CITY OF HAMPTON
Minutes, Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 28th, 2026, 7:00pm
5784 Navarre Ave., Hampton, FL 32044

ANYONE WISHING TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING ANY TOPIC ON THIS EVENING'S AGENDA IS REQUIESTED 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 Dot Shealey, Vice Chair Douglas Williamson, Mayor Dale Wise, Councilwoman Lillian Sams, Councilman Al Ransom. Chair Bill Goodge arrived late. Also in attendance were City Attorney Will Sexton, City Clerk/Administrator Mary Lou Hildreth and Bookkeeper Merri Lee Hornick.

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. **Resolution:** RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HAMPTON FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE WATER FIRST NORTH FLORIDA (WFNF) ACQUIFER RECHARGE PROJECT AS CURRENTLY PROPOSED; REQUESTING AN IMMEDIATE MORATORIUM PENDING INDEPENDENT STUDY; AND RECOMMENDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALTERNATIVE WATER DESALINAZATION PROJECT

   Ms. Hildreth explained that the Regional Planning Council and several cities and counties are making similar resolutions regarding JEA's proposed 90-mile pipeline to transport highly treated reclaimed water from its facility to wetlands within the Suwannee River Basin. There are extreme concerns with this project and little information regarding the myriad potential problems and long-term effects.

   Motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-01 made by Vice Chair Williamson, seconded by Councilwoman Shealey. Passed 4 – 0.

3. **Proclamations:**

4. Presentations:

A. Clerk/Admin Report –

- CDBG/Well project ongoing. Florida Commerce sent an approval letter. Bid documents are completed and will be advertised in the Gainesville Sun and the Jacksonville Times Union. Tentative advertisement 5/7 and bids are due in June.

- FRDAP grants – Continuing to gather estimates from various vendors. Plumbers, playground equipment, paint/pressure washing, etc.

- Circle K - Still working on next steps for annexation, which was forwarded to Mr. Sexton for advice. She was notified of improper watering and that was immediately shut down.

- Dean Baker has purchased the old recycle property and has requested road closures (old platted roads) and possible re-zoning from commercial to residential.

- Still awaiting the county to complete their portion of the DEP required fence portion, the sod and the bollards. It's been TWO MONTHS. She continues to reach out to the CEI for the project for resolution from the county.

- FY 25 Audit is wrapping up.

- Public Works costs for the fiscal year for outside services will be $40,800, plus $8,501 for major leak repairs (to date). This is a great savings over the $100,000 plus the city was paying under prior contracts.

- Upcoming events: Bradford Arc has several fund raising events coming up. The Department of Corrections is having a program recognizing law enforcement officers. Please see her for additional details if interested.

- She will be leaving next Tuesday to travel to Italy and will return to the United States on 5/22. She returns to the office the day after Memorial Day. She will have an International Plan added to her phone for calls but will not be taking the laptop. Note that there is a 6 hour time difference. Ms. Hornick will be filling in at the office additional days while Ms. Hildreth is gone.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

ALL MATTERS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ARE 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 of March 24, 2026

B. Financials/Account Payables March 2026

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

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Deputy Patrol Audit — City Clerk/Admin

Table

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Old VFD Building Rental — City Clerk/Admin

Mr. Heeder has vacated the premises. He had come in to inquire as to what his past due amounts for rent and water service were and stated he would be back to pay it (approximately $1200.00). That has not yet occurred. Mr. Chad Clemons, from Clemons Fence would like to rent it for the same price for storage and is willing to pay a year's rent in advance. He has already provided proof of insurance. Ms. Hildreth advised the council that Mr. Clemons has assisted the city with several pro bono services (especially regarding the Centennial Celebration) and has been of great help. He will also clean up the building and remove all of the garbage/left behind items of which there were many. She took pictures to document same.

Motion made to enter into a rental contract with Clemons Fence made by Chair Goodge, seconded by Councilwoman Shealey. Passed 5 - 0

B. Hornick/Hildreth Annual Review — City Clerk/Admin

Ms. Hornick addressed the council and advised she was not asking for a raise this year but would like to have the same paid holidays Ms. Hildreth has. She has been here for over 11 years and believes it would be appropriate. She loves her job and working with Ms. Hildreth who is very organized and efficient.

Ms. Hildreth advised she has not had a merit raise in over two years and feels that, with her continued success obtaining funding for Hampton's many projects past and present (close to $5,000,000 – over, if we are awarded the second legislative appropriation for the well) this is an appropriate request. She also feels her overall job performance warrants this increase as well – for example, for the first time last year's audit had zero findings and she anticipates this year will be the same.

Motion to provide Ms. Hornick with paid holidays and to give Ms. Hildreth a 2% merit raise made by Chair Goodge, seconded by Councilman Ransom.
Passed 5 – 0.

8. City Attorney Report - None

9. Council general announcements/discussions

Vice Chair Williams said there is still a leak by the daycare. Ms. Hildreth said Mr. Carter was advised. She will follow up with him to ensure it is repaired. It was her understanding that this was already done, so this may be a secondary issue.

Chair Goodge said that he and his wife have been assisting with the food distribution at Grace in Starke, which is right behind Powell's Dairy.

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 PROCEEDINS 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 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 TAKEN.

By:

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ATTEST: Dale Wiseman, Mayor

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Mary Lou Hildreth, City Clerk/Administrator