

April 7, 2009

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION HELD APRIL 7, 2009

A Work Session of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 6:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 300 North Main Street, Hopewell, Virginia.

PRESENT: Christina J. Luman-Bailey, Councilor - Ward #1
 Curtis W. Harris, Councilor - Ward #2
 Kenneth B. Emerson, Councilor - Ward #3
 Gerald S. Stokes, Councilor - Ward #4
 K. Wayne Walton, Councilor - Ward #5
 Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor - Ward #6
 N. Gregory Cuffey, Councilor - Ward #7

 Thomas E. Lacheney, City Attorney
 Julie B. Sharp, Assistant City Clerk
 Edwin C. Daley, City Manager

Mayor Pelham opened the work session at 6:30 PM. Roll call was taken as follows:

Mayor Pelham	-	yes
Vice Mayor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	NO (arrived at 6:36 PM)
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes
Councilor Walton	-	yes

Prayer was offered by Thomas Lacheney, City Attorney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

WORK SESSION – RICHMOND COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

Dr. Daley, City Manager, informed City Council that the Richmond Community Action Agency had proposed to provide services to the City of Hopewell in the amount of \$50,000, with no match from the City, resulting from stimulus funds the agency had received. Agency representatives were not present this evening. This item will be discussed at a future meeting should the agency again approach the City.

WORK SESSION – MARINA DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

Councilor Stokes proposed that City Council authorize the City Manager to solicit proposals for development of the City marina property, which he identified as “Parcel A” (marina parking area and land at bottom of hill) and “Parcel B” (park land at the top of the hill).

Councilor Stokes proposed leasing the property or offering an option to purchase the property for development, and suggested the building of a restaurant as part of the development proposal. The marina would remain open for public use, with a potential rental agreement between the City and the developer for operation of the marina. He also suggested that the development proposal could come in the form of two separate proposals, one addressing development of “Parcel A” and one addressing the development of “Parcel B.”

Councilor Walton suggested including the lower portion of the adjacent Jaycee Park property in the proposal. It was decided to leave the Jaycee Park property out of the proposal.

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Councilor Cuffey advised Council of a recent conceptual plan meeting with a developer regarding development of the marina. He suggested that that developer and any other developers who had submitted previous proposals be notified of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and the Request for Proposals (RFP). Councilor Bailey recommended that information/input from recent community meetings also be shared with the developers.

Dr. Daley recommended proceeding with Councilor Stokes' proposal, to issue a RFQ followed by a RFP, and that Council could then either accept or reject the proposals. Council agreed; the City Manger will proceed with a RFQ and RFP for development of the marina property identified by Councilor Stokes as "Parcel A" and "Parcel B."

WORK SESSION – POLICE DEPARTMENT CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Steve Martin, Police Chief, presented an update of his department's Strategic Planning Process – Hopewell Police Department Vision 2020. The 10-year plan addressed goals and strategies, implementing these strategies and the department's mission vision and values statements. Chief Martin also introduced their Five Point Continuous Improvement Plan and its objectives regarding public relations, communications, customer service, operations and inter-jurisdictional relations.

WORK SESSION – 2009/2010 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Dr. Daley presented City Council with a proposed 2009-2010 Revenue Summary. City Council supported Dr. Daley's request to transfer of ½ meals and motel receipts to the General Fund and to keep personal property revenue neutral as part of the proposed 2009-2010 budget to offset the estimated revenue decline of the 2009-2010 General Fund revenues.

The City Manager's and Council's proposed agency expenditures were discussed. The City Attorney reiterated the City Manager's request to appropriate a specific amount to the budget and that at a later date Council could dispense that appropriated amount to agencies as appropriate.

The City Manager will provide Council with his proposed budget at the next regular council meeting.

WORK SESSION – CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Mayor Pelham inquired if City Council preferred to change their meeting schedule back to two regular meetings per month, or if they preferred to continue with the trial schedule of one regular meeting and one work session per month through June. Council agreed to continue on the trial schedule of one regular meeting and one work session per month and to decide in June whether to convert back to the schedule of two regular meetings per month.

WORK SESSION – CARTER G. WOODSON SCHOOL HISTORICAL MARKER

Councilor Harris presented City Council with an amended estimate of the cost to place a historical marker identifying the location of the old Carter G. Woodson School. The original estimate was \$3,800.00; the amended estimate is \$6,800.00. City Council had previously approved to pay ½ of the \$3,800 estimate for the proposed marker. Councilor Harris asked that this item be placed on the upcoming Council agenda proposing Council's approval to pay ⅓ (\$2,267) of the \$6,800.00 estimate. The school board will pay ⅓ and citizen donations will cover the remaining ⅓.

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ADJOURN

Motion was made at 9:35 PM by Councilor Walton, and seconded by Councilor Emerson, to adjourn the meeting. Upon the roll call, the vote resulted:

Vice Mayor Cuffey	-	yes
Councilor Bailey	-	yes
Councilor Harris	-	yes
Councilor Emerson	-	yes
Councilor Stokes	-	yes
Councilor Walton	-	yes
Mayor Pelham	-	yes

Brenda S. Pelham, Mayor

Julie B. Sharp, Assistant City Clerk