



# City of Hampton

22 Lincoln Street  
Hampton, VA 23669  
[www.hampton.gov](http://www.hampton.gov)

## Council Approved Minutes - Final City Council Work 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, May 23, 2018**

**1:00 PM**

**City Council Chambers**

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### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tuck called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. All members of the City Council were present.

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

### DONNIE R. TUCK PRESIDED

### AGENDA

1. [18-0137](#) Public Art

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

City Manager Mary Bunting explained that the purpose of this item is to follow up on the work of our Placemaking Committee. She reminded everyone that one of Council's strategic objectives is to add to the sense of place to our City. She announced that Council and members of the Arts Commission have discussed bringing our City alive and enhancing our sense of place by establishing more public art in the City. She introduced Placemaking Planner Alison Eubank to provide an update on the proposal to accomplish that goal. She noted that this is a pilot effort; however, we are hopeful that the program will be successful and expanded overtime.

Ms. Eubank stated staff and the Placemaking Committee have been working on developing a unique Hampton identity by putting an emphasis on the "Love Your

City” Strategic Priority Projects. Past projects included “Crabs on King and Queen”, sand art raking, swings, neighborhood festivals and expanding public art.

Ms. Eubank shared information about the Placemaking Committee. The Committee is comprised of citizens and staff. Citizens are from various business areas in the City including Coliseum Central, Downtown, Phoebus and Buckroe. The Committee is also comprised of artists, architects and other citizens. The Committee focuses on creating places for people and ways to continue to build a sense of place for Hampton. The Committee desires to develop a unique, interactive, engaging installation which would draw people to visit and revisit the attraction (such as a statue).

Ms. Eubank shared that the Committee would also like to put out a call for artists in an attempt to receive ideas and feedback. She then reviewed the requirements for applicant participation.

Ms. Eubank announced that six sites have been selected; however, the current desire (first round) is to fund 2 installations with \$10,000 per installation and \$2,000 for artist compensation per installation.

Ms. Eubank shared the proposed installation locations, most of which are publicly owned space and City parks. They include: Coliseum Lawn, Phoebus Waterfront Park, two locations at Buckroe Beach Park, Mill Point Park and Carousel Park. She noted that there is no size stipulation on the project; however, artists would be responsible for presenting information regarding why their project would relate well to a specific site.

Mayor Tuck asked what determines whether a site receives an installation; when the next round is expected to begin; and how many rounds are expected to take place per year.

Ms. Eubank suggested she complete the presentation (which may answer some of those questions) and then she would address questions and comments from those on the dais.

Ms. Eubank shared the scoring criteria for proposed designs. They include: connection to place, interactive (engaging), appropriate scale for the selected location, creativity, feasibility and experience.

Ms. Eubank noted that the number of responses, quality of responses and proposal scores for the sites will help narrow down where the two initial proposals will be located. Proposals may also be selected for other sites if appropriate.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Ms. Eubank stated that both Council's support and funding for the project will play a key role in when the next round takes place. She noted that the Committee discussed a six week time frame for each round; they also discussed hosting a celebration at the end of each round to celebrate the artist and the art being presented at the location.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Ms. Bunting stated that \$100,000 was initially appropriated for placemaking initiatives of this scale; however, we considered using some funds to test the concept before committing to every site.

Ms. Eubank clarified that \$50,000 is currently appropriated for expanding and enhancing public art.

Assistant City Manager Brian DeProfio clarified that those figures were from the monies allocated for this type of project in 2015; there is an additional \$300,000 programed in the FY2020 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Ms. Bunting added that if all funds are exhausted and the program is successful, funding can be advanced out of contingency. She recommended moving forward with the initial two projects and then reevaluating the program.

Discussion took place between the members of Council and staff. Topics of discussion included: moving forward with projects at a faster pace (doing more projects per year to make Hampton more attractive in a shorter time frame); the Arts Commission's role in the process of evaluating proposals; the possibility of concentrating on one area of the City in an attempt to arrive at a specific theme; and the Committee not being presented (as of yet) with examples of other City placemaking projects in comparison to what is being proposed for Hampton.

Ms. Bunting shared some project examples presented at an International City Management Association (ICMA) Conference. Localities such as Austin, TX, Dallas, TX, New York City, and Greenville, SC, had projects which included floating art, festivals, and mice along a main street. She noted that Hampton has considered placing crabs along one of its main streets which would mirror the mice project. She clarified that there is no specific formula for placemaking; instead, it comes from the creativity of the population in the area. She emphasized that City government's role should be to unleash the creativity of the residents and stakeholders. She noted that the book entitled "Love Your City" provides this research and case studies. It also suggests that the best way government can help is to give permission to use public space, provide small incentive funds, and welcome the creativity of the population (call for artists).

Mayor Tuck expressed concern about the need for improvements to the gateways to our City. He commented that only three of the eleven gateways are appealing. He suggested something be done to make the gateways more attractive such as having artists paint the areas.

Ms. Bunting noted that staff will try to apply this same creativity to the gateways in our community.

For the record, Councilwoman Snead expressed concern about the uninviting condition of the City Hall lobby. She suggested it needs to be cleaned, upgraded and decorated appropriately in order to create an inviting atmosphere. She asked staff to look at the area and consider what can be done to spruce up our own sense of place here at City Hall.

Councilman Hobbs also expressed concern about the need for improvements to our gateways. He continued stating that he was involved in the work of the Coliseum Central gateways and would like to see all of our gateways improved with lighting and other amenities.

Councilman Gray reminded everyone that in 2013, we partnered with Hampton University to submit applications to the National Endowment of the Arts for creative placemaking on the Booker T. Washington Bridge. He suggested that even though the grant was not given, the proposal for the project should still be available and may be used for direction on sprucing up the gateway into downtown Hampton.

Ms. Bunting noted that she and staff will look into all of the matters noted by Council.

Presented by Alison Eubank, Placemaking Planner.

## **REGIONAL ISSUES**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **CLOSED SESSION**

2. [18-0167](#) Closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 2.2-3711.A.1, .3, .7, and .8 to discuss possible successors to the City Attorney and to discuss appointments to the Economic Development Authority, Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads, Citizens Engagement Advisory and Review Commission (CEARC), and

Neighborhood Commission; to discuss or consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose in the Kecoughtan Road corridor, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the city; to consult with legal counsel employed or retained by the City regarding actual or probable litigation where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the city; and to consult with legal counsel employed or retained by the City regarding specific legal matters involving trademark and licensing requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

At 1:28 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Gray and seconded by Councilmember Snead, that this Closed Session - Motion be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

3. [18-0122](#) Consideration of appointments to Neighborhood Commission

#### **CERTIFICATION**

4. [18-0090](#) Resolution Certifying Closed Session

A motion was made by Councilmember Moffett and seconded by Councilmember Snead, that this Closed Session - Certification be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

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Donnie R. Tuck  
Mayor

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Katherine K. Glass, CMC  
Clerk of Council

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