

**CITY OF HAMPTON**  
**Minutes, Regular Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, April 11th, 2017, 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: Dan Williams, Mayor

Invocation followed by Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL – City Clerk:** Vice Chairman Jim Mitzel, Councilman Frank Bryant, Mayor Dan Williams, Chairman Bill Goodge, Councilwoman Lillian Sams. Councilman Douglas Williamson arrived late. Also present were City Clerk Mary Lou Hildreth and City Attorney John Cooper.

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

Faye Brannock: She would like us to have festivals in the parks again. The parks have plugs for vendors, a place for music. We don't have anything anymore, not even Easter egg hunts. It's time to start thinking about doing events again. Mayor Williams brought up past issues with the Auditor General over spending taxpayer money on certain things. Mrs. Brannock would like to see us apply for grants for a community center. Seniors here have nothing to do, no services. They would like to have a place to go play cards, bingo, etc. Ms. Hildreth advised there is no grant funding available for community centers.

Gene Brannock: With Dollar General coming into the area there is an issue as to how will some of the elderly population going to be able to get to it. We need to think with vision for future years and put in a sidewalk. Water rates - this has been going on for two years. He commended the Mayor for moving forward with it. FRWA started working with the city after the report from the Auditor General. We had no idea how many meters we had and they were not being read. Since 2014, Josh Davis worked with the city to locate our meters. Rick Crews (SERCAP) was then able to move forward with a water rate study. He said it was costing \$107 per 1000 gallons for the city to produce it. We are going in the hole when we are only charging \$28.00. Some people do not want to see any increase, but this is a business. At the time of the audit, the water department owed the General Fund \$180,000. We need to make a tough decision. The rate increase isn't going to get us out of the hole but it's a start.

- 1. Public Hearings:** First Reading Ordinance 2017-1, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING OF THE 2009-1 CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HAMPTON, FLORIDA; CHANGING THE RATES AND CHARGES RELATIVE TO THE FURNISHING OF WATER SERVICES BY THE CITY; AMENDING ALL SECTIONS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HAMPTON, FLORIDA; CHANGING THE WATER RATES FOR USERS OUTSIDE OF THE CITY LIMITS; SERVICE FEES; AUTOMATIC

**ANNUAL INCREASES USERS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Public Comment: Mike Armes asked if it was for residents and also outside city limit residents. He is in favor of the rate increase but thinks there should be a service fee on outside city limits customers.

Ms. Hildreth provided the background of the water study and a synopsis of the workshop. She reiterated that the General Fund has been supporting the Water Fund for years, and that our former auditor said that he told the council over ten years ago they needed to raise the water rates. In addition, over \$150,000 in capital improvements has been spent on the system, just in the past two years. If it wasn't for grant funding we couldn't afford the maintenance. There has been no increase in over 5 years, and customers were being flat billed.

Mayor Williams wants a system/process in place for when we grow for any reason, instead of saying a specific thing, provide that outside city limits customers can be surcharged up to a certain percentage. Mr. Cooper stated the council always has the right to amend the ordinance in the future. If it truly is an enterprise fund that is paying for itself there shouldn't be a need for any surcharge. If you are using ad valorem revenue to supplement it then that is a problem. Build an ordinance that pushes people to annex. We want Dollar General to come in. Consensus of the council was 25% outside of the city limits for commercial, 15% for residential. Current customers outside city limits are exempt. Councilman Bryant likes that new outside city limits customers will be surcharged. Ms. Hildreth suggested basing the yearly increase on CPI not to exceed a certain percent, as approved by the council. Also, there will be a \$7.50 late fee.

**2. Recognitions:** None

**3. Resolutions:** None

**4. Presentations:**

A. Report on Water and Streets – Josh Davis, Swamp Cutters - Much work has been done to the ball field, and he has received many positive comments from our residents. Parks are looking good. They are adding some garbage cans.

Booster pump number two is going. He bought a rebuilt one. It's a redundant system. Bearings have gone out it, they run so much and they are so old, causing it to vibrate and make noise. We probably need to put an 8 foot privacy fence on either side for noise reduction. We are in a drought and the pumps are running constantly. There is only so much you can do to muffle the noise.

B. Clerk's Report

- FEMA – still pending.
- We were awarded \$1000 for the FMIT Safety Grant and she is in the process of ordering safety equipment.
- Attended the HGMP Webinar and In-Person Workshop

- Meeting with Andy Easton, Mayor and engineer – Historical Grant, HGMP grant and CDBG grant processes were discussed. Two of the grants are on the agenda. We won't be applying for the historical grant because there is not enough time as it is due in May. Looking at getting the train depot back but it's a long, involved process and we would probably need to seek other partnerships. For example, tie it in as a potential trail head for rails to trails. Start looking at it now for next year.
  - DRC meeting for Dollar General, requesting input into design, landscaping and a potential wall between their property and the Fox Hollow residences. Currently they have a 6 ft wood fence on their site plan. They will be connecting a service line, not extending the water main. Perhaps enter discussions about a sidewalk along CR 18.
  - Flood Plain Ordinance - working on updating that with the state..
  - RIVER Grant #2: Received no bids. Two companies that were interested said they were very busy. Asked SRWMD for an extension and will re-advertise.
  - Still working with SRWMD on ACOE study for the Flooding/Drainage Master Plan.
  - RIVER Grant # 3 applications should be ranked by the end of this month. Funding to be awarded in May.
  - Code Enforcement – Still working with Christi on various properties. In regards to SuEI's retirement property they already have an open case on it but are having difficulty identifying the owner.
  - I attended the FGFOA Beginner's Boot camp.
  - FDOT SCOP kickoff meeting is Monday at 11:00, as the Mayor will be on vacation, Vice Chairman Mitzel will attend.
  - Still have hotel and registration open for the IEMO scheduled for June 2 – 4<sup>th</sup> in Tampa. refundable until May. There is one scheduled 10/15 – 10/17 in Jacksonville if anyone is interested in attending that one.
- Next NEFLC dinner meeting is in Keystone Heights April 20

## 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 City Council meeting minutes from 3/14/17
- B. Approval of Workshop minutes from 4/4/17
- C. Financials/Account Payables for March, 2017

Workshop minutes were pulled to vote on separately since all council did not attend.

***Motion made by Chairman Goodge to approve workshop minutes, seconded by Councilman Williamson. Passed 3 – 0 (Goodge, Williamson, Sams)***

***Motion made by Vice Chairman Mitzel to approve the remainder of the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Bryant. Passed 5 - 0***

**6. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Updated VFD Interlocal with County City Clerk

Ms. Hildreth advised that it was a one word change, removing “liability” from the insurance clause to indicate total insurance coverage.

***Motion made by Vice Chairman Mitzel to approve change and execute agreement, seconded by Chairman Goodge. Passed 5 - 0***

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Hazard Grant Mitigation Program City Clerk

Ms. Hildreth explained this program is a part of FEMA . After Hurricane Matthew counties were allotted monies for mitigation projects such as flood and drainage. Bradford County was allotted \$297,000 and they are not applying for anything. Therefore the city could apply for all of the funding. However, there is a 25% match requirement. Possibly just look at Hampton Villa drainage issues. She is trying to determine if the FDOT SCOP grant could be used as a potential grant because there is a drainage element involved. There may be difficulty in obtaining historic flood documentation. She is asking for council consensus to pursue this potential funding – especially because 1. It is already allotted and 2. It is not competitive.

***Motion made by Councilman Bryant to pursue this funding source, seconded by Vice Chairman Mitzel. Passed 5 - 0***

2. CDBG Drainage Grant City Clerk

Ms. Hildreth advised she met with the engineer and Andy Easton. She would like the city to apply for \$500,000 drainage funding in addition to/or if the HGMP does not work out. It is a non-matching grant. It will open in June for applications. We may even be able to get some sidewalk funding, per Mr. Easton.

***Motion made by Vice Chairman Mitzell to apply for CDBG funding for drainage, seconded by Councilman Williamson. Passed 5 - 0***

3. Change Council Meeting Date City Clerk

Ms. Hildreth advised that she had been trying to get on a Gainesville City Board for quite some time and was recently appointed to the City Beautification Board by the city commission. However, they meet from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month and she was appointed to a three year term. She asked the council to consider moving their regular meeting to the third Tuesday of the month. She also explained it would help to disburse her work load throughout the month as many times

she is processing the water billing and preparing for the council meeting during the same time frame. There is nothing in the Charter prohibiting the date change.

***Motion made by Chairman Goodge to move the council meetings to the third Tuesday of the month, seconded by Vice Chairman Mitzel. Passed 5 - 0***

Ms. Hildreth thanked the council for their kind consideration. She also mentioned that being on this board may be of eventual benefit to Hampton as there are 15 professional members who have a wide range of backgrounds and knowledge. She will advertise the change of the meeting day in the paper, at City Hall and the Post Office.

## **8. City Attorney Report**

A. City Attorney Report - None

John Cooper

## **9. Council general announcements/discussions**

Council members Goodge, Mitzel, Bryant, Williamson and Sams had nothing to report.

Mayor Williams announced that on April 3<sup>rd</sup> his wife retired and that has caused some realignment of his daily routine. They are leaving for vacation on Monday and will be gone for one week, maybe two.

## **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. EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS (SOMETIMES REFERED 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 TAKE. ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE AUDIO TAPED.

By:

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ATTEST:

Dan Williams, Mayor

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Mary Lou Hildreth, City Clerk