



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 Eleanor Weston Brown
Councilmember Steven L. Brown
Councilmember Linda D. Curtis
Councilmember W.H. "Billy" Hobbs
Councilmember Chris Snead

STAFF: Mary Bunting, City Manager
Lola Rodriguez Perkins, Interim City Attorney
Katherine K. Glass, CMC, Clerk of Council

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

1:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tuck called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. He recognized Tolu Ibikunle, Senior City Planner, who introduced the members of the Hampton Youth Commission: Kaylin House, Chelsie Davenport, Vaughn Davis, Kymoni Young, Dativa Eyembe, Maleek Hill, Cat Sixbey, Gbemi Easter, Isabelle Kirabo, Elena Diaz, Summer Neil, Sydney Cotton, Shawn Smith, Jericho Nicely, Kajah Tisdale, Noel Adejayan, and Victor Adejayan. She also introduced Janaria Lickey, Senior Youth Planner, and Maria Perkins who was representing Alternatives.

Present 7 - Councilmember Eleanor Weston Brown, Councilmember Steven L. Brown, Councilmember Linda D. Curtis, Vice Mayor Jimmy Gray, Councilmember Billy Hobbs, Councilmember Chris Snead, and Mayor Donnie R. Tuck

DONNIE R. TUCK PRESIDED

AGENDA

1. [18-0230](#) Update on Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel Expansion Plans

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

City Manager Mary Bunting introduced Mr. Jim Utterback, Project Manager for the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), to provide an update on the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel (HRBT) Expansion Plans.

Mr. Utterback announced that this is one of the largest transportation capital projects that this region has ever seen. It will have a significant impact on the cities of Hampton and Norfolk and is estimated to cost approximately \$3 billion.

Mr. Utterback shared a 1957 photo of the HRBT, the first and longest tunnel in the world constructed between manmade islands at that time and also shared information about the 10 Hampton Roads Tunnels and statistics related to 65 years of tunneling in the Hampton Roads area.

Mr. Utterback spoke about the scope of the work for the HRBT expansion and the proposed bridge and tunnel alignments on the Hampton and Norfolk sides.

Mr. Utterback elaborated on the proposed lane configuration for the tunnel and approach bridges. He also listed the landside and marine construction considerations involved in the project.

In response to Mayor Donnie Tuck, Mr. Utterback clarified that the Thimble Shoals Tunnel will be parallel to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

In response to Councilwoman Chris Snead, Mr. Utterback said it is possible to reuse tunnel boring machines from other projects; however, those decisions are typically made by the contractor. He noted that varying dimensions (heights) of tunnels must also be taken into consideration when attempting to reuse equipment.

In response to Councilwoman Snead, Mr. Utterback clarified that some trestles will need to be rebuilt for completion of the project.

Mayor Tuck asked whether the plan involves boring out two lanes at a time or creating a four lane width tunnel.

Mr. Utterback explained that both scenarios are possible; however, the project is currently in the procurement phase, and therefore pending decisions from the contractors.

Mr. Utterback shared general information about immersed-tube tunneling, conceptual tunnel sections, and the tunnel boring machine. He also shared the differences between bored and immersed-tube tunneling.

Mr. Utterback provided additional procurement information and the upcoming schedule (dates) related to the project.

Vice Mayor Jimmy Gray inquired about the hiring process for the project,

specifically, the use of local contractors, women and minority owned businesses, and local job creation.

Mr. Utterback stated there are Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program goals which will be established and the large international firms working on the project are expected to engage local contractors. He noted that contractors will select tunnel construction methods by the end of the month and goals will then be established based on that information.

In response to Councilman Billy Hobbs, Mr. Utterback said using union workers is not a requirement or dictated in the contract; however, there is language in the request for proposal (RFP) for guidance on that matter.

Councilman Hobbs explained that years ago, it was stressed that union labor is the best trained labor and they are held accountable for the quality of the job, thus his interest in knowing whether using union workers would be required.

Councilman Steve Brown asked what mechanisms are being used to market the work to women and minority owned companies and others in the community who do this type of work.

Mr. Utterback explained that they establish the procurement goal for DBE and Small Women-owned and Minority-owned Business (SWAM); however, the contractor has to respond with intent to meet that goal. He added that the percentage of minority contractors used for the project will be provided as part of the public document in the RFP.

Mr. Utterback noted that a citizen information meeting on the re-evaluation of the environmental document was held last month and a public hearing regarding the main design features of the project is scheduled to take place during the month of August. More information will be available within the next two weeks.

Presented by Jim Utterback, Project Manager, Virginia
Department of Transportation.

2. [18-0252](#) Briefing from the Peninsula Pilots

Ms. Bunting introduced Mr. Henry Morgan, Owner of the Peninsula Pilots, to share some good news regarding the War Memorial Stadium. Mr. James Wilson, Peninsula Stadium Authority Chair, was also in attendance.

Mr. Morgan commended City staff for working so well with him on this project.

Mr. Morgan spoke about some of the improvements to the stadium. Drainage

improvements have begun; parking improvements have begun and will resume at the end of the season; work will begin in September on the entrance pavilion building project; upgrades have been made to the stadium's telecommunications infrastructure allowing thousands of people to view broadcasts - this encourages people to visit our area and use the facility; and the new marquee on Pembroke Avenue provides an opportunity to get messages out to those in the community.

Mr. Morgan invited those on the dais to attend a ground breaking ceremony on August 2, 2018.

Mr. Morgan provided an update on what is currently happening at the stadium: ticket sales are up 6%; concession sales are up 11%; retail and souvenir sales are up 17%; the first Combine and Travel Ball Tournament was held June 22-24 where teams from the northeast participated - this resulted in 26 teams seeking rooms in our City.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Mr. Morgan explained that the "Combine Tournament" is a skills demonstration for college coaches in which they participate in a 60 yard dash, high jump contest and other activities. The demonstration is recorded and can be viewed on a website by colleges all over the country. Mr. Morgan shared that "The Tournament Play" is another event which attracts athletes and coaches to our area.

Councilman Hobbs shared an experience in which he visited an area and people spoke highly of the Morgan family, the Peninsula Pilots and the relationships they have with the baseball community on the east coast. Councilman Hobbs noted that this is a great tribute to Mr. Morgan.

Mr. Morgan invited everyone to attend the "Love your Community Night" on July 27th.

In response to Vice Mayor Gray, Ms. Bunting said initially the plan was to allocate \$600,000 per year into the project. Last year, we escalated all of the money the City committed (\$3.6 million) so that the City would not be an inhibitor to the timeline of project completion. She noted that staff would provide a timeline on the City's improvements to the project as soon as possible.

Presented by Henry Morgan, Owner of the Peninsula Pilots.

3. [18-0258](#) Hampton Police Division - Crime and Gang Update

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

Ms. Bunting introduced Hampton Police Chief Terry Sult to provide recent crime

statistics for the City, information about gangs in our community and how gang activity is being addressed.

Police Chief Terry Sult greeted those on the dais and welcomed the newly elected members of Council and Interim City Attorney.

Chief Sult provided crime trend statistics and noted that Hampton is close in line with most other jurisdictions in basic overall broad trends.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Chief Sult explained that the Uniform Crime Report is a summary report; whereas the National Incident Based Reporting System calculates every minor report (victim) - these reports are used for crime analysis and problem solving. He noted that Hampton uses the Uniform Crime Report because this type of report summarizes all information.

Chief Sult shared Hampton's violent crime trends for the past five years. He also compared crime trends for the first six months of 2018 to crime trends for the first six months of the years 2013 to 2017. He shared that Hampton has seen significant improvements in Part-I offenses for the first six months of 2018; there has also been a reduction of violent crime incidents. He noted that Hampton falls in the middle when compared to other localities in the region; however, Hampton is the 3rd safest of the seven cities with regards to violent crime.

Chief Sult stated that the use of firearms is one of the most significant problems Hampton faces and it causes the most public concern. He noted that this is also a nationwide problem.

Chief Sult introduced Corporal S. Stalnaker, Investigator for the Gang Unit for the City of Hampton, to speak about gangs and youth violence in the City.

Corporal Stalnaker emphasized that gang activity trickles down from larger cities such as New York City and Chicago to other cities such as Washington, DC and Norfolk, VA, to smaller communities like Hampton. He also spoke about some of the famous rappers and various influences from these larger communities that local gang members tend to mimic and copy their life style.

Cpl. Stalnaker spoke about some of the known local gangs in the cities of Hampton and Newport News.

Mayor Tuck asked Cpl. Stalnaker to speak about the increase in auto theft and what efforts are being made to correct the problem.

Cpl. Stalnaker explained that oftentimes criminals steal vehicles to use during criminal activity so that they can commit crimes in vehicles to which they cannot be linked.

Chief Sult added that criminals “car hop” or search for unlocked vehicles in an attempt to steal weapons or keys to the vehicle - these vehicles are used for criminal activity and disposed of later as a way for the criminal to remain anonymous.

Cpl. Stalnaker shared examples of types of local gang related incidents such as arguments over girlfriends and rival gang members retaliating to what they consider disrespectful behavior. He noted that there has also been an increase in female-involved violent crimes in the City.

Cpl. Stalnaker listed reasons why gangs are prevalent. Some of them include: low-esteem; social, economic, and cultural forces; low parental attachment; safety in numbers (some join gangs to avoid being a victim); and social epidemic (it is cooler to be the bad guy).

In response to Councilman Brown, Cpl. Stalnaker said most local sets are created from a group of friends and some individuals have been identified as gang leaders. He added that it is difficult to predict where gang members will be at a given time because the gangs are spread throughout the City.

In response to Councilman Brown, Chief Sult noted that he would speak about arrest data and regional approaches to resolving gang violence later in the presentation.

Chief Sult also spoke about why people get involved in gangs and the importance of our youth having alternatives to gang life style while remaining safe and giving them a sense of belonging.

Chief Sult spoke about partnerships, accountability and the internal process review. He emphasized the importance of consequences for criminal activity. He shared that the Police Department works diligently with the Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office to achieve the goal of preparing the best prosecutable case possible and that we have a standard way of preparing cases for prosecution review. He also emphasized the need for community involvement at the back end of the Criminal Justice System.

Chief Sult shared some of the gun crime initiatives which are underway in an attempt to reduce violent gun crime and gang crime in our community. They include: gang detectives being re-centralized; 1 sergeant and 5 detective positions; Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) Task Force Officer collaboration;

Commonwealth's Attorney partnership; State conspiracy and felony gun cases; State investigative Grand Jury; specialized training for conspiracy cases; and possession, use of firearm by felon.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Chief Sult explained the ATF Task Force Officer is one of our investigators temporarily assigned to work with the ATF. This benefits us because when one of our officer's works with the ATF, their resources can be used to solve local problems.

Chief Sult said the decision was made to improve the original Community Response Team (CRT) by increasing the staff to 1 Sergeant, 1 Corporal, and 7 officers. Staff will work with the Violent Gun Crime and Gang Unit to analyze crime trends to focus on enforcement in areas disproportionately affected by gun crime. He noted that individuals who are known to be involved in gun crime and have the worst records will be targeted by this team.

Chief Sult announced that the City has worked with the City of Newport News to get the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) up and running.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Chief Sult explained that there are on-going technology, staff and maintenance costs associated with the NIBIN system. Those costs will be shared with the City of Newport News.

Chief Sult shared information about additional Gun Crime Initiatives including our approach to serial shooters and the Auxiliary Police Program.

Additional discussion took place among the members of Council, Chief Sult and staff. Topics of discussion included: the Auxiliary Police Program's assistance with patrol and hot spot areas and its participants having full police powers; the Cadet Program which handles responsibilities that do not require sworn authority; retired officer mentorship; the "Ferguson Effect" - the idea that increased scrutiny of police led to increased crime across the country which led to civil unrest; the impact of technology and social media; all Hampton Police Officers are equipped with body cameras allowing access to unedited versions of officer and citizen interactions; reasons gangs are appealing to our youth; the Hampton City School's connection between our youth and their need to be a part of something; the average age of gang members; initiatives with the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office; the work required to get from "arrest on probable cause" to "guilt beyond a reasonable doubt"; the Court Watch Program (community involvement/effort); the Real Time Crime Center; approximately 24 positions are budgeted for the Auxiliary Police Program; the Serious and Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program; identifying crime hot spots in the City; studying other cities' (such as Los Angeles)

reduction in crime rate success in an attempt to learn ways in which Hampton may be able to reduce its crime rate; and the Police Department's response time to a recent active shooter situation in the Olde Wythe section of the City.

Presented by Chief Terry Sult and Corporal D. Stalnaker.

REGIONAL ISSUES

NEW BUSINESS

CLOSED SESSION

4. [18-0239](#) Closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 2.2-3711.A.1, .3, .5, .6, .7, and .8 to consider appointments as listed on the agenda; to discuss or consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or the disposition of publicly held real property, in the Downtown Hampton area where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the City; to discuss a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in Hampton; discussion or consideration of 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; consultation with legal counsel, staff and/or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the City; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the City regarding specific legal matters pertaining to a wetlands issue requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

At 3:15 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Hobbs and seconded by Vice Mayor Gray, that this Closed Session - Motion be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Weston Brown, Councilmember Brown, Councilmember Curtis, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead and Mayor Tuck

5. [18-0177](#) Consideration of appointments of Council Liaisons to various Boards, Commissions and Committees
6. [18-0185](#) Consideration of appointment to Board of Review of Real Estate Assessment
7. [18-0193](#) Consideration of appointments to Citizens Unity Commission
8. [18-0198](#) Consideration of appointments to Hampton Commission on the Arts
9. [18-0208](#) Consideration of appointments to Hampton Economic Development Authority
10. [18-0209](#) Consideration of appointments to Virginia Air & Space Center
11. [18-0212](#) Consideration of appointments to Citizens' Engagement Advisory Review (CEARC) Commission
12. [18-0254](#) Consideration of an appointments to Neighborhood Commission
13. [18-0257](#) Consideration of appointments to Peninsula Town Center Community Development Authority

CERTIFICATION

14. [18-0251](#) Resolution Certifying Closed Session

At 6:25 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Hobbs and seconded by Vice Mayor Gray, that this Closed Session - Certification be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Weston Brown, Councilmember Brown, Councilmember Curtis, Vice Mayor Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Snead and Mayor Tuck

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m. The Mayor indicated that the Evening Legislative Session would probably be delayed from 6:30 to 6:35 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 _____