

Minutes of the January 22, 2024 Hampton City Council Budget Workshop

The Hampton City Council Budget Workshop was called to order at the Hampton City Council Chambers by Mayor Steve Birdsall at 6:00 p.m. The workshop was also offered electronically through Zoom. Council members in attendance were Kevin Blanford, James Davies, Bill Hodge, Jerre Grefe, Barry Lamos, and Patrick Palmer. Also, present were Police Chief Mark Morrison, Public Works Director Doug Tarr, and City Manager Ron Dunt. Mayor Birdsall invited those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

Mayor Birdsall offered time for public comment. Carolee Philpott thanked the council for the fast implementation of the additional light at Memorial Park. She said it brightens up the neighborhood.

Public Works Director Doug Tarr reported the district court recently ruled in the city's favor on the property located at 4-6 1st St NW (old pharmacy property) but reminded the council there would now be 30 days for an appeal. He also updated the council on snow removal notices and municipal infractions issued for those who did not respond to notices sent last week. Police Chief Morrison reported the snow made it easier to address the abandoned/stalled vehicles and the department has been addressing those.

Mayor Birdsall recapped prior discussions on setting the transient merchant fees. The council questioned whether the city should be charging transient merchants for events held at the Band Shell Park. After much discussion, the consensus of the council was to set the fee at \$50 per day and \$150 per month. City Manager Dunt will draft a resolution to be voted on at the regular session meeting Thursday. Council will discuss Band Shell events at a future workshop.

Council member Hodge inquired on the status of private swimming pool regulations. Council member Lamos inquired if refurbishing the north Hampton entrance sign was budgeted for in the next fiscal year. Both will be discussed at a future workshop.

The workshop concluded at 6:13 p.m.