



City of Hampton

22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
www.hampton.gov

Council Approved Minutes - Final City Council Legislative Session

Mayor Donnie R. Tuck
Vice Mayor Jimmy Gray
Councilmember Chris L. Bowman
Councilmember Steven L. Brown
Councilmember Hope L. Harper
Councilmember Billy Hobbs
Councilmember Martha Mugler

STAFF: Mary Bunting, City Manager
Cheran Cordell Ivery, City Attorney
Katherine K. Glass, CMC, Clerk of Council

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Tuck called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with all members of the City Council present.

Present: 7 - Councilmember Chris L. Bowman, Councilmember Steven L. Brown, Vice Mayor Jimmy Gray, Councilmember Hope L. Harper, Councilmember Billy Hobbs, Councilmember Martha Mugler and Mayor Donnie R. Tuck

DONNIE R. TUCK PRESIDED

INVOCATION - Councilmember Billy Hobbs

Councilman Hobbs gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Tuck stated that a motion had been requested to take items 6 (23-0019) and 7 (23-0020) out of order and to defer those items until April 12, 2023.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hope Harper and seconded by Councilmember Billy Hobbs, that 23-0019 and 23-0020 be taken out of order and deferred to April 12, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

6. [23-0019](#) Rezoning Application by Hampton Yacht Club, Inc. to Operate a Marina at the Eastern Terminus of Victoria Boulevard, Including 4709 and 4710 Victoria Boulevard [LRSNs: 13004507 and 13004508], as well as a Portion of Victoria Boulevard, which is the Remaining Portion east of Bridge Street, which is Proposed to be Vacated

Attachments: [Application](#)
[Proffer Statement](#)
[CC Staff Report](#)
[Presentation](#)

A motion was made by Councilmember Hope Harper and seconded by Councilmember Billy Hobbs, that this Zoning Ordinance - Map be deferred to the City Council Legislative Session, due back on 4/12/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

7. [23-0020](#) Use Permit Application by Hampton Yacht Club, Inc. to operate a marina at the eastern terminus of Victoria Boulevard, including 4709, 4710, and 4712 Victoria Boulevard [LRSNs: 13004507, 13004508, and 2003822], as well as a Portion of Victoria Boulevard, which is the Remaining Portion East of Bridge Street, which is Proposed to be Vacated

Attachments: [Conditions](#)
[Exhibit A Survey](#)
[Exhibit B Final](#)
[Application](#)
[Staff Report](#)

A motion was made by Councilmember Hope Harper and seconded by Councilmember Billy Hobbs, that this Use Permits be deferred to the City Council Legislative Session, due back on

4/12/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

Motion to a Planning Commission to the Agenda.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chris Bowman and seconded by Councilmember Billy Hobbs, to add an appointment to the Planning Commission to the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

CONSENT AGENDA

Clerk of Council Katherine K. Glass read the protocol for the consent agenda and a summary of the consent items.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Brown, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

1. [23-0029](#) Resolution to Approve an Encroachment Agreement Pursuant to Hampton City Code § 34-86 Between the City of Hampton and Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads (Also Known as Hampton Roads Transit or HRT) to Allow an Encroachment Onto City Property and City Right-of-Way for Construction/Installation of Bus Stop Shelters at Two Existing Bus Stops Located on E. Pembroke Avenue and Located on N. King Street

Attachments: [Encroachment Agreement](#)
[Presentation](#)

Item approved.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

2. [23-0026](#) Motion to appoint Councilwoman Hope Harper in the place of Vice Mayor Gray on the Hampton Roads Community Action Program (HRCAP).

Appointed.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

3. [23-0033](#) Approval of the minutes from the special and legislative meetings of January 11, 2023, and from the ceremonial and legislative meeting of January 25, 2023.

Item approved.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS

[23-0039](#) Update on Crime and Statistic Trends

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

Mayor Tuck called on City Manager Mary Bunting to introduce the item.

City Manager Bunting introduced Police Chief Mark Talbot who presented an update on crime statistics and trends, and on how the City's statistics ended in 2022 and how we began in 2023.

Chief Talbot thanked Council for the opportunity to present and introduced Deputy Chief Gallop and Captain Scheck. He then proceeded with his presentation.

Mayor Donnie Tuck asked about the larceny figure, and would people going around pulling on door handles on vehicles

contribute to the larger number.

Chief Talbot replied that it is a big part of it, and one of the biggest drivers is shoplifting. They have seen a massive problem with some of the big box stores. There is a significant problem with ABC stores and pulling on car doors.

Mayor Tuck stated that things started to change nationally around 2014, when people began talking about Ferguson, and did that start the changing of policing and start having less proactive and even responsive policing.

Chief Talbot replied that there is a whole minefield of ideas about why crime started to increase. He replied to Mayor Tuck that he was right. Ferguson in 2014 started a resurgence of urban unrest that is pretty much unrivaled other than the 60's. Police started to see issues with the gap between the expectations of the public in urban spaces and what law enforcement and criminal justice system is doing. The gap widened and the adversity in those spaces was also increasing, and as those two factors started to trend upward it corresponded with an increase in crime across that period of time.

Mayor Tuck asked Chief Talbot if he had an idea what is driving the crime? We generally tell people individuals are generally known to each other, and it is not random. We like to target individuals who are 14 – 24 and that is one of the primary drivers of perpetrator as well as victim, but when you started getting to the upper 30's and 50's is there something else that is causing that?

Chief Talbot replied he can point specifically to what happened this year and last year and connect that to what you will see generally when it comes to violent crime. The numbers have been run for fatal and non-fatal shooting victims for all of last year and this year. The median age of our shooting victims was 26 and the average was 25, meaning that the trend line was very flat. Typically, it is driven by young males in that age range. It is

often thought that violent crime is driven by juveniles and it truly is not and is almost never the case, fortunately. When a young person gets killed, we remember it. It is emotionally resonant, and it sticks in our minds. That is why we think it is driven by juveniles. There was not enough suspect information to come up with a statistically significant number for offenders, but the numbers that we did have ended up with 25-year-old offenders. So, the demographics are very much alike. The victims and offenders almost always know each other well, and at the very least they are acquainted with each other. Rarely do we have stranger crimes, meaning this person has no idea who it is that shot them. That is rarely the case. There were some instances of road rage, there is a good lesson for everybody, when you are beeping your horn and telling people that they are number one, you probably should consider that. If women are killed, it is almost exclusively by someone who said that they loved them at some point. Almost exclusively. The drivers are violent social networks that are including people who tend to have long criminal histories and long histories of victimization. The crimes themselves heavily isolated to poor and marginalized neighborhoods and even more tightly concentrated in social networks.

Councilman Billy Hobbs stated he knows the Hampton Police is doing all they can and have their hands full and asked what he can recommend that the public can do to help.

Chief Talbot replied that the most important thing is to answer the door when police are knocking on the door. Whenever there is violence, police are knocking on every door in the neighborhood and will knock on that door more than once. We like to talk to the people who live there, whether or not they may have seen or heard anything. The police want to have a better understanding of what life and living is like in the neighborhoods. Often, when in the neighborhoods, they miss that they are all experts in our own neighborhood. We all know what car belongs in the neighbor's driveway, we know what time of year the grandkids start to come for visits, we know who walks their dog

and at what time of day, we are all experts on our neighborhoods. We need understand your neighborhood like you understand your neighborhood. Sometimes, frankly we do not know the questions to ask – we are learning. If the police are there, please engage in conversation, talk about what it is like to live in the neighborhood and help the police to walk away with a better understanding of what is happening.

Councilman Chris Bowman stated that 2023 has been difficult so far and wanted to thank him and the staff for everything they are doing day in and day out.

Councilwoman Hope Harper thanked Chief Talbot for the presentation and asked if they are noticing specific areas in the City that have more violent crime than others?

Chief Talbot replied yes and the locations are frankly probably no surprise to most. The crimes that the police are seeing tend to be very much localized to particular neighborhoods. We are going back to the same neighborhoods over and over again. In some sense that makes it a simple challenge. We know exactly where we need to go, we know why we need to be there, we know what we need to do while we are there. Although it is simple in terms of one, two, three steps, it is infinitely complex when it comes to how best to engage with the violence and the suffering and the needs in some of these neighborhoods.

Councilman Steven Brown reiterated that the Chief and his department are doing the best job they can, but what is the benefit of real time crime center in these areas and how do cameras play into looking into some of the hot spots to help reduce some of the crime that we see and maybe solve some cases early on.

Chief Talbot replied the key to urban policing is always an effective strategy that maps onto the environment. The small groups of young offenders, the trigger pullers as we call them, the impact players, are one percent of the population generally.

The isolated portion of neighborhoods, sometimes we think very broadly as if a city is dangerous. There are no dangerous cities. There are no dangerous neighborhoods. There are dangerous blocks. Even more precisely, there are dangerous portions of a block, typically you can have, and we all know this, you can have one house on that block making everybody else miserable. The challenge with technology is to incorporated into your strategy. You don't drive a strategy with your technology, you use the strategy and incorporate the technology into the strategy and that will accelerate your results. Once you focus in on the problems you need to focus on, you then leverage on the technology, and that is paying dividends for us. Maybe not as some would think, like we have this massive surveillance capacity, we have the capacity to identify in very precise terms who was in that neighborhood, what time they were in that neighborhood, how long were they in that neighborhood, and then we can start to look at why that was so. Once you have the right strategy in place, it is phenomenal.

Councilman Brown asked if there were any ties that have been identified with gangs or other folks coming into the community with territorial kinds of things. We know there is a spike in crime and there are many factors but can we relate to a string of gang activity or anything that you can share.

Chief Talbot replied that it is important to understand that we engage in activity in groups. Very few of us to a restaurant by ourselves, we don't go to a ball game by ourselves, we don't go bowling by ourselves, we do things in groups, and that includes committing crimes. A group that has structure, that has a name, tattoos, colors and organization, we call a gang. A gang is another version of group activity. The question, whether or not urban violence is being driven by gangs is always yes. Unless you do not know what, you are doing. The question then becomes, what is the nature of that violence and is the violence expressive. In other words, am I using this violence because I am mad at you or am I expressing anger because there is some beef? Is it instrumental, is it about robbery or is the violence

about territory? There is next to none of that. The possible exception is if you were talking about a drug market. If you are talking about a drug market, someone has to supply it, watch out for the cops, and you have all these moving parts. If that drug market becomes destabilized then you could have some sort of shooting for business reasons.

Vice Mayor Jimmy Gray stated that he can think back to at least four homicides recently that have involved women. It is troubling, if this is a trend that we are seeing in our community. Even though it could be a domestic situation that we do not always have control over. I see these cases involve people in abusive relationships that they can not get out of and know a lot of our resources we are putting together now are focused on dealing with some of the street crime involving young males. I think that if data shows any trends that suggest that women are victims of violent crimes because of relationships or the wrong situation that they are in. Perhaps some of our community partners who are working in those areas, we may want to engage them more with some of the work they are doing to make sure they are creating greater awareness, more education in that area especially when it come to family members and neighbors who could report such things.

Chief Talbot thanked Vice Mayor Gray. The vast majority of the time, including the cases you are alluding to, the women who are being killed are being killed due to an intimate partner directly committing that homicide or because that person is involved in a violent social network and they are right there. It is almost always going to be one of the two things. The domestic violence is a frequent problem that the police respond to. It tends to turn deadly when the intimate partner is otherwise willing to engage in lethal violence. In other words, it is the same crowd. The groups of young males who are shooting and getting shot are the same males who are killing the women in the domestic homicides. In homicides, when the female is killed it is because she was right there when the bullets started flying. The smartest thing that we can do is stop acting like everybody is at the same

risk, everybody is not at the same risk. It is total fiction to believe that everybody who is experiencing some of these things are at the same risk. There are folks that are really, really in jeopardy by virtue of their choices. We can point them out, and they are right there in front of us and work closely with them, whether they want us to or not.

Mayor Tuck thanked Chief Talbot again for his presentation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Clerk of Council, Katherine Glass, read the protocol for the public hearings.

Rezoning and Use Permits

4. [22-0347](#) Rezoning Application by Olde Hampton Village Developers, LLC to rezone 16 properties, totaling +22.78 acres at the intersections of LaSalle Avenue and West Pembroke Avenue, West Pembroke Avenue and West Queen Street, and West Queen Street and Michigan Drive [LRSNs: 2000370, 2000404, 2000402, 2000369, 2000403, 2000401, 2000368, 2000400, 2000385, 2000386, 2000229, 2000230, 2000231, 2000232, 2000233, 2000234], commonly known as the former site of the Lincoln Park Housing Development.

Attachments: [Application](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Presentation](#)

Items 22-0347 and 22-0348 were presented by Olivia Askew, Resiliency Specialist. A joint public hearing took place. The Mayor opened the public hearing. Ross Vierra, CEO/President of Axis Global Enterprises, the developer, briefly spoke. There were no other speakers so the Mayor closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilmember Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Billy Hobbs, that this Rezoning Application be approved with twelve (12) conditions. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

5. [22-0348](#) Use Permit Application by Olde Hampton Village Developers, LLC, to Permit Multifamily Dwellings at the Intersections of LaSalle Avenue and West Pembroke Avenue, West Pembroke Avenue and West Queen Street, and West Queen Street and Michigan Drive [LRSNs: 2000370, 2000404, 2000402, 2000369, 2000403, 2000401, 2000368, 2000400, 2000385, 2000386, 2000229, 2000230, 2000231, 2000232, 2000233, 2000234], Commonly Known as the Former Site of the Lincoln Park Housing Development.

Attachments: [Proposed Conditions](#)
[Conditions - redlined](#)
[Application](#)
[Reference Note](#)

Items 22-0347 and 22-0348 were presented by Olivia Askew, Resiliency Specialist. A joint public hearing took place. The Mayor opened the public hearing. The Mayor opened the public hearing. Ross Vierra, CEO/President of Axis Global Enterprises, the developer, briefly spoke. There were no other speakers so the Mayor closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilmember Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Martha Mugler, that this Use Permit be approved with six conditions. The motion carried by the following vote:

City Manager, Mary Bunting introduced Resiliency Specialist, Olivia Askew who made the presentation.

Councilwoman Hope Harper thanked Ms. Askew for her presentation and asked if the senior apartments would be on the top.

Ms. Askew replied yes, and pulled up a slide for reference.

Councilwoman Harper asked if there would be an elevator, because some seniors like to live on the first floor due to physical limitations that might limit them going floor to floor.

Ms. Askew replied that in the proposal there are internal corridors to get to all the units and as required by the building code there would be elevators.

There were no speakers signed up to speak.

Mayor Tuck offered the applicant to speak.

Good evening and Mayor Tuck, Vice Mayor Gray, City Council members, City Manager and planning staff and members of the community of Hampton. I am Ross Vierra and I'm the owner of Access Global Enterprises, and a member of the Hampton Village Community Developers, LLC along with my partner Nick Jacovides of EDC homes. This is a transformational project, not only for Hampton, but for us. We've been working on this now for about four years, working intimately with our friends of Hampton Redevelopment & Housing Authority (HRHA), and thank you Aaru, the city planning department, economic development and yourself to bring a plan together that really enhances the gateway and honors a long heritage in history in the old Hampton community. I know Councilman Brown you were a resident here at the former Lincoln Park project housing, and what we wanted to do in this design and development is really honor the past and really bring a new future and a new life to this community. I hope that you see with the work and the design elements that are in here, the high quality that is brought to bear and the vision that is being brought to the City of Hampton and the investment will be well over \$100 million in new investment capital into the City of Hampton. Our companies are honored to be a part of this and we really hope that you see the vision and the love and the passion in this project and that will help enhance the community here in Hampton, and am here to answer any questions.

Mayor Tuck thanked Mr. Vierra for his presentation.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

Resolutions

8. [23-0014](#) Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of a License Agreement Between the City of Hampton and the Downtown Hampton Development Partnership, Inc. for the Purpose of Conducting Additional Park Activities over Three Portions of the City-Owned Property Known as Carousel Park

Attachments: [Exhibit A - South King Street.pdf](#)
[Exhibit B - Deed Restricted Area.pdf](#)
[Exhibit C - Park Equipment Log.pdf](#)
[DHDP Carousel Park License Agreement - as published for 2/8/23](#)

The City Manager, Mary Bunting, gave the background on this item. Mayor Tuck opened the public hearing. Michael Mulheran was called to speak and wasn't present. Japharii Jones spoke supporting the carousel and future uses in the area of Carousel Park. The Mayor then closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs and seconded by Councilmember Chris Bowman, that this Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

City Manager, Mary Bunting stated that this item is a continuation of a renewal of an agreement we have with Downtown Hampton Development Partnership (DHDP) to conduct park activities at Carousel Park to include the Urban Beach, dog activity area and a storage shed. Since DHDP is located downtown and adjacent to Carousel Park it has made sense to allow them to operate those activities for the City.

In regards to conversations around a potential move of the Carousel, that is a request that DHDP has made to Council for consideration. Their goal is to consider movement of the Carousel to make room for a larger Urban Waterfront Park, and have asked the City to consider moving the Carousel to Mill

Point Park. We have also heard many requests over the years to consider moving the Carousel back to Buckroe Beach where it was historically located. To understand, process and advise Council on these requests, we have engaged consultants to tell us a cost to move and preserve the Carousel whether it is moved or not. We are hopeful to have the consultants come and present at the next meeting, February 22 in the afternoon session.

Michael Moheran signed up to speak but was not present.

Jafari Jones greeted Council and made the following comment.

Good evening, everybody. Hope you're having a prosperous February 8th Black History Month. I just wanted to speak a little bit on the Carousel Park and agenda items. Mr. Jones thanked City Manager, Mary Bunting for the clarification regarding the agenda item, and that it was not about moving the Carousel. I grew up in Hampton, and we moved here in 1989, from Pittsburgh. It's a very rich history here, and I would hope that Hampton would fight to preserve that history. He stated he had gone to the carousel with his grandfather when he was knee high to a bullfrog, as they would say, and would definitely like to see it stay that way. He would also like to impose that they highlight the HBCU Hampton University that is right in that same general area, even though it's not on the same side. Enhance the art culture of downtown, I don't know if Hampton really has an artsy, graffiti type, just the art field, kind of like the art district or neon district in Norfolk, it gives people a way to express themselves in ways that, you know, everybody can't come to city council and speak, everybody is not poised to run for council. But a lot of times people do want to get different things out in an artsy sort of way. And I think it would add to the decor and the culture of downtown Hampton, highlighting their rich history of Hampton being at the first slaves or first Africans landed here in 1619, at our historic Fort Monroe, we're here to help. I don't know if everybody knows, but we do social media marketing, we have a very large social media presence. Our Facebook alone

last year reached 250 million people, and that was simply off of our Facebook. We do graphic designs, and when you see so much violence going on, which I know was like one of the main talking points of tonight, we like to give the other part of news, like Chief Talbot says news is going to be filled with stuff. Let's fill the news with positive things on the carousel. We like to do events that involve the community like community walks. The carousel is very peaceful, letting people know, yes, we know it's there. But it's kind of like something right there next to the Air & Space Museum. We need, you know, solutions in every way, shape or form. I just feel like any development from here on out born in Hampton should have the generational effect of it. Because there's so many landmarks that have been torn down that made us call Hampton and it's just like, what do you do after you take away the history of Hampton? I'm all for keeping it there, maybe putting a dome or something to protect it from the elements. I think you said it was the sea that was affecting it, because again we've been going to it forever so approval on a carousel, hope you make the right decision.

Mayor Tuck closed the public hearing.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

9. [23-0015](#) Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of a Use Agreement Between the City of Hampton and the Newtown Improvement and Civic Club, Inc. to Use the Little England Cultural Center Located at 3922 Kecoughtan Road

Attachments: [Little England Cultural Center Use Agreement.pdf](#)

The City Manager provided background on this agenda item. The Mayor opened the public hearing and there were no speakers so he closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilmember Martha Mugler and seconded by Councilmember Billy Hobbs, that this Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

City Manager, Mary Bunting commented that this item is to help program and operate the Little England Cultural Center that is one of our neighborhood centers. The City's model for neighborhood centers is to have active citizen participation from the neighborhood in design the programming and operation to give it more of a neighborhood feel. We did have that in place up to 2019 with the Newtown Civic League. Then with COVID and other things that got disrupted, but we are ready to authorize the renewal.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

PUBLIC COMMENT

Clerk of Council, Katherine Glass, read the protocol for the public comment period

Connie Souls introduced herself and made the following comment. I am here to represent the City of Newport News, which was where I was born. I went through all the schools and things are really different. I want to know what Hampton is done to prepare, if we should have an outburst like they had at Richneck. Anybody? You know what I'm talking about? The six-year-old.

Mayor Tuck reminded Ms. Souls that this is not a dialogue and she is allowed three minutes to speak.

I bought this shirt at a CNU basketball game. They were made in order for people to help raise money, and they have raised \$2,000 so far. I am a retired Hampton teacher, music teacher. In my retirement. I wrote this book. I'm a newly published author. I also have a nonprofit organization where I teach people with autism, ADHD, and more importantly, adults who have PTSD. I venture to say that every member of the police department and the fire department has problems with that. I would love to be able to help. Okay, thank you.

Jafari Jones introduced himself and made the following comment. Good evening, again. I just like to speak on the violence in the area. I'm not trying to make this about me but I am going to share some personal experiences for better understanding. One year ago tomorrow, we were called a distraction by Chief Talbot. Part of being a great leader is recognizing when you have been misjudged and rectify the situation. Felt like it's important for all this violence to establish relationships prior to the tragedy, as opposed to coming in after the tragedy. When there's a distrust between, unfortunately, law enforcement and the citizens. Until the citizens feel included, they're not going to want to open that door for individuals that they don't know, even if they are law enforcement. A little over a year ago, we met with the Mayor as well and we let them know that we are here to help and we can do whatever we can to assist. Unfortunately, we never got called back to help. On the four-year anniversary of BLM 757, which I am the president of, we attempted to have a stop the violence protest, and we had our permit rejected, and that's very telling, seeing where we are now. People see this as a protest just against police brutality, but we're here trying to do positive things for the community. We were also speaking out against criminalizing being impoverished, there are these signs up around Hampton, they pretty much have a law section and pretty much discourages people from helping. But we know people at a barber shop that one of their attendants died from freezing to death. So, we've been doing coat drives, and we've been doing whatever we can, from our own little space. Unfortunately, I have a lot of instances of violence, personally affect me. My friend, Britney's fiancé was murdered over there by the car shop. Brittany, let me know about my friend James who was shot and killed in my senior year of high school, we were both seniors. We shared middle names and he was killed on Aberdeen, where my grandfather has a house still, in the historic Aberdeen Gardens. So, where did they send everybody once they tore down Lincoln Park and Olde Town on the one situation. Cody has now been missing for one year, the Cody alert petition now has over 10,000 signatures in support. And we're now hoping that we will have your support is

Cody alert is similar to the Amber Alert. It's just less red tape. And we're hoping that Hampton will pilot that and take it to the nation. In such a time as this with the rise in human trafficking, and things of that nature. We haven't received the call back over a year from Chief Talbot, and we've been locked out of press conferences, and even had threats made against us for trying to hold a positive community event. We need town halls and we need resets. Again, we say we're here to assist.

Michael Moheran introduced himself and made the following comment. I live in Hampton near Coliseum Central, and I just wanted to thank the government of Hampton because specifically Ms. Steele was just an executive assistant of the precinct chief, and we just had parking problems on Hampton Club Drive with tractor trailers, tractor trailer cabs, and it was a big problem during COVID. But now with more policing and stuff, it's been a total turnaround. Specifically, Ms. Steele who sent the email to and two or three times in the last six months, it has been a total 180. But more importantly, especially to our wonderfully diverse community. I want to congratulate all of you in the expeditious nature that you approved cannabis medical marijuana sites here in Hampton, Virginia. I want to congratulate you all, as some of you do know I'm a full blown AIDS survivor. And I was one of the first ones down here to start medical marijuana. This aesthetic, Marinol and tribunal and it's lifesaving. It could help our community. It's going to be a game changer so far as income. I think that we have more dispensaries that Northern Virginia. I just want to say thank you all. Thank you for time.

Chanell Ketchmore introduced herself and made the following comment. I am the founder and executive director of Ketchmore Kids. We are a nonprofit organization that does a lot of work around gun violence prevention in the Hampton community. And I am joined by my brother, Troy Ketchmore, who is our program manager. So first, I wanted to thank you all for your support of our programs and services. More importantly, we wanted to reaffirm our commitment to doing our part to assist. We are a

part of the collective Hampton community; we have been disheartened by the gun violence incidents that have taken place. We are definitely a team, we've been working to strategize and look at ways that we can even become more creative and doing our part and engaging young people and young adults, the Chief and other community partners. And so, we just wanted to again, you know, just make our presence known and just reaffirm our commitment to doing our part to help save lives and make a difference. We too have been impacted; we have known more than one individual personally who have lost their lives to violence recently. Thank you.

Nikia Miller introduced herself and made the following comment. I have a couple of things to say. But I think that there's something that is extremely important to say, how dare this body approve a project that will push more poor people out of the city of Hampton. I consider it insulting that the developer for this project that is going over Lincoln Park can say that it's historical, especially when members of this body grew up in Lincoln Park. It's insulting. The writing is on the wall in the City of Hampton, low-income people don't are not welcome here. It's on the wall when it comes towards the encroachment on the King Street corridor. And unlike myself, so many individuals who are on Section eight, or who rent in the King Street corridor are going to be pushed out of the city. And I think that it has to do with the greed of our city government. And the ability to sit there and say that the individuals who might have grown up here and who don't have money are not welcome. It's ridiculous. Now to what I actually wanted to speak about today. Let's have a conversation about the buddy system between the City Council and Hampton City Schools. In the past year, I've been notified about my daughter that there have been two situations of sexual assault Kecoughtan High School alone, one being a girl who was suspended today after she reported to the principal that she was sexually assaulted. I already know what some of the thought processes of individuals that are on this body are when it comes towards sexual violence, especially when the statement was made. Oh, well, the Commonwealth's Attorney didn't prosecute

your daughter's assailant because we don't process, we don't prosecute nine-year-olds. But you know, we have a shooting that happens in Newport News and the entire city responds. And even though the assailant was six years old, that doesn't take the bullet out of Abby, Abigail's Warner's chest. So regardless of what you think, just because somebody doesn't prosecute someone, doesn't mean that it didn't happen. And I would welcome you to call my daughter a liar to her face. So, the question is, is the City of Hampton going to actually support the individuals that are in this city, especially our youth? Or are we going to continue to be money hungry and push those individuals who can't sit there and provide considerable numbers of dollars to our tax base, because it's already been proven that money can influence, you know, influence in the city with the past election that occurred here. I welcome you to respond.

GENERAL ITEMS

Appointments

A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs, with no second required, that Hope Harper be appointed to the Planning Commission.

[23-0041](#)

Consideration of an Appointment to the Planning Commission

A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs that Councilwoman Hope Harper be appointed to the Planning Commission. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

REPORTS BY CITY MANAGER, CITY COUNCIL, STAFF, COMMITTEES

There were no reports.

MISCELLANEOUS NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of new business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Donnie R. Tuck
Mayor

Katherine K. Glass, CMC
Clerk of Council

Date approved by Council _____