

CITY OF HAMPTON
Minutes, Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 28th, 2025, 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.

Meeting Facilitator: Vice Chair Douglas Williamson

Invocation followed by Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL – City Clerk – Councilwoman Dot Shealey, Mayor Dale Wise, Vice Chair Douglas Williamson, and Councilwoman Lillian Sams. Chair Bill Goodge and Councilwoman Janece Mullett were absent. City Clerk/Administrator Mary Lou Hildreth and City Attorney Will Sexton were 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. Public Hearings:

2. Resolutions:

3. Proclamations:

4. Presentations:

A. Deputy Ward/BSO Sheriff Patrols – absent due to illness

B. Clerk/Admin Report

- FRDAP Grant Contracts have been executed. Commencement documents are being prepared for submission. Ms. Hildreth has meetings next month with lighting and playground representatives.
- CDBG grant – Engineer will be on site tomorrow to meet with well drilling company, also working with other firms on detailed design and engineering.
- Finalization of SEARCH grant is imminent so then we can submit engineering invoices for reimbursement of the \$30,000 costs expended.

- Resilience grants: Planning grant continues to move forward, for the Implementation grant preliminary construction of silt fencing and vegetation clearing has begun. Currently working on obtaining the additional \$115,000 for the project – whether it be from the Resilience program or from the legislative appropriation. (Refer to my e-mail which will be attached for the record to these minutes). While attending the Water Symposium today she spoke directly to Eddy Bouza who is over this program. Although she did not send the e-mail to him, somebody apparently did internally, as he referenced it. While she did not receive a direct answer (other than to submit her suggestion during the rule making public comment period, that is not a solution to our imminent needs).
- Legislative Appropriation Funds: We now have the executed contract. We did receive letters of approval from Senator Bradley and Representative Brannon to reallocate a portion of the funds to pay for the additional construction costs needed for the drainage project but exactly how that can be done is still be worked out.
- The playground vendor has repaired the paint on the slides.
- We did rank high enough in our Historical Grant application to be put forward to this upcoming legislative session. Again, it will depend on what funding will be available and if the Governor approves it.
- Working with Emerald Data, our IT contractor, to update our e-mail address to clerk@hamptonfl.gov, which is more secure and which government entities should use (a .gov ending). Migration of our current e-mails will take place this weekend. E-mails from our old address will continue to forward over in perpetuity. Additional measures will take place to notify all agencies, vendors, and other recipients to notify them of our new address. She will also be meeting with the owner to discuss required upgrades to Microsoft 11 as well as putting in place a password program.
- She has received interest from the Mayor and Council members to obtain some type of ID/badges to assist in identifying them as elected officials. She will research and provide options.
- Food distribution Saturday morning at the ARC.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

ALL MATTERS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA AER CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION IN THE FORM LISTED BELOW. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON THESE ITEMS. IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY. BACKUPDOCUMENTAION AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL ON THESE ITEMS.

- A. Approval of Regular City Council Meeting Minutes from November 26, 2024
- B. Approval of Special City Council Meeting Minutes from December 17, 2024
- C. Financials/Account Payables November/December 2024

Motion to approve consent agenda made by Vice Chair Williamson, seconded by Councilwoman Shealey. Passed 3 – 0

6. OLD BUSINESS:

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Infrastructure Consulting & Engineering Contract Extension City Clerk/Admin

Ms. Hildreth advised that the city's contract with ICE had expired and needed to be renewed, pursuant to the terms of the original contract. They are currently in the middle of several projects/grants on behalf of the city.

Motion to execute the ICE contract extension made by Councilwoman Shealey, seconded by Councilwoman Sams. Passed 3 - 0

8. City Attorney Report

9. Council general announcements/discussions

10. 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. EX PARTE 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:

ATTEST:

Dale Wiseman, Mayor

Mary Lou Hildreth, City Clerk/Administrator

From: Mary Lou Hildreth <coh1@outlook.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2025 4:49 PM

To: krista.slyter@floridadep.gov <krista.slyter@floridadep.gov>; david.overstreet@floridadep.gov <david.overstreet@floridadep.gov>

Cc: Jerry Dabkowski <jerry.dabkowski@ice-eng.com>; Chris Brimo <chris.brimo@ice-eng.com>; Rodriguez, Magdalena <Magdalena.Rodriguez@FloridaDEP.gov>; Harshaw, Kit <Kit.Harshaw@FloridaDEP.gov>; Shays, Tonya <SHAYS.TONYA@flsenate.gov>; bradley.jennifer.web@flsenate.gov <bradley.jennifer.web@flsenate.gov>; chuck.brannan@myfloridahouse.gov <Chuck.Brannan@myfloridahouse.gov>; charity.hudson@floridadep.gov <Charity.Hudson@floridadep.gov>

Subject: Resilience Grants Rulemaking Workshop (City of Hampton 23FRP01)

I attended the webinar last week and would appreciate some clarification on some things that were discussed. The City of Hampton (pop. 480) is a REDI community in a RAO county. We have no cost share/match requirements. On the slide that says 62S-8.002 Definitions it states "Cost share may not include state appropriations" but if I don't have a cost share then I can use state appropriations to offset the additional cost of the project, correct?

When we originally applied for the implementation grant for flood/drainage mitigation it was anticipated that the cost of construction would be \$194K. Two years later, after contract execution, surveying, design, engineering and the bid process, the lowest bid we received was \$309K (the other two were over \$600K and \$800K). We had already anticipated requiring additional funding and informed DEP Resilience staff assigned to our project. We were initially told that there was available funding but that we had to have construction bids to support the amount of additional funding we would need (i.e. so as not to go back to the "well" more than once). Unfortunately, the funding cycle closed September 1, 2024, and the bids were opened in December. We need an additional \$115K for construction. On the slide about eligibility for additional funds it

states "Entities conducting projects needing funds in addition to the original grant award must send to the Department verifiable documentation of need. This documentation can be in the form of contractor bids or an executed contract for the project work. Contractor bids must be valid at the time of making the additional funding request . . .". I did do this but was told they could not provide additional funding and that I could apply for this year's cycle. However, the project is anticipated to be completed by the end of April and the cycle does not close until 9/1/25. I will forward the e-mail thread between DEP Resilience staff and myself outlining this.

I realize these are anticipated rulemaking changes, but it is very confusing to the overall current process the city is in the middle of.

I did receive a legislative appropriation this year which is earmarked for cost overruns on our new backup well we need to install for our potable water system as well as other necessary water yard upgrades. Our primary funding source for the new well is a \$600K CDBG grant through DEO, but we are still in the design and engineering part of this project, and already know we will need most of these additional LA funds for those cost overruns on the well but we do not know how much we will need - and, again, until it goes out to bid. With all of that being said, DEP is also the grant manager for those funds. I was advised by the grant manager for the LA that all I had to do was gain approval from LA sponsors. I requested and received permission from our legislative delegation (Senator Bradley and Representative Brannan) to allocate \$115K towards the funding needed to complete 23FRP01 (flood/drainage mitigation) but we would greatly prefer to use those funds towards our potable water needs, but if it's the only way we can complete the flood/drainage project then we will have to do that. Grants are the only resource we have to pay for these types of projects and we have no other funding options when the price of materials and construction goes up and up by the time we get to the actual "shovel ready" stage.

We are a small, financially disadvantaged, rural community. As the only employee (besides a part time bookkeeper) it is paramount that we receive not only financial assistance but guidance through the arduous process of navigating grants that are meant to help municipalities such as ours. I've experienced multiple changes in grant managers (5 so far on the Resilience grants, 2 on the LA), reporting requirement changes, form changes, and amendments to the contracts midstream.

I appreciate any insight and guidance you may be able to provide.

Mary Lou Hildreth, MMC
City Clerk/Administrator
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