, and Johnny Butler, the City Engineer presented Council with an update on the stormwater project. Councilor Luman-Bailey asked what Council could do to help and Mr. Battiata said he would let them know. Councilor Pelham asked about the street-cleaning schedule. Mr. Watson said we didn't have a real schedule, but that he would let her know when the cleaners were coming to her area. Pelham also advised that we make a policy to clean up the leaves in ditches. She requested a recommendation as to how that could be done. Mr. Butler said there was already an engineering plan in place to address some of the stormwater issues, including creating a walkable trail. Council thanked them for the update. **This did not require an action of Council.**

**R-3 A&B. Request for City Council to approve the agreements between VDOT and the City - VDOT Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)** - In the current FY18 the City will receive reimbursement payments from VDOT for completing the scope of work as defined under the terms and conditions of the ratified project administration agreement for current projects. Motion was made by Councilor Zevgolis and seconded by Councilor Pelham to approve projects R-3 A and B, and authorize the interim city manager to sign all appropriate documents related thereto. 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**

**R-4 Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation Presentation** – Herbert Bragg presented as the chairman of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation. Mr. Bragg requested that the Foundation be allowed to have a sculpture of a bust of Rev. Dr. Curtis placed in the Ashford Center Plaza. There was considerable discussion, including about the rules regarding the placement of artwork in the Plaza. Ms. Griffin located the original policy regarding the Plaza. Councilor Luman-Bailey moved to postpone the discussion and for the Foundation to come back before Council with a recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Zevgolis. 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-5 Conversion of Stormwater/Refuse Billing System from external to internal** – Ed Watson and Charles Dane presented information regarding a proposed change to the stormwater/refuse billing system. Council requested additional information and asked that this item be placed on a February agenda. Vice Mayor Gore made a motion to postpone this item to a February meeting, which motion was seconded by Councilor Holloway. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Councilor Pelham	-	---- (absent from dais)
Mayor Shornak	-	Yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	Yes
Councilor Holloway	-	Yes
Councilor Zevgolis	-	Yes
Vice Mayor Gore	-	Yes
Councilor Denton	-	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0**

**AMEND/ADOPT AGENDA**

Councilor Zevgolis made a motion to amend the agenda to appoint a City Manager. 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**

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Vice Mayor Gore made a motion to appoint John Marchington Altman, Jr., the City Manager beginning February 5, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Zevgolis. 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.

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

**Reports of City Council.**

**Individual Councilors**

Zevgolis – there are a lot of seniors who use their toters only once a month or every six weeks—is there a program for them so that they are not required to pay full price for a service they don’t use that often. He said it would be nice if the City could do something like that.

Shornak – Spoke in support of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Food Drive.

**Citizen Councilor Requests**

**ADJOURN**

At 10:22 p.m. motion was made by Councilor Pelham and seconded by Councilor Holloway to adjourn. All council responded “aye” to the question.

/s/ Jackie Shornak  
Jackie Shornak, Mayor

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