

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 30 2025, CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

A SPECIAL meeting of the Hopewell Council was held on Thursday, October 30, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

John B. Partin, Mayor  
Rita Joyner, Vice Mayor  
Michael Harris, Councilor  
Ronnie Ellis, Councilor  
Susan Daye, Councilor  
Louvena Rapole, Councilor

Vice Mayor Joyner makes a motion to allow Councilor Harris to attend remotely. Councilor Daye seconds the motion.

**ROLL CALL**

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Vice Mayor Joyner- | Yes     |
| Councilor Harris-  | Abstain |
| Mayor Partin-      | Yes     |
| Councilor Ellis-   | Yes     |
| Councilor Daye-    | Yes     |
| Councilor Rapole-  | Yes     |

**Motion Passes 5-0**

**SB-1 Resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and designate funds from Capital expenditures to Hope Center-** Charles Bennett, Director of Economic Development

During the meeting, city staff presented information regarding a proposed commercial lease of a portion of the City of Hopewell's property located at 102 10th Street, commonly known as the CREW Building. The specific portion under consideration totals 2,160 square feet and was previously used by the City as a warming shelter. The proposal sought Council approval for a one-year lease agreement between the City of Hopewell and the City of Refuge at a rental rate of \$1,250 per month.

While presenting the item, staff clarified that the discussion was being conducted as a public hearing since the lease constitutes a disposition of city-owned property. Although the item had been properly advertised as a public hearing, there were no citizens signed up to speak, and no public comments were received. The hearing was then closed.

During the review, confusion arose regarding the documents included in the agenda packet. Council and staff noted that the resolution displayed was not the correct one for the lease but instead related to a prior fiscal support matter. It was confirmed that the correct attachment was the form lease prepared by the City Attorney's Office, and that the motion to be approved would reference that form lease along with the lease terms—specifically the one-year duration and the monthly rent of \$1,250.

City staff and Council discussed clarifying the appropriate language for the motion, noting that the resolution in the packet did not reflect the intended action. The City Attorney's Office was to provide the corrected version via email, and arrangements were made to print it for Council's use. The meeting briefly recessed for approximately fifteen minutes to allow time for staff to retrieve the correct document and ensure the proper resolution was available for consideration before resuming proceedings.

Vice Mayor Joyner makes a motion to approve the lease agreement as presented. Councilor Ellis seconds the motion.

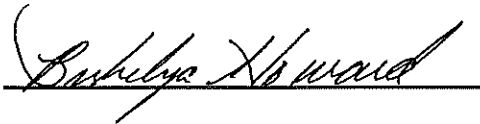
**ROLL CALL**

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Vice Mayor Joyner- | Yes |
| Councilor Harris-  | Yes |
| Mayor Partin-      | Yes |
| Councilor Ellis-   | Yes |
| Councilor Daye-    | Yes |
| Councilor Rapole-  | Yes |

**Motion Passes 6-0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bishelya Howard", is written over a horizontal line.

**Bishelya Howard, City Clerk**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Johnny Partin", is written over a horizontal line.

**Johnny Partin, Mayor**