



City of Hampton

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

Council Approved Minutes - Draft City Council Legislative Session

Mayor Jimmy Gray

Vice Mayor Steven L. Brown

Councilmember Randy C. Bowman, Sr.

Councilmember Carolyn S. Campbell

Councilmember Michelle Taylor Ferebee

Councilmember Hope L. Harper

Councilmember Martha M. Mugler

STAFF: Mary Bunting, City Manager

Courtney R. Sydnor, City Attorney

Katherine K. Glass, MMC, Clerk of Council

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gray called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. All members of the City Council were present.

Present: 7 - Councilmember Randy C. Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Steven L. Brown, Councilmember Carolyn S. Campbell, Councilmember Michelle T. Ferebee, Councilmember Hope L. Harper, Councilmember Martha Mugler and Mayor Jimmy Gray

JIMMY GRAY PRESIDED

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

INVOCATION: Councilwoman Michelle Taylor Ferebee

Councilwoman Ferebee gave the invocation.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Gray provided brief remarks concerning the General Assembly, which is currently in session, and, more specifically, the topic of collective bargaining.

The Mayor shared that collaboration took place with all mayors of the 757 area regarding the impact of collective bargaining and then spoke about the support and hard work Hampton's leaders do to ensure that its employees receive good pay and benefits and attract and retain the best employees.

Lastly, the Mayor clarified that Hampton is not against unions or collective

bargaining, instead, it is against the state sending an unfunded mandate that the tax payers would be required to absorb.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS

The Mayor read the proclamation proclaiming the week of February 14-20, 2026, as Random Acts of Kindness Week.

Mayor Gray called on the members of Council, City staff and citizens to show love and be kind to everyone and perform at least three random acts of kindness during the week to change Hampton one person at a time.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

1. [26-0052](#) Resolution of Hampton City Council Initiating Amendments to the Hampton City Zoning District Map to Adjust the Boundaries of the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone Overlay District and the Noise Contour District
Item approved.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

2. [26-0053](#) Resolution of Hampton City Council Initiating Amendments to the Hampton City Zoning Ordinance Concerning Coin-Operated Amusement Machines

Item approved.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

3. [26-0054](#) Resolution of Hampton City Council Initiating Amendments to the Hampton City Zoning Ordinance to Modify Standards Applicable to the Restaurant 2 Use

Item approved.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

4. [26-0046](#) Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia Confirming the Declaration and Termination of a Local Emergency Made Necessary by the Winter Storm (known as the "31 January 2026 Winter Storm"), Declared on January 31, 2026, and Terminated on February 1, 2026, by the Acting Hampton Director of Emergency Management

Attachments: [Declaration](#)
[Termination](#)

Item approved.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

5. [26-0041](#) Approval of the minutes from the work session of August 13, 2025, and the special, ceremonial, and legislative sessions of January 28, 2026.

Item approved.

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings scheduled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Glass read the protocol for the public comment period.

Mayor Gray reminded everyone of the location of the timer and how it works and that speakers will have three minutes to speak. He then called on the first speaker, Joan Weaver.

Ms. Joan Weaver greeted those on the dais and Ms. Glass and made the following statement: Such a befitting time to speak on kindness, and I hope all of you on the governance team will be aware that because for my district, for my area, the Greater Wythe, you still lack that. Hampton has two faces. You show your side, but then let me show the real side. What you presented is worse than anything that could be imagined. The strategic plan, it is worse. Walt Disney has written better fictions than what this includes. We are still marginalized, ostracized, not showed respect. And last but not least, at one of these meetings, I was addressed and two of my fellow citizens, as being trouble, by our mayor himself. Let me tell you, black history at all times - I'm here to honor John Lewis, because we stand up for what is good and what is right for our community. You call us trouble. Let it be said, we are good trouble. You will never diminish our light and all of those false promises that you gave us when you destroyed our history, as you claimed in here you would not do. My neighborhood is frightened beyond doubt because they trumped up baseless indictment from the City for a misdemeanor from Codes and Compliances who told a blatant lie that you were supposed to be there to help us with senior home improvements, making our neighborhood good, but guess what? I will speak. You will not stop me. I will stand for our neighborhood, and you will do right by us. What your incapable Codes and Compliances compartment (department) could not do and taxation department could not do to cripple us. Thank God we do have a judiciary system that will honor our Eighth Amendment, our First Amendment, and you will not take that from us. Make no mistake about that. Targeting, intimidation and silence. No, that's not what we're going to be. We will come professionally, respected, educated, and you will realize that Greater Wythe, we come seeking what you promised in this Tale of Tales, and we expect you to deliver that. We are human, we are hardworking, we are good people, and we deserve your respect. So, the court

system will play this all out, and what you said for my intimidation will ultimately expose that Hampton is a cracked system. Thank you.

Mayor Gray called on the next speaker, Craig Knopp.

Mr. Craig Knopp greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Hopefully you guys are having a good day today. So, I got a couple of things. So, one of the things that has passed this General Assembly is this redistricting amendment. (Sorry, stumbling over that a little bit). And, I have a lot of concerns on this. I've been fortunate. I live in district 86. I've been fortunate that, as I've looked at different laws here and there, starting from like 2018, 2019, I've had awesome delegates. Delegate Mugler, awesome. You represented us very well. Delegate Cardoza, representing us very well. Now, Delegate Thornton, he's gotten in there, and there's couple things I may not agree with, that doesn't bother me, but this redistricting - one of the things I have an issue with is them trying to push this 10 to one more Democrat map, and one of the things that - when I looked back at some of the things that you had passed, Delegate Mugler, at the time, was HB 1255, which basically said that we cannot gerrymander on a party, whether it be fair, it just had to be fair. We couldn't gerrymander the Federal House of Representatives map on political party. You voted yes on that - which was awesome. I love that. It was like you had foresight out there, knowing that this type of thing could happen. Now, what we've seen this time around is Delegate Thornton voted on the House Budget Bill, HB29, to say it's all right from 2025 to 2030 to disregard that and say it's okay for us to go ahead and gerrymander on a political party which is unheard of. I don't like that, and what I'd like to see is either us use our lobbying money to say, hey, we don't want this to happen, go talk to the Attorney General to say that, hey, we'd like you to have something to go fight this in court or something like that, but us, as Hampton, should not want a one-sided, one-sided House of Representatives coming out of here. We are, like a 40/60, or something like that, representation of how we break down based on the political party, and our map currently has a good breakdown of that. I think we should stay with that. I want us to fight. So please, whatever powers we have as a City Council, please talk to our delegates and talk to our senator saying, hey, we do not want this. That's all I have.

Mayor Gray called on the next speaker, Chris Bowman.

Mr. Chris Bowman greeted those on the dais and Ms. Glass, introduced himself as Chis Bowman and made the following statement: I'm here this evening, just briefly, to ask about an update on current City vacant property and development on these particular sites: (and, you can email me when you have time) Lincoln Park, the old Quality Inn site, the Buckroe Junior High School site, Pembroke High School site, Buckroe Beach mini golf, Slaughter Lumber Company site and the Macy Carmel

site. I read recently where approximately a million dollars has been appropriated for Fort Monroe, generalizing this for an overall master plan, and I think it's outstanding. I want to commend the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Fort Monroe Authority and Council for supporting that - and looking forward to the results. Thank you.

Mayor Gray noted that Mr. Bowman was the last person signed up to speak.

The following summarizes City Manager Bunting's remarks in response to the public comment period. The million dollars for the Fort Monroe Master Plan update is not being paid out of Hampton's budget, instead, it is being paid for out of money that the Fort Monroe Authority receives in a combination of state appropriation fees, rent and philanthropic dollars, but it does not come out of taxpayer dollars. In terms of the redistricting referendum, the general practice, as local government, has always been to provide factual information, but to not take sides, however, individuals are free to do whatever they want. She reiterated that as a City government, we do not take a position on voter referendums or elections in general. She also noted that she would personally follow up with Ms. Weaver to get a better understanding of her concern and assured everyone that the City intends to honor the promises made to the community related to the use of the former 10 acres allocation of the sales proceeds and have not abandoned that commitment. The City is expecting the results of the infrastructure assessment which will aid in conversations with the neighborhood about what the priorities would be.

GENERAL ITEMS

6. [26-0042](#) Invitation for Bids to Qualified Electric Services Providers for Non-Exclusive Easements for the Purpose of Transmitting and Distributing Electric Power Over, Under, Through, Upon and Across Certain City-owned Property to Provide Electric Services to Property Operated by the Commonwealth of Virginia (VDOT)

Attachments: [Proposed Ordinance & EXHIBIT 1 - Electric Services Easement - BLANK - Landfill-VDOT Project - Bid on 2-11-2026](#)
[Dominion Energy Bid dated 2-3-25 100 North Park Lane](#)

Ms. Glass read the title for the item.

City Manager Bunting made the following statement for the benefit of the public: This item relates to the Commonwealth of Virginia, through the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), contacted the City to inquire if the City would allow electrical services to be run across City-owned property, specifically the Bethel Landfill property at 100 North Point Park Lane to serve its property (that being VDOT's property) pursuant to Article 7, Section 9 of the Constitution of Virginia and Chapter

21 of the title 15.2 of the Virginia Code, the City has the authority to grant easements on, upon and across City-owned property. Per VDOT's request and pursuant to those provisions, the City agreed to offer non-exclusive easements for the purpose of transmitting and distributing electrical power over, under, through, upon and across the referenced City-owned property to qualified electrical service providers to provide the electric services that VDOT needs, and we do this through publicly inviting bids for non-exclusive easements, as described by the various codes I've referenced. The public notice for the invitation of bids for the easements and for the subsequent adoption of the ordinance that you will need to do, ultimately, was run in the Daily Press once a week for two successive weeks, as required by the Code of Virginia. Tonight, the bids are being received, accepted and opened, and the granting of said easement to successful qualified bidders or biddee will occur at our next Council meeting on February 25, 2026.

Mayor Gray asked the Clerk if any bids were received and the Clerk indicated that one bid had been received. There were no other bids received. The Clerk opened the bid and read it aloud. Mayor Gray declared the bidding closed and indicated that the staff would review the bid and give their recommendations at the public hearing which will take place on February 25, 2026.

7. [26-0043](#) Invitation for Bids to Qualified Electric Services Providers for Non-Exclusive Easements for the Purpose of Transmitting and Distributing Electric Power Over, Under, Through, Upon and Across Certain City-owned Property to Provide Electric Services to Property Operated by Langley Air Force Base

Attachments: [Proposed Ordinance & EXHIBIT1 - Electric Services Easement - BLANK - LAFB Project - Bid on 2-11-2026](#)
[Dominion Energy Bid dated 2-3-25 North Armistead Avenue](#)

Ms. Glass read the title for the item.

City Manager Bunting made the following statement for the benefit of the public: This is a very similar action to the prior one, only this time, it is Langley Air Force Base that has contacted the City of Hampton to inquire if we would allow electric services to run across City-owned property. The City properties that would be affected are 2935 North Armistead Avenue, 2927 North Armistead Avenue, 2921 North Armistead Avenue, 2917 North Armistead Avenue and 2909 North Armistead Avenue. The same articles, codes of the Constitution and Virginia Code that I referenced earlier pertain to this item as well. We have advertised the notice for invitation for bids for the easement for this particular item in accordance with the State Code as previously mentioned. The bids are being received, accepted and opened at tonight's meeting, and the granting of said easements to the successful qualified bidders would occur

at our next meeting on February 25.

Mayor Gray asked the Clerk if any bids were received and the Clerk indicated that one bid had been received. There were no other bids received. The Clerk opened the bid and read it aloud. Mayor Gray declared the bidding closed and indicated that the staff would review the bid and give their recommendations at the public hearing which will take place on February 25, 2026.

Appointments

9. [25-0352](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Citizens' Unity Commission (CUC)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, that this Appointment be deferred to the City Council Legislative Session, due back on 3/11/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

8. [25-0349](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Citizens Police Advisory Group (CPAG)

Attachments: 2026 - CPAG Attendance calculations

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, that this Appointment be deferred to the City Council Legislative Session, due back on 3/11/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

11. [26-0023](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Golf Course Advisory Committee

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, that this Appointment be deferred to the City Council Legislative Session, due back on

3/11/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

10. [26-0022](#) Consideration of an Appointment to the Peninsula Alcohol Safety Action Program Advisory Board

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, that Tremaine Brown be appointed to serve the unexpired portion of a term until June 30, 2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

12. [26-0028](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Hampton Economic Development Authority (EDA)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, to appoint Patrick Jackowski to a term beginning on April 1, 2026, and Dwayne Blake to a term until February 28, 2030. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

13. [26-0029](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Hampton Clean City Commission

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, to appoint Travis Adams to serve the remainder of a term until January 31, 2028, and reappoint Kimberly King to her first full term which will expire on March 31, 2030. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

14. [26-0030](#) Consideration of an Appointment to the Grievance Board

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper to reappoint Tiffany Knotts to a second term until March 30, 2030. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

15. [26-0031](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities (MCFPWD)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper to appoint Christopher Brown to serve the unexpired portion of a term until February 28, 2028, and appoint Melanie Paul, and Tiffany Knotts to serve first terms until February 28, 2030. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

16. [26-0034](#) Consideration of an Appointment to the Peninsula Town Center CDA

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper to reappoint Ava Green to a second term until April 30, 2030. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

17. [26-0035](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Athletic Hall of Fame
- A motion was made by Vice Mayor Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper to reappoint Quinton Jackson and Lavon Marrow to second terms until March 31, 2029, and to appoint Robert Guerin to a first term until March 31, 2029. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman Sr., Vice Mayor Brown, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Gray

REPORTS BY CITY MANAGER, CITY COUNCIL, STAFF, COMMITTEES

There were no reports.

MISCELLANEOUS NEW BUSINESS

Several members of Council shared historic information about African Americans in the Hampton community who made significant contributions. Those highlighted included Y.B. Williams, Jr., John Mallory Phillips, Brenda Wharton Taylor and Mary Peake. Photos of those highlighted were also displayed on the overhead monitor.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Contact Info:
Clerk of Council, 757-727-6315, council@hampton.gov

Jimmy Gray
Mayor

Katherine K. Glass, MMC
Clerk of Council

Date approved by Council _____