



# TOWN COUNCIL – WORK SESSION MEETING

Monday, October 28, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Council Chambers – 15000 Washington St., STE 100 Haymarket, VA 20169

<http://www.townofhaymarket.org/>

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## DRAFT MINUTES

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

A Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Haymarket, VA was held this evening in the Council Chambers, commencing at 7 PM.

Mayor Kenneth Luersen called the meeting to order.

#### PRESENT

Mayor Ken Luersen  
Councilmember Alexander Beyene  
Councilmember Matthew Gallagher  
Councilmember Joe Pasanello  
Councilmember Mary Ramirez  
Councilmember Marchant Schneider

#### ABSENT

Vice Mayor Tracylynn Pater

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Luersen invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. AGENDA ITEMS

#### 1. Monthly Financial Report

Town Treasurer Roberto Gonzalez provided the monthly financial report for October. He gave some updates to the report. There was a question on the status of the old message board trailer. Mr. Gonzalez shared that he will follow up with the Chief to give a report at the next meeting. Mr. Gonzalez also shared that he and the Town Manager will be discussing with the finance liaisons the convention and education line item at their next meeting. He shared that staff will be making a recommendation to Council when where to draw from the budget for the increase. There was a discussion on paying off the debt service.

#### 2. Strategic Planning Discussion

Town Manager Emily Kyriazi gave a brief explanation of the strategic planning workshop session that the Mayor and Town Council had the previous weekend. She shared that they worked on a plan of their goals and objectives for the next 1-3 years. She stated that the Council established action items from the goals that they established. She also shared that they updated their mission and vision. She shared that Dr. Stephanie Davis, a consultant from Virginia Tech, helped navigate the Town Council in drafting the plan that they hope to adopt at their December meeting. Mrs. Kyriazi stated that she received the draft. She stated that once

she reviews it, staff will have the draft distributed for citizen review. She stated that she will proceed with a printed mailer with a cover sheet, putting it on the town's website and social media pages and the GoGov app. Mrs. Kyriazi thanked the Council for coming out to the workshop and stated that she felt it went very well. She provided a schedule of the time line for the plan. She stated that there will be a special citizen comment time on this subject only at the November work session, which was moved to November 18th. She continued by stating that the Town Council would be able to adopt the plan at their December regular monthly meeting on December 2nd.

#### IV. CLOSED SESSION

##### 1. Closed Session Motion and Certification

**Councilmember Pasanello moved that the Haymarket Town Council go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3711 (A)(29); Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. Councilmember Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Pasanello, Seconded by Councilmember Ramirez.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember Beyene, Councilmember Gallagher, Councilmember Pasanello, Councilmember Ramirez, Councilmember Schneider**

**Councilmember Pasanello moved that the Haymarket Town Council certify that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed in a closed session under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as cited in that motion. Councilmember Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion carried by a roll call vote.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Pasanello, Seconded by Councilmember Schneider.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Luersen, Councilmember Beyene, Councilmember Gallagher, Councilmember Pasanello, Councilmember Ramirez, Councilmember Schneider**

##### 2. Motion or Directive from Closed Session

**Councilmember Pasanello moved that the Haymarket Town Council approve the directive to the staff to proceed as discussed in Closed Session. Councilmember Beyene seconded the motion. Mayor Luersen stated that a motion is not needed as long as all of Council agreed to the directive. There was a consensus of the Town Council for the staff to proceed as directed.**

At this time, Councilmember Schneider read into a record a statement he prepared regarding his decision from tonight's closed session. He stated that he does appreciate concessions made during the closed session this evening, he will support the directive however he has overall concerns on method on which the Council came to this decision and meeting the principles of good governance. He stated that decision coming into this overall decision should have considered precedent did not consider alternatives for future needs of the building that could otherwise serve at potentially a lower cost; did not consider significant public/private investments previously made to the structure for anticipation of reuse, and did not consider additional costs of delays for already needed public facilities that can result in a higher cost to

taxpayers. He stated that he would have other comments later about ways that the Council could evaluate future applications.

## **V. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no other business before the Town Council, Councilmember Gallagher moved to adjourn with a second by Councilmember Ramirez. The motion carried.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Gallagher, Seconded by Councilmember Ramirez.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember Beyene, Councilmember Gallagher, Councilmember Pasanello,  
Councilmember Ramirez, Councilmember Schneider**