

CITY OF HAMPTON
Minutes, Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 25th, 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: Dale Wiseman, Mayor

Invocation followed by Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL – City Clerk – Councilwoman Dorothy Shealey, Chair Bill Goodge, Mayor Dale Wiseman, Vice Chair Douglas Williamson, Councilwoman Lillian Sams, and Councilwoman Janeece Mullett. Also present were City Clerk/Administrator Mary Lou Hildreth and City Attorney Will Sexton.

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:** Resolution No. 2025-01, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hampton, Florida urging the Florida State Legislature to enact legislation to provide a public records exemption for municipal clerks and employees who perform municipal elections work or have any part in code enforcement functions of a city and providing for an effective date.

Ms. Hildreth explained that the Florida Association of City Clerks has requested that all municipalities in Florida pass this resolution. Clerks deal with many areas that, given certain political climates, could create potential dangerous situations that would require personal information to be redacted from public records requests, similar to how they have been done for other sensitive public servant positions such as law enforcement.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-01 made by Councilwoman Shealey, seconded by Chair Goodge. Passed 5 - 0

3. Proclamations:

4. Presentations:

- A. Deputy Ward/BSO Sheriff Patrols - absent

B. Clerk/Admin Report

- FRDAP grants – Still working on commencement documents for submission. Ms. Hildreth has met with lighting and playground representatives. Commercial equipment for parks are very expensive.
- CDBG grant – Engineer is reviewing submissions from well firms that are experts/specific to the particular field on detailed design and engineering.
- Finalization of SEARCH grant is still stalled due to yet more additional information requested. She, USDA and the engineers have a zoom meeting tomorrow morning.
- Resilience grants: Planning grant continues to move forward. Preliminary construction of silt fencing and vegetation clearing has begun. She is currently working on obtaining the additional \$115,000 for the project – whether it be from the Resilience program or from the legislative appropriation. She received a second e-mail from DEP (Refer to her second e-mail which will be attached for the record to these minutes) which questioned DEP's vague responses to her first e-mail. She was also notified of yet another grant manager position change on both the planning and implementation grant – this makes the 6th one for both. These excessive personnel changes create redundancy which causes additional, extra work to resubmit documents previously sent. The grant requirements have been changed throughout the process either by e-mail notice, amendments to the contract, or now, a new rulemaking process.
- Legislative Appropriation Funds: We now have the executed contract. However, depending on where we obtain the additional funding for the Hampton Villas drainage project, it may need to be amended accordingly.
- The playground vendor has repaired the paint on the slides at BSMP.
- The new city e-mail, clerk@hamptonfl.gov is still having some migration issues that will continue to be worked on.
- She will contact Commissioner Riddick for assistance in finding out the status of the paving of Bobbie Sheppard Memorial Park's parking lot.
- She is meeting with Bradford County, their engineers, and our engineers on the status of their DEP Vulnerability Assessment and how it coincides with our report next week.
- FY 24 audit is starting up.
- She has received inquiries from a couple of cell tower companies and is in discussions about potential locations on city owned property (BSM park, probably being the best option). This could be a new, additional revenue source.
- There was a disconnect between Bradford Youth Athletics and Hope Baptist regarding the use of the baseball field. She had been under the impression that they had worked out their scheduling issues. The reality is that there was some

falling out between a coach and the BYA so the field was no longer being maintained/used. In discussions with the coach at Hope Baptist revealed that their organization was using an old field over in Theresa.

- Food distribution to be held again this Saturday morning at the Bradford 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 January 28, 2025
- B. Financials/Account Payables January 2025

Motion to approve consent agenda made by Vice Chair Williamson, seconded by Councilwoman Shealey. Passed 5 - 0

6. OLD BUSINESS:

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Hampton Centennial Celebration City Clerk/Admin

Ms. Hildreth advised that given the lack of service organizations and volunteers, she recommended that we do some type of fall festival at Bobbie Sheppard Memorial Park. The city could consider food trucks, music, bounce houses, and other amenities for a daytime event. Councilwoman Mullett has offered to assist in the planning. Further details regarding estimated costs/event budget to be discussed at a future meeting.

8. City Attorney Report

9. Council general announcements/discussions

Vice Chair Williamson had concerns about the amount of franchise fees added onto his Florida Power and Light electric bill. Ms. Hildreth explained that franchise fees have been in place for decades and a contract was renewed in 2014. It can be considered "rent" for the use of the city's right of ways for placement of their poles and transmission lines. In addition, these fees are also in place since the city does not have the capacity to generate electricity for its residents. The rate is 6%, she will provide a copy of the franchise fee agreement.

Councilwoman Mullett raised concerns regarding the amount of money we are paying BSO for deputy patrols and what exactly are we getting for it. She will be scheduling a "ride along" with one of the deputies and encouraged the rest of the council to do so as well. Her observations of all the excessive speeding on CR 18 appears to make the

patrols not a very good deterrent. Mayor Wiseman pointed out that people run the stop sign constantly at the north end of Temple Ave. The philosophy is that unless the speeding is egregious, they just get a warning. Then progressive discipline for repeat offenders. He feels law enforcement presence in general is what's going to deter people.

10. Adjourn

IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL NAY 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 REFERED TO AS LOBBYING OR INFORMAITON 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 TAKE. ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE AUDIO TAPED.

By:

Dale Wiseman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mary Lou Hildreth, MMC, City Clerk/Administrator