



# 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 Linda D. Curtis*  
*Councilmember Jimmy Gray*  
*Councilmember W.H. "Billy" Hobbs*  
*Councilmember Will Moffett*  
*Councilmember Teresa V. Schmidt*  
*Councilmember Chris Snead*

*STAFF: Mary Bunting, City Manager*  
*Vanessa T. Valldejuli, City Attorney*  
*Katherine K. Glass, CMC, Clerk of Council*

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**Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

**6:30 PM**

**Council Chambers**

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### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vice Mayor Curtis announced that Mayor Tuck is attending the opening session of the Hampton University 40th Annual Conference on the Black Family.

Vice Mayor Curtis convened the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

**Present:** 6 - Vice Mayor Linda D. Curtis, Councilmember Jimmy Gray, Councilmember Billy Hobbs, Councilmember Chris Snead, Councilmember Will Moffett and Councilmember Teresa V. Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Donnie R. Tuck

### LINDA CURTIS PRESIDED

### INVOCATION - Councilmember Billy Hobbs

Councilman Hobbs gave the invocation.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

### MAYOR'S COMMENTS

### CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Katherine K. Glass, Clerk of Council, read the protocol for the Consent Agenda.

1. [18-0106](#) Resolution Naming the New Neighborhood Center Located in the Olde Hampton Neighborhood in Honor of Mary Jackson, NASA's First Black Female Engineer

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda at the request of Councilwoman Snead to highlight the renaming of the new neighborhood center in Old Hampton in honor of Mary Jackson. This idea was provided to the City by the Steelworkers' Union. The neighborhood in which Ms. Jackson lived was appreciative of this honor.

City Manager Mary Bunting stated that several other groups were supportive of recognizing Ms. Jackson in some way, including her sorority. She noted that Ms. Jackson did a lot for the youth in the Old Hampton neighborhood, so it is appropriate to name the new neighborhood center in her honor.

Vice Mayor Curtis shared the sign that will be put at the future site of the neighborhood center. She noted that the City is still in discussions about where the neighborhood center will be located.

A motion was made by Councilmember Snead and seconded by Councilmember Schmidt, that this Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

### **Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Following item #1, Ms. Glass read a summary of the remaining Consent Agenda.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

2. [18-0058](#) Resolution Approving the Transfer of Virginia Department of Transportation's Revenue Sharing Program Funds, from the LaSalle Avenue at Kecoughtan Road Intersection Improvements Project in the Amount of \$159,972.00 and Local Bond Funds from the North King Street Phase III Project in the Amount of \$159,972.00, to the Mercury Boulevard Phase II Project

Item approved.

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

3. [18-0087](#) Ordinance to Amend and Reenact Chapter 2 of the City Code of the City of Hampton, Virginia, entitled "Administration" by Amending Article XIV, Division 1 to Add Section 2-336.1 Pertaining to the Use of Design-Build and Construction Management Procurement Methods

**Attachments:** [Procurement Procedures](#)  
[Redline](#)

Item approved.

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

4. [18-0088](#) Resolution Approving the City of Hampton, Virginia's Participation in and Appropriation of the 2017 State Homeland Security Program Grant through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management for Hampton & Poquoson Regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

**Attachments:** [Grant Agreement](#)  
[Grant Allocation Letter & Application](#)  
[Grant Routing Sheet](#)

Item approved.

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

5. [18-0095](#) Resolution Determining Accident Support Services International, Ltd., and Its Wholly Owned Subsidiaries to be the Only Source

Practicably Available from which to Procure an Accident Reporting Center

**Attachments:** [Presentation](#)

Item approved.

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

6. [18-0100](#) Approval of the minutes from the work session of February 14, 2018, and the ceremonial session of February 28, 2018.

Item approved.

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

## PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ms. Glass read the protocol for Public Hearings.

## Ordinances

7. [17-0387](#) Resolution (i) Authorizing the Execution of an Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding by and Among the Peninsula Town Center Community Development Authority and T Peninsula Axis VA, LLC, T Peninsula Hotel VA, LLC, and Peninsula Parking Lot VA, LLC and an Amended and Restated Collection Agreement With the Peninsula Town Center Community Development Authority and the Successors and Assigns of Hampton Mall Associates, J. C. Penney Properties, Inc. and Target Corporation in Connection With the Issuance of Special Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2018 , and (ii) Approving the Issuance of the Series 2018 Bonds by the Community Development Authority

**Attachments:** [CDA Resolution](#)

Staff has requested deferral until the March 28, 2018 Legislative Session.

A motion was made by Councilmember Snead and seconded by Councilmember Schmidt, that items 7 (17-0387) and 8 (17-0388) be deferred to the City Council Legislative Session, due back on 3/28/2018. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

8. [17-0388](#) Ordinance Amending Non-Coded Ordinance Number 1026 as Amended by Non-Coded Ordinance Number 1043 Entitled "Ordinance Establishing a Special Assessment for the Peninsula Town Center Community Development Authority and Authorizing an Amended and Restated Collection Agreement with the Community Development Authority"

**Attachments:** [CDA Resolution](#)

Staff has requested deferral until the March 28, 2018 Legislative Session.

A motion was made by Councilmember Snead and seconded by Councilmember Schmidt, that items 7 (17-0387) and 8 (17-0388) be deferred to the City Council Legislative Session, due back on 3/28/2018. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

9. [18-0081](#) Ordinance to Amend And Re-Enact Chapter 2 Of The Zoning Ordinance Of The City Of Hampton, Virginia Entitled "Definitions" By Amending Section 2-2 Pertaining to Bed and Breakfasts

**Attachments:** [Redline](#)  
[Presentation](#)  
[PC Resolution](#)

This item was presented in conjunction with 18-0083 and 18-0085.

City Manager Mary Bunting introduced Ms. Lucy Stoll, City Planner, who provided a presentation on this item.

As there were no speakers present, Vice Mayor Curtis opened and closed the joint Public Hearing.

Presented by Lucy Stoll, City Planner. A joint public hearing was held on items 9 (18-0081), 10 (18-0083), and 11 (18-0085). There were no speakers on this item.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gray and seconded by Councilmember Schmidt, that this Zoning Ordinance - Text be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

10. [18-0083](#) Ordinance To Amend And Re-Enact The Zoning Ordinance Of The City Of Hampton, Virginia By Amending Section 3-2 Entitled "Uses Permitted" To Add Two Categories of Bed and Breakfast to the Table of Uses Permitted

**Attachments:** [Redline Text](#)  
[Redline Use Table](#)  
[Clean Use Table](#)  
[PC Resolution](#)  
[Presentation](#)

This item was presented in conjunction with 18-0081 and 18-0085.

Presented by Lucy Stoll, City Planner. A joint public hearing was held on items 9 (18-0081), 10 (18-0083), and 11 (18-0085). There were no speakers on this item.

A motion was made by Councilmember Schmidt and seconded by Councilmember Hobbs, that this Zoning Ordinance - Text be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

11. [18-0085](#) Ordinance to Amend and Reenact the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Hampton, Virginia by Amending Articles II through III of Chapter 10 Entitled "Signs" Pertaining to Supplemental Sign Regulations for Bed and Breakfasts in One and Two Family Residential Districts; and Bed and Breakfast Signage Regulations Contained within the Tables of Freestanding, Wall, and Temporary Signage Permitted

**Attachments:** [Redline Signs](#)

[Redline Table of Freestanding Signage Permitted](#)

[Redline Table of Wall Signage Permitted](#)

[CLEAN Table of Freestanding Signage Permitted](#)

[CLEAN Table of Wall Signage Permitted](#)

[PC Resolution](#)

[Presentation](#)

This item was presented in conjunction with 18-0081 and 18-0083.

Presented by Lucy Stoll, City Planner. A joint public hearing was held on items 9 (18-0081), 10 (18-0083), and 11 (18-0085). There were no speakers on this item.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hobbs and seconded by Councilmember Schmidt, that this Zoning Ordinance - Text be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

## Resolutions

12. [18-0086](#) Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Use Agreement Between the City of Hampton and South Eastern Virginia

Aquatics ("SEVA") to use the Hampton Aquatics Center Pool

Attachments: [Agreement](#)

Ms. Bunting noted that the City currently rents out its pool facilities to several groups for a fee. This Use Agreement requires approval by Council. She introduced Mr. Kevin Myers, Director of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services.

Mr. Myers clarified that the rental fee is \$13 per lane per hour per day. The proposed resolution currently reads "\$13 per lane." Ms. Bunting stated that the proposed resolution will require an amendment.

A motion was made by Councilmember Snead to amend the resolution to add that the fee is \$13 per lane, per hour, per day. This was seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and the motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

As there were no speakers, Vice Mayor Curtis opened and closed the Public Hearing.

A public hearing took place with no individuals signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Councilmember Snead and seconded by Councilmember Hobbs to approve the resolution as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett and Councilmember Schmidt

**Out:** 1 - Mayor Tuck

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Glass read the protocol for Public Comment.

Ms. Linda Seely greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I'm here tonight to talk about one thing and it's the cats. The cats are all over the City. It's just like it was in 2002. We'll never ever, ever get it under control. You may say



“well, you’re being negative.” Well, I have worked the streets for 45 years. I know, Ms. Bunting knows, Jimmy Gray knows how hard, every day of my life I work for these animals, sick or well. Nobody seems to want to get involved. You’ve got somebody that’s a pro, that’s a good speaker. He can make you believe this building top will come off tonight and you’ll see stars that you’ve never seen in the sky before. He’s got that gift. It’s wonderful, Councilmen, if you want to believe it. But you better listen, and listen good, or you’re going to have some embarrassment down the road if you don’t watch it. And I’m serious. I’m not up here playing or trying to get attention. I should be home resting, but I came here to tell you it’s serious out here in these streets. I want to say this, Mary, Will, Chris, Linda, Billy, Teresa and Jimmy. You let one of your kids get bitten by a cat or a dog and they can’t find it, and it has to go under rabies shots - don’t tell me you won’t put a wig on somebody’s head or take it off and do something. I’m telling you, this is - it’s serious out here. And what if your child got murdered going to the Peninsula Town (Center)? Or just going in the neighborhood and visiting a person? I’m telling you, Ms. Bunting, that you wouldn’t - if one of those three children, one of them got murdered? You wouldn’t? Well, I know what you’d do. I know what you others would do. This is serious out here. I was coming out of a store last week, and one was - I don’t want to get into that, because that’s not my business to worry about the murders. As I was saying, we have a serious problem, and it’s going to get more serious. I’m asking somebody on our City Council to get involved. City of Newport News is going to give me a daily report of all the animals. We’ve got a full time person that we’ve hired now, and I’m going get it and I don’t have to do no FOIA (Freedom of Interest Act) over there for that city. I want to include this. Last week, a cat, an animal was injured - no killed. I called, when I got home five hours later, to see if it was picked up, and the lady said “we’re not allowed to tell you.” And I said “you can’t give me a yes or no answer?” And she said “no, I’m not allowed.” That’s sad. We’re taxpayers and we should not be treated like that, and the animals definitely do not deserve to be treated in the manner they’re being treated. It’s going to happen, it’s just a matter of time. I told that City Council in Newport News one time and the next day it happened. I pray to God nothing happens to none of your loved ones. I pray, that’s all I can do. And I thank God for being able to be here tonight. Thank you, Linda.

Ms. Chris Reece greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I actually live in Newport News, Virginia. I do work in Hampton, and I’ve been working with the animals for many, many years. I’m here just to ask that, because, and it is not just in Newport News or just in Hampton, I’m hopefully - one of the things I would like to recommend for the overpopulation of the cats in particular is at least for a while, as soon as it starts to get warm, the cats are going to start mating and we’re going to have even more of a problem, so it really would be more beneficial to get trappers before later in the year. There’s a great need to get the animals off the street. Not only are they being hit by cars, or being, like Ms. Seely was saying,

harmful to other people, they're a nuisance to some people. They do get a bad deal, in my opinion the cats get a worse deal because people are so mean to them. Of course, they can't be fed, that's illegal, if you feed a feral cat, or whatever you want to do with them. My suggestion is maybe we could, if we could get more trappers, maybe we could find farms to put them on. There's always an opening for feral cats on farms. They become farm cats, and they're at least off the street. They have a place to live that's warm, and most often, as far as I know, there's food for them. Right now, if I told you how many cats I'm feeding, I'm sure you wouldn't believe me. But there are many, many, many cats all over the area that are mostly in manholes or roaming. I feel like, sometimes I'm spinning my wheels, but I'm going to do the best I can to encourage any and all help with the animals. I do appreciate you letting me talk tonight, especially since I'm a Newport News resident, but I'm going to catch them, too. Thank you very much.

Ms. Carole Garrison greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I'm here today with some of my fellow quilters to request the City add computerization of the long-arm machine into the budget this year. This is a wonderful asset we have in the City. I attend the quilt classes at the North Phoebus Community Center, and that is where the long-arm is. A long-arm is what is used for a quilt when you put the three layers together, and it has to be stretched out, and the sewing machine moves along the top, so that's why people don't own them, and why it's so expensive to go have them done. I took a vacation from work during November to rent the machine, and it is unusable because it had not been sent out for maintenance. Luckily, the Director of Parks, Mr. Myers did one of the Mayor's Chats. He was very helpful and I told him about the situation. He followed up to see why it had not been sent out yet, and he told me that he was looking into if there was money to computerize the machine, because it had been requested before. Unfortunately, now, it's March and the machine is sitting at the sewing center, waiting for three weeks for a staff person to come pick up the purchase order so it can be approved so they will actually work on it, so we haven't ever gotten it back. This situation led me to another issue. In regards to that issue, I shouldn't've been approaching you all, I should've been approaching the Parks & Rec Advisory Board. But that board met only in February in 2006, and it only met in March in 2007, and that's because - 2017, sorry - because the board members are not showing up. The minutes say the staff is there, but only one board member showed up, so they cancelled the meeting. I know you all put up policies to where you can serve on only certain boards, you can only serve certain term of limits, and also you can be removed. I think Mr. Myers deserves a board where people actually show up and you can approach them, so I hope you all can look into that. And also, the meeting should say who the people are who are not showing up. Again, my actual reason for being here, is to request the computerization of the long-arm machine. We have the largest quilt show on the Eastern Shore. There are a lot of quilters that live here, and it's a wonderful asset,

so I hope you consider it during the budget. Thank you.

Ms. Cathy Clark greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Thank you guys for hearing me, I live in Hampton. I am here tonight with a group that attends the quilt classes at North Phoebus Community Center. There are two groups that meet on Wednesday in the morning, and Thursdays in the evening to accommodate the people that work during the day. The problem is, the community center website doesn't even mention that there's a quilting thing there. We started out at Fort Monroe. When we moved to Phoebus, we were moved into the Music Room. Guess what? It's still called the Music Room. There is no advertising. We've all taken the long-arm class because we had that long-arm; however, it constantly breaks. It's messing up our quilts when we're on it. We're hoping we can get a computerized one, but in the meantime, I don't know if any of you all sew, but let me give you my history. When I started this class, and I thank God that Hampton is offering this, because I didn't even know how to sew when I started these classes, I've got five quilts under my belt already. However, when you make a bad seam, when you have to take that seam-ripper, and when you're using that long quilt arm, and you got all those bad seams, and you've got your queen sized bed, and you have to seam-rip all those seams because the long-arm is messed up? Alright, I side-barred. I just want you guys to understand. Anyway, your website doesn't even mention that you have quilting, and again, like Carole had mentioned, have you all even been to the quilting show that we just had here? Do you know how crowded that place is? It's awesome? Do you know how much money y'all could be bringing in right now because of all the guilds that are there? They're not even aware that the City of Hampton offers this. So, really, you need to tap into that. And not that I'm trying to beg anything; however, we really, really want a computerized long-arm. Also, the problem with the North Hampton Phoebus Center, do you know they have a community garden? Oh wait, no you don't because, guess what, it's not advertised. So really, if you're going to offer stuff, maybe you need to advertise it so people can find interest in it, because I didn't find y'all from advertisement. I found you from a friend from a friend from a friend that got me into this. And yes, I've been posting on Facebook, all my quilts I've made, and I've gotten a lot of other people interested in it, but y'all need to work what you've got there. And like you said, I know that you guys have upgraded - hold on, let me get back to where I was, okay, I'm sorry - you are opening up a new community center in Foxhill, you're building a pier in Fort Monroe, you're purchasing Boo Williams Sports Complex and considering building an aquatics center. Your community centers you already have here, we need support. Thank you.

Ms. Misty Collins greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I'm sorry, quilting's a hard act to follow. I know a lot of people into that. I just want to tell Ms. Reece quickly, actually there is a code in the City, it's 5-31 that says it's illegal

to have a cat or dog in heat in the public. They should be confined. It's actually already on the books. Not that anybody is aware of that. A couple of things today. I'm known as the Old Wythe Animal Control Officer because I'm the go-to person for - people call me, animals at-large, sick, injured, wildlife. I've returned dozens of animals or taken dozens of animals to the regional shelter, to the emergency vet, to rehabbers myself, because of Animal Control not having - they weren't on duty at the time. As a matter of fact, I can recall a time I got a phone call about 11:00 p.m., actually by the Police Chief's wife, Mrs. Sult, in reference to some puppies that were dumped in her neighborhood, because Animal Control was not on duty. I bought a scanner, a microchip scanner, myself to identify these animals, get them safely returned to their owners when Animal Control is not on duty. This past Thursday, on the 8th of March, around 8:00 p.m., I got a call about a cat who was lying in the gutter in the cold and rain. Animal Control was called, but they were not on duty. I responded, picked up this almost - really messed up cat, that's all I'll get into the details - rushed him to the animal emergency center on 17. Again, my time, my gas. Sadly the cat was in liver failure and passed away as soon as I got there. I'm okay with the death; however, that animal suffered, and if that animal had to wait for an on-call police officer to verify there was a problem - or I'm sorry, a working police officer to verify there's a problem, and then call Animal Control and say there's a problem, that would prolong the suffering for that animal. And the animal, she would have died before that, and she would have died alone, in a gutter, in the cold and rain. At least she had some comfort before she passed away. Finally, I do want to address the two pit bulls that were shot and killed by police in Phoebus on Saturday, a weekend which Animal Control is not on duty. I would not for one minute hold the police officer to blame for the death of those two dogs. I do blame Animal Control for not being on duty, which is a direct result of nobody being hired that's adequate that should handle these issues. There's no reason on a Saturday at 5:00 in the evening that there should not be somebody on duty who knows and has been trained in animal behavior - they should handle that. Police officers are not trained to know animal behavior, to know the difference between a pit bull that's running at you, a big goofball, or running at you like he's going to rip your throat out. They're not trained to do that. Animal Control is. They need to be on the road. One more thing, section 5-4, City Council may appoint one or more deputies to assist Animal Control in the performance of their duties and I hope you guys will at least consider that because this is getting a little out of hand. Thank you.

Ms. Regina Quinn greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Some of you know who I am, and I'm in constant contact through email and phone calls in regards to concerns for the animals in the City. For those of you who do not know who I am, I am recently an approved 501 nonprofit that I've worked very, very hard to achieve. One day I'd like you to see me as an ally in the City and someone you can fall back on and maybe take some of the load off of these animal concerns

and partner together with advocacy and law enforcement. It seems to me that I'm getting, you know, opinions from some of the authorities here and officials that advocacy is a conflict of interest in Animal Control and I don't believe that is true. If a police officer is out there and goes above and beyond for a citizen, and goes and buys some toys for a sick kid, it's considered a wonderful thing, but yet an advocate is a conflict in Animal Control. I think we need to put that advocacy back into Animal Control and law enforcement, and we need to start being a little more empathetic. I will tell you that, between myself, Misty Collins, Geena Highfield from the Lost and Found page, this nice woman here who's been in the City for 45 years advocating for animals, we are the go-to people when Animal Control is not available. You need to realize that we are here helping the animals. We want to be respected and understood and listened to when we come to you with concerns because - if you look, these are my boots. I'm out here every single day, day and night, 3:00 in the morning, out looking for lost dogs, picking up stray animals, picking up deceased animals, bringing them to the shelter, bringing them to the vet, getting them scanned, reuniting them with their owners, finding dead dogs, letting the owner know "this is your dog." I'm doing the job of Animal Control, and I love it. I default to helping animals, but I can't continue to butt heads with the City. You need to listen to us. You need to work with us together to make some improvements in the City for these animals. What happened here with the two pit bulls recently, happened about four blocks from where I live. I literally am the animal police on my street, every day, warning people not to walk their dogs down my street because there's so many loose pit bulls. I advocate for pit bulls, but I also know the reality that loose, unattended, unneutered, unfixed pit bulls running down the street together are going to go in pack-mode. We are so fortunate that that was not a child that was killed this past week. It could've easily been a child. When I went into the yard of the owner whose dog was attacked, there were playthings for children back there, so there could've been a child back there at that time. So please, start listening to us and working with us together to make some improvements in the City for these animals. I appreciate it.

Pastor Curtis Harris greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: First, I just want to say that I am a Hampton resident. I just want to thank the Mayor in his absence for coming out. I am a founder and executive director of a mentoring outreach program that we've been working in this City for over a decade. Thank him for us, he has come out and helped with the children and sometimes he don't let people know what he do, but we appreciate him. There's just two things that I want to talk about real quick. I think this will be a good project for all of the young people in my facility, is if City Council could - and I just asked my wife's permission, you know we got to do that - if City Council would back the Original BROTHAS Outreach program, we wouldn't mind getting all our young folks to help collect these animals, and we can get with the Animal Control and probably take a little training on how to

do it. So we wouldn't mind doing it, if you contact me, I'm very easy. The other thing is, I would like to see some of the same passion that we have for the animals for our young people and our young adults out here. My granddaughter - you just got to bear with me for a moment. But the gang violence, I do the gang violence, I do it full time. From Shell Road to Foxhill, and it's getting ridiculous. We need some support. For those on City Council who know me, I'm out there. I work with them six days a week. Six days a week, after school, in the home, we've been to the schools. We just need some support. Today is not the time to sit and talk about it, but we can. This year, I ask for actions. We don't need to have five meetings, we know what the problem is. We have to show them who is in control, that they are not in control, that we run the City of Hampton and they don't. We're blessed to work with Commonwealth's Attorney Anton Bell, he knows us very well. We're just seeking for your support. And we would love to help with the cats. We'd love to work with the cats. We're just going to look for someone to contact us, but our youth, our young adults, because it's sad when you can't walk down the street in the daytime, let alone the night. I promised a lot of young people two days ago that I would come here and give this message for them, that they're tired. They're afraid, and they're counting on us. They're depending on us. So have a blessed evening, and I'm going to get this baby home.

Ms. Bunting addressed some of the concerns raised during Public Comment. She noted that the City's goal is to have complete manning for the Animal Control division. This has been a struggle over the last couple of years, for a variety of reasons. The City has four, fully trained officers, two officers who have been hired and are in training, and one additional officer slot that is under recruitment. The City is also nationally recruiting a civilian Animal Control Manager. When there is a full complement of staffing, the City should be able to have weekend and later evening coverage. However, the City is currently relying on four fully trained individuals, and it is hard to cover weekend and evening hours without burning them out and running the risk that they quit. Hampton Police Chief Terry Sult has indicated that Animal Control will be able to return to desired operational hours by May. Those will begin sooner if possible.

Ms. Bunting stated that if there is an animal in danger and Animal Control is not on duty, police officers respond. The City is always glad to send someone out if there is a need or concern. It is the goal to send an Animal Control officer, but there needs to be adequate staffing first.

Ms. Bunting stated that when someone calls for service and requests a callback to know the disposition of the service, this is done. If someone calls several days later, the dispatcher who is answering does not immediately know who has the information being requested. The dispatchers who answer 727-6111 (the nonemergency

number) also answer 911, so the City does not want dispatchers taking time to research the information. This is why the City requests that citizens who desire a callback request such at the initial call. Otherwise, the information can be provided through a written or telephone request to Animal Control directly. Requests for documentation are considered a FOIA request, whether the words "FOIA request" are invoked or not. The dispatcher is not equipped to answer those requests for information.

Ms. Bunting stated that the City welcomes information on how it can improve and believes in partnering with organizations as appropriate. She appreciates the offers given today.

Councilman Gray noted that Animal Control is not a 24/7 service, even at full staffing. Ms. Bunting confirmed that there will be hours without coverage from Animal Control. The City's desired staffing level is common, and she is not aware of any city that has 24-hour coverage.

#### **REPORTS BY CITY MANAGER, CITY COUNCIL, STAFF, COMMITTEES**

Councilwoman Schmidt congratulated Councilman Gray, who was appointed by the Governor to the Virginia Board of Workforce Development.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS NEW BUSINESS**

Councilman Moffett inquired about the proposed long-arm machine. Ms. Bunting stated that she has sent a note to Assistant City Manager Brian DeProfio, who heads up the City's budget, and Mr. Myers to get pricing. She did not know that the City offered quilting classes, but she has been to the quilt shows and they are phenomenal. She cannot make a commitment about putting a computerized long-arm in the budget, but it could be something that is addressed. She stated that the City should not have equipment that does not work, and that will be addressed. She will also look into the Parks & Rec Advisory Board.

Vice Mayor Curtis stated that the City can always work on marketing itself. It offers amazing things, but if people do not know about them, they cannot take advantage of them.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donnie R. Tuck  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katherine K. Glass, CMC  
Clerk of Council

Date approved by Council \_\_\_\_\_