

Minutes of the June 23, 2025 Hampton City Council Workshop

The Hampton City Council 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 and YouTube. Council members in attendance were James Davies, Bill Hodge, Jerre Grefe, Bill Holmstrom, Barry Lamos and Patrick Palmer. Also present were City Manager Ron Dunt, Police Chief Mark Morrison, and Public Works Director Doug Tarr.

Mayor Birdsall offered time for public comment. There was none.

Chief Morrison and Public Works Director Tarr updated the council on various nuisance properties and answered questions from the council.

Mayor Birdsall invited the applicants for the library board vacancies to introduce themselves. Applicants are Becky Palmer, Dick Paulsen, and Joslyn Stock. The applicants answered questions from the Council. The council will consider making appointments at the regular session on Thursday, June 26, 2025.

The council discussed a request for a privacy fence on the north side of the skate park from Juan Bello, the homeowner at 820 1st Street NE. Mr. Bello's daughter spoke on his behalf. They also requested the city purchase and install a memorial bench to honor the property owner's son who was a veteran and recently passed away. Mr. Davies offered to assist with fundraising for a memorial bench. The consensus of the council was favorable to purchasing and installing a fence. The matter will be on the agenda for the Thursday, June 26, 2025 meeting.

City Manager provided a review of the recent survey of 500 block of 1st Street SE ROW, discussed recent issues and asked the council to consider options. Much discussion was held regarding this topic. Area homeowners, Larry Fanny and Pam DeVries, expressed their concerns. The council discussed a possible parking ordinance, signage allowing parking only at certain times, and the possible installation of curb and gutter. The consensus of the council was to consider parking ordinance options at the next workshop, send a letter to the adjacent landowners to inform them of the city's intent to enforce current ordinances on restricted private use of city ROW and potential upcoming ordinance amendment discussions that may impact them.

The workshop concluded at 7:07 p.m.