

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2400 WASHINGTON AVENUE
FEBRUARY 26, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Tina L. Vick; Dr. Patricia P. Woodbury; Saundra N. Cherry, D. Min.; Marcellus L. Harris III; David H. Jenkins; McKinley L. Price, DDS; and Sharon P. Scott, MPA-----7

ABSENT: None-----0

A. Call to Order

Mayor Price called the meeting to order, welcomed all. He identified the procedure for citizen participation regarding items on the Council agenda, as well as the opportunity for citizens to address City Council on matters germane to the business of the Council. He explained matters that were germane to the business of Council meant matters that the City Council, by law, were empowered to act upon. This did not include announcements that were personal to an individual, business, or organization. He pointed out copies of the ordinance highlighting citizen participation and encouraged citizens to review the document.

Mayor Price requested that cell phones and/or pagers be silenced or turned off.

B. Invocation

The invocation was rendered by Pastor Ben Rothwell, CrossWalk Church.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Vice Mayor Tina Vick.

D. Presentations

None

E. Public Hearings

1. Ordinance Amending and Reordaining City Code Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance

1. Article II., Definitions; Section 45-201., Definitions of Certain Words and Terms, By Deleting the Definition of Communication Tower/Antenna and Adding the Definitions of Communication Towers Fifty (50) Feet in Height or Greater, Communication Towers Less Than Fifty (50) Feet in Height, Small Cell Facility and Wireless Facility, and Amending the Definition of Local Utilities

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 45,

E. Public Hearings

1. Ordinance Amending and Reordaining City Code Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance Continued

1. Article II., Definitions; Section 45-201., Definitions of Certain Words and Terms, By Deleting the Definition of Communication Tower/Antenna and Adding the Definitions of Communication Towers Fifty (50) Feet in Height or Greater, Communication Towers Less Than Fifty (50) Feet in Height, Small Cell Facility and Wireless Facility, and Amending the Definition of Local Utilities Continued

ZONING ORDINANCE, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, ARTICLE II., DEFINITIONS, SECTION 45-201, DEFINITION OF CERTAIN WORDS AND TERMS, BY DELETING THE DEFINITION OF COMMUNICATION TOWER/ANTENNA, AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF LOCAL UTILITIES AND ADDING THE DEFINITIONS OF COMMUNICATION TOWERS FIFTY (50) FEET IN HEIGHT OR GREATER, COMMUNICATION TOWERS LESS THAN FIFTY (50) FEET IN HEIGHT, SMALL CELL FACILITY AND WIRELESS FACILITY. This ordinance amended the City Code, Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance, Article II., Definitions; Section 45-201., Definitions of Certain Words and Terms, by deleting the definition of Communications Tower/Antenna and adding the Definition of Communication Tower Towers Fifty (50) feet in height, small cell facility and wireless facility, and amending the definition of local utilities. The types of communication facilities had changed over time; therefore, making it necessary to amend the definitions within the Zoning Ordinance to reflect those changes. The Code of Virginia provided direction on how localities regulated communication towers. This amendment meets those legislative requirements. On February 6, 2019, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 7:0 to recommend adoption of the amendment. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Scott moved closure of the public hearings; seconded by Vice Mayor Vick.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the ordinance as shown above; seconded by Vice Mayor Vick.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

E. Public Hearings

1. Ordinance Amending and Reordaining City Code Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance
2. Article IV., Summary of Uses by District; Section 45-402., Summary of Uses by District, By Amending Permitted Used "D" Utilities

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 45, ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE IV., SUMMARY OF USES BY DISTRICT, SECTION 45-402, SUMMARY OF USES BY DISTRICT, BY AMENDING PERMITTED USES "D" UTILITIES. This ordinance amended the City Code, Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance, Article IV., Summary of Uses by District; Section 45-402., Summary of Uses by District, by amending permitted uses "D" Utilities. The types of communication facilities had changed over time; therefore, making it necessary to amend the definitions within the Zoning Ordinance to reflect those changes. The Code of Virginia provided direction on how localities regulated communication towers. This amendment meets those legislative requirements. On February 6, 2019, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 7:0 to recommend adoption of the amendment. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vice Mayor Vick moved adoption of the ordinance as shown above; seconded by Councilwoman Woodbury.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

3. Article V., General Regulations; Section 45-523., Communication Tower/Antenna

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 45, ZONING ORDINANCE, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, ARTICLE V., GENERAL REGULATIONS, SECTION 45-523, COMMUNICATION TOWER/ANTENNA. This ordinance amended the City Code, Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance, Article V., General Regulations; Section 45-523., Communication Tower/Antenna. The types of communication facilities had changed over time; therefore, making it necessary to amend the definitions within the Zoning Ordinance to reflect those changes. The Code of Virginia provided direction on how localities regulated communication towers. This amendment meets those legislative requirements. On February 6, 2019, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 7:0 to recommend adoption of the amendment. The City Manager recommended approval.

E. Public Hearings

1. Ordinance Amending and Reordaining City Code Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance
3. Article V., General Regulations; Section 45-523., Communication Tower/Antenna

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the ordinance as shown above; seconded by Councilman Harris.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

F. Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the Consent Agenda, Items 1 through 3, all inclusive, as shown below; seconded by Vice Mayor Vick.

1. Minutes of the Work Session of February 12, 2019

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 12, 2019

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

3. Resolution Consenting to the City Manager's Appointment of Jeffrey S. Johnson as Coordinator of Emergency Management for the City

A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF JEFFREY S. JOHNSON AS COORDINATOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. This resolution consented to the City Manager's appointment of Jeffrey S. Johnson as Coordinator of Emergency Management for the City. Chapter 16, Fire Prevention and Protection; Article VII., Emergency Management; Sections 16-70 thru 16-73, of the City Code, addressed the requirement for the City

F. Consent Agenda Continued

3. Resolution Consenting to the City Manager's Appointment of Jeffrey S. Johnson as Coordinator of Emergency Management for the City

to maintain an agency of Emergency Management, in compliance with Virginia State Code 44-146.19. The City Code established the Fire Department as the local agency of Emergency Management and the City Manager as the Director of Emergency Management. The City Code stated that the City Manager would appoint a Coordinator of Emergency Management, with consent of City Council, to manage the daily operations of Emergency Management. The City Manager appointed Jeffrey S. Johnson as Coordinator of Emergency Management for the City of Newport News, effective February 25, 2019. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

G. Other City Council Actions

1. Resolution of Support for the City of Newport News' Participation in the ACT Work Ready Communities (WRC) Initiative

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, IN SUPPORT OF NEWPORT NEWS PARTICIPATION IN THE ACT WORK READY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE. This resolution expressed support for the City of Newport News' participation in the ACT Work Ready Communities (WRC) Initiative. ACT WRC was an effort through which cities and counties could identify skill gaps and quantify the expertise level of the workforce. ACT WRC provided a framework to link workforce development to education, align workforce development with economic development needs, and match individuals to jobs based on skill level. Attainment of an ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) by individuals, along with recognition by employers, would help defray employer on-boarding costs by providing essential skills, capabilities, and preparedness of job candidates. ACT WRC would help make Newport News an attractive and work-ready location for new and existing businesses alike. There was no fee to participate in the initiative; however, some costs for staff program training was expected. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vice Mayor Vick moved adoption of the above resolution; seconded by Councilwoman Woodbury.

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

1. Resolution of Support for the City of Newport News' Participation in the ACT Work Ready Communities Initiative Continued

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

2. Ordinance Authorizing and Directing the City Manager to Execute All Necessary Documents to Execute the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NNRHA) Real Estate Tax Deferral

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 40, TAXATION, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, ARTICLE II., REAL ESTATE TAXES, BY ADDING THERETO A NEW DIVISION, NAMELY: DIVISION 5., DEFERRAL FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL LOW-INCOME HOUSING CREDITS. This ordinance amended and reordained the City Code, Chapter 40, Taxation; Article II., Real Estate Taxes, by adding Division 5., Deferral for Housing Developments Eligible for Federal Low-Income Housing Credits. An amendment to the City Code was requested to allow for real estate tax deferrals for housing developments eligible for federal low-income housing credits. The proposed amendment allowed for real estate tax deferrals for developments identified in the areas outlined in the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood Transformation Plan that were eligible for federal low-income housing tax credits. The amendment would become effective immediately upon adoption of the ordinance with the first tax deferral period, starting July 1, 2019. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the above ordinance; seconded by Councilman Harris.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

3. 1 of 2: Resolution Authorizing and Directing the City Manager to Execute All Necessary Documents to Implement the Virginia Department of Social Services Employment (VDSEE) for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Participants Grant in Support of the "Navigating Wealth Building for the Residents of the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood Initiative" (CNI)

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, ACCEPTING AND SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES EMPLOYMENT FOR TANF PARTICI-

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

3. 1 of 2: Resolution Authorizing and Directing the City Manager to Execute All Necessary Documents to Implement the Virginia Department of Social Services Employment (VDSEE) for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Participants Grant in Support of the “Navigating Wealth Building for the Residents of the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood Initiative” (CNI) Continued

PANTS GRANT (RFA NO. BEN-19-024). This resolution authorized and directed the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to implement the Virginia Department of Social Services Employment for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Participants Grant in support of the “Navigating Wealth Building for the Residents of the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood Initiative” (CNI). The Commonwealth of Virginia, through its Department of Social Services, awarded an Employment for TANF Participants Grant (TANF Grant) in the amount of \$896,802.58 to the City to support a new initiative called “Navigating Wealth Building for the residents of the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood.” The grant award was supported by a local match in the amount of \$385,858.42, comprised of \$200,625.00 in cash, and \$185,233.42 in in-kind services, which included staff time for grant administration and coordination. This citizen-and-business-focused project would make a significant and positive change in the community through services offered primarily at the Brooks Crossing Innovation and Opportunity Center that would increase employment and education opportunities, and help align workforce with business needs. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vice Mayor Vick moved adoption of the above resolution; seconded by Councilwoman Woodbury.

Vice Mayor Vick extended thanks to all of the partners involved in this edge-cutting initiative for the South District, particularly in Brooks Crossing, where the City had gathered numerous partners, and were able to secure funding to bring workforce development to an area in need. The South District had one of the highest unemployment rates, at 14%. To be able to reduce the unemployment rate would be great for the community, and the City of Newport News.

Councilwoman Woodbury advised that she was pleased this was occurring, after hearing the presentation earlier at the City Council Work Session. She further advised, more important, she was more pleased that the training would be available. The training, and skills received from the training, as well as the assessments, would be important to obtaining and retaining a job.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

4. 2 of 2: Department of Development – Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Employment for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Participants Grant Continued

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM LOCAL REVENUE (\$200,625.00) AND FEDERAL REVENUE (\$896,803.00) TO CAREER PROGRAM TRAINING (\$1,097,428.00). This resolution accepted and appropriated the \$896,802.58 Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Employment for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) participants grant and local cash match of \$200,625.00, in support of the “Navigating Wealth Building for the residents of the Marshall-Ridley Choice Initiative Grant (CNI).” The residents of the Marshall-Ridley Choice Initiative Grant (CNI). The Commonwealth of Virginia, through its Department of Social Services, awarded an Employment for TANF Participants Grant in the amount of \$896,802.58 to the City to support a new initiative called “Navigating Wealth Building for the Residents of the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood. The grant award was supported by a local match in the amount of \$385,585.42, comprised of \$200,625.00 in cash, and \$185,233.42 in in-kind services, which included staff time for grant administration and coordination. This citizen-and-business-focused project made a significant and positive change in the community through services offered primarily at the Brooks Crossing Innovation and Opportunity Center that would increase employment and education opportunities, and help align workforce with business needs. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Cherry moved adoption of the above resolution; seconded by Vice Mayor Vick.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

H. Appropriations

Vice Mayor Vick moved adoption of Appropriations, Item 1, as shown below; seconded by Councilwoman Woodbury.

1. Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) – Reallocation of Existing Capital Project Appropriations: Lee Hall Elementary School Roof

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM SCHOOL OTHER IMPROVEMENTS – CASEWORK AND LEARNING COTTAGES (\$153,057.00), SCHOOL ROOFS – DEER PARK (\$122,340.00), SCHOOL ROOFS – GATEWOOD (\$51,831.00) AND SCHOOL HVAC – HERITAGE (\$12,104.00) TO SCHOOL OTHER IMPROVEMENTS – LEE

H. Appropriations Continued

1. Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) – Reallocation of Existing Capital Project Appropriations: Lee Hall Elementary School Roof Continued

HALL ELEMENTARY ROOF (\$327,228.00) AND SCHOOL HVAC – GILDERSLEEVE (\$12,104.00). This resolution reallocated \$339,332.00 of unspent balances from previously appropriated bond funds to Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) for various capital projects to complete two school capital projects for Lee Hall Elementary School and Gildersleeve Middle School. Additional funding was necessary to fully fund the Lee Hall Elementary School roof project. The requested reallocation of funds was from completed projects. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Vick, Woodbury, Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Scott

Nays: None

I. Citizen Comments on Matters Germane to the Business of City Council

Ms. Rena Crabill, 422 Eastwood Drive, Newport News, addressed the following items: (1) the addition of line items, each year, to the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) to help transform the former City Farm property into the pearl of Riverview Farm Park. Step by step implementation, year by year over the next five years, was needed, beginning with the next fiscal year (FY 2020); and (2) the need for assistance of the Foodbank of the Virginia was ongoing. Ms. Crabill referenced Mayor Price's successful MLK, Jr. Day of Service Food Drive to benefit the Foodbank of the Virginia Peninsula, held Monday, January 21, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. She thanked everyone for their participation. She reminded that the need was continuing; and she encouraged citizens to give throughout the year.

Ms. Donna Grubbs, 530 Kerry Lake Drive, Newport News, advised that she represented Citizens United for Action. She was accompanied by other members of the group and acknowledged their presence by asking them to stand. Ms. Grubbs indicated that she was former co-chair of C.R.I.M.E. Group 3, Increasing Youth Success Opportunities, one of six original citizen involvement groups formed to collaborate with the Newport News Police Department on specific issues to reduce crime in the City of Newport News. The group reorganized and revitalized their efforts by combining separate group missions into one cohesive initiative, renamed "Citizens United for Action." By reorganizing, the group felt they were better positioned to make a positive difference in their communities. They collaborated with Chief Drew and members of the Newport News Police Department. She indicated the groups was thrilled with the positive changes being experienced under Chief Drew's leadership and the new community-based policing policies. The community walks, social media efforts, and face-to-face interactions with citizens worked to engage citizens, and as a result, citizens were beginning to take back their neighborhoods. Ms. Grubbs advised that Citizens United for Action, a diverse group of citizens

I. Citizen Comments on Matters Germane to the Business of City Council
Continued

from across the City, met twice monthly at the Newport News Police Headquarters (9710 Jefferson Avenue). The group sought City Council support in their endeavors to increase citizen involvement in identifying ways to support the NNPD to decrease crime in their communities (a copy of Ms. Grubbs remarks are attached and made a part of these minutes).

Vice Mayor Vick applauded Ms. Grubbs and the Citizens United for Action for taking the initiative to take back their communities and help make Newport News a safer place for all. She also thanked Ms. Grubbs for her work on the Denbigh-Warwick Plan. She stated, as a Council, who appointed Board members to the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority, should encourage citizens in the Marshall-Ridley neighborhood to join in the efforts to collaborate with the NNPD to help reduce crime. City Manager Rohlf advised that members of the NNRHA had been in communication with Chief Drew and the NNPD about crime reduction.

Mr. Jodie A. James, 524 Kerry Lake Drive, Newport News, former secretary of C.R.I.M.E. Group 3, Increasing Youth Success Opportunities, one of six original citizen involvement groups formed to collaborate with the Newport News Police Department on specific issues to reduce crime in the City of Newport News. Mr. James advised that the group had restructure and strengthened their efforts to orchestrate a central group to combat the behaviors detrimental to the City of Newport News. He advised that the group's mandates were as follows: (1) to assist the NNPD in recognizing and enhancing the City's positive climate; i.e. youth leadership development, senior citizen support, health care concerns, etc.; (2) to assist the NNPD, residents, and others, to identify concerns to that were detrimental to the City; i.e. crime, homelessness; and drug invasion; (3) to generate and implement strategies to rectify these concerns; and (4) to evaluate the success of the aforementioned strategies (a copy of Mr. James' remarks are attached and made a part of these minutes).

Ms. Lucy Van Tine, 105 Cannon Drive, Newport News, addressed City Council on behalf of the Citizens for Riverview Farm Park. As the weather improved, and Newport News showed signs of spring, the citizens were excited about the prospect of getting on to the former City Farm parcel of Riverview Farm Park. She advised that a large budget would not be required – a simple walking path along the James River and Deep Creek, and/or barriers around the raised building would be all needed to allow citizens onto the riverfront property. In order that the walking path be laid, and the raised building barriers erected on the former City Farm property, it was requested that City Council include funding for this in the CIP, and that monies be allocated for each year of the CIP's five-year plan in an effort to create a wonderful edition to Riverview Farm Park, and to make the City Farm property a place for all to visit and enjoy.

Dr. Robin Van Tine, 105 Cannon Drive, Newport News, expressed appreciation for the opportunity to address his elected leaders. He urged City Council to put money in the CIP, each year for the five-year period, to work on making the dreams of Newport News a reality, about what to do with the former City Farm property that was a part of Riverview Farm Park.

I. Citizen Comments on Matters Germane to the Business of City Council
Continued

Dr. Robin Van Tine announced that the Citizens for Riverview Farm Park had initiated an art contest for the youth, allowing them to put their dreams on paper, in sculptures, or models, with the creations being judged in April.

Mr. Antonio Thompson, P. O. Box 413, Newport News, quoted Bible scripture from I Thessalonians 4:16 alluding to United States President, Donald Trump, being the Trump of God. It was his hope that President Trump be re-elected during the next Presidential Election in 2020.

Mr. Thompson advised that his legal rights had been restored, allowing him to vote, and to seek public office.

Mr. Thompson urged citizens to support the Newport News Police Foundation, www.nmpolicefoundation.org.

He suggested that he be appointed an honorary police officer, with the rank of Captain, answering only to Chief Steve Drew, the City Manager, and the City Council. He also asked that he be issued a badge and a gun.

Mr. Thompson reiterated his recurring themes about Treasury Enrichment, and Public Safety and Security. He further indicated with his legal rights restored, that he would run for public office, and would win, and donate the money earned from his salary for treasury enrichment.

Ms. Pam Hall, a resident of the Southeast Community, indicated, in her opinion, tax dollars from the Southeast Community had been dispersed to other parts of the City, which prospered, while the Southeast Community died from a lack of services and investments; e.g., the closings of Huntington Middle School, the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, and the deplorable condition of the Hampton Avenue Boys and Girls Club and Doris Miller Community Center. She further indicated, in her opinion, funding for revitalization of the Southeast Community should not be dependent on grants that do what the tax dollars should be doing. Millions of dollars were being spent on projects outside of the Southeast Community, such as free parking garages, and City funds to private companies to build shopping centers, was not the best use of Southeast tax dollars. Ms. Hall indicates, in her opinion, funding for Huntington Middle School should not be delayed for the City's vision for property they did not own; e.g., #45 (President Donald Trump) shutting down the government to force funding of a border wall, or like her neighbor urging that she wait to build a house until they provided their vision for the neighborhood. Ms. Hall urged City Council to allocate funding immediately so the children could receive the best education possible to prepare them for the future challenges of being citizen, career, or college ready.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments

City Manager Rohlf introduced and acknowledged the presence of the City's new Fire Chief, Mr. Jeffrey S. Johnson. A formal Swearing-In Ceremony for Chief Johnson was scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2019, 10:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, 2400 Washington Avenue. The public was welcome to attend.

City Manager Rohlf reminded about the upcoming One City Marathon, scheduled for, Sunday, March 3, 2019. She advised there was a weekend of activities planned, March 1 – 3, 2019, and five races associated with the Marathon. She thanked the many volunteers for their participation, and the hard work by the City staff. She indicated this would be a fun opportunity for citizens to participate, i.e. run, walk, dance, volunteer, and join in for the celebration.

Vice Mayor Vick thanked Ms. Donna Grubbs and members of Citizens United for Action for their attendance. She had not heard about the group's efforts, but was appreciative to learn about what the group was doing in their community to keep the citizens safe.

Regarding remarks about the One City Marathon, Vice Mayor Vick advised that she was excited about the One City Marathon and associated events on March 1- 3, 2019. All activities were listed on the City's Facebook page. She encouraged citizens to get involved. She and Councilwoman Cherry would participated in the 8K Run/Walk.

Councilwoman Woodbury extended thanks to Ms. Grubbs and Mr. James for their work with the Citizens United for Action.

Councilwoman Woodbury extended thanks to Dr. and Mrs. VanTine for reminded the Council about the importance of planning for the beautiful City Park, Riverview Farm Park, with the extension of the former City Farm property.

Councilwoman Woodbury encouraged citizens to get involved and participate in the One City Marathon and associated events and activities on March 1 – 3, 2019. She advised that her church, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, was situated along the marathon route, and would be waving and encouraging the runners, as well as distributing water.

Councilwoman Woodbury thanked all of the citizens for their attendance and participation. City Council wanted to hear from them.

Councilwoman Cherry thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation, and for sharing their concerns and ideas for the City.

In memory of the late Debbie Wilson, Councilwoman Cherry asked the residents of Southeast Community to show support of the One City Marathon and Celebration, as well as associated activities on March 1 – 3, 2019, particularly the Family Fun and Fit Day scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2019 at Brooks Crossing. Ms. Wilson was passionate about the City having an event in the Southeast Community.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Cherry extended compliments to Ms. Sonia Antoine-Alcantara, Director, Department of Libraries and Information Services, and staff at the Main Street Library, for the exhibit, "Say it Loud: A Salute to Heroes in the Southeast Community," held on Saturday, February 16, 2019, 2:00 p.m., at the Main Street Library (110 Main Street). She indicated the City had a story to tell of the rich heritage, the trailblazers, and the history from the Southeast Community. She encouraged citizens to visit the Library to view the exhibit.

Councilwoman Cherry extended compliments to Mr. Michael Poplawski, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and staff at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center, for the sold-out crowd for the production of Dreamgirls, at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue), February 8 – 23, 2019. She thanked the team for using local participants – people from the community who were able to showcase their gifts and talents.

Councilwoman Cherry extended congratulations to Mr. Antonio Thompson on having his legal rights restored.

Councilman Harris extended thanks to the Citizens United for Action for their great work in the North District. He applauded them for their efforts, and offered his assistance in any way possible, particularly in the Courthouse Green community.

As was his practice to recognize youth, Councilman Harris acknowledged the presence of the Heritage High School State Championship Track Team. Members in attendance included: Ms. Angela Tubman, a Junior; Ms. Jahniyah Thomas, a Junior; Ms. Jhala Williams, a Senior; and Ms. Shirelle Linzy, a Senior. The girls were accompanied by their principal, Ms. Shameka Gerald, and coaches, Ms. Jacqueline Bateman, who also coached Councilman Harris for a brief period; and legendary coach, Mr. Ray Pollard, a Huntington High School graduate, had a passion for working with youth, and was known for driving youth to practice and to events.

Mayor Price shared that he spoke to the Civic Leadership Class of 2019, 8:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 14, 2019, at the Aviation Academy (902 Bland Boulevard).

Mayor Price and his colleagues attended the exhibit, "Say it Loud: A Salute to Heroes in the Southeast Community," held on Saturday, February 16, 2019, 2:00 p.m., at the Main Street Library (110 Main Street).

Mayor Price and his colleagues attended the Philippine American Community of the Peninsula Gala held on Saturday, February 16, 2019, 6:00 p.m., at the Newport News Marriott City Center (740 Town Center Drive).

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Mayor Price advised that a Sister Cities Delegation from Taizhou City (Jiangsu, China) visited Newport News on February 18, 2019, and discussed the Council-Manager form of government. Taizhou had a population totaling approximately five million. He and his colleagues attended a dinner reception at FIN Seafood in Port Warwick, on Monday, February 18, 2019, 6:00 p.m. Members of the delegation included: Mr. Chen Songlin, Deputy Director-General, Taizhou Municipal Committee; Mr. Feng Xinhua, Vice Chairman, Taizhou People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries; Mr. ant Qiang, Deputy Director, Taizhou Municipal Office of Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs, Mr. Li Tiejun, Deputy Director, Taizhou Municipal Bureau of Sports; and Mr. Jiang Jianxing, Director of General Office, Taizhou Municipal Bureau of Tourism.

Mayor Price and colleagues attended the 51st Peninsula Humanitarian Awards Dinner, on Thursday, February 21, 2019, 6:00 p.m., at the Newport News Marriott at City Center (740 Town Center Drive). Over 550 guest were in attendance. Under the leadership of Dinner Co-Chairs, Mr. Bill Downey (President and CEO, Riverside Health System) and Mr. Charlie Hill (President and Co-Founder, Hampton Roads Prostate Health Forum, and Co-Founder, Community Free Clinic of Newport News), the following individuals and organizations were honored: (1) Humanitarian Awards - Mr. Joshua M. David, Ms. Katherine S. Edwards, Mr. Andrew T. "Tom" Olaisen, Mr. Jeffery O. Smith, and Ms. Alexis N. Swann; (2) The Distinguished Merit Citation was awarded to the One Hundred Black Men of America, Inc., Virginia Peninsula Chapter.

Mayor Price and colleagues attended an information session and networking opportunity with local community stakeholders and leaders, sponsored by the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport (NNWIA), on Friday, February 22, 2019, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., at NNWIA (900 Bland Boulevard).

Mayor Price and colleagues attended "Celebrating the Legacy of Newport News, on Friday, February, February 22, 2019, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., at the C. Waldo Center for H.O.P.E. (3100 Wickham Avenue). The children put on a skit, acting as some of the leaders of the Southeast Community and the historical effect.

Mayor Price advised that he attended a Health, Wellness & Education Community Forum, on Friday, February 22, 2019, 6:00 p.m., sponsored by Friendship Baptist Church, 1135-37th Street. He extended thanks to Dr. Beverly Ashburn for hosting the event.

Councilwoman Scott thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation, and for sharing their thoughts and ideas. She shared that she began Town Hall Meetings 17 years prior because she believed in open government. She indicated she always wanted to hear what the citizens had to say.

Councilwoman Scott also thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation at the North District Town Hall Meeting, held on Monday, February 25, 2019, 7:00 p.m., at the Denbigh Community Center (15198 Warwick Boulevard). She thanked Mr. Louis

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Martinez, Director, Department of Waterworks, to share about a new initiative, using a portal, allowing citizens to connect and view and pay their water bills on-line. He shared how meters would be transformed, via Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI), which would allow the reading automated/electronic meter reading. There was a great deal of conversation and dialogue which was what open government was about – learning what was occurring and how citizens were impacted, individually and collectively.

Councilwoman Scott advised that one of her favorite event was the Annual Patient Advocate Foundation's "A Promise of Hope" Gala, held on Saturday, February 23 2019, 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m., at the Newport News Marriott at City Center (740 Town Center Drive). The Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) raised money for people with extreme health conditions, and could not afford to pay their medical bills. The PAF also provided scholarships to students impacted by various health conditions.

Mayor Price reminded citizens about the One City Marathon, and associated activities and events. He advised that most of the events were free and open to the public. He urged citizens to come out and show their support.

Councilwoman Scott encouraged citizens to attend the One City Marathon Health & Wellness Expo, on Friday and Saturday, March 1-2, 2019, at the Denbigh Community Center (15198 Warwick Boulevard).

Councilwoman Woodbury extended congratulations to Mr. Antonio Thompson, a regular attendee to City Council Meetings, and an ardent supporter of the NNPD, on having his legal rights restored, allowing him the right to vote.

K. Adjourn

Mayor Price adjourned the meeting by addressing the citizens. He stated, "May what you say and do uplift the City of Newport News."

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS,
ON MOTION, COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:45 P.M.



Mabel Washington Jenkins, MMC
City Clerk

McKinley L. Price, DDS
Mayor
Presiding Officer

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk