

**August 28, 2017
Special Meeting**

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL .HELD JUNE 12, 2017

A Special Meeting of Hopewell City Council, was held Monday, August 28, 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
Arlene Holloway, Councilor
Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor
Janice Denton, Councilor

Mark Haley, City Manager
Stefan Calos, City Attorney
Ronnieye Arrington, City Clerk

ABSENT: Christina Luman-Bailey, Councilor

ROLL CALL

Mayor Shornak opened the meeting at 6:33 p.m. Roll call was taken as follows:

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

The Mayor called the meeting to order and welcomed visitors at 6:33 p.m. Pastor Rocky Shearin of Calvary Love Ministries offered the prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilor Holloway.

ADOPT AGENDA

Motion was made at 6:35 p.m. by Councilor Pelham and seconded by Vice Mayor Gore to adopt the agenda. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

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CLOSED MEETING

Motion was made by Councilor Pelham, and seconded by Vice Mayor Gore, to go into Closed Meeting for (1) discussion of performance of specific appointees of city council (city manager, oversight committee and youth commission); (2) consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation (Children Services Act program, cemetery, EEOC), where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of City Council; and (3) 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), (7) and (8), respectively. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

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

Mayor Shornak and Councilor Denton exited the Closed Meeting at 7:32pm.

RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

Council convened into Open Session at 7:56 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:

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

Councilor Holloway submitted a Transactional Disclosure Statement.

SB-1 Appointment of applicants to the Youth Services Commission – Vice Mayor Gore moved to appoint Rachelle Parrish as a student for a one-year term, Jessica Morse-Coley for a three-year term, Antonio Holloway for a one-year term, Dr. Melody Hackney for a three-year term, Brittney Dolsey for a one-year term, Marcy Williams for a two-year term, Terrence Doctor for a two-year term, Everett Gilliam for a one-year term, Rev. Jacob Sahms for a two-year term, Alison Noble for a three-year term, Raja Nelson for a three-year term, NaQuetta Mitchell for a two-year term, Katina Moss for a three-year term, Ruth Johnson for a one-year term, Larry Mason, for a two-year term, Jasmine Gore, her term in office to the Youth Commission, and for the City Clerk to schedule a monthly meeting for three months with the Commission and Youth Coordinator to appoint a chair, vice chair and secretary, set up a calendar with standard meeting days and times, revise the Code, establish bylaws, and establish initial short term and long term goals, and for the Youth Coordinator to report back to Council in December. The motion was seconded by Councilor Pelham.

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A friendly amendment was made to the motion by Councilor Pelham to include criminal background checks on all applicants. Vice Mayor Gore agreed with this amendment. The amended motion was: to appoint Rachelle Parrish as a student for a one-year term, Jessica Morse-Coley for a three-year term, Antonio Holloway for a one-year term, Dr. Melody Hackney for a three-year term, Brittney Dolsey for a one-year term, Marcy Williams for a two-year term, Terrence Doctor for a two-year term, Everett Gilliam for a one-year term, Rev. Jacob Sahms for a two-year term, Alison Noble for a three-year term, Raja Nelson for a three-year term, NaQuetta Mitchell for a two-year term, Katina Moss for a three-year term, Ruth Johnson for a one-year term, Larry Mason, for a two-year term, Jasmine Gore, her term in office to the Youth Commission, and for the City Clerk to schedule a monthly meeting for three months with the Commission and Youth Coordinator to appoint a chair, vice chair and secretary, set up a calendar with standard meeting days and times, revise the Code, establish bylaws, and establish initial short term and long term goals, and for the Youth Coordinator to report back to Council in December, and to include criminal background checks on the applicants as required as a condition of service to the City.

Councilor Denton said that the Youth Services Commission was a wonderful commission. She said the youth needed to be guided. She stated that we have a good Youth Coordinator and that she regretted she was on vacation and unable to attend this special meeting. Councilor Denton stated that since she was unable to meet the applicants for the Youth Services Commission, she would not be voting.

Mayor Shornak agreed that we needed a Commission, and said that she had only met with a very few of the applicants. She further stated that Council should have interviews for these applicants, and that Council should know who they are choosing to interact with its youth. Mayor Shornak said she wanted to do interviews for this commission like they do for other commissions. She also said she would not be voting because there was a revised ordinance that had not yet been submitted to Council, which made these appointments premature.

Councilor Pelham remarked that out of 52 boards, Council only actually interviewed for the School Board, HRHA or a board of that significance. She asks that Council vote even if they don't agree with things, or even if they preferred to interview. There being no further discussion, upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Councilor Holloway	-	yes
Councilor Zevgolts	-	yes
Vice Mayor Gore	-	yes
Councilor Denton	-	no
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Mayor Shornak	-	no

SB-2 Establishment and Appointment to the Oversight Committee – Vice Mayor Gore moved to table this item until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Zevgolts. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted.

Councilor Holloway	-	yes
Councilor Zevgolts	-	yes
Vice Mayor Gore	-	yes
Councilor Denton	-	yes
Councilor Pelham	-	yes
Mayor Shornak	-	yes

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Reports of City Council

- Pelham Councilor Pelham reported that she had attended an RC&D meeting, which did not have a quorum. She said that RC&D needs council support, and that Council had not been as supportive in recent years. She noted that the RC&D may meet again the following month.
- Gore Vice Mayor Gore stated that she had been invited join an advisory board at Virginia Commonwealth University, and that she was working on getting more students involved. She noted that she was particularly interested in getting VCU to provide opportunities for Hopewell students. She said that the board would meet again in March 2018, and she would report back.
- Holloway Councilor Holloway thanked the volunteers for the Youth Commission. She also thanked Vice Mayor Gore and Councilor Pelham for their hard work with the Commission.
- Shornak Mayor Shornak thanked all who donated supplies to the book bag drive for the students. She said that she had personally helped to deliver some of the donated book bags. She also mentioned that on the 24th, Johnny Partin would drop off approximately \$6,000 worth of school supplies. Mayor Shornak mentioned that she attended the Convocation and that it was very nice. She thanked all that worked on that. She also mentioned that she would be attending upcoming the Ft Lee CMC event.
- Pelham Thanked all organizations who participated in the school supplies drive. She noted that VFW filled over 3,000 bags. She said that Pleasant Grove Church gave over 1,000 bags as well as clothes and food. She said the church has adopted the City. She also mentioned that Mount Calvary and Friendship Baptist as having been extremely helpful with the supplies drives. She noted that some suppliers donated books to aid in literacy. She said given the wonderful support of this effort, there was no reason for any child to go to school without paper or other school supplies.
- Shornak Mayor Shornak asked that everyone pray for the state of Texas during the flooding and other devastation they were experiencing. She said that she remembered the floods of Richmond, and couldn't imagine what the people of Texas were going through.

ADJOURN

At 8:20 p.m., motion was made by Councilor Pelham and seconded by Vice Mayor Gore to adjourn. All of Council responded "aye" to the "all in favor" asked by the Mayor.

Jackie M. Shornak, Mayor

Ronnieye L. Arrington, City Clerk