

MINUTES OF THE JULY 11, 2023 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Hopewell City Council was held on Tuesday July 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: John B. Partin, Mayor
Jasmine E. Gore, Vice Mayor (Late, 6:25 p.m.)
Rita Joyner, Councilor
Michael B. Harris, Councilor
Janice B. Denton, Councilor
Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor
Dominic R. Holloway, Councilor

CLOSED MEETING:

Councilor Joyner moves to go into closed session and motion is seconded by Councilor Holloway pursuant to Va. Code Section § 2.2-371 1 (A)(I) to discuss and consider personnel matters, including board and commission appointments; the assignment and performance of specific appointee and employees of City Council, and to the extent such discussion will be aided thereby, and VA Code 2.2 -3711(A)(3) for the discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

Roll Call:

Councilor Denton-	Yes
Councilor Pelham-	Yes
Councilor Holloway-	Yes
Councilor Joyner-	Yes
Councilor Harris-	Yes
Mayor Partin-	Yes

Motion Passes 6-0

RECONVENE OPEN MEETING:

Councilor Joyner moved to reconvene open meeting and seconded by Mayor Partin

Roll Call:

Councilor Denton-	Yes
Councilor Pelham-	Yes
Councilor Holloway-	Yes
Councilor Joyner-	Yes
Councilor Harris-	Yes
Mayor Partin-	Yes
Vice Mayor Gore -	Yes

Motion Passes 7-0

Councilor Denton moves to appoint Ruth Johnson and Linda Hyslop to the School board, motion was seconded by Councilor Holloway.

Roll Call:

Councilor Denton-	Yes
Councilor Pelham-	Yes
Councilor Holloway-	Yes
Councilor Joyner-	Yes
Councilor Harris-	Yes
Mayor Partin-	Yes
Vice Mayor Gore -	Yes

Motion Passes 7-0

CERTIFICATION:

Immediately thereafter, council responded to the question pursuant to Virginia § 2.2-3712 (D): Were only public business matters (1) lawfully exempted from open-meeting requirements and (2) identified in the closed-meeting motion discussed in closed meeting?

Roll Call:

Councilor Denton-	Yes
Councilor Pelham-	Yes
Councilor Holloway-	Yes
Councilor Joyner-	Yes
Councilor Harris-	Yes
Mayor Partin-	Yes
Vice Mayor Gore -	Silent (yes, (<i>Qui tacit</i>

consenti – Silence assumes consent, Parliamentary Law and Parliamentary Procedure, 3rd ed.)

Motion Passes 7-0

WORK SESSION

WS-1-Conditional use permit for 3400 Oaklawn Boulevard Hopewell, VA

The City of Hopewell has received a request for a Conditional Use Permit from William S. Dereski to allow the Single-Family Dwelling use for this property also known Sub-Parcel #089-1395. The reason a conditional use permit is needed at this time is because a business zoning approval application

was approved two (2) years ago. An allowable use supersedes a non-conforming use and cannot go back to allowable use according to the ordinance. This block is the last remaining residential block remaining in this stretch of Oaklawn Boulevard. All the other blocks surrounding is primarily commercial. Staff recommends to the planning commission to allow for the single family residential use to continue until the existing residential lease is terminated. Planning commission did not agree to the open ended nature of that condition. After discussion the planning commission recommended to allow the existing residential use to continue for a period of 1 year with a vote of 2 to 1. Chris Ward opened the floor for questions.

WS-2-Conditional use permit for 102 S 5th Avenue Hopewell, VA

Parcel #0111735, Ward 2, Limited Commercial downtown residential, mixed use. The CUP is for an expansion. The property owner wants to enclose a small rear porch to use as a laundry room. The enclosure took place prior to a CUP application. Per the non-forming section, you can expand the property no more than 15 percent of the existing structure. The addition totals 12 sq. feet, making it 1.4 percent of the gross floor area. Planning commission agrees with staff recommendations to approve the CUP application with no conditions on a 4 to 0 vote. Chris Ward opens the floor for questions to which there were none.

Mayor Partin calls regular meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Councilor Denton-	Yes
Councilor Pelham-	Yes
Councilor Holloway-	Yes
Councilor Joyner-	Yes
Councilor Harris-	Yes
Mayor Partin-	Yes
Vice Mayor Gore -	Yes

Motion Passes 7-0

Prayer by Reverend Danny Tucker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilor Joyner

Motion to adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda by Councilor Joyner and second by Mayor Partin

Roll Call:

Councilor Denton-	Yes
Councilor Pelham-	Yes
Councilor Holloway-	Yes
Councilor Joyner-	Yes
Councilor Harris-	Yes
Mayor Partin-	Yes
Vice Mayor Gore -	Yes

Motion Passes 7-0

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda by Councilor Joyner and second by Mayor Partin

Roll Call:

Mayor Partin-	Yes
Vice Mayor Gore-	Yes
Councilor Joyner-	Yes

Councilor Harris-	Yes
Councilor Denton-	Yes
Councilor Pelham-	Yes
Councilor Holloway-	Yes

Motion Passes 7-0

INFORMATION/PRESENTATIONS

1. **Finance Report-** Michael Terry, Finance Director

Mr. Terry Presents the financial report for month ending June 30, 2023 which covers four sections: the finance and compliance reporting section, the operation and assignment, the budget for fiscal year 2024 and internal reporting. Mr. Terry gave information to focus on the year 2019 and 2020 compliance requirements. The city and schools have jointly provided the auditor with all of the information requested to do a review and audit up to December 2022. The auditor is in the process of drafting his audit opinion and findings to be delivered to Council next week. Moving on to year 2020, Council permitted the finance department to secure additional support units for areas such as schools. Having the additional support, the city and schools are about 45 percent completed. The city audit section began June 30, 2023, with the uploading of 2020 schedules and other requested documents. Uploading information to the auditor will continue until we have provided everything necessary to complete the review and audit for 2020. Mr. Terry highlights operation and assignments, and goes into detail about accounts payables, payroll, accounting, procurement, real estate assessment, assessor's office, financial reporting, and budgeting. In conclusion, it was a balanced budget for month end June 30, 2023. There was no use of unassigned fund balance and no cross funding transactions. Mr. Terry concluded his report.

2. **Police Report-** Chief Taylor

Chief Taylor gave a slide presentation for the City of Hopewell crime summary for July, 2023. Information was outlined such as violent crimes total from the report is down -10 percent, Property Crimes down -21 percent,

Major crimes down -19 percent. Chief Taylor states there were 13 fatal opioid overdose deaths and 47 nonfatal, a grand total for 60. There have been a total of 34 Shots fired thru June 30, 2023 as he compared with 2019 was lowest shots fired. Chief Taylor talks about Special events that are upcoming for the month of July 2023. Chief Taylor outlines details of a significant arrest on Saturday June 24, 2023 at 6:43pm. Police responded to a report of shots fired. William Jamal Claiborne, died, after being transported to Chippenham Hospital for a fatal gunshot wound. Jamari Antonio Taylor, 20, of Hopewell and Christopher Miller, 19, of Chesterfield were charged with 2nd degree murder and Use of a Firearm in Commission of a Felony. Update on Real Time Crime Center, for the police department is about 98 percent complete. We are in the process of researching funding.

3. **Department Presentation**-Kayla Hawks, Communications Director

Kayla presents information in her new role as Communications Director for the Communications department. She shares the department summary of The Plan Purpose, Plan Goal, Foundational Messaging, Vision and Mission. Community and Government Relations division core functions include: Strategic Communication Planning Process, Communications Support for Offices and Departments, Brand Management and Emergency Communication. Kayla Hawks goes thru communication priorities step by step. Her implementation plan is set forth in High Priority or Medium Priority and involves one or more implementation strategies.

Motion to extend meeting and waive the rules by Vice Mayor Gore and second by Mayor Partin

Roll Call:

Councilor Denton-	Yes
Councilor Pelham-	No
Councilor Holloway-	No

Councilor Joyner-	No
Councilor Harris-	Yes
Mayor Partin-	No
Vice Mayor Gore -	Yes


Motion Fails 3-4

AJOURNMENT:

Mayor Partin ends meeting. No roll call was taken.



John B. Partin, Mayor



Brittani Williams, City Clerk