

**May 23, 2017**  
**Regular Meeting**

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 23, 2017**

A Meeting and Work Session of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 300 North Main Street, Hopewell, Virginia.

PRESENT: Jackie M. Shornak, Mayor  
Jasmine E. Gore, Vice Mayor  
Christina J. Luman-Bailey, Councilor  
Arlene Holloway, Councilor  
Anthony J. Zevgolis, Councilor  
Janice B. Denton, Councilor (arrived at 7:00 pm)  
Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor (arrived at 6:33 pm)

Mark A. Haley, City Manager  
Stefan M. Calos, City Attorney  
Ronnieye 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	-	present
Councilor Denton	-	absent
Councilor Pelham	-	absent

**Five councilors present – two absent**

**AMEND/ADOPT AGENDA**

Motion was made at 6:31 p.m. by Councilor Luman-Bailey, and seconded by Vice Mayor Gore to adopt the agenda. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

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

**Motion passed 5-0**

**CLOSED MEETING**

Motion was made at 6:33 p.m. by Vice Mayor Gore, and seconded by Councilor Luman-Bailey, to go into Closed Meeting for (1) discussion of appointment or performance of specific appointees of city council (city manager, oversight committee, Riverwalk committee); (2) discussion concerning a prospective business where no previous announcement has been made of the business' interest in locating its facilities in the community; and (3) consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by city council

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related thereto and regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, in accordance with Virginia Code section 2.2-3711 (A) (1), (5), and (7), respectively. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

**Motion passed 6-0**

**RECONVENE OPEN MEETING**

Council convened into Open Session at 7:36 p.m. Mayor Shornak announced that Council would be returning to Closed Meeting upon completion of the Regular Meeting.

**WORK SESSION**

Mayor Shornak opened the work session at 7:38 p.m. Roll call was take 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

**All seven councilors present**

Mark Haley, City Manager began the work session by advising about the new nitrogen removal project which will be starting in late June, at the cost of \$74 million. Mr. Haley introduced Jeannie Grandstaff, Director of the Hopewell Water Renewal plant. Ms. Grandstaff requested a 5% rate increase for the Water Renewal plant. She said they were estimating that the 2018 budget would increase by \$1.8 million. Ms. Grandstaff indicated that H<sub>2</sub>O Renewal hired Raptelis to assist with deciding how much of a rate increase would be needed to make up the \$1.8 million. The need to continue building out the infrastructure, and delinquencies in residential billing (\$664k written off in 2015) are some of the other reasons she gave for the requested rate increase, which they have not had since July 1, 2013. Ms. Grandstaff stated that they have now hired a collection agency, and have increased collections from 82% in 215 to 96% now. Ms. Grandstaff also noted that the proposed increase would assist H<sub>2</sub>O Renewal with maintaining its bond rating. There was general discussion and questions from Council which were fielded by Mr. Haley and Ms. Grandstaff. There were Mayor Shornak closed the work session at 7:55 p.m.

At 7:55 p.m., Mayor Shornak called the regular meeting to order. Upon the roll call, the results were:

Mayor Shornak	-	present
Vice Mayor Gore	-	present

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Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	present
Councilor Holloway	-	present
Councilor Zevgolis	-	present
Councilor Denton	-	present
Councilor Pelham	-	present

**All seven councilors present**

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

Prayer by Chaplain Deidre Bryant of John Randolph Medical Center Pastoral Care, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, led by Councilor Holloway.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Councilor Denton, and seconded by Councilor Luman-Bailey, to approve the consent agenda: Public Hearing Announcement: June 13, 2017 – School Board appointments; Conditional Use Permit – Micro-winery; request for street vacation; Information for Council Review - Minutes of School Board (April 6, 2017), HRHA (March 3, 2017), Planning Commission (February 2, 2017), Board of Zoning Appeals (July 20, 2016 and November 16, 2016) meetings; Resolutions/Proclamations/Presentations - Department of Criminal Justice Services Accreditation Program Manager Derrick Mays – Hopewell Police Accreditation, Public Works Proclamation. Additional Announcement: Hopewell designated as Playful City for 2017; June 3, 2017 – Night at the Diamond, June 17, 2017 - Beer Fest; July 1, 2017 - Fireworks on the Appomattox. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Councilor Denton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	(not present on the dais)
Mayor Shornak	-	yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Holloway	-	yes
Councilor Zevgolis	-	yes
Vice Mayor Gore	-	yes

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Public Hearings**

There were no public hearings.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:**

Karl Kindervater came forward to speak. Mayor Shornak advised him that if he wished to speak about the budget or any portion of the budget, Council would need to waive the rules. Councilor Pelham attempted to make the motion, but was interrupted by the Mayor. Point of order was called regarding the question of whether a motion and/or vote were needed to waive the rules. The City Attorney advised that, in fact, a motion would be needed to waive the rules.

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Motion was made by Councilor Pelham to waive the Council Rules so that citizens would be allowed to speak on items that are on the agenda, which motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Gore. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Councilor Denton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes (returned at 8:02 p.m.)
Mayor Shornak	-	yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Holloway	-	yes
Councilor Zevgolis	-	yes
Vice Mayor Gore	-	yes

Carl Kindervater then spoke about the payment of the spousal retirement. He said if Council passed the proposed reduction or elimination it would send a bad message to retirees.

Eliot Eliades spoke of a fellow Hopewell classmate in need. Sam Bass, successful NASCAR driver and artist, is in need of a kidney transplant. Mr. Eliades mentioned that Mr. Bass had donated his art to the Moose Club, Fire Department and several other places in Hopewell. On June 16, 2017, the Friends of Sam Bass are hosting a Benefits Concert, the proceeds of which will go to help pay for Mr. Bass' transplant. Mr. Eliades asked for all citizen support.

Mayor Shornak read a letter from June Goho in support of the proposed public safety 1.85% multiplier.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**Reports of City Manager:**

**R-1 Review and approve Fiscal Year 2018 city budget on first of two readings** – Assistant City Manager Charles Dane presented the Budget again to Council, requesting that it be approved. Councilor Luman-Bailey moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2018 city budget on the first reading. After discussion, Councilor Denton made a substitute motion to pass the budget with exceptions, namely the 50% reduction for insurance coverage for retirees' spouses this year, and 50% the next year, and to approve the operational needs only pending receipt of the 2016 CAFR. Councilor Holloway seconded the motion, but then rescinded her second when she received clarification that the approval was pending the 2016 CAFR. Mayor Shornak then seconded the motion. Councilor Denton then made a substitute motion to reduce by 50% the retirees' spouses' insurance beginning in 2019, and the remaining 50% in 2020, and for there to be operational expenses only pending receipt of the 2015 CAFR. Mayor Shornak seconded the motion. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

Councilor Denton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	no
Mayor Shornak	-	yes
Councilor Luman-Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Holloway	-	yes
Councilor Zevgolis	-	yes
Vice Mayor Gore	-	no

**Motion passed: 5-2**

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Councilor Pelham submitted a Transactional Disclosure Statement.  
Mayor Shornak submitted a Transactional Disclosure Statement

Councilor Denton left at 9:35 pm

**R-2 Re-appropriation of capital funds for purchase of synthetic skating rink** – Aaron Reidmiller, Director of Parks and Recreation presented information to Council regarding acquiring a synthetic skating rink and requested a \$40,000 appropriation for same. Councilor Luman-Bailey moved to re-appropriate \$40,000 in existing capital funds for the purchase of a synthetic ice skating rink. Councilor Pelham 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

**Motion passed 6-0**

**R-3 Approval of issuance of \$10,241 refund to Lawn Beautician, Inc.** – Treasurer Terri Batton came before Council and requested that, pursuant to Va. Code §58.1-3981 she be allowed to issue a refund to Lawn Beautician for an erroneous assessment. Councilor Pelham moved to approve issuance of a \$10,241 refund to Lawn Beautician, Inc., which motion was seconded by Councilor Holloway. 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

**Motion passed 6-0**

**R-4 Installation of electric vehicle charging stations in downtown Hopewell** – Jake Elder, Economic Development Coordinator presented to Council the special program offered by Tesla, Inc. to allow reimbursement for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in downtown Hopewell. Vice Mayor Gore moved to approve the installation of two electric-vehicle charging stations downtown. The motion was approved 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

**Motion passed 6-0**

**R-5 Notice of temporary use of Hopewell Water Renewal accounts for Phase 2 Nitrogen**

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**Reduction Capital Project** – Jeanie Grandstaff, Director of Hopewell Water Renewal updated Council on the status of the nitrogen reduction project and interim payments from the City. The Department of Environmental Quality is retaining over \$2.4 million of grant funding pending completion of the project. Hopewell Water Renewal has that amount in another fund, and will be using it to pay contractors and other expenses related to the project. Upon completion of the project, Hopewell Water Renewal will use the DEQ funds to replace the City funds. **No action was requested of Council.**

**EXTEND MEETING**

Noting the lateness of the hour, Councilor Zevgolis moved to extend the meeting beyond the 10:30pm normal ending time. Councilor Pelham 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

**Motion passed 6-0**

**Reports of the City Attorney:** None

**Reports of the City Clerk:** Accepting TBR’s for Architectural Review Board (1 vacancy); Board of Zoning Appeals (2 vacancies); Crater District Area Agency on Aging (1 vacancy); District 19 Community Services Board (1 vacancy); Dock Commission (3 vacancies); Downtown Design Review Committee (2 vacancies); Recreation Commission (need HHS Senior Class Representative); School Board (2 vacancies); Social Services Advisory Board (2 vacancies); Youth Commission (15 vacancies).

**Reports of City Council:**

**Committees**

**Individual Councilors**

**Citizen/Councilor Requests**

**CCR-1** Mayor Jackie Shornak – the Opioid Epidemic – the Mayor said she wanted to discuss drug prevention and the need for Naloxone to combat drug overdose. She requested a Town Hall meeting in late June regarding opioids.

Council then went back into closed meeting at 10:35 p.m.

**RECONVENE OPEN MEETING**

Council convened into Open Session at 11:01 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:

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

**Vote Result: 7-0 Yes**

**ADJOURN**

At 11:01 p.m., motion was made by Councilor Pelham, and seconded by Councilor Holloway to adjourn. 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

**Motion passed 6-0 - Adjourned at 11:01 p.m.**

/s/ Jackie M. Shornak  
Jackie M. Shornak, Mayor

Ronnieye L. Arrington  
Ronnieye L. Arrington, City Clerk