

CITY OF HAMPTON
Minutes, Special Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2018, 7:00pm
5784 Navarre Ave., Hampton, FL 32044

ANYONE WISHING TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING ANY TOPIC ON THIS EVENING'S AGENDA IS REQUESTED TO COMPLETE A COMMENT CARD AND RETURN TO THE CITY CLERK. PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES.

ROLL CALL – City Clerk: Vice Chairman Jim Mitzel, Councilman Frank Bryant, Councilman Doug Williamson, Mayor Dan Williams, Chairman Bill Goodge, and Councilwoman Lillian Sams. City Clerk Mary Lou Hildreth was also present.

Public Comment - Please limit comments to 3 minutes and restrain from personal attacks, using an individual's name or making political statements.

1. NEW BUSINESS:

A. City Attorney

Mayor Williams

Mayor Williams explained this is special meeting called about this one topic only. He provided background history of Mr. Cooper's working with Hampton. He has been invaluable and of tremendous help. He is also the school board attorney and now is the attorney for Starke. His daughter, Ms. Loper, stepped in to assist. We subsequently entered into a contract with her in February of this year. There is a 30 day clause to terminate by either party. We have had some lack of response/communication issues and some faulty work product with the deeds. She missed the last council meeting and did not call or otherwise advise us of her absence. The following day the clerk texted to her to determine what happened and she did not respond. Ms. Hildreth then texted Mr. Cooper to ascertain if everything was all right and he responded "As far as I know, I will reach out to her". It has been over one week and neither has responded.

Ms. Hildreth said that Ms. Hornick advised that Lawtey was having similar issues.

Chairman Goodge spoke to the Sheriff and she has taken another job with a law firm in Lake City and is neglecting everybody else. He likes her personally but has not seen too much professionalism.

Motion made by Councilman Bryant to terminate the contract, seconded by Vice Chairman Mitzel. Passed 5 – 0.

Ms. Hildreth will send a certified letter to Ms. Loper.

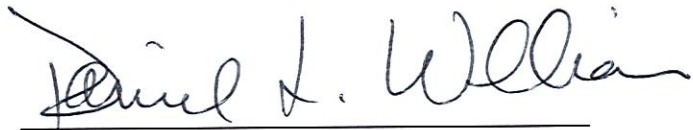
Motion made by Vice Chairman Mitzel to advertise for new legal representation, seconded by Chairman Goodge. Passed 5 – 0.

Ms. Hildreth will advertise in the Bradford Telegraph as well as the Gainesville Sun.

2. Adjourn

IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE CITY COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THIS SCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETING, THEY WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS BASED. OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY BE DISCUSSED AS DETERMINED BY CITY COUNCIL. EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS (SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS LOBBYING OR INFORMATION GATHERING) BETWEEN A COUNCIL MEMBER AND OTHERS WHERE THERE IS SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION REGARDING A QUASI-JUDICIAL DECISION BY THE CITY COUNCIL MUST BE DISCLOSED BY THE COUNCIL SO THE PUBLIC MAY RESPOND TO SUCH COMMENTS BEFORE A VOTE IS TAKEN. ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE AUDIO TAPED.

By:



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel L. Williams", written over a horizontal line.

ATTEST:

Dan Williams, Mayor



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mary Lou Hildreth", written over a horizontal line.

Mary Lou Hildreth, City Clerk