

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hopewell, Virginia, was held Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: John B. Partin, Jr., Vice Mayor, Ward 7
Janice B. Denton, Councilor, Ward 5
Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor, Ward 6
Arlene Holloway, Councilor, Ward 2

ABSENT Patience A. Bennet, Mayor, Ward 4
Deborah B. Randolph, Councilor, Ward 1
Jasmine E. Gore, Councilor, Ward 3

John March Altman, Jr., City Manager
Sandra Robinson, City Attorney
Mollie Bess, City Clerk

Vice Mayor Partin called the meeting to order.

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| ROLL CALL: | Mayor Bennett | - | Absent |
| | Vice Mayor Partin | - | Present |
| | Councilor Randolph | - | Absent |
| | Councilor Holloway | - | Present |
| | Councilor Gore | - | Absent |
| | Councilor Denton | - | Present |
| | Councilor Pelham | - | Present |

Meeting was called to order by Vice Mayor Partin and then turned over the Johnnie Butler who gave detail on the tour by giving a brief summary.

On Wednesday September 8th the Stormwater Program Work Committee organized a special meeting of council to introduce to council members and senior management the Stormwater Resilience Plan to be referred to as SWRP.

The weather forecast threatened but the weather held off. The meeting began at 4:30 PM in the Community Center. The City Stormwater Resilience Plan was on two display boards for everyone the review prior to formerly beginning the meeting. Vice Mayor Johnny Partin call the meeting to order at 4:40 PM.

Johnnie Butler, City Engineer, went over the assigned task of the committee. He explained the planning processes, the city's drainage problem history, logics used, engineering strategies being employed, and the importance of each. The first summary was how the Category-1 through Category-5 were developed and why. The categories will be used to plan and program small projects to the largest challenges.

As for the development of the SWRP mapping he acknowledged the hard work of John DeGroot and Austin Anderson.

After the SWRP orientation and quick overview the meeting continued to the Recreation and Parks Bus to load up and begin the citywide tour. A tour map had been handed out in advance to provide a script of the tour route. A City van with staff members followed close behind and several other vehicles followed the tour.

We first visit the number 1 project shown on the Category-4 table, which was the Moultrie Avenue project . Mr. Butler explained the purpose and need, the history of chronic inland flooding in this 9 block area along Moultrie Avenue. He pointed out the poor drainage systems and constraints.

The tour continued to the south side of the CSX tracks at the end of Atlantic Street, where the major culvert crosses under the CSX Railroad. He explained how this contributes as a major constraint in the stormwater outfall adequacy.

The tour continue to the end Norfolk Street, shown on the SWRP as a Category-5 Channel Outfall project, where the Norfolk Southern Railroad embankment presents a major constraint, which in-turn causes serious backwater issues into the neighborhoods. This has been awarded federal funding as an earmark project.

The tour then visited a Category-1 neighborhood small project. The location was Galena Avenue where the cul-de-sac has chronic backwater flooding due the outfall pipe being compromised due to age and root intrusion.

The tour continued to the Winston Churchill Drive corridor to look at the reaches of Cattail Creek. Reach No. 4 is another Category-5 project that is seeking FEMA funding. Mr. Butler explained how the project has been screened in at the highest level of approval assessment. The zone along Winston Churchill is at high risk due to scouring of the channel banks. The zone of *critical risk* is right next the Winston Churchill Road section near the Pine Avenue intersection.

The tour then proceeded to review some recently completed neighborhoods where new street sections and storm water management systems were installed. He showed the nine City blocks of recent improvements (Category-4 projects) on Popular St./Maple St. / Western St./ Pine Ave. / Stewart Avenue and High Avenue.

The tour continued to Elm Street, shown on the SWRP as a Category-5 Channel Outfall project where again the Norfolk Southern Railroad embankment and CSX Tunnel present major constraints, which in-turn cause serious backwater issues into the neighborhoods. Again, this has been awarded federal funding as an federal earmark project.

The tour then proceed to N. 6th Avenue corridor. Mr. Butler explained the purpose and need, the history of chronic inland flooding, which actually occurs six blocks away on the West Broadway between 3rd and 4th Avenue (i.e. 3 ½ Street). He pointed out the capacity constraints in the outfall system.

The tour ended back at the Community Center at 7:05PM. The meeting was again called back to order. A summary discussion was held about the tour and importance of having at locality approved SWRP for future grant funding applications. Council members extended a special thanks to the work committee for the presentation.


Motion made by Councilor Denton and seconded by Councilor Pelham to adjourn

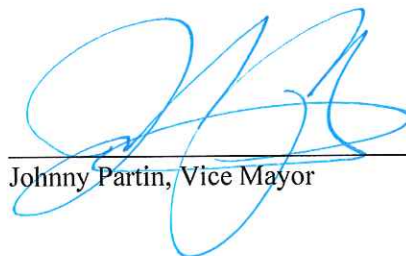
ROLL CALL:

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| Vice Mayor Partin | - | yes |
| Councilor Denton | - | yes |
| Councilor Pelham | - | yes |
| Councilor Holloway | - | yes |

Motion Passes 4/0

Meeting adjourned


Mollie P. Bess, City Clerk


Johnny Partin, Vice Mayor