



# 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 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*

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**Wednesday, September 27, 2023**

**6:30 PM**

**Council Chambers**

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### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Tuck called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with all members of the City Council 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

### INVOCATION - Councilwoman Hope Harper

Councilwoman Harper gave the invocation.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

### MAYOR'S COMMENTS

[23-0297](#)

Motion to amend the agenda to add item #23-0295 regarding the recent Tropical Storm Ophelia and #23-0296 honoring one of Hampton's Sister Cities, Anyang, South Korea

A motion was made by Councilmember Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, that this 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

[23-0295](#) Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia Confirming the Declaration and Termination of a Local Emergency Made Necessary by a Weather System Forecasted to Become a Tropical Storm Which Did Become a Tropical Storm Named "Ophelia" Declared on September 22, 2023, and Terminated on September 23, 2023, by the Acting Hampton Director of Emergency Management

**Attachments:** [Declaration of Emergency](#)  
[Termination of Declaration of Local Emergency](#)

Clerk of Council Katherine Glass read the title for the item. City Manager Mary Bunting spoke about the process that takes place when a declaration of emergency has been made. A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs and seconded by Councilmember Steven Brown, that this Resolution 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

[23-0296](#) Resolution Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Elevation of Anyang, South Korea as a City  
Mayor Tuck spoke of the recent trip and read the resolution before Council for a vote. Councilman Brown and the City Manager briefly shared memories of their experience in Anyang. A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs and seconded by Councilmember Steven Brown, that this Resolution 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

Mayor Tuck recognized Boo Williams who recently coached two girls basketball teams in New York in the Nike World Basketball Festival and also at New York City's Holcomb Rucker Park. Both teams won their tournaments. Mr. Williams made a few

remarks and thanked Council for the recognition.

Mayor Tuck also recognized Connor Hall and his racing team who won his opening 11 races of the season at Langley Speedway, and recently captured his first career NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series championship. This is a first for a Langley-Speedway-based driver in the 73-year history of the track. Connor Hall made a few remarks and also thanked Council for the recognition.

The individuals were presented with City coins.

Mayor Tuck announced that the 11th Crawling Crab Half Marathon weekend would take place on October 7th and 8th.

## 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 Councilmember Mugler, seconded by Councilmember Harper, to approve the Consent Agenda. 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

1. [23-0273](#) Resolution to Amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Council Approved Budget to Accept and Appropriate the Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Highway Safety Grant - Selective Enforcement - Police Traffic Services Grant, Awarded by Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles / Highway Safety Office.

Attachments: [Grant Award Letter](#)  
[Grant Proposal Overview](#)

Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

2. [23-0287](#) Resolution to Transfer \$5,000 from the King Street Phase IV Bond Project to the Hampton Roads Center Parkway Bike and Pedestrian Access Bond Project within the Capital Budget (Capital Projects) Fund  
Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

3. [23-0288](#) Resolution Requesting that the Virginia Department of Transportation Program the Arconic Pedestrian Improvements Project into its Six-Year Improvement Plan and to Authorize the City Manager or her Designee to Execute Any Necessary Agreements  
Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

4. [23-0289](#) Resolution to Request the Virginia Department of Transportation to Program Six State of Good Repair Projects into its Six-Year Improvement Plan; to Amend the City Manager's Council Approved FY2024 Capital Fund (Capital Projects Fund) Budget to Incorporate the Projects; to Appropriate \$1,499,000 VDOT State of Good Repair Funds to the Capital Projects Fund for Six Projects; and to Authorize the City Manager or Her Designee to Execute any Necessary Agreements.  
Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

5. [23-0285](#) Ordinance Vacating the City of Hampton's Interest In a Portion of

a Certain Public Right-of-Way Containing 16,032+/- Square Feet Known as Water Street and Approving a Vacation Agreement Between the City of Hampton and The Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond

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

Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

6. [23-0270](#) Resolution Approving Fiscal Year 2023 Fourth Quarter Budget Adjustments

**Attachments:** [Budget Adjustments](#)

Item approved.

**Aye:** 7 - Councilmember Bowman, Councilmember Brown, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Harper, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Mugler and Mayor Tuck

7. [23-0293](#) Approval of the minutes from the City Council's Special Session of June 14, 2023.

## PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ms. Glass read the protocol for the public hearings.

8. [23-0248](#) 2022 - 2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

**Attachments:** [Draft CAPER FY 22-23](#)  
[Presentation](#)

Ms. Glass read the title for the item.

Ms. Bunting introduced this and the next item and then introduced Community Development Department Division Manager Jonathan McBride to make the presentation on both items.

Mr. McBride greeted those on the dais and shared that the 5-year Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation & Report (CAPER) covers Program Years 2020-2024. Today's presentation will cover Program Year 2022 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023).

Mr. McBride noted that today's information will cover the activities around staff's waitlist work, and staff will return to Council at a subsequent meeting to discuss support for more of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs.

Mr. McBride reviewed the next portion of the presentation about the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The primary objectives of the program are to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and to expand economic opportunity. In addition, the City's activities must meet one of three national objectives which are to benefit low to moderate income persons; aid in the prevention of slums and blight; or meet an urgent need. This portion of the presentation also provided information about the HOME Investment Partnership Program which has objectives similar to CDBG. This program requires the City to set aside 15% of allocations for a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO). Hampton's only certified CHDO is the Habitat for Humanity program on the Peninsula.

The next group of slides provided statistics related to the 2023 HUD income limits; 2022-2023 CDBG and HOME Program allocations; 2022-2023 CDBG and HOME Program Resources (including CDBG reprogrammed funds and HOME Program income); and 2022-2023 CDBG and HOME Program accomplishments.

Mr. McBride spoke about the progress of the housing program waitlist. In summary, 170 inquiries on the waitlist had been closed by August, with 218 waitlist inquiries remaining. An upcoming call up for 60 more residents to move has been scheduled and this call up will reduce the number of inquiries remaining on the waitlist.

Mr. McBride shared the CAPER schedule. A 15-day public comment period took place from August 28, 2023 - September 13, 2023; a City Council Meeting Public Hearing was held on September 13, 2023; and the report will be submitted to HUD on September 30, 2023.

Mr. McBride opened the floor for questions and comments.

Vice Mayor Gray referenced Hampton's only CHDO, Habitat for Humanity, and asked Mr. McBride to speak about the CHDO certification process and what opportunities are available for other nonprofit organizations who provide housing to

low-income families in Hampton.

Mr. McBride stated that the certification process is handled by the Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority (HRHA). Organizations interested in this type of opportunity may contact Yvonne Hodges to go through that process. He also explained that this is for certain activities (that organizations would be eligible for a CHDO) mostly for creation of new housing, therefore, it is a smaller pool of qualified organizations. He noted that the hope is to have more non-profit community CHDO organizations in our community in the future.

Mayor Tuck opened the floor for additional questions, but none were posed. He opened the public hearing and announced that no one signed up to speak. He closed the public hearing and called for the motion.

A motion was made by Councilmember Martha Mugler and seconded by Councilmember Chris Bowman, that this item 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

9. [23-0277](#) Public Hearing on the FY2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Annual Action Plan

**Attachments:** [HUD Annual Action Plan 2023-2024 Presentation](#)

Ms. Glass read the title for the item.

Mr. McBride said that he would speak about what is planned for the current Annual Action Plan as part of the five-year Consolidated Plan adopted in 2020.

The next group of slides provided information about the 5-year Consolidated Plan local priorities. The priorities are to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and to expand economic opportunities. In addition, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) must meet one of the broad national objectives to benefit low to moderate income persons; aid in the prevention of slums and blight; or meet an urgent need.

Mr. McBride spoke about CDBG revenues and shared a chart with budgeted amounts for various FY24 CDBG activities totaling \$914,517.

Next, Mr. McBride covered the City's HOME Investment Partnership Program objectives. The objectives are to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing; strengthen the ability of local governments to provide housing; and expand the capacity of non-profit community-based housing development organizations.

Mr. McBride spoke about HOME revenues and shared a chart with budgeted amounts for various FY24 HOME activities totaling \$695,846.

Lastly, Mr. McBride shared the Annual Action Plan Schedule through September 29, 2023, and then opened the floor for questions and comments from Council. No further discussion took place.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor Tuck opened the public hearing and announced that no one signed up to speak. The Mayor closed the public hearing and called for the motion.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hope Harper and seconded by Councilmember Martha Mugler, that this Public Hearing 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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Glass read the protocol for the public comment period: The purpose of City Council meetings is to conduct the City's business. It is not a public forum in which people can speak on any matter, however, the City Council allows for public comment following public hearing items on the regular business meeting limited to matters on which the Council has the power and authority to act. Speakers shall comply with the citizen participation protocol. You may sign up to speak in the lobby of City Hall one half hour prior to the meeting and may sign up until 6:45pm. The Mayor will call you to speak in the order of sign up. Each individual will have three minutes to speak. To save time, it is requested that speakers alternate between the podium and the freestanding microphone. All Comments shall be directed to the Council and speakers may not yield their time to another. Speakers should address the Council with decorum on issues or topics which the City Council has the power to address. Speakers should refrain, however, from personal attacks when making such comments. Speakers should also refrain from using the public comment period for making political campaign speeches. The audience is asked to be respectful of all speakers. It is the Council's practice to listen to speakers and not



engage in dialogue. After all of the speakers have been heard, the City Manager, City Attorney and/or members of the City Council may respond as appropriate. Please note that you will be directed to leave the podium for failure to comply with this protocol after fair warning from the presiding officer. Failure to comply with such directives may result in removal. Thank you.

Mayor Tuck reminded everyone that speakers are called upon two at a time and are asked to alternate between the podium and the freestanding microphone in an attempt to save time.

Randy Bowman greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I'm a longtime resident, and I love Hampton. I just want to share with you guys again, I went to my mailbox, and I received a letter, and as you guys know, I returned a check to Chris Bowman on the last City Council meeting from my campaign. I didn't want the money because it comes from someone that is not deserving to be...for me to be accepting the funds. I want to show you this. He took the check, tore the check up and sent this back. It was to the point that the bank did not want to reissue me a check, but they felt the need that they needed to, so they called corporate and they re-issued me a check - and what I did with that check, I went to Transitions (battered women's shelter) and I donated that money on your behalf. I'm not saying you battered anyone, but what you did was degrading for a woman. So, they now have those funds. So, if you want to receive that you can file on your taxes, you can have that. For the City Manager, for the City Attorney and for all the City Councilmembers, you did your job. The only thing you could do was censure him. That's all you could do, but my phone rings daily - night and day. Last evening, I couldn't even enjoy my delicious turkey wings because someone called because someone was at a meeting that they wanted to know, why was this gentleman in the meeting, City Councilmember. This morning, my phone started at six o'clock, I'm getting texts, I get texts throughout the day, something needs to be done, and I said, okay, I will help. I will join in, but we're going to do this peaceful (peacefully). We're not going to pack this court room or this room. We're going to do what we have to do. So, for the City Attorney, for the City Manager, for the Mayor, and for the City Council, I have the necessary paperwork that we are going to start and you're on notice to a petition for recall. It's going to be started tomorrow. I wanted to be fair (and) to let the City know what's going on in your City prior to me making a move. So, what I'm going to say to you now is we've asked for you to resign, step down. You refuse to do so. You have left a terrible stain on Hampton that Ajax can't remove. The only thing that can remove - is if you remove yourself. Thank you very much.

Mayor Tuck reminded everyone that applauding is not permitted in Council Chambers.

Mr. Michael Barnett greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I'm representing Town Park at Briarfield - 129 homeowners. I have one other member here with me. I have a statement to read and I'll give it to the Clerk when I'm done: We the citizens of Town Park at Briarfield would appreciate if the City Council could address the uptick in motor vehicle accidents affecting our community. Over the past five years, 149 Motor vehicle accidents have occurred on Power Plant Road from Mercury Boulevard to the intersection of Queen (Street) and Briarfield (Road). Our primary concern is the vehicles running into our community at the intersection of Ferncliff (Drive) and Power Plant. We believe the root cause of this is speed and the design of Power Plant Road. Power Plant Road has five bends for curves, with the last one positioned at the entrance of Ferncliff Drive. Just this year, we've had at least four vehicles crash into our community - damages ranging from down shrubs, trees, the downstairs bedroom being struck by a vehicle while the residents were sleeping, and lastly, just last month, a motorcyclist failed to turn left in the bend by Ferncliff and crashed into a brick wall in Town Park. Upon further examination of Power Plant, the posted speed limit is 40 miles per hour, but on weekends, and at night, it's more like 55 miles an hour or higher. There's only one safety marking located on Power Plant Road and it's on the bridge which is required by code. We contend that from Pine Chapel (Road) up to Ferncliff Drive, there should be safety marking signs identifying the upcoming curves in both directions on Power Plant Road and adding yellow reflective markings in the road to slow down traffic and warn drivers of the oncoming curves. Lastly, we need to have the police department accident reports to clearly state when a vehicle does damage to Town Park at Briarfield, and when available, list the driver's insurance information in the report. The last four police reports failed to provide information on the motorist. Again, we appreciate your efforts in keeping the citizens safe in an All-America City. Thank you.

Mr. Japhari Jones greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: What's going on? Peace and blessings, everybody. Council: I'll try to keep this brief as three minutes allows, but I'm here to address the situation of Bowman and Celeste and I'm just wondering how can the City reduce crime when there's crime happening within the Council and in Hampton? First, we see is a token slogan of, you know, the City, but for Hampton to come first, we have to put our children first, and two weeks ago, there was a 10-year-old that came up here trying to express the sexual trauma that she had experienced in school, and the Mayor of the City shut her down. That is despicable to say the least when we always tell our children to address things and tell the teacher and tell somebody of authority, and this 10-year-old girl came up here trying to tell her grievances and you shut her down. I understand you'll have rules and regulations, but y'all let a City Councilman stand up here, who admitted to receiving oral sex and paying for it, and the only reason he

even came out about it was because the individual had his phone with continent in it of \$5,000 worth, and you have to scratch your head and wonder, because insurance to get a phone replaced at the most is what \$250? What is on that phone that you would give up \$5,000 to receive back and then have the audacity to know that you can go report it to the police and the individual who extorted you "for your phone" will go to jail, but you will not go to jail for soliciting sex, which is illegal in the state of Virginia, last time we all checked, am I correct? So, with that being said, you know, I'm here to stand with Celeste. My son is 11-years-old. She is now 11-years-old. Her birthday was yesterday. Can we all say Happy Birthday Celeste.

Mayor Tuck asked Mr. Jones to remain focused.

Mr. Jones continued his statement: I'm focused. Don't interrupt me. Thanks. And you're an elected official up here, and you know, children aren't first to you all. Why weren't you there when Cody Bigsby went missing? Yes, we're still on that, and yes, we have a delegate that's going to champion the Cody alert, which we came up here several times and asked every (inaudible word) member of y'all to help us with but you all refused, so it still will be champion - and I hate to come here with this tone because it makes me seem like the angry black man, but after the cries of the City are continuously ignored, how are we supposed to conduct ourselves year after year? Cody has been missing for almost two years now. We've been coming to Council over two years. Are we supposed to keep the same approach and an elected official, an elected member of town Council can be expelled with a two/three vote of other members? In January 2022, Councilman Chris Bowman paid a woman \$200 for oral sex at a Newport News hotel room. A criminal complaint said that (when) he returned to the car and he found several items were missing including his personal cell phone. This was all reported by the Pilot and for you to go on the news and then threaten.

Mayor Tuck indicated that Mr. Jones' speaking time had expired and then called upon the next speaker.

Ms. Nikia Miller greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Kids who aren't allowed to express their feelings become adults who, number one, believe that their feelings don't matter. Number two, dismiss their own need for validation or support. Number three, struggle to ask for help and/or support. Number four, are scared to speak up about the things that bother them. Number five, view the expression of emotions as a weakness. Number six, find it overwhelming to deal with the feelings of others. Number seven, over apologize or over share in an attempt to create a connection. Number eight, learn to ignore their feelings and pretend they don't exist. The Mayor of this City did that to my daughter at the last City Council meeting. His spineless response to my 10-year-old showed me how much the

children of this City only matter to him when they can be used for a photo opportunity. I would love to act like I'm surprised. After my daughter tried to speak, she wanted to leave the City Council meeting, and she made it abundantly clear that she never wanted to come back and she didn't want to be an active participant in this City, and that's because of you. I want you to hear that. That's because of you. The only person on this dais that had the courage to speak to my daughter and to validate her was Steve Brown, and I would love to act like I'm shocked. I tried to have a conversation with Councilwoman Mugler when she was my delegate and that's the reason why there's no longer Delegate Mugler and we have Delegate Cordoza. What offends me the most is Councilwoman Harper. How can you sit on that dais and pimp Delta Sigma Theta with it being an organization that stands for the development of black women and black girls and then accept an award on behalf of an organization that's for such sexual assault survivors and not open your mouth? It is unconscionable to me that so many of these commemorative coins can be passed out, but I can't be bought for 30 pieces of silver. Remember that and stop using our kids for your photo ops.

Mr. Aaron Weaver greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Councilmembers, citizens, I acknowledge that the censure has been enacted in a step towards accountability, yet it disheartens me profoundly that Councilman Steve Brown stands alone voicing the truth that Councilman Bowman should resign. We understand that it's not within your power to force a resignation, but public acknowledgement and the united standard of accountability are crucial. Your silence, except for Councilman Brown's courageous voice, shakes the public's trust. This is a call for renewed faith, a demonstration that the Council values justice, integrity and will stand united in truth, moreover, the fragility that Council Bowman to displace, to elude responsibility. Oh, you have sleeping issues? You have health issues because of this? If that is the case, then you indeed need to step down, ensure the Council's unhindered functionality and commitment to the community. This is not about casting (inaudible word), but about preserving the Council as a beacon of trust, effectiveness, and it's about prioritizing the community's needs, and ensuring the steadfast commitment to service. In conclusion, while we recognize the censure as a united voice and a clear acknowledgement of the truth, and are imperative, it's time to set aside fragility and focus on unwavering commitment to the people. The community is vigilant. Let the Council be remembered for choosing the truth and accountability over silence and complicity. I know you all understand that. You all should not be having to go through the trainings and counseling for one bad apple, but that bad apple will spoil the whole bunch. You all know this, whether you all come out and speak like Councilman Brown did, that's up to you all, but I pray and hope that you all have the dignity, the decency and the courage to not worry about politics, worry about the truth. Worry about what those people in the back will see from you all because those three women see this. The community sees this.

We all see and understand that two people are being prosecuted or going through prosecution, and the main perpetrator, the John of them all, is sitting up here and not caring about accountability. It's about accountability. That's what it's about. Your accountability is there. You need to understand this. Go get help. Once you get help, come back if you want to run in the 2014 (2024), do that, but get help. Let these citizens know that you are truly effective about it and not these pre-written speeches that are trash.

Delegate Aijalon Cordoza greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I represent the citizens of Hampton, Poquoson and York County, and I am here also calling for the resignation of Councilman Bowman. Councilman Bowman has brought, through his actions, dishonor to this Council, this City, and this Commonwealth as a whole, and as previously mentioned, it is unfair that you, as a Council, you are suffering the repercussions of his reprehensible actions, but I will say that you do have options. I know that some counties in Virginia do have the ability to call for a two-thirds vote majority to remove any member. I'm not sure if this is one of them. I'm sure the City Attorney - she is shaking her head no. So, that's not an option for you. However, I would request that you take the actions of Councilman Brown and all call for the resignation of Councilman Bowman. Again, he's brought great dishonor to our City and to our Commonwealth. The fact that he is still sitting here, while the other people involved in this crime are going to jail, and he is sitting here on Council presiding over a legislative body. It's a great shame. We are all legislators, and we know when someone does those kinds of actions, they should not be sitting at any dais, period. I'm keeping it brief. It's very simple. Please call for his resignation, and if you have any bit of integrity left, I would ask for you to resign immediately. Thank you.

Mr. Anthony Chambers greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I'm the President for the Magruder Four Homeowners Association. Quick note on the short-term rental program that I know the City is moving forward and implementing. I just want you to take into consideration, as a member of a homeowner's association, some of the units on especially on my street and (inaudible word) court about 50% of the units are rental and I know of one that is using that Airbnb short-term.

During Mr. Chambers' time, there was a disruption from the audience and Mayor Tuck asked him to pause.

Mayor Tuck addressed Nikia Miller and asked her to control herself in Chambers or he'd ask for her to be removed. Ms. Miller responded that she was trying to ask the Clerk a question and the Mayor responded that the Deputy was responsible for maintaining order. Japhari Jones, from his seat, stated that Ms. Miller was trying to

ask the Clerk why her daughter was skipped. Mayor Tuck told Mr. Jones that he was also out of order. Ms. Miller indicated that the Mayor hadn't ejected her. Mayor Tuck stated that if she didn't sit down and respond to the deputy's directions, we are going to ask that she be removed and indicated to her that she has now been warned.

Mayor Tuck asked the Clerk to reset the timer and allowed Mr. Chambers to begin speaking from the beginning of his comments.

Mr. Chambers made the following statement: Yeah, I just want you all to, as you move forward with implementation of short-term rental/Airbnb rules, to take into consideration homeowners associations with some of the unique problems that they face. One example is, we have one unit on my street on Terrace Court that I know uses short-term rental/Airbnb, and the problem is trash. When they have people come in and out, in and out for a weekend, a week, the owner doesn't tell these people what day is trash day. So, we have this trash going out at different times, and so forth and so on. That's just one example, but, as I know, everybody's new to short-term rental and Airbnb and I know you guys are moving forward with some implementation of rules coming down from the City. Just please take into consideration the homeowners associations when you implement the rules and regs that you have, because we have to, you know, follow whatever ordinance and rules and reg you're coming up with for the short-term rental, mainly, you know, Airbnb and Bed and Breakfast, well we don't really don't do Bed and Breakfast, but Airbnb. The problem is we don't know the agreement that the unit owners have with these short-term rentals that come in for a week or a weekend or whatever, so we can monitor it. One of the manifestations is the trash. They put out the trash containers whenever they feel like and you know, so as you go ahead, just take into consideration the homeowners association when you guys implement on the short-term rental rules. That's all I have, sir. Thank you, sir.

Ms. Brenda Marks greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I have a few quick housekeeping things I'd like to address and then I'll get to the topic I signed up for. First, Mr. Bowman, I stand here before you (inaudible word)... you need to resign. If you choose to continually embarrass yourself, that's shame on you, but you do not have the right to continue to embarrass the City and the residents that live here. I have asked y'all as a group (the other five) - it would go a long way to restoring public's trust if the five of you would come out with a joint resolution asking him to resign. If not, the five of you in the least, Ms. Harper and Ms. Mugler as the two women on this panel, I feel you owe it to the women in this City to say, we can't remove him, but we do not tolerate any man's demeaning behavior towards women. Second, Mayor Tuck, I sent you an email after the last meeting, and I have yet to receive an acknowledgement that you even received it.

I'm going to relay only a part of what I passed on to you. I watched in dismay as you summarily dismissed a 10-year-old child under the pretense that the Council has no influence with the School Division. Since it must have been forgotten, I want to remind each and every one of you that annually, this Council determines the funding provided to the operation of the School Division. If you do not think that you can exact change by adjusting those numbers, I am here to tell you that you are wrong. Mayor Tuck, that was not your finest hour. Now, for the topic that I signed up for: I'm having an awful lot of difficulty getting prompt responses to Freedom of Information Act requests. I made a simple request recently for a design standard code that an item was approved for construction. At the end of the five days, I got an email back that says my request was too complex for the City to respond to in five days - that we're going to take the additional seven. I know the document existed because prior to making the request, Ms. Bunting had sent me an email stating that a drawing had been submitted that showed the particular handicap ramp I was talking about. So, it just seems like things are dropped by the wayside to drag out a simple answer, so, if y'all can address that, I would appreciate it. Thank you.

Mr. Johnnie Carroll greeted those on the dais and the citizens who had assembled and then made the following statement: I am a proud citizen of the City of Hampton. Now, I can understand why there are no bullhorns allowed here in City Council - it's a very small room, but what I cannot understand is why they won't let me have a bullhorn out there at Darling Stadium. Now, Hampton played Kecoughtan, I believe, a couple of weeks ago, and when I came to the gate, the first thing they told me is that I can't bring a bullhorn in there, and I'm like, what's going on? They told me that it's a distraction that is riotous and disruptive, and so, I went on ahead and just kindly surrendered my bullhorn and went into the gate. Everybody's asking me when I get in there, hey, where's your bullhorn? I had to tell them well, due to certain situations, it was confiscated at the gate. Now, I want you to understand something about being disruptive. Alright, all you crabber fans out there, make some noise. And everybody in there, when I sit down there and say that on the bullhorn, will get up in the stands and shout in stealth and be happy. So how was that disruptive? Now, if it's a distraction you want to hear, I want everybody in this room to join me with this.

The Mayor indicated that what Mr. Carroll attempted to do was not going to happen.

Mr. Carroll continued his statement: It's not just a point of being upsetting to me. It's also a very serious infringement on my First Amendment rights. So, I can't understand what's the deal. Please help me with this, and when you help me with this, please join me on Saturday at noon, where we go up against Phoebus for the District Title. Thank you very much.

Mayor Tuck clarified that, as Mayor, his emails cannot be

deleted and a thorough search showed no email was sent directly to the Mayor from Ms. Marks.

The City Manager indicated that the Director of Public Works will look into the safety situation on Briarfield Road. She also clarified that even though the City Council funds the School Board, state law specifically prohibits City Council from directing how the School Board may spend those funds. She also indicated that she believes the rules at Darling Stadium are set by the School Division, not the City, but she would need to verify that.

Ms. Bunting, the City Manager, explained the sign-up process and that the young lady's name was not listed on the speakers' sheet which is given to the Mayor, City Manager, and Clerk of Council.

## GENERAL ITEMS

### Ordinances

10. [23-0292](#) Ordinance to Amend and Reenact the City Code of the City of Hampton, Virginia by Amending Chapter 2, Administration, Article I, In General, Sec. 2-2 to Establish Removal of Procedures for Members of Boards, Commissions, etc.

Attachments: [Redline](#)

Ms. Glass read the title for the item.

Ms. Bunting made the following statement for the benefit of the public: The proposed Ordinance Amendment is intended to standardize the removal procedures and attendance requirements for all Council appointed committees, boards, commissions, etc. If City Council adopts the amendment tonight, members of the bodies will be aware that the expectation of attendance is a minimum of 75% of the time, and the Ordinance would provide that failure to attend 75% of the regularly scheduled meetings of the relevant body in a one-year period would automatically be cause for removal. Council would, of course, have the right to consider any information about why that may have happened, but it would be a cause for removal. This Ordinance would not apply to bodies that have removal provisions set out in the general laws of the state, such as the Planning Commission or EDA (Economic Development Authority), but the staff is recommending this to Council because we



have found that some of our Boards and Commissions have actually rather low attendance and we felt like it would be best if there was a consistent application or a consistent rule that folks understood when they accepted appointment (and) what they would be expected to do. So, if everyone knows that the expectation is a minimum of 75% (of course, we want 100%, but we realize things happen) then they could account for that when they decided whether to apply for a board or commission or whether they accepted an appointment, knowing what the expectations would be. Accordingly, staff recommends approval.

Mayor Tuck opened the floor for questions from Council, but no further discussion took place.

A motion was made by Councilmember Steven Brown and seconded by Councilmember Hope Harper, that this Ordinance-Coded 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

### Appointments

11. [23-0259](#) Consideration of an Appointment to the Hampton Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

A motion was made by Councilmember Billy Hobbs that Jamie Chapman be appointed to fill the unexpired portion of a term to expire on March 30, 2026. 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

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

Mayor Tuck shared that the dancers who accompanied the delegation to Anyang, South Korea (Bria Andrews, Carson Moore, and Amaya Short, and Choreographer Crystal Neal) will perform on Friday evening and shared a video of their performance in Anyang.

### MISCELLANEOUS NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of new business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

**Contact Info:**

**Clerk of Council, 757-727-6315, [council@hampton.gov](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_