



City of Hampton

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

Council Approved Minutes - Final City Council Work Session

Mayor Donnie R. Tuck
Vice Mayor Jimmy Gray
Councilmember Chris L. Bowman
Councilmember Eleanor Weston Brown
Councilmember Steven L. Brown
Councilmember Michelle T. Ferebee
Councilmember Billy Hobbs

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

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

1:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tuck called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. All members of the City Council were present in Council Chambers except the Vice Mayor, Jimmy Gray, who was participating from home by Zoom.

Present 7 - Councilmember Chris L. Bowman, Councilmember Eleanor Weston Brown, Councilmember Steven L. Brown, Councilmember Michelle T. Ferebee, Vice Mayor Jimmy Gray, Councilmember Billy Hobbs, and Mayor Donnie R. Tuck

DONNIE R. TUCK PRESIDED

Vice Mayor Gray requested approval of his participation in today's City Council afternoon work session, closed session, and the legislative session in an electronic fashion pursuant to Section (1)(a) of the City Council's Electronic Meeting policy. He indicated that he was unable to attend in person due to a temporary medical condition and that he was participating by Zoom from home.

[22-0223](#)

Motion to approve the electronic participation of Vice Mayor Jimmy Gray in the work, closed and evening sessions of City Council pursuant to Section 1(a) of the City Council's Electronic

Meeting policy.

Attachments: [Remote Participation Policy](#)

A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs and seconded by Councilwoman Eleanor Weston Brown, that this Motion be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Hobbs, Mayor Tuck, Councilmember Weston Brown and Councilmember Brown

Recuse: 1 - Vice Mayor Gray

AGENDA

1. [22-0216](#) Hampton 2040 Community Plan Process Update

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

City Manager Mary Bunting reminded everyone about the recent kickoff meeting where residents and other participants shared their hopes and aspirations for the future and the most critical issues they believe the City should face as it builds the 2040 Community Plan and the 5-7 year Strategic Plan. She also indicated that the goals for today are to provide an update on the feedback received at the kickoff meeting and to confirm the strategic priority issues to be considered leading up to the beginning of the focus group work scheduled to begin in September.

Community Development Department Director Terry O'Neill greeted those on the dais and noted that today's presentation is one of several briefings that will be presented during the course of the process to keep everyone informed of where we are in the process and to receive Council's feedback, direction and guidance moving forward.

Mr. O'Neill began reviewing the slide presentation. The first two slides illustrated the previous community planning efforts including the 2006 Hampton Community Plan and the 2011 update on the strategic issues portion of the plan.

Mr. O'Neill reminded everyone that the planning process began prior to the pandemic, therefore, the current work will be a restart, but the input and information received from the community prior to the pandemic will be included.

Mr. O'Neill spoke about Hampton's aspirational vision which incorporated asking residents and other community stakeholders to think about their aspirations and the future of our community. This information will be separated into two components of

the overall community plan: The Strategic Plan, a short term view which will focus on a 5-10 year horizon and determine the most critical issues that need to be tackled right now to achieve our aspiration; and the Comprehensive Plan, the overall planning process with a much broader, longer window.

Mr. O'Neill noted that it is legally mandated by state code that every community in the Commonwealth has a comprehensive plan. He reiterated that this plan looks at broad areas (over a 20 plus year horizon) such as components related to land use plans and transportation plans.

Mr. O'Neill shared the scheduled timeline for each component of the community planning process: Community Visioning (August 2021-August 2022); Strategic Issue Steering Groups (September 2022-March 2023); Community Checkpoint (March - April 2023); Strategic Plan Adoption (May - September 2023); and Comprehensive Plan Work and Adoption (fall 2023-spring 2024).

Mr. O'Neill spoke about the community planning process. A meeting was held in June at the Convention Center and the next step will be to embark on convening community steering groups around each strategic issue. The groups will include community members, citizens and subject matter experts who will determine a set of recommendations, goals and objectives for the strategic issues. This process is scheduled to kick off in September. Once the steering groups have proposed draft goals and recommendations, that work will be introduced to the community with the expectation to receive feedback from a much broader audience. That feedback will be brought to the steering committee and modifications will be made prior to the strategic planning document being brought before Council for consideration and approval next year. After the Strategic Planning piece is complete, the Comprehensive Plan, which will build off of the strategic plan recommendations, goals and objects, will be initiated.

Mr. O'Neill stated that staff has been compiling data profiles for each strategic area. This information will be the foundational piece for the work of the steering groups. Strategic areas include economic growth; living with water; place making; educated and engaged citizenry; safe and clean community; family resiliency and economic empowerment; and good government. The next slide provided an example of the breakdown of the work to be done regarding economic growth. Similar work will transpire for each strategic area.

The next group of slides that Mr. O'Neill reviewed provided information and statistics related to feedback received from the participants thus far and the key elements of a future Hampton that they desire. This information indicates that the process is off to a good start.

Mr. O'Neill summarized some of the feedback received during the community discussions that have taken place thus far. Council's seven strategic areas have been proposed as good departure points moving forward. Participants agreed that most of these areas are relevant and important. It was suggested that better descriptions or titles for "educated and engaged citizenry" and "good government" may be "educated citizenry" and "excellence in government." Some additional key thoughts derived from the discussions are listed in the slide presentation.

Mr. O'Neill indicated that staff will continue to do these exercises and collect this type of data moving forward. He also indicated that a significant determination from community discussions was that the strategic areas should be done in a way which promotes four basic themes: equity, resilience, culture and collaboration. A chart listing examples of how each strategic area can be promoted via the four themes is included in the slide presentation. This information will influence and drive the content and recommendations for each area.

Mr. O'Neill concluded the presentation and shared the next steps in the process. Research will be done to provide focus groups with the necessary information. The initial focus group will meet on September 8th at the Hampton Coliseum with additional meetings to follow in the near future. Individuals interested in participating in the process may go to www.hampton.gov/hampton2040 to sign up.

Mr. O'Neill opened the floor for discussion and called for feedback from Council regarding moving forward with the adjustments to the strategic areas suggested by those who participated in the initial planning process.

Mayor Tuck concurred and called for discussion from Council pertaining to changing "educated and engaged citizenry" to "educated citizenry" and "good government" to "excellence in government." Vice Mayor Gray indicated that he is fine with those changes.

Mayor Tuck opened the floor for additional questions and comments from Council.

Vice Mayor Gray referenced one of the four themes, equity, and asked about inclusion and diversity as part of the selection process including how those in the focus groups will be selected and populated. He also commented that not everyone sees Council meeting presentations or are aware of what is going on in the community and then asked the following questions. If Council comes in contact with people in the community or wants to suggest a citizens' participation, what are the steps to get those individuals involved? Are there opportunities for people to become involved after the selection has been made? Approximately how many

people will be in each focus group?

Mr. O'Neill apologized for not covering that information during the presentation and then provided the following explanation: The goal is to generate a set of approximately 25-35 names for each topic. Not everyone will accept the responsibility and not everyone will attend every meeting, therefore, it is important to ensure that there is a large enough pool of people for each area so that there is diversity of opinion and a functional group that can provide meaningful direction. This is a fairly open process with the caveat that once the focus groups begin meeting, it is difficult to bring additional people in the middle of the process because they will need to be oriented. Currently, lists are populated based on who has attended community meetings and referrals from Boards and Commissions and other stakeholders. Council may submit additional names to Mr. O'Neill or the City Manager. Suggestions are welcome and invitations and notices will be sent in anticipation of those who will accept.

Councilman Brown asked how long the group meetings will last and if their contributions will be noted so that Council can make the best decisions based on their input.

Mr. O'Neill replied stating that the timeline is challenging to predict. For example, some past focus groups have met for an hour or two on a few occasions and accomplished everything they needed to, while other groups have taken twice as long due to the nature of the topic or the dynamics of the group. The goal has been to structure the process to find the sweet spot that provides enough depth, conversation and input from the groups without overburdening the participants in terms of their commitment. Mr. O'Neill also explained that each group will have an assigned support team comprised of City staff; a designated convener who is familiar with the topic; a recorder; and a facilitator to help process the agenda. In addition, summary meeting notes will be prepared and forwarded to Council so that they may also follow along during the process. Finally, there will be a draft document which summarizes the entire process of that group.

Mayor Tuck opened the floor for additional questions and comments from Council. No further discussion took place.

REGIONAL ISSUES

There were no regional issues.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Tuck asked the City Manager to highlight some of the City-sponsored summer events for young people.

Ms. Bunting shared information about several opportunities including some opportunities available through the Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services Department, the Office of Youth and Young Adult Opportunities as well as other City departments. She indicated that complete information about these programs is available on line.

The activities include:

Kickback Saturdays taking place at the West Hampton Community Center for youth with rotating themes and times. The time for middle schoolers is from 6-8 p.m. and high schoolers is from 8-10 p.m.

Fast break basketball on Friday nights in rotating community centers.

The Rec n Roll Scuddle bus visits various neighborhoods for young people to recreate. Sometimes a video game bus will also be present.

There are also Summer Adventure Camps, a Summer STEM Camp, a Fun Camp, a Teen Life Unplugged Summer Camp and a Therapeutic Recreation Superstar Camp.

Ms. Bunting indicated that the City is making every effort to respond to requests that there are more positive activities for our young people in the summer and during the school year.

The Mayor mentioned the visit of the Buffalo Soldiers this week with ice cream socials at the various community centers.

CLOSED SESSION

2. [22-0205](#) Closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 2.2-3711 A (.1), (.3), and (.8), to consider appointments as listed on the agenda; to conduct performance evaluations of the City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk; to discuss the disposition of publicly held real property in the Kecoughtan Road corridor, Coliseum Central, Little England, Downtown, Neil Armstrong Parkway corridor, and Phoebus areas of Hampton, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining or negotiating strategy of the City; and to consult with legal counsel employed by the City regarding specific legal matters concerning zoning classifications and deed restrictions which require the provision of legal advice by such counsel.
- At 1:33 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs and seconded by Councilmember Steven Brown, that this Closed Session - Motion be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Weston Brown, Councilmember Brown, Councilmember Ferebee, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Hobbs and Mayor Tuck

3. [22-0198](#) Consideration of an Appointment to the Thomas Nelson Community College Board of Trustees
4. [22-0202](#) Continuation of City Council Appointments
5. [22-0218](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Neighborhood Commission
6. [22-0220](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Social Services Local Advisory Board
7. [22-0222](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals

CERTIFICATION

8. [22-0173](#) Resolution Certifying Closed Session
- A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs and seconded by Councilmember Steven Brown, that this Closed Session - Certification be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Ferebee, Councilmember Hobbs, Mayor Tuck, Councilmember Weston Brown, Councilmember Brown and Vice Mayor Gray

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

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

Donnie R. Tuck
Mayor

Katherine K. Glass, CMC
Clerk of Council

Date approved by Council _____