

City of Hampton  
Workshop/Council Meeting  
April 05, 2011, 6:00 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor Coley, Councilpersons Meeks, Hutchison, Lowe, Mitcham, Byrd and Hearn. Also present City Attorney Scott Mayfield, City Manager Andy Pippin, City Clerk Kim Drinkall, Chief of Police Rad Porter, Deputy Clerk Pat Watson, Public Works Director John Spraggins and Commissioner Fred Auletta.

Mrs. Kay Pippin gave an overview of how the hotel/motel tax money has to be spent, and Ms. Laura Luker gave a presentation to Mayor and Council on projects that the Convention & Visitors Bureau have been doing.

City Manager, Andy Pippin, received Council's permission to write a new ordinance that will limit the number of non related people living in one house in certain zonings.

City Manager, Andy Pippin, discussed widening the track and sidewalk at the City Park. During discussion Councilperson Mitcham stated she would like to see a proposal on this brought back to the Council. Also, Councilperson Hearn asked if there are any other sidewalk projects that needed to be considered.

Mr. David McCloud submitted to Mayor and Council his proposal for removing the beavers at the Elm Street site. After a brief discussion, Council asked the City Manager to obtain a proposal from the local exterminator so they can compare the two proposals.

City Manager, Andy Pippin, asked that the discussion for bids received for replacing the furnaces at the Wilson House be tabled until a later date.

Councilperson Hutchison stated there would be another "Hampton Clean-Up Day" on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011; this is also the "Hands on Henry" clean-up day. He stated dumpsters would be placed at the Waffle House, Police Department and one at the Park.

#### Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m

Mayor Coley called the meeting to order and invocation was given by Councilperson Hearn.

Mr. Thomas Thomason 132 Caldwell Drive Hampton spoke with Mayor and Council about the detention pond at the North 40 ball fields. He stated there are two dumpsters that are in front of the detention pond and when it rains sewerage and trash come down through Caldwell where a sidewalk was talked about being built to the school. Mr. Thomason asked the Mayor and Council to re-visit this or have the County re-visit this. City Manager, Andy Pippin, stated he would get the County to come out and look at this again.

Councilperson Lowe made a motion, second by Councilperson Meeks, to include discussion of the Tree Board. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Councilperson Hearn made a motion, second by Councilperson Hutchison, to include discussing Hampton's Local Issuing Authority (LIA). The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

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**Councilperson Hutchison made a motion, second by Councilperson Byrd, to approve the minutes of the Workshop/Regular Council Meeting March 01, 2011, and the Special Called Meeting March 08, 2011 as published. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Hutchison made a motion, second by Councilperson Meeks, to proclaim the week of April 25, 2011 as "Henry County Industry Appreciation Week". The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Mr. Hunter, 206 Lisa Court, was not present to discuss budget billing.**

**Ms. Sharon Hubbard, 16 Cherry Street, stated that all of the fences have come down behind the business that back up to Cherry Street and the site is atrocious. She stated that the fence that the Jail House Brewery put up is very nice and she would like the Council to consider putting one up like that behind all the businesses that back up to Cherry Street. She also asked they consider changing the one way direction of the road now to the other direction. She believes that this would make it safer for the residents that live on Cherry Street when getting out of their car.**

**Ms. April Bachlor, 124 Caldwell Drive, said the City crew cut a tree down three weeks ago and left the tree lying in the storm drain; it is causing problems, the water cannot flow like it should.**

**The City Manager stated he contacted Tommy Brown at the City Shop and was told by him that they were going to get the tree but it was too wet at this time to get in with their equipment.**

**Ms. Bachlor also asked that the storm drain be maintained at least once a season to keep snakes out. The City Manager asked John Spraggins to get the tree cleaned up this week.**

**Mrs. Boss, 206 Valley Way Hampton, who lives outside of the City limits, stated she knew the City was fined over \$30,000.00 from EPD because of an outside firm that did not do the soil erosion right at the new treatment plant; now the City is considering hiring another outside company to do the soil erosion for the City. City Manager, Andy Pippin, stated that the City was not fined \$30,000.00 it was fined \$3,000.00 and that was because it was very hot and the City could not get the grass to grow over there. Mrs. Boss stated before the City discussed if they had someone in house who could do soil erosion; and she knows that the City had paid for her daughter JD Matthews schooling so she could do this kind of work, and handle the paper work with EPD. She stated JD Matthews lives in Hampton and loves Hampton and if the City gave her this job it would be done right, because she knows how to do it and cares about it being done right. She said at the last Council meeting she understood that four of the Council members voted to do this in house. Andy Pippin stated the Council voted to have an engineer do this. He said the City does not have the department right now and it is planning to take services back from the County that will take effect in July. Mrs. Boss said that this should be done in house.**

**Councilperson Meeks stated the body of Private Jeremy Faulkner will be arriving at the airport in Peachtree City tomorrow at 11:00. He stated Jeremy was two weeks shy of coming home when he lost his life by small fire arms in Afghanistan. There has been a request made that the streets be lined to show respect and welcome this young man back home.**

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**Mrs. Baylog, 5 Hillside Drive, Hampton, stated she knows the citizens do not pay taxes and she wanted to know who writes the checks and where did the money come from to pay the fine stated earlier. Councilperson Lowe stated he believes there was some confusion and the City has always paid an engineering firm to provide storm water, soil erosion and sedimentation, that the City just changed engineering firms to handle this. He stated as far as where the money comes from 90 % of our administrative budget that covers everything except the utilities comes from our share of the local option sales tax. Mrs. Baylog stated she did not want the City to have to spend money on an engineering firm when we have an employee who could do this.**

**Mrs. Gloria Gallian, 130 Canyons Court, Hampton, stated she was representing Bridgeport subdivision Homeowners Association. She has concerns over the Local Issuing Authority, stating she believes an engineer should only be hired to do things that EPD or the State demands that it be done by an engineer. She stated Hampton should be enforcing our own laws, and whoever owns the property now at Bridgeport should be contacted by Hampton's L.I.A. person telling them they should be keeping the black silt fence up and keeping the foliage cut. She stated there are 70 vacant lots out there and all of them have over grown foliage, trees, people have dumped trash and tires in these vacant lots. Mrs. Gallian stated she appreciates the Hampton Police patrolling the subdivision but the people see the police and they just ride around until the police leave then they dump on the vacant lots. She feels the City has deserted Bridgeport.**

**Councilperson Mitcham made a motion, second by Councilperson Lowe, to approve the application to sell malt beverage package/wine package sales from Mr. Jliyas Ghanchi – Family Food Mart 7 East Main Street, Hampton, Ga. Mr. Chanchi was present as required by the ordinance. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Lowe made a motion, second by Councilperson Byrd, to amend the agenda to table the request from Mr. Brian Hickman to sell malt beverage package/wine package/distilled spirits package sales at Mr. Hickman's request until the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Lowe made a motion, second by Councilperson Hutchison, to approve the request from Deputy Clerk Pat Watson to approve 60% pay for up to 6 weeks for employee Karol Baker for maternity leave. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Mitcham made a motion, second by Councilperson Hutchison, to approve Resolution No. 11-04, a resolution to authorize reimbursement for expenses incurred. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Mitcham made a motion, second by Councilperson Lowe, to approve Resolution No. 11-05, a resolution of the City of Hampton recognizing Georgia Cities Week, April 17-23, 2011. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Lowe made a motion, second by Councilperson Mitcham, to approve a cost of living pay increase of 2% of the total payroll. The motion passed 5-1, Councilperson Hearn voted no.**

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**Councilperson Hearn made a motion, second by Councilperson Hutchison, to table the first reading of Ordinance No. 355, an ordinance to adopt an amendment to the operating budget of the City of Hampton in effect for the 2011 fiscal year. The motion passed 4-2, Councilpersons Lowe and Meeks voted no.**

**Councilperson Hearn asked to have a called meeting to have a budget review on Tuesday April 12, at 9:30 a.m. The Council gave their consensus to have a called meeting to discuss the budget review.**

**Councilperson Lowe made a motion, second by Councilperson Hearn, to accept the resignation from Ms. BJ Blume from the Council on Aging. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Mitcham made a motion, second by Councilperson Lowe, to ask Ms. Donna Walls to serve on the Council on Aging. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Lowe made a motion, second by Councilperson Meeks, to authorize the City Manager to sign the North Hampton Crossing Subdivision Water/Sewer Service Agreement Modification. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**Councilperson Mitcham made a motion, second by Councilperson Hutchison, to accept the recommendation of Public Works Director John Spraggins to declare the 1989 GMC Line Truck (VIN # 1GDM7D1G4KV519599) as surplus and authorize the sale of this vehicle. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).**

**City Manager, Andy Pippin, stated the tree board had some issues going on within their members. He stated there were two requests submitted before the Council. The first request was submitted by member Patsy Cuson for the Council to dismiss the rest of the Tree Board Members. The second request was from the Tree Board to dismiss member Patsy Cuson.**

**Councilperson Mitcham made a motion, second by Councilperson Hearn, to accept the Tree Board's recommendation to remove member Patsy Cuson. The motion passed 5-0. Councilperson Lowe abstained from voting.**

**Councilperson Hearn stated he would like to get some clarification on being a Local Issuing Authority. He stated he understood that Hampton is its own Local Issuing Authority and we have to have a designated person that will handle anything that comes up in the Local Issuing Authority. He wanted to know who was going to be our representative with EPD issues. City Manager, Andy Pippin, stated we became our own LIA two weeks after the City hired Whitley Engineering to handle our storm water. Councilperson Hearn stated he feels this should have been brought before the Council on how they wanted to handle being our own LIA, what are the responsibilities of the City. He understood that we have an employee that is qualified that the City paid for her schooling to become certified and he does not understand way we are paying an engineer when we have a staff member who is qualified to do this. City Manager, Andy Pippin, stated he has heard that a few employees have the type of licensing that is required for this, and does not feel comfortable with making an employee do something that is not in their job description and not paying them for it. If the Council wishes to have our staff do this under their current job description that would have to come before the City Council.**

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**Councilperson Hearn stated JD had been trained and was qualified to do this, the City did this in case we ever were able to become our own Local Issuing Authority. City Manager stated that was part of her job description at that time; however that position has since gone away. He feels confident in JD's abilities to handle this however this is part of that job description that went away when those services were sent to Henry County. Councilperson Hearn said that the LIA never went to the County it went to the state and then we applied to become our own LIA, we sent someone to get trained on that, he did not understand why we were not using her.**

**Councilperson Lowe stated that part of her job did not go away, the City abolished her job that she had at that time and she was offered the position of code enforcement as opposed to no job. It is not a question of changing her job description or taking a part out of her job description, we abolished the position that she had and offered her code enforcement which is what she accepted.**

**At this time the Mayor stated this was a personnel issue and should be discussed in executive session.**

**Councilperson Hearn made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel, possible litigation and real estate. The motion died due to a lack of a second.**

**Councilperson Lowe made a motion, second by Councilperson Hutchison, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.**

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R.W. Coley, Mayor

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Kim Drinkall, City Clerk