

**HAMLET CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS ROOM
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
7:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Governing Body Present:

Mayor	Bill Bayless -
Mayor Pro-Tem	Johnathan Buie
Council Member	Eddie Martin
Council Member	Jesse McQueen

Staff Present:

City Manager	Jonathan Blanton
City Clerk	Gail Strickland
City Attorney	TC Morphis
Finance Officer	Jill Dickens
IT	Zach Garner
Public Works Director	Billy Stubbs
Police Captain	Marc Terry

Others Present: Linda Bayless, Amy Guinn with the Richmond Observer, Jasmine Hager with the RC Daily Journal, Kay Caviness and Tim Nevinger.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Bayless called the meeting to order.

2. Invocation

Pastor Marvin Taylor of Outreach for Jesus offered the Prayer.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The Mayor reported 2 Council Members are absent due to deaths in their families. Council Member Buie motioned to adopt the Agenda as presented with the removal of the Closed Session until all of Council are present. The second was provided by Council Member McQueen and the vote was 3-0.

4. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the December 11, 2018 Regular Monthly Meeting were approved by motions of Council Members Buie and McQueen. The vote was 3-0.

5. Comments from Attendees

No one presented to address Council.

Old Business

6. Discussion of Policy for Remote Participation at Council Meetings.

The Mayor asked for Council's comments. Council Member Buie stated the matter had been on the Agenda for several months. He motioned to not adopt the Policy and for Council to continue to phone in following the North Carolina Statutes. Council Member McQueen asked Attorney Morphis for his opinion. Mr. Morphis stated he was fine with Mr. Buie's motion. Mr. McQueen provided the second and the vote was 3-2.

New Business

7. Appointment to Hamlet Depot Board

The Mayor reported the Hamlet Depot Board has requested the appointment of Mr. Michael Wilson to their Board. He asked the City Manager for the number of Board Members that reside in the City of Hamlet. Mr. Blanton stated he could get the exact number but an estimate is fifty percent. Council Member Martin motioned to appoint Mr. Wilson to the Board and the second was provided by Council Member Buie with a vote of 3-0.

8. - MLK Day Proclamation

Mayor Bayless read the MLK Proclamation and encouraged citizens to participate in the planned events.

9. Approval of Tax Releases

Council Member Buie motioned to approve the Tax Releases. The second was provided by Council Member McQueen with a vote of 3-0.

Other Business

10. City Manager's Report

Mr. Blanton reported the Budget Review Meeting scheduled for earlier that day was cancelled. He addressed 2 issues with Council and asked for their consensus to move forward with them. The first was an emergency repair to the Water Treatment Plant's SCADA System at a cost of \$8,280.00 and the second a \$100.00 donation to the MLK Day Celebration. Council gave the consent for both expenditures. Mr. McQueen asked to include the MLK Donation in the upcoming budget. Also announced was the closing of City offices on January 21st in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Manager informed Council the shelter has been installed at the South Hamlet Park and the project should conclude in the next few weeks. Mayor Bayless asked Mr. Blanton to address the delayed water bills this month. The Manager explained there was an issue with printing and the bills were mailed 2 days late on January 2nd, but it appears many have not been delivered by the Post Office. After discussing the matter and noting City Offices are closed January 21st, Council decided to delay the late fees on water bills until January 24th.

11. Comments of Council

Council Member Buie commented the South Hamlet Park looks good.

Council Member McQueen asked to reschedule the Budget Review Meeting. The date of February 12, 2019 at 5:30 pm was set.

12. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Bayless stated the City's finances are in good shape and thanked the employees for all they do.

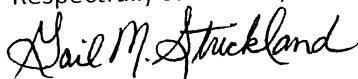
13. Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) for personnel matters.

This item was removed from the Agenda.

14. Motion to Adjourn

At 7:15 pm. Council Members Buie and Martin motioned to adjourn the meeting. The vote was 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Gail M. Strickland
City Clerk

