

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL JOINT WORK SESSION
OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL
AND THE NEWPORT NEWS SCHOOL BOARD
HELD IN THE DOWNING-GROSS CULTURAL ARTS CENTER – BANQUET ROOM
2410 Wickham Avenue
June 25, 2019
4:00 P.M.**

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

ABSENT: None-----0

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Terri L. Best; Douglas Brown; John Eley, III; Gary B. Hunter; Shelly Simonds; and Lisa Surlis-Law-----6

ABSENT: Marvin Harris-----1

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. George Parker, III; Cynthia Rohlf; Collins L. Owens; Mabel Washington Jenkins; Lyn Spratley; Leonard Wallin; Mary Lou Rouseau; Tiffany Moore-Buffaloe; Darlene Bradberry; Lisa Cipriano; Cory Cloud; Constantinos Velissarios; Keith Ferguson; Susan Goodwin; Virginia Lovette; Florence Kingston; Matthew Johnson; Shelia McAllister; Flora Chioros; Venerria Thomas; Everett Skipper; Louis Martinez; Frank James; Sonia Alcantara-Antoine; Dawn Barber; Police Chief Steve Drew; Fire Chief Jeffrey Johnson; James McElheney; Adrian Whitcomb; Dale Goode; Mary Vause; Jannie Bazemore; James Lovett; Adrian Whitcomb; Pam Hall; Robert Coleman; Alan Archer; David Freeman; Kim Lee; Cleder Jones; Eoghan Miller; Jerri Wilson; Joye Thompkins; Indiana Brown; Zina Middleton; and Josh Reyes

I. Call to Order

Mayor McKinley Price called the Special Joint Work Session of the Newport News City Council to order. He advised that all members of the City Council were present. He welcomed the members of the School Board. He thanked the City Council and School Board for the opportunity to meet.

Mr. Gary Hunter, Chair, Newport News School Board, called the Special Joint Work Session of the Newport News School Board to order. He thanked the members of the City Council and School Board for the opportunity to meet.

II. Opening Remarks

Mayor Price again thanked everyone for their attendance. He advised that the Mayor's Advisory Committee met June 25, 2019 in the 10th Floor City Council Conference Room (2400 Washington Avenue) to review at the budgets. They discussed how to keep the public informed about the informal meeting, as well as the Joint Board meeting moving forward.

School Board Chairman Hunter advised, as promised, members of the School Board would continue their conversations with the Newport News City Council in an effort to show unity. He shared every City had three (3) things that made for a great City: 1) safety; 2) a robust business development environment; and 3) an outstanding school system. The School Board approved Resolution Number 19-05, to work with City Council. The resolution described the School Board goals and objectives to be studied and addressed, in an effort to advance the school division's strategic goals of financial resiliency (a copy of Resolution Number 9-05 is attached and made part of these minutes).

Chairman Hunter again extended thanks to Mayor Price, members of City Council, and the City Manager for inviting the Newport News School Board to participate in a Joint Work Session. On behalf of the School Board, Chairman Hunter advised that they looked forward to the informative conversation.

III. Financial Overview

City Manager Rohlf shared that there would be a financial overview which included the revised City Manager's Recommended FY 2020 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). She advised that City Council had an opportunity to see the association between the CIP and Financial connection, and what it meant to the Operating Budget, as well as the capacity of what the City could and could not afford, and wanted to share the same information with the School Board. She stated Dr. Parker advised that he had questions that needed to be answered, hopefully those questions would be able to addressed and answered during the presentation. The City was required by law to submit the CIP by the 1st of November. The City went out and got funding for two (2) projects that were outside of the CIP, at approximately \$80 million, which had to be taken into consideration (the SCOT Center relocation and City Center Garage). The only funding provided in FY 2019 CIP as the amount requested from the NNPS. City Manager Rohlf introduced Ms. Lisa Cipriano, Director, Department of Budget and Evaluation, to provide opening remarks and to provide a financial overview.

Ms. Cipriano advised described the CIP process to ensure that everyone understood the process (a copy of the presentation, "Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Process", is attached and

made a part of these minutes). She shared there were three (3) parts to the Capital Improvement Process as follows:

1. Capital Improvement Plan
 - To develop a long range plan (at least two (2) years) and set priorities
2. Bond Authorization
 - After a plan was developed and approved
3. City Council Appropriation
 - Final Step following the developed plan, bond authorization and to appropriate project-by-project

Ms. Cipriano shared the first part of the Capital Improvement Plan which was a “Plan Only” as follows:

- The City’s multi-year Capital Improvement Plan
 - CIP is a **PLAN** only – *not* a ‘budget’:
 - Funded by revenue that was not a secured source
 - Does not align in a fiscal year calendar
- Establishes a schedule and funding plan for the highest-priority capital projects and equipment purchases
- First Year ONLY was Adopted by City Council
 - Projects were supported by various funding sources
 - CIP was updated annually, if necessary
 - Addresses emergency or critical needs and/or new projects

Ms. Cipriano noted the importance of the CIP as follows:

- Strategic Initiatives, Comprehensive Plan
- Capital Financing and Debt Management Policies (Adopted by City Council 2017)
- Performance/Outcome Measures
- Impact on Operating Budget
- Positive Return on Investment
- Legal Requirement

- Critical Nature
- Health and Safety
- Impact on Residents
- Prior and/or ongoing commitment

Ms. Cipriano noted the CIP Calendar as follows:

- **Stage 1: *July*** - Departments were asked to submit CIP requests based on priority, justification, funding source, project cost, and impact on operating budget.
- **Stage 2: *August/September*** - CIP Committee reviewed and analyzed departmental requests; established initial priorities within capital financing and debt management policies.
- **Stage 3: *October/November*** - Proposed CIP reviewed and finalized by City Manager. City Manager Recommended CIP to City Council by November 1st as required by City Code.

Ms. Cipriano noted the uses of CIP Funds were as follows:

- Property Acquisitions
- Planning, Design, and Construction
- Facility Maintenance and Renovation
- Vehicle/Apparatus Replacement
- Technology Investment

Ms. Cipriano noted the Sources of Funds as follows:

- Debt
- Cash Capital
- Grant Funding
- Other

Ms. Cipriano noted the Project Funding Sources as follows:

- Cash Capital
 - Funded from the General Fund as part of the annual Operating Budget.
- General Obligation Bonds (GOB)

- Borrowed funds; debt was primarily paid by the General Fund over a period of time – generally over a 20-year period.
- User Fee Supported Debt
 - Cash Capital and/or GOB paid by and supported by User Fees (Sewer, Stormwater, Solid Waste, and Waterworks). Debt was paid by User Fee Funds; it was part of the General Fund’s Debt calculation.
- Grant Funds
 - Anticipated Federal and State Grant Support (e.g. Streets and Bridges).
- Other
 - Any other funding (e.g., Developer Contribution).

Ms. Cipriano advised that the City Manager’s FY 2020 Revised CIP General Fund – General Obligations Bonds by category were as follows:

	FY 2020 Recommended <u>Amount¹</u>	FY 2020 Revised <u>Amount</u>	<u>Difference</u>
General Fund (in millions)			
Public Buildings	\$23.8	\$ 9.6	\$(14.2)
Parks and Recreation	4.1	4.6	0.5
Streets and Bridges	14.0	11.3	(2.7)
Community Development	13.2	5.0	(8.2)
Schools ²	15.9	10.0	(5.9)
Equipment	2.5	1.8	(0.7)
General Fund Total	\$73.5	\$42.3	\$(31.2)

¹Reflects combined FY 2019 and FY 2020 General Obligation Bonds as shown in the FY 2019 CIP.

²Includes \$6.9 million of FY 2019 General Obligation Bonds for Schools. An appropriation for \$6.4 million was approved in January 2019 using the remaining balance from the City’s FY 2018 Bond Authorization.

Ms. Cipriano advised that the City Manager’s FY 2020 Recommended CIP Percentages of General Fund – General Obligations Bonds were as follows:

General Fund (in millions)	FY 2020	
	<u>Recommended Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Public Buildings	\$23.8	32%
Parks and Recreation	4.1	6%
Streets and Bridges	14.0	19%
Community Development	13.2	18%
Schools ₂	15.9	22%
Equipment	2.5	3%

Ms. Cipriano advised that the City Manager's FY 2020 Revised CIP Percentages of General Fund – General Obligations Bonds were as follows:

General Fund (in millions)	FY 2020	
	<u>Revised Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Public Buildings	\$ 9.6	23%
Parks and Recreation	4.6	11%
Streets and Bridges	11.3	27%
Community Development	5.0	12%
Schools ₂	10.0	23%
Equipment	1.8	4%

Ms. Cipriano indicated that the City Manager's FY 2020 Recommended CIP General Fund – General Obligation Bonds were \$73 million and in the FY 2020 Revised CIP General Fund – General Obligation Bonds were \$42 million.

Ms. Cipriano noted the impact of the CIP on the General Fund Operating Budget, with the projected annual debt payments, based on approved FY 2019 CIP, was \$41 million in existing debt service, \$46 million in FY 2020; and with \$51 million projected CIP debt service in FY 2021.

Ms. Cipriano noted the impact of the CIP on the General Fund Operating Budget, with the projected annual debt payments, based on Revised FY 2020 CIP, was \$41 million in

existing debt service for FY 2019, \$46 million in FY 2020; and with \$49 million projected CIP debt service in FY 2021.

Ms. Cipriano noted the City's General Fund Expenditures for FY 2020 Adopted Operating Budget was \$497.6 million as follows:

Salaries and Fringes Benefits	\$226.4	46%
Support for Schools Operations	110.9	22%
Federal/State Grants	3.2	1%
Debt Services	46.3	9%*
All Other Costs	110.8	22%**

(\$ in millions)

*Included \$8.8 million City paid debt on School Capital Projects

**Included Community and Regional Support; Utilities and Vehicle Fuel; Contractual Services; and Vehicle and IT Replacement

Ms. Cipriano shared how the CIP Impacted the General Fund Operating Budget and the Projected Annual Debt Payments on future year.

	<u>Existing Debt Service</u>	<u>Projected CIP Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
<i>(\$ in millions)</i>			
FY 2019	\$41		
FY 2020	46*		
FY 2021	45	\$ 4	\$49
FY 2022	43	7	50
FY 2023	39	12	51
FY 2024	35	18	53
FY 2025	33	17	50
FY 2026	30	17	47
FY 2027	27	16	43

*Annual Debt payment increase of \$5 million to the General Fund

Ms. Cipriano advised that the City Manager's FY 2020 Revised CIP General Fund – Cash Capital by category were as follows:

	FY 2020 Recommended <u>Amount</u>	FY 2020 Revised <u>Amount</u>	<u>Difference</u>
General Fund (in millions)			
Community Development	\$ 530,000	\$ 730,000	\$ 200,000
Environmental	225,000	100,000	(125,000)
Transit	81,000	-0-	(81,000)
Equipment	1,566,150	1,166,150	(400,000)
Parks and Recreation	300,000	450,000	150,000
Public Buildings	2,144,000	450,000	(1,694,000)
Schools	2,000,000	4,400,000	2,400,000
Streets and Bridges	2,050,000	1,600,000	(450,000)
General Fund Total	\$8,896,150	\$8,896,150	-0-

Ms. Cipriano advised that the City Manager's FY 2020 Recommended CIP Percentages of General Fund – Cash Capital were as follows:

	FY 2020 Recommended <u>Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
General Fund (in millions)		
Public Buildings	\$2,144,000	24%
Streets and Bridges	2,050,000	23%
Schools	2,000,000	22%
Equipment	1,566,150	18%
Community Development	530,000	6%
Parks and Recreation	300,000	3%
Environmental	225,000	3%
Transit	81,000	1%

Ms. Cipriano advised that the City Manager's FY 2020 Revised CIP Percentages of General Fund – Cash Capital were as follows:

General Fund (in millions)	<u>FY 2020 Revised Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Public Buildings	\$ 450,000	5%
Streets and Bridges	1,600,000	18%
Schools	4,400,000	50%
Equipment	1,166,150	13%
Community Development	730,000	8%
Parks and Recreation	450,000	5%
Environmental	100,000	1%

Ms. Cipriano advised of the City’s Compliance with Financial Policies were as follows:

- **Policy:** Unassigned Fund Balance should be a minimum of **7.5%** of actual General Fund Revenues from the previous fiscal year.
 - **Current Ratios:** 12.1%
 - **Projected FY 2020 Ratios:** N/A
- **Policy:** Debt burden ratio below **3.0%** (outstanding general obligation debt to taxable real and personal property).
 - **Current Ratios:** 2.5%
 - **Projected FY 2020 Ratios:** 2.7%
- **Policy:** At least **20%** of CIP was funded with cash capital. Equipment and infrastructure costing less than \$250,000 was cash funded.
 - **Current Ratios:** N/A
 - **Projected FY 2020 Ratios:** 23.4%₁
- **Policy:** Ratio of debt service obligations to General Fund/School revenue should not exceed **9.5%**.
 - **Current Ratios:** 8.2% (FY 2020)
 - **Projected FY 2020 Ratios:** 8.7% (FY 2021)

- **Policy:** No less than 30% of outstanding general obligation debt was scheduled to be repaid within five years, and no less than 60% was scheduled to be repaid within ten years.
 - **Current Ratios:** 40% in five (5) years and 70% in ten (10) years
 - **Projected FY 2020 Ratios:** 39% in five (5) years and 68% in ten (10) years

Cash Capital included the addition of \$4.0 million funded through the City's Operating budget (\$2.5 million for Vehicle Replacement and \$1.5 million for IT Investment)

Ms. Cipriano indicated in the City Manager's FY 2020 – 2024 Revised CIP General Fund all Funding Sources to include General Obligation Bonds (GOB), Cash Capital, Grants, and Other and that FY 2024 was a blank slate.

	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>FY 2021</u>	<u>FY 2022</u>	<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>
<i>(\$ in millions)</i>					
Cash Capital	\$ 9	\$ 9	\$ 9	\$ 8	
GOB	42	45	47	64	
Grant Funding	13	37	42	57	
Other	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
TOTAL	<u>\$65</u>	<u>\$92</u>	<u>\$99</u>	<u>\$130</u>	

Ms. Cipriano advised of the Second Part of Bond Authorization of Capital Projects. The Bond Authorization Ordinance was the instrument that allowed the City Council to:

1. Appropriate funding for projects identified in the approved Capital Improvements Plan (CIP)
2. May include emergency or other projects not in the adopted CIP
3. Issue bonds to pay for Capital Projects appropriated by City Council
4. Was based on need to borrow funds, not on a fiscal year calendar

Ms. Cipriano advised of the Third Part of Capital Project City Council Appropriation was as follows:

- Every project was individually appropriated by City Council
- Each Project Appropriation was an opportunity to:
 - Right size funding of projects
 - Substitute projects

- Address emergency needs
- City Council met 2nd & 4th Tuesday monthly

Ms. Cipriano indicated that the appendix included the FY 2020 General Obligation Bond Adjustments Projects by Category (pages 14 – 16 of “Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Process” presentation, is attached and made a part of these minutes).

City Manager Rohlf advised that the presentation was for FY 2020 only. The Huntington Middle School project funding was in FY 2021 for \$17 million and FY 2022 for \$20 million.

Ms. Cipriano noted that \$10 million was available for design combined with Cash Capital of \$4.4 million, NNPS would have a total \$14.4 million available for capital improvement projects for FY 2020.

City Manager Rohlf indicated should there be an emergency at NNPS, and it met criteria under bond funding, the City Council could appropriate funds for the schools.

Dr. Parker stated, for clarification, the NNPS has had needs for capital improvements that had bumped a project to the top of the list that was initially in the budget. He indicated Dutrow Elementary School may not be the greatest priority for HVAC replacement, but could be another school. Those dollars would be substituted for that HVAC project, Dutrow Elementary School could be seen as a project in a future budget. The question may arise “why was Dutrow Elementary School in the budget again”? As long as NNPS had the ability to prioritize projects with a school that met a higher need and stayed within the confines of the budget, he was fine with that, as long as the City Manager was fine with that. Ms. Cipriano replied that would be an appropriation for City Council to move funds and memorialized the appropriation. City Manager Rohlf advised that adjustment and substitutes could be made because if an HVAC System went bad, that would need to be addressed.

Dr. Parker indicated the other concern was with the amount proposed for the Huntington Middle School (HMS) project with available funding in FY 2021 and FY 2022 of the City Manager’s Revised CIP. NNPS procurement process for selection of an architect and/or contractor required full funding. There were concerns about the amount of the proposal and the funds needed for the procurement process as the NNPS needed full funding to go to bid on the HMS project; and without the funding could cost a delay in the NNPS proposed guideline. The NNPS would not be able to go out for bid until FY 2022. Ms. Cipriano replied, the City Attorney ruled a few years ago, when it came to capital projects, full funding was not needed. City Attorney Owens replied he was not sure that the fund appropriation was needed, but would research. City

Manager Rohlf advised this capital improvement item (HMS) was added to the CIP and other projects had to be pushed or moved further and not funded. Dr. Parker hoped whatever could be done to assist the NNPS move forward on the HMS project. If the NNPS could go out to bid in FY 2021 without full funding, that would be great, but if they had to wait until FY 2022 to go to bid, that changed the NNPS timeline. Dr. Parker requested clarification.

Vice Mayor Vick inquired about the bid process. City Manager Rohlf replied that Dr. Parker was talking about construction. Dr. Parker replied NNPS would have to hire an architect which would require at least \$2 million for the design of the building. Once the building was designed, the funding in the amount of approximately \$1.4 million would need to be available for demolition of the structure. Once the bid for a construction contractor went out, and prior to hiring a construction company, full funding would be needed. Because funding was split between two (2) years and the full funding was needed, NNPS would not be able to go out to bid until the second year (FY 2022) for the rebuilding HMS.

Vice Mayor Vick questioned what had been done in the past (i.e. Discovery Stem Academy). City Manager Rohlf replied Discovery Stem was a lot less to build. Ms. Cipiano noted that the funding for the Discovery Stem Academy was in the CIP, funds were borrowed and appropriated. Vice Mayor Vick indicated the financing would be different for the HMS project as it was split into two (2) years. Dr. Parker replied that was correct. City Manager Rohlf inquired whether NNPS had to go out to bid for the design. Dr. Parker replied yes, which put NNPS one (1) year behind before being able to hire a contractor to demolish and build.

Dr. Parker advised there was still a concern with funding of \$37 million in the proposed budget. The \$37 million was the actual cost to build the school, but outside the cost of the building, getting in the groundwork by placing the school on pylons would be an additional \$4 - \$5 million, which had to be done at the Discovery Stem Academy, and would be a non-budgeted expense. The building would be kept on the same footprint. The cost of refurbishing the building, technology, furniture, etc. at a cost of approximately \$4.5 million, plus the HMS project 2 – 3 years away, which may increase because of construction and material costs. He stated he was very concerned with \$37 million, but the NNPS would certainly do their best, building a school that was best suited for the children. Dr. Parker asked City Council to be mindful of the additional costs associated with the rebuilding of HMS.

School Board Member, Dr. Best, questioned how and when funding would be disbursed? City Manager Rohlf replied July 1, 2020 funds for the FY 2021 CIP would be available once appropriated by City Council to go into an account to draw down on for the HMS project and July 1, 2021 funds for FY 2022 CIP would be available once appropriated by City Council to go into an account to draw down on for the HMS project.

School Board Chairman Hunter questioned the funding, as the NNPS was left with zero dollars for maintenance and other emergencies. City Manager Rohlf replied, as discussed in a previous meeting the City provide the NNPS with up to approximately \$10 million. Prior to City Council making appropriation for the NNPS priorities, there would be conversation with regard to the needs, and do not want to create any expectations.

Dr. Parker shared this had been a very good meeting, as both governing bodies reviewed ways to prioritize capital improvement projects and emerging issues that may cause system failures, functional issues with the school building and City property. He stated he did not believe the schools could go 2 – 3 years without capital funding and continue to meet the needs with some of the emerging issues, but communication would certainly help especially in the case of an emergency. He stated NNPS needed assurance, once on the road to funding HMS that the schools did not defer maintenance for 2 – 3 years; otherwise there would be a lot of fires to put out at the end of that cycle. NNPS could not plan with zero dollars during the course of the construction project, and could not prioritize projects with zero dollars. Dr. Parker inquired whether NNPS could submit projects, if they communicated the urgency. Councilwoman Cherry asked Dr. Parker for an example of the emerging issues and maintenance issues. Dr. Parker replied the NNPS maintained a replacement cycle for bus replacement, repairs and/or replacement of old HVAC, roof repairs and/or replacement and other preventive items.

Councilwoman Cherry questioned the type of emerging issues. Dr. Parker advised zero dollars during the HMS build would be detrimental to the maintenance of school facilities and addressing emergency repairs. Councilwoman Cherry questioned whether NNPS the emerging issues prior to HMS being built, whether the budgeted funds could be used. Dr. Parker stated there was \$15.9 million, that included \$10 million in the proposed budget and those funds would be used prior to HMS being built. City Manager Rohlf replied, in the past, City Council had stepped-up to address a situation, to ensure the health, safety and well-being of the children, but communication was the key.

Vice Mayor Vick advised that the City had to be clear and convey that unlimited funding was not available. She stated no one should leave the meeting believing that there was an unlimited source of funds available because the reality was that the City had to look at funding needed not only for the schools, but for the entire City.

Mayor Price mentioned, in the past after the City was given priorities from NNPS, the funds were placed somewhere that was not a priority, which was a problem in the past. Dr. Parker shared the project funds from FY 2019 – FY 2023 budget, over the course of those years, there were buildings with a higher need. The \$10 million received by the NNPS would be spent at Deer Park Elementary School and Woodside High School. He shared that he would always

communicate with the City Manager if there was an emergency or any issue that would impact the quality of education for the children. He thanked City Council, as the City appropriated \$6.4 million in January 2019, for projects that needed to be done. He believed there was a level of trust that funding would be made available should an emergency arise, but also expressed concern moving forward with funding for other projects. City Manager Rohlf replied the City was doing all that they could to ensure the NNPS received adequate funding.

Councilwoman Woodbury noted that \$16 million in additional funds were available for the past two (2) years from the State. She inquired whether some of those dollars be used for emergencies. Dr. Parker replied some of those dollars had been for maintenance and repairs. There had been a partnership to keep the capital needs of the school division under wraps so not to be in an emergency issue. He stated over the past several years that technology and furniture had come out of the NNPS operational budget, not the capital budget. He acknowledged that there was a partnership, but was unsure whether everything could be achieved with \$4.5 million. City Manager Rohlf replied that the City had other priorities and had to balance the schools and public safety. The new breathing equipment for the Fire Department was necessary and the Fire Department staff, who lived at the fire stations 24-hours per day, which required upgrades and maintenance. She advised that this did not lessen the schools request; however, there had to be a balance.

Councilwoman Cherry indicated, as she heard, if the NNPS had an urgent need, the City Manager stated that she believed City Council would support whatever the urgent need was; but everything was not urgent, and the City may not be able to financially support if there was an urgent need; however, City Council would look for the funds for urgent needs and/or emergencies. She asked the School Board to reflect on the past, she reminded that the City had stepped-in to assist with urgent needs and/or emergencies when requested.

Vice Mayor Vick indicated with NNPS requesting additional funds that were not available, she questioned how the City would generate more revenue. She understood that the NNPS would like to have a budget to pull from versus requesting appropriations. Mayor Price replied that all options were being explored.

IV. Status of Huntington Middle School (Campus Concept)

City Manager Rohlf advised that this would be a briefing of the campus concept for Huntington Middle School (HMS) to ensure that the investment and design was used appropriately to get the value and benefit out of the design. There had been internal work done by City staff and she hoped to create some synergy on the project. The HMS campus would serve for other purposes, for the community, with a larger computer space for adult programs afterhours, perhaps

a larger library, larger auditorium, a community meeting room, and other recreational uses such as athletic fields. The access directly to the school would be cut-off for safety reasons. She hoped that the design would be conducive and with many uses well into the future. City staff was reviewing the seven (7) block campus/area and closure of 30th Street had been discussed. During the design phase, City staff had talked to stakeholders in the community as the City addressed workforce development and training, while making sure the design of the school complemented what the NNPS and City would like to see. Building a school was great but the City should maximize usage for the community. She stated that HMS would be a Magnet School and others would be attending the school from the entire City. City Manager Rohlf, advised by September 2019, City staff would have a design available to present. City staff would meet with the C. Waldo Scott staff to discuss the type of uses needed, such as meeting and/or recreational space. There were many moving parts on this project and the City wanted to ensure that the recommended design would encompass the necessary uses for the schools and community.

Vice Mayor Vick cautioned against allowing too much public access in HMS with other facilities being used around the children, posing safety concerns. City Manager Rohlf replied the design would ensure not allowing an impact on the safety of the children. The design would allow for after hour programs (i.e. Department of Parks and Recreation would start at 6:00 p.m. and the Boys and Girls Club).

School Board Member, Shelly Simonds indicated, while discussing the campus model, she recalled her walk at Riverview Farm Park, and mentioned the possibility of closing off the road and adding a well-lit space for a trail to exercise. City Manager Rohlf replied, while trying to energize the area and making the investment and connection (making the location walker friendly) was on the radar as the entire campus was being reviewed.

School Board Member, Dr. Terri Best advised that she served on the committee for the preliminary plan for HMS and discussed accessibility from the community (i.e. Doris Miller Community Center, Downing-Gross Culture Arts Center, Pearl Bailey Public Library), safety, and lighting approximately one year ago. She shared the committee was diverse, which included City staff, parents, educators, community leaders, bankers, etc.). She stated the City staff should look at the minutes of those committee meetings to have those concerns, suggestions, and recommendations included, as it appeared that both the HMS committee and City staff had similar goals in mind. City Manager Rohlf replied that staff would revisit the conversation and review the minutes; however, from the City's perspective, the entire site needed to be utilized, ensuring the proper connectivity to the community to better enhance some of the other activities planned for the area.

Dr. Parker stated there had been good conversations with the City Manager, and the NNPS was excited about the work and knew the concept design would be good. The scope of work by an architect would render orientation of the building, whether the school would be one or two stories. He believed NNPS needed a confident architect to guide the design of the building as the architectural firm would be equipped to discuss estimated cost to build a conceptual design. He encouraged City Council to consider hiring an architect, while City staff could complete the needs assessment over the summer and consider starting with an architectural firm in September 2019, to begin the needed discussions and pull in the community to move forward.

City Manager Rohlf noted that one of the concerns was the C. Waldo Scott Center and their needs, and how those needs would be incorporated into the design. Again, she advised that City staff wanted to ensure that the design would be a benefit to the school and community.

School Board Member, Dr. Best questioned whether there would be a report from the City in August 2019. City Manager Rohlf replied that it would be September 2019, to ensure that all got the best product (design) with a level of commitment and the committee would consist of stakeholders such as City staff, NNPS staff, parents, community leaders, etc. While the schools had a sense of urgency, the City Council had a sense of being very deliberate and wanted an opportunity to review all of the possibilities because it was a \$37 million investment. The City was awarded the CNI grant with the assistance of community involvement, and the community would again get an opportunity to be involved in this HMS design discussions. Vice Mayor Vick questioned whether people would be able to sign up to serve on this committee. City Manager Rohlf replied she did not believe another committee was needed, but during public sessions, the community could then voice their opinions. She stated City Council and the School Board would have the final say of the HMS Plan and Design.

School Board Member, Lisa Surles-Law questioned the process, because during the initial conceptual design, a lot of questions were asked about the needs of the school, and wondered who would play that role and guide the NNPS through how the area should be used. City Manager Rohlf replied the Planning Department was looking at the entire area. Councilwoman Cherry advised that she was unaware of the meetings that had taken place and believed that there needed to be some public conversation. She stated there had been discussion about HMS such as the design and uses, during one of her "Your Voice Matters – South District Town Hall meetings". She stated that those comments and concerns were forwarded to Dr. Parker; however, she did not see any of those conversations included in the conceptual design or plan. She understood everyone would not get what they wanted; however, everyone's voice should be heard. Ms. Surles-Law indicated the design concept and thoughts should be heard, and while reviewing the HMS design/plan, the thoughts about the entire campus needs should be kept in the forefront as both governing bodies moved forward.

Vice Mayor Vick reiterated it would be in the best interest and safety of the children that adult activities be held at different times, preferably after school hours. Councilwoman Woodbury replied that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism already had after school activities throughout the City and was sure they would continue to do an excellent job.

School Board Member, Ms. Simonds advised that the original conceptual design was \$50 million to construct HMS and the amount had been decreased to \$37 million in the City's CIP. She questioned whether there could be an auditorium, gym, or additional community space for community uses that were in the prior design, included in a different building on the campus.

Dr. Parker indicated, if an architect was hired to design the building, they would do what Councilwoman Cherry mentioned, and would be able to get community input, and build on that with existing stakeholders to be kept within the scope of the available funds to make HMS the best school, while adding value to the community. Councilwoman Cherry advised that Huntington Alumni needed to have their voice heard, along with other community leaders and organizations.

Mayor Price noted that one of the tasks of the Advisory Group formed, was a listening and learning group that would discuss anything and all things school related, revenue enhancement, school priorities. The balanced group consisted of City Council members, School Board members, Community Leaders, and Financial Community members. The Advisory Group would continue to meet, in addition to the City Council and School Board Joint meetings.

School Board Member, Ms. Simonds inquired about the revenue sharing program. Mayor Price replied that would be a part of the discussions; however, the Advisory Group had only met once, but revenue sharing would be on the agenda for a future meeting.

Councilwoman Scott suggested that the City Council and School Board quarterly meetings be held at alternate locations (2400 Washington Avenue and 12465 Warwick Boulevard).

Dr. Parker shared it was suggested during the Advisory Group meeting held on June 27, 2019, that the NNPS Capital Budget be presented to the City Council prior to the School Board's consideration for approval, which would be late August or early September 2019. He recommended that the next Joint quarterly meeting be held prior to October 2019.

Councilwoman Scott thanked the Newport News School Board for taking the time to meet with City Council to get to where we are and as we continued to move forward. The NNPS often mentioned "our children", please remember that "your children are our children" and the City also have the adult citizens/residents. The NNPS goals for the children were also the City Council's goals for the children. As a 17-year Council member, it had never been a time that the

NNPS came to City Council with an emergency request for funds and did not receive those needed funds. She realized that the NNPS would like to have all their eggs in one basket; however, those eggs needed to be shared.

V. Schedule Future Joint Meetings

By consensus of the Newport News City Council and the Newport News School Board the next Joint meeting would be held at the City Council Work Session on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. in the 10th Floor City Council Conference Room (2400 Washington Avenue) and the second Joint meeting would be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019, in the Newport News School Board Auditorium (12465 Warwick Boulevard).

VI. Closing Comments

School Board Chairman Hunter thanked both the members of the City Council and the School Board for their attendance and participation. He was happy to hear that Huntington Middle School would be rebuilt.

Dr. Parker thanked City Council for taking initiative to help the NNPS fund those projects moving forward, as this would ensure that the students were learning in an appropriate environment.

Mayor Price thanked both the members of the School Board and City Council for their attendance and bringing the matters to the forefront. He stated what was planned would be best for the community and the students in the long run. He thanked everyone for their patience and participation. It was obvious if one listened closely to the comments, there were different extremes and different ideas, but both bodies need to reach a consensus of those ideas in an effort to move forward.

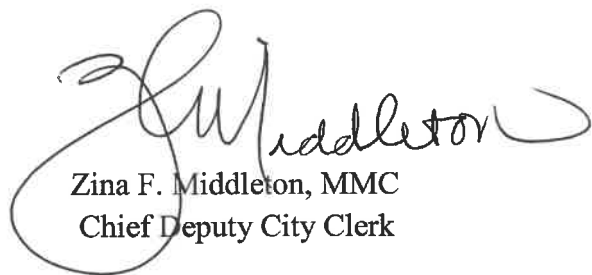
VII. Adjournment

Mayor Price adjourned the meeting of the Newport News City Council.

Chairman Hunter adjourned the meeting of the Newport News School Board.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
ON MOTION, COUNCIL ADJOURNED 5:39 P.M.

Page 19
Minutes of Special Joint Meeting
School Board/City Council
June 25, 2019



Zina F. Middleton, MMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk

McKinley L. Price
Mayor
Presiding Officer

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk