



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 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, June 14, 2023

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.

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

AGENDA

1. [23-0093](#) Ordinance to Amend and Reenact the City Code of the City of Hampton, Virginia by Amending Chapter 21, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, and Adding Article X Entitled, "Additional Fine for Exceeding the Maximum Speed on Designated Residential Streets"

Attachments: [Redline - Ordinance - Traffic - \\$200 fine in Residential Areas - FINAL Presentation](#)

City Manager, Mary Bunting, stated that a prior Council adopted, by resolution, some time ago, an additional fine for exceeding the maximum speed on designated residential streets, as permitted by state code. However, the City had not formally adopted it into code but rather has been using the state code statute. As additional neighborhoods have requested to be included in the program, the City decided to review the program with Council and incorporate it into the City code. It is on the agenda for this evening's meeting. Ms. Bunting introduced Mr. Jason Mitchell,

Director of Public Works, and Ms. Brandi Law, Deputy City Attorney, to make the presentation.

Ms. Law provided background information on the program in which the public works department continues to explore options to reduce excessive speeding in residential neighborhoods through various traffic calming tools such as traffic signs and speed limit reduction. The additional fine program can be added in areas that have excessive speeding concerns. In 2003, City Council adopted a resolution that included criteria for the installation of signs indicating that a \$200 additional fine would be imposed for speeding. In the time since, signs have been put up in some areas and Hampton Police Department (HPD) has enforced them via the state code. Public Works has asked for clarification on the criteria. The City Attorney's office and staff recommend adopting an ordinance to simplify enforcement for officers and the judicial system and promote transparency for citizens.

Ms. Law shared the criteria that must be met for the \$200 additional fine program to be applied to a roadway. This includes a posted 35 mph (mile per hour) or less roadway speed limit, and a completed study by Public Works on the requested roadway to determine if it qualifies for the program. The request would be made by City Council, City Manager, or residential neighborhood. Requests made by a residential neighborhood must come in the form of a petition with 75% of the residents on a specific roadway asking for the study. Under the previous resolution, which is currently in effect, the City Council and City Manager did not have the power to ask for a study.

Mr. Mitchell shared information on Public Works' traffic studies. The studies evaluate existing vehicle volumes and speeds on roadways that may have speeding concerns and are generally requested by residents. The roadway volume must meet the program standard of 1,000 vehicles or more in a 24-hour period, where 85% of the vehicles are traveling 10 mph or more above the posted speed limit. Excessive speeding concerns found in the traffic studies that create safety concerns would make the roadway viable for the program.

Mr. Mitchell showed an example of a speed study in a residential neighborhood in which the posted speed limit was 30 mph. While 85% of vehicles evaluated average 8.7 mph over the speed limit, there was a significant number of vehicles traveling the roadway at 15 mph or more above the posted speed limit, with some as high as 89 mph. The penalty for exceeding the speed limit is \$200 in addition to the initial amount of the fine and can be suspended by court order if 20 hours of community service are completed.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Mr. Mitchell stated that the speed of 89 mph that was

detected in the speed study shown was in the Michael's Woods area.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the Code of the State of Virginia provides guidance to support the \$200 additional fine program. Several other Hampton Roads cities have implemented the additional fine program, including Newport News, Williamsburg, Virginia Beach, and Chesapeake.

Mr. Mitchell provided a list of several roadways in various areas of the City that would be impacted by the proposed ordinance, two of which are already covered under the previously approved ordinance.

Staff recommends supporting the additional fine program as a traffic calming measure, and adopting an ordinance implementing the \$200 additional fine for speeding in residential neighborhoods with supporting data.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Interim Police Chief Orrin Gallop, explained that a lot of emphasis has been placed on dealing with violent crime and as a result, there has been a significant increase in complaints about traffic and speeding. He stated that traffic enforcement has increased over the last month and found that it will also affect violent crime. He does not anticipate a problem with having the capacity to enforce the ordinance.

In response to Vice Mayor Gray, Mr. Mitchell confirmed that the previous ordinance has been in place for Charlton Drive from Mercury Boulevard to the dead end, and Big Bethel Road from Mercury Boulevard to Todd's Lane. The other roadways presented that are expected to be impacted came from customer complaints and speed studies.

In response to Councilman Brown, Mr. Mitchell stated that should Council pass the ordinance at tonight's meeting, Public Works would begin installing signs immediately.

Ms. Bunting stated that this item is on the consent agenda for tonight's meeting but has been presented for the benefit of the public during this session.

REGIONAL ISSUES

There were no regional issues to report on.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Tuck shared that last Sunday in Denver, Colorado, Hampton was named an All America City for the fourth time.

CLOSED SESSION

2. [23-0174](#) Closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 2.2-3711.A (.1), (.3), (.6), and (.8) to consider appointments as listed on the agenda; to discuss the disposition of publicly held property in the Downtown area of the City where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining or negotiating strategy of the City, to discuss or consider the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the city would be adversely affected; and to consult with legal counsel employed or retained by the City regarding a development agreement and trademark registration which require the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Recommendation:

A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, that this Closed Session - Motion be approved. 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

3. [23-0160](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board (CSB)
4. [23-0161](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
5. [23-0162](#) Consideration of an Appointment to the Hampton Clean City Commission

Attachments: [HCCC Application - Harris](#)

6. [23-0163](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
7. [23-0164](#) Consideration of an Appointment to the Wetlands Board

8. [23-0165](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Hampton Redevelopment & Housing Authority (HRHA)
9. [23-0166](#) Consideration of Appointments to the Virginia Peninsula Community College Board of Trustees
10. [23-0167](#) Consideration of an Appointment to the Peninsula Alcohol Safety Action Program

CERTIFICATION

11. [23-0175](#) Resolution Certifying Closed Session
A motion was made by Councilmember Martha Mugler and seconded by Councilmember Chris Bowman, that this Closed Session - Certification be approved. 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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:07 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 _____