



# 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, February 8, 2017**

**6:30 PM**

**Council Chambers**

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### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

**DONNIE R. TUCK PRESIDED**

### Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Vice Mayor Linda D. Curtis, Councilmember Jimmy Gray, Councilmember Billy Hobbs, Councilmember Chris Snead, Councilmember Will Moffett, Councilmember Teresa V. Schmidt and Mayor Donnie R. Tuck

### INVOCATION - Councilwoman Schmidt

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

### MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Jan Bennett, Health Systems Manager of the American Cancer Society, Inc. spoke about the Society's "80% by 2018" initiative to have 80% of those ages 50 and older screened for colorectal cancer by 2018.

Ms. Bennett announced that many leaders and organizations in Hampton Roads have agreed to help with this initiative. Some of them include the four major health systems, the Virginia Health Department, and Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS). In addition, several mayors in the region including Hampton Mayor Donnie Tuck, Virginia Beach Mayor Will Sessoms, and Newport News Mayor Mckinley Price have agreed to help with this initiative. Ms. Bennett noted that a goal of the American Cancer Society is to engage all Hampton Roads Mayors by 2018.

Ms. Bennett invited the members of Council to participate in a forum about this topic

on March 13, 2017, at the Dominion Resource Building in downtown Norfolk.

Vice Mayor Curtis emphasized the importance of colon cancer screening and shared a personal story about her own battle with colon cancer. She announced that her cancer was detected during a routine screening and she has now been cancer free for 14 years.

Mayor Tuck thanked Ms. Bennett for her comments and noted that he was wearing a light blue ribbon in recognition of another important initiative in our community, prostate cancer awareness.

Mayor Tuck welcomed Alexander Romans, Pedro Esquilin and David Mitchell, Boy Scouts from Pack 13, Den 1, Webelos 2 who were in attendance working toward attaining their Arrow of Light and Building a Better World Badge. The boys were accompanied by Assistant Scout Master Carlos Romans. Mayor Tuck presented each of them with City of Hampton commemorative pins.

Mayor Tuck reminded everyone that Council was briefed on the results of a trial period in which the public comment portion of the legislative meeting was held during the middle of the meeting. He announced that Council will vote this evening on permanently moving the public comment portion of the meeting to the middle of the meeting.

## CONSENT AGENDA

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 Vice Mayor Curtis, seconded by Councilmember Gray, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt and Mayor Tuck

1. [17-0016](#) Resolution Approving Fiscal Year 2017 Second Quarter Budget Adjustments

**Attachments:** [FY17 2nd Qtr Budget Adjustments GF NGF FINAL 2-2-17](#)

Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt and Mayor Tuck

2. [17-0037](#) Resolution Approving the City of Hampton, Virginia's Participation in and Appropriation of the 2015 Supplemental Local Emergency Management Performance Grant Program through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management

**Attachments:** [Award Letter](#)

Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt and Mayor Tuck

3. [17-0038](#) Resolution Approving the City of Hampton, Virginia's Participation in and Appropriation of the 2016 State Homeland Security Program Grant through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management

**Attachments:** [Award Letter](#)

Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt and Mayor Tuck

4. [17-0026](#) Approval of the minutes from the work and legislative sessions of January 11, 2017, and the ceremonial session of January 25, 2017.

Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt and Mayor Tuck

#### PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS

5. [17-0036](#) Briefing on HRT Peninsula Corridor Study: by Hampton Roads Transit and City Staff

Attachments: [Presentation](#)  
[Presentation - Revised](#)

City Manager Bunting introduced the item stating today's presentation will provide an update on the long-range transportation planning effort, a joint collaboration with Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) and the cities of Hampton and Newport News.

HRT Chief Executive Officer William Harrell greeted those on the dais and emphasized the importance of today's topic. He also announced that HRT will return at a later date to provide information about another important program called Connect Hampton Roads.

Mr. Harrell said one of the challenges associated with public transportation is lengthy travel times which are often a result of numerous transfers required to reach a destination. He reminded everyone that there is no regional dedicated funding source for public transportation; therefore, it is important to consider the funding component when determining ways to improve trends and transit opportunities on the Peninsula.

HRT Transit Development Planner Samantha Sink provided an update on the progress of the Peninsula Corridor Study. She reminded everyone that the Study involves HRT's consideration of bringing high capacity transit (such as Light Rail, Streetcar or Bus Rapid Transit) to the cities of Hampton and Newport News. She noted that while the study is being led by HRT, staff members from the cities of Hampton and Newport News are working with HRT on the project.

Ms. Sink identified some of the transportation needs attempting to be resolved as a result of this project as: (1) Reduce traffic congestion (2) Improve mobility choices (3) Support development in accordance with the plans of the cities (4) make the cities attractive places to live and (5) create something which could effectively compete for Federal funding.

Ms. Sink described the proposed routes for various tiers/alternatives, and the impact of each tier based on the stated needs.

HRT Chief Planning and Development Officer Ray Amoruso greeted those on the dais and shared information about the Federal funding considerations for the project.

Mr. Amoruso also spoke about the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) project evaluation and rating system.

Mr. Amoruso listed the next steps involved in the process. They are (1) evaluation of the Tier 2 alternatives (2) in-person meetings and social media engagement and (3) development of recommendations brought before Hampton and Newport News City Councils.

City Planner Porter Stevens shared information about how the City of Hampton's internal and external partners have been involved in the process. He also spoke about some of the local challenges associated with the project.

Mr. Stevens opened the floor for questions from those on the dais.

In response to Councilwoman Schmidt, Ms. Sink stated most of the proposed routes end at the Hampton VA Medical Center because that area was identified as a destination that people wanted to see served by this type of technology. That area was also identified as a starting point for connectivity to the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel and the Southside.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Mr. Amoruso stated that there is a chance for two options because two cities are involved, but the ultimate goal is to have one project. He clarified that since the FTA only funds one regional project at a time, it is important to do the strongest project which will perform the best.

Mayor Tuck asked why Hampton would invest in one of the projects or options that would strictly benefit the city of Newport News.

Mr. Amoruso explained this type of project may do well in ridership; however, it may require capital infrastructure constructed in other areas to make the project work. Mr. Amoruso noted that in his experience, projects that were successful were the ones that complement the land uses that each city adopted in their long range plan and touch various activity centers. He added in this case, the project may include a combination of north south and east west; these are the topics which will need analyzing.

Mr. Harrell suggested holding a work session in which all participants provide input on what does and does not work. This will help determine a solution that serves both cities and that can be competitive on a national level.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Ms. Sink clarified that it has not yet been determined whether the project will be center-running or side-running.

Ms. Bunting thanked HRT for the presentation and noted that Council and the public will remain informed as the study progresses.

Presented by representatives of Hampton Roads Transit: William E. Harrell, President and CEO; Samantha Sink, Transit Development Planner; and Ray Amoruso, Chief Planning and Development Officer.

Additional information was presented by Porter Stevens, City Planner.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

### Ordinances

### Resolutions

**Due to an advertising error by the Daily Press, item 17-0027 will not be heard on February 8, 2017, but instead will be deferred until February 22, 2017.**

6. [17-0027](#) Resolution Adopting the 2017 Hampton Roads Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

**Attachments:** [Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)  
[Hazard Mitigation Plan Appendices](#)  
[Presentation](#)  
[Planning Commission Resolution](#)  
[Presentation - PDF Format](#)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Curtis seconded by Councilmember Schmidt, that this be deferred until February 22, 2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt and Mayor Tuck

## PUBLIC COMMENT

The Clerk read the protocol for the public comment period.

Mayor Tuck welcomed members of the World Mission Society who were visiting.

Ms. Katrina Blanton greeted those on the dais and spoke on behalf of a group attending the meeting. Ms. Blanton made the following statement: We attend the World Mission Society Church of God. I am an event committee representative for the church. We are here to introduce ourselves. We do a lot of community service

nationwide. We have over two million members. We have over 2,500 churches. Our goal is to put our actions out there and we want to see what is going on in the community so that we can also help assist to make the communities better. That is why we are here tonight. I brought some information about the Church. We received an award from Queen Elizabeth for our community service. We want to see what is going on in the seven cities so that we can put ourselves out there more so that we can help. That is why we are here tonight.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Ms. Blanton stated the church is located in Newport News; however, the group's goal is to attend a meeting in each of the seven cities in order to see where they can assist the communities.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Ms. Blanton spoke about some of the community service projects in which they participate. They include blood drives, food drives, and clean ups.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Ms. Blanton noted that those in the group are of different ages.

Ms. Blanton provided information about the church to the Clerk to forward to the members of Council.

Ms. Carol Garrison greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: In the People Express Airlines deal with the Peninsula Airport Commission, a member who worked for TowneBank not only voted for the deal protecting his company, but also gave legal advice that the deal was allowed. You would think as a lawyer, he would have realized his actions were a conflict of interest; however, he voted anyway. Steve Mallon, a Hampton Council appointed member, did abstain from the vote due to a conflict of interest, but not before telling the committee that if he could vote, he would vote no. Ex-Mayor, George Wallace, did not show for the vote; however, in reference to the People Express Airlines deal, he said...I've learned in City Government that sometimes you have to take risks.

Ms. Garrison continued her statement: This is another example of people seeing big deals as monopoly money instead of the money payed in by the taxpayer. Mr. Mallon saw the deal as a business deal and was looking out for the interest of the citizens. In business deals, there should be some commonsense ground rules. You should not be guaranteeing loans that the private sector would not write without that guarantee. You should not be handing over money without signed contracts. You should look at the contracts with a "what if" view to make sure you have addressed all foreseeable outcomes. Government business deals should be eyed with even tougher standards because you are not risking your money, but the citizens. In this

case, not only the Peninsula's, but the Commonwealth's money. I can imagine how upset teachers were having their raises taken back this year at the General Assembly only to see the Airport Commission had previously paid a private company's debt off. Mr. Mallon was apparently the only one on the Commission looking out for the citizen's interest. Unfortunately, he goes off the Commission in June. This Commission has ruined the region's reputation and has caused conflicts with other local governments. This board should be completely dissolved and started with a new board that does not have conflicts of interest. What I am specifically asking you to do is remove Mr. Wallace from the board, then work with Newport News to replace the non-appointed locality members off of the board. Ms. Glass, if you could please read my words into the record. Thank you.

Ms. Jill Davis greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: In October, I sent the Council an email noting that in response to the City's request that citizens apply for positions on boards and commissions and authorities, I tried to get information about the vacancies and found that there were no current meeting minutes if there were any minutes at all. In response to my email, I got a very nice reply back from Ms. Glass who said that the City was working on using a new legislative tool to try to get that information about meetings and the minutes on the websites for the different organizations. However, in the four months since then, there has been no change in that situation. I have learned that if you want to go to or find out what is happening at a particular meeting, you need to go and attend in person because you can't read about it. With that said, this evening, I tried to attend the Neighborhood Office communication meeting and arrived to a closed door; nobody there; nothing on the website to tell me that the meeting was not going to be held which I find ironic since it is the communication committee after all. So, with that said, it seems to me that something is broken in the system. I don't know where it is broken and I don't know what it will take to fix it. I did ask a question about this on the online chat two weeks ago and I know that folks are probably working on that. I will say as a career Intelligence Officer working at the Aero-Staff as well as working as a secretary in the Air Force, I am familiar with working in a bureaucracy and I do not expect things to be perfect, but I must say that this is really not good. Hampton just won an award for being in the digital age. We may have the electronics in place, but it does not seem that we have the correct administrative procedures or policies or guidelines to keep our citizens informed. Thank you.

Ms. Bunting addressed Ms. Davis' concern stating she has provided a directive to all Department Heads to ensure that meeting minutes are posted. During the meeting, Ms. Bunting located minutes on line from the Economic Development Authority and the Board of Zoning Appeals. She noted that not every board has minutes on line; however, when Ms. Davis brought up this concern a few weeks ago, she (Ms.



Bunting) reminded Department Heads to work on making those documents available. She added that some boards don't meet as regularly as others, but citizens should be able to see minutes on line in a timely fashion and should be able to rely on the online calendar. She noted that she regretted that Ms. Davis had this inconvenience and assured Ms. Davis that she (Ms. Bunting) would address this issue again with Department Heads.

Mayor Tuck assured Ms. Davis that her request has not fallen on deaf ears and staff is attempting to make improvements in that area.

Mr. Hugh Bassette made the following statement: Last month, the Hampton's Citizens Coalition met with the two Assistant City Managers, Laura Fitzpatrick and Steven Bond. They made a presentation to update us on the two Martin Luther King memorial projects, the bridge and the statue. The bridge - they are waiting to hear back from the King family because every time you name something after Dr. King, the family has some input. The other one, the statue, they said it was stuck in Council somewhere. Ms. Lillie Mae Jones presented information she had on the statue also and Mr. Gray brought it up at the last Council meeting. Ms. Jones material started back in 2010, so it has been seven years that you have been working on this statue. At one time, there was \$250,000 in the Capital Improvement Plan that was later taken out. What we would like to know is where this project is? The last time I asked was two years ago and they said Hampton University students were doing the design work. Every time we ask this, the answer changes and now it seems that the answer is the Council is the one that can advise us as to where this project is. When is it going to move? How is it going to move and when can we expect to see a memorial for Dr. King built before some of us pass on to glory? Thank you.

Ms. Bunting addressed Mr. Bassette's comment regarding the bridge. She clarified that after Council took a vote on renaming the bridge, our first priority has been to get the Martin Luther King project completed; however, the Martin Luther King Center has not sent the required final confirmation of agreement. She iterated that this means the appropriate signage plaques cannot be installed without permission.

Ms. Bunting addressed Mr. Bassette's comment regarding the statue. She clarified that this project is not only intended to honor Dr. King, but is also intended to honor Hamptonians who followed in his legacy. She continued stating that the project has been broadly referred to as a Hampton heroes project which will honor Dr. King and other Hamptonians who contributed to positive civil rights movements.

Ms. Bunting noted that the plan is to accomplish the bridge project first. She also noted that the Hampton University students did an excellent job on the signage;

however, that project went over budget. She added that we are working to scale the project back to stay within the budget while honoring the Hampton heroes.

## GENERAL ITEMS

### Ordinances

7. [17-0040](#) Ordinance to Amend and Re-Enact Chapter 2, Division 2 of the Code of the City of Hampton Entitled "Meetings" by Amending Sec. 2-43 Pertaining to Citizen Comment at Public Comment Periods

**Attachments:** [Redline 2-17.doc](#)  
[Revised Redline - 2/7/17](#)

The Clerk read the title for this item.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Curtis and seconded by Councilmember Schmidt, that this Ordinance be approved in its second version. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt and Mayor Tuck

8. [17-0043](#) Resolution Approving Fiscal Year 2017 Second Quarter Capital Budget Adjustments

**Attachments:** [FY17 2nd Qtr Budget Adjustments Capital \(Final\)](#)  
[EOC Relocation to Station 11 2-1-17 \(FINAL\)](#)

The Clerk read the title for the item.

City Manager Bunting stated that there were some significant changes in the Capital Budget related to the relocation of our Emergency Operations Center. For the benefit of the public, Director of Budget and Strategic Initiatives Brian DeProfio presented information about those changes.

Mr. DeProfio opened the floor for questions from those on the dais; however, no questions were posed.

Presented by Brian DeProfio, Director of Budget and Strategic Initiatives.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Curtis seconded by Councilmember Gray, that this Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt and Mayor Tuck

## Resolutions

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

9. [17-0039](#) Communicating with the City of Hampton via Social Media

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

City Manager Bunting stated that today's presentation will address the misperception in the community that the City has access to all Social Media platforms. She introduced Communications Strategist Robin McCormick to speak about the platforms that the City monitors, seeks input from and engages with residents.

Ms. McCormick said 78% of adults in the United States have social network profiles. The City has social media because social media has become a means for the City to reach a high number of people in the community.

Ms. McCormick spoke about social media as it relates to Hampton. Approximately eleven percent of people in Hampton reported that their main source of information about Hampton is social media, whereas, in 2006, it did not exist. She also spoke about additional citizen technological preferences including the internet, mobile phones and computers.

Ms. McCormick shared some of the challenges associated with social media including the uncertainty of who is participating in social media activity and having adequate staff available to monitor the multiple platforms available to citizens.

Ms. McCormick shared information about Hampton's social media audience and the strengths and weaknesses associated with the various social media platforms used by that audience.

Ms. McCormick elaborated on how the social media platform "Nextdoor" operates. She explained that this site is local and membership is by address which gets verified. Members can only see their neighborhood and some limited nearby areas. Ms. McCormick continued explaining that Nextdoor has granted the City and the Police Department special one-way access. This means that the City is authorized

to post information citywide as well as in individual geographical neighborhoods; whereas, individual users are only authorized to post information in their specific neighborhood.

Ms. McCormick addressed the misconception in the community that the City can view responses to shared posts on Nextdoor. She clarified that the City can only provide information about issues as they relate to the City; however, the City cannot view individual responses or posts. She explained that Nextdoor set up the site this way to avoid cities from having to sort through hundreds of posts about things such as lost dogs, items for sale and items being given away. She reiterated that the City only has one-way access on this website; therefore, the City can only talk to people, but cannot listen to them or weigh in on what the community is saying.

Ms. McCormick suggested some better communication options for our citizens. She recommended citizens communicate via Facebook and Twitter because these sites are monitored by staff and staff has the ability to respond. She also encouraged citizens to contact members of Council by emailing them at [Council@hampton.gov](mailto:Council@hampton.gov). This will ensure that each member of Council receives their message and also ensures that the citizens receive a response. Ms. McCormick reminded everyone that the City's 311 customer service center is also available to assist citizens.

For the benefit of the public, Ms. McCormick announced that staff is willing to attend neighborhood meetings to share today's presented information in person.

Ms. McCormick opened the floor for questions from those on the dais.

Mayor Tuck thanked Ms. McCormick for the information and for explaining how the platform Nextdoor operates.

Presented by Robin McCormick, Hampton's Communication Strategist.

## **MISCELLANEOUS NEW BUSINESS**

Councilman Moffett announced that the second regional Youth Violence Convention will take place on February 15, 2017, at the Hampton Roads Convention Center from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. This year's theme will be "Disrupting the culture of violence". Interested individuals may visit [www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov) for additional information.

The City Manager shared that the budget forums for citizens to give input on the upcoming budget will take place on February 21st at 6:30 at Kecoughtan High School (Budget 101), February 28th at 6:30 at Hampton High School (Capital Improvement Budget), and the final on March 6th at 6:30 at Bethel High School (Operating Budget).

Vice Mayor Curtis shared that when she passed the Armory Building on King Street today, she was excited to see a beautiful new, large American flag flying in front of the building.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Donnie R. Tuck  
Mayor

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Katherine K. Glass, CMC  
Clerk of Council

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