

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2400 WASHINGTON AVENUE
OCTOBER 22, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

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

ABSENT: None-----0

A. Call to Order

Mayor Price called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to all in attendance. 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 the availability of 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 Reverend Anne Kirchmier, St. Andrew's Episcopal 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 Councilwoman Scott.

D. Presentations

None

E. Public Hearings

1. Ordinance Granting Conditional Use Permit No. CU-2019-0007, to Charles E. Falk & Kathryn Falk, to Allow for the Operation of an Automobile Body & Paint Shop on Property Located at 11602 and 11604 Jefferson Avenue, Zoned C2 General Commercial

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT
NUMBER CU-2019-0007 FOR THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED PROPERTY FOR THE
PURPOSE OF ALLOWING THE OPERATION OF AN AUTOMOBILE BODY AND PAINT

E. Public Hearings Continued

1. Ordinance Granting Conditional Use Permit No. CU-2019-0007, to Charles E. Falk & Kathryn Falk, to Allow for the Operation of an Automobile Body & Paint Shop on Property Located at 11602 and 11604 Jefferson Avenue, Zoned C2 General Commercial Continued

SHOP ON A SITE ZONED C2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL. This ordinance granted Conditional Use Permit No. CU-2019-0007, to Charles E. Falk and Kathryn L. Falk, for the operation of an automobile body and paint shop at 11602 and 11604 Jefferson Avenue and Zoned C2 General Commercial. The proposed automobile body and paint shop would be newly constructed on a site that had automotive uses since being developed. The new building and site met all current city codes and would enhance the visual appearance of the property. The request was consistent with the One City, One Future Comprehensive Plans 2040 Land Use Map. On October 2, 2019, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 9:0 to recommend approval of the request with conditions. The City Manager recommended approval.

Mr. Sam Baraki, 800 Juniper Crescent, Chesapeake, Engineer for the applicant, requested that City Council follow the recommendation of the Planning Department, and staff, by voting favorably to allow the operation of automobile body and paint shop at 11602 and 11604 Jefferson Avenue.

Councilwoman Scott moved closure of the public hearing; seconded by Councilman Harris.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

2. Resolution Approving Plan Amendment PLN-2019-0005, the Denbigh-Warwick Area Plan, as an Amendment to the One City, One Future Comprehensive Plan 2040, for the City of Newport News, Virginia

A RESOLUTION APPROVING PLN-2019-0005, WHICH ADOPTS THE DENBIGH-WARWICK AREA PLAN AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, *ONE CITY, ONE FUTURE 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN*, FOR THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS. This resolution authorized Plan Amendment PLN-2019-0005, the *Denbigh-Warwick Area Plan (the Plan)*, as an amendment to the One City, One Future Comprehensive

E. Public Hearings Continued

2. Resolution Approving Plan Amendment PLN-2019-0005, the Denbigh-Warwick Area Plan, as an Amendment to the One City, One Future Comprehensive Plan 2040, for the City of Newport News, Virginia
Continued

Plan 2040, for the City of Newport News, Virginia. The *Denbigh-Warwick Area Plan* provided a detailed study of the opportunity area as identified and recommended in the comprehensive plan. The Plan's boundaries were the CSX railroad to the east, Warwick River to the west, Oyster Point Road/Deep Creek to the south, and Oakland Industrial Park to the north. The Plan identified a vision for the area, identified challenges, made recommendations, and served as a guide for redevelopment within the Denbigh area. On October 2, 2019, the Planning Commission voted 7:1, with one abstention, to recommend adoption of the Denbigh-Warwick Area Plan to City Council. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Councilwoman Scott moved adoption of the resolution as shown above; seconded by Councilman Harris.

Councilwoman Woodbury observed a number of options available in the Plan. She inquired whether an explanation of the options would be provided if the plan were adopted. City Manager Rohlf responded that this was only a plan. She advised there would be an opportunity for additional input.

Vice Mayor Vick extended thanks to Ms. Sheila McAllister, Director, Department of Planning, and staff, for their hard work on the Denbigh-Warwick Area Plan.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

F. Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the Consent Agenda, Items 1 through 5, all inclusive, as shown below; seconded by Councilwoman Scott.

F. Consent Agenda Continued

1. Minutes of the Joint City Council and Newport News School Board Work Session of September 10, 2019

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

2. Minutes of the Work Session of September 24, 2019

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

3. Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 24, 2019

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

4. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 24, 2019

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

5. Resolution Expressing Approval of the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board (H-NNCSB) State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019 and 2020 Performance Contract Renewal and Revisions

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE APPROVAL OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL FOR THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND STATE FISCAL YEAR 2020 COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD PERFORMANCE CONTRACT RENEWAL AND REVISIONS. This resolution expressed approval of the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board (H-NNCSB) State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2020 Budget and Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020 Performance Contract Renewal and Revisions. The Code of Virginia required that a performance contract negotiated between the Department of Behavioral Health and Development

F. Consent Agenda Continued

5. Resolution Expressing Approval of the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board (H-NNCSB) State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019 and 2020 Performance Contract Renewal and Revisions Continued

Services (DBHDS) and the H-NNCSB, and approved by the H-NNCSB, be submitted for approval by formal vote of the governing body of each political subdivision that established the CSB. The Budget and Performance Contracts served as a performance and accountability document between the DBHDS and the CSBs for the localities served. By Resolution No. 13160-18, adopted on September 11, 2019, City Council approved the biennial FY 2019 and FY 2020 CSB Performance Contract. A mid-cycle approval is required to approve revisions in the Performance Contract for FY 2020. The H-NNCSB approved the Performance Contract on September 26, 2019. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Ms. Natale Christian, Executive Director, Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board, 300 Medical Drive, Hampton, was available for any questions.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

G. Other City Council Actions

1. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the J. Clyde Morris Boulevard Paving Projects

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN STANDARD PROJECT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE RESURFACING OF J. CLYDE MORRIS BOULEVARD FROM WARWICK BOULEVARD TO THE CSX TRACKS PROJECT (UPC #115732) AND THE RESURFACING OF J. CLYDE MORRIS BOULEVARD FROM CSX TRACKS TO JEFFERSON AVENUE PROJECT (UPC #115368). This resolution authorized the City Manager to execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) by and between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for UPC 115732: J. Clyde Morris Boulevard Paving – Warwick Boulevard to CSX; and UPC 115368: J. Clyde Morris Boulevard Paving – CSX to Jefferson Avenue. The City had competed for, and successfully secured State of Good Repair (SGR) funds to support paving projects on J. Clyde

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

1. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the J. Clyde Morris Boulevard Paving Projects Continued

Morris Boulevard. The two paving projects included resurfacing of existing roadways. The Virginia Department of Transportation required the City to submit a signed grant agreement for use of the funding. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Scott moved adoption of the above resolution; seconded by Councilman Harris.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

2. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for Citywide Flashing Yellow Arrow Upgrades

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN STANDARD PROJECT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE CITY-WIDE FLASHING YELLOW ARROW UPGRADE PROJECT (UPC #111034). This resolution authorized the City Manager to execute a Project Administration Agreement by and between the City of Newport News, Virginia (City) and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for UPC 111034 – Citywide Flashing Yellow Arrow Upgrades. The City had competed for, and successfully secured, Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds to support a project that would improve signalized intersections. These improvements included traffic signal modification at 41 signalized intersections. VDOT required the City to submit a signed grant agreement for use of the funding. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

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

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

2. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for Citywide Flashing Yellow Arrow Upgrades Continued

Councilwoman Cherry commented about, and made inquiries about, the new bridge on Warwick Boulevard, which included flashing lights, across from Warwick High School in the vicinity of Lake Maury on Copeland Lane. There was a flashing yellow light and crosswalk at the new intersection, but when the button was depressed, it was difficult to cross. She advised that vehicles did not stop. One had to wait for the nearest stop light to turn red in order to cross. Something needed to be added to allow pedestrians to cross the street. City Manager Rohlf understood there would be a flashing yellow light to allow pedestrians to move forward. She promised to have the matter reviewed and would provide a report.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

3. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for Jefferson Avenue and Pavilion Place Traffic Signal

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN STANDARD PROJECT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A MAST ARM TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF JEFFERSON AVENUE AND PAVILION PLACE, INCLUDING ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS, EMERGENCY VEHICLE PREEMPTION EQUIPMENT, AND VIDEO DETECTION EQUIPMENT PROJECT (UPC #111035). This resolution authorized the City Manager to execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) by and between the City of Newport News, Virginia (City) and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for UPC #111035 – Jefferson Avenue and Pavilion Place Traffic Signal. The City competed for, and successfully secured, Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds to support one intersection improvement project. These improvements included traffic signal installation, handicap ramps, crosswalks, and pedestrian signals. The Virginia Department of Transportation required the City to submit a signed grant agreement for use of the funding. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

3. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for Jefferson Avenue and Pavilion Place Traffic Signal Continued

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

Councilwoman Cherry was pleased that the City competed, and successfully secured the funds, but commented that this was the installation of another traffic light, and questioned what prompted this action. City Manager Rohlf concurred this action called for the installation of a mast arm traffic light, which would direct pedestrians to another light. There had been issues with pedestrian crossings at the intersection of Pilot House and Jefferson Avenue.

Mr. Everett Skipper responded there was no light at the intersection of Pilot House and Jefferson Avenue. The action was prompted by a combination of measures, such as the level of pedestrian traffic at the intersection. Councilwoman Cherry questioned whether other intersections were being looked at that may have similar conflicts and may need an additional mast arm traffic light. Mr. Skipper responded that the Department of Engineering continued to monitor and evaluate intersections, measured traffic speeds, tracked accident history, and prioritized where the greatest benefit would be.

Councilwoman Cherry inquired whether this was based on traffic accidents. Mr. Skipper replied that yes, this action was based on the number of traffic accidents, pedestrian counts, and vehicle speed.

Regarding flashing yellow lights, Mayor Price recalled this action was originally started at a citizen's request. Mr. Skipper advised that VDOT had adopted a federal standard which allowed the City to move forward with flashing yellow lights. The program would continue as the City acquired additional funding through grants. City Manager Rohlf concurred with Mayor Price, this did originate from a citizen's request.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

4. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for Rock Landing Drive and Omni Boulevard Traffic Signal

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY
MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

4. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for Rock Landing Drive and Omni Boulevard Traffic Signal Continued

CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN STANDARD PROJECT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A MAST ARM TRAFFIC SIGNAL AND APPROPRIATE TURN-LANES AT THE INTERSECTION OF ROCK LANDING DRIVE AND OMNI BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, INCLUDING ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS, EMERGENCY VEHICLE PREEMPTION EQUIPMENT, AND VIDEO DETECTION EQUIPMENT PROJECT (UPC #111065). This resolution authorized the City Manager to execute a Project Administration Agreement (PAA) by and between the City of Newport News, Virginia (City) and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for UPC 111065 – Rock Landing Drive and Omni Boulevard Traffic Signal. The City competed for, and successfully secured, Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds to support one intersection improvement project. These improvements included traffic signal installation, handicap ramps, crosswalks, and pedestrian signals. VDOT required the City to submit a signed grant agreement for use of the funding. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

5. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Lease Agreement Amendment No. 5, By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia (City) and the Newport News Economic Development Authority (EDA) for the Department of Human Services (DHS) Space in Rouse Tower

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN ADDENDUM FIVE TO AGREEMENT OF LEASE BY AND BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, AND THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, DATED THE 22ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 2019. This resolution

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

5. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Lease Agreement Amendment No. 5, By and Between the City of Newport News, Virginia (City) and the Newport News Economic Development Authority (EDA) for the Department of Human Services (DHS) Space in Rouse Tower Continued

authorized the City Manager to execute Lease Addendum No. 5, by an between the City of Newport News, Virginia (City) and the Economic Development Authority (EDA) for the Department of Human Services (DHS) space in Rouse Tower and authorize the City Manager to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the transaction. The City of Newport News, for DHS, leased from the EDA, 118,058 square feet of space in Rouse Tower via a Lease dated December 1, 2007, and four subsequent addendums. The Lease was for a five (5) year term with three (3) additional five-year renewal terms, and the current renewal term set to expire November 30, 2022. DHS asked to lease additional space in Rouse Tower encompassing 3,762 square feet on portion of the 9th and 11th floors, and the proposed Lease Addendum adjusted the rentable square footage for a total of 121,820 square feet. All other terms and conditions of the original Lease were to remain in full force and effect, other than allowing DHS to vacate the particular space prior to lease expiration, with notice, should the need arise. Consistent with the original Lease terms, DHS paid an annual base rent of \$19.09 per square foot, with the Lease providing for an annual base rent escalation of two percent (2%). Beginning December 1, 2019, the base rental rate, per square foot, would be \$19.47. The EDA Board took action to approve the proposed Lease Addendum and approved the build-out costs for the additional space at its October 22, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the above resolution; seconded by Councilman Jenkins.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

6. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Lease Agreement Amendment No. 3, By and Between the City of Newport News and the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) for the Lackey Interceptor Force Main, Part I

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO THE AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE LACKEY INTERCEPTOR FORCE MAIN PART I, CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, DATED MARCH 26, 2019. This resolution

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

6. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Lease Agreement Amendment No. 3, By and Between the City of Newport News and the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) for the Lackey Interceptor Force Main, Part I Continued

authorized the City Manager to execute Lease Agreement Amendment No. 3, by and between the City of Newport News, Virginia (City) and the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) for the Lackey Interceptor Force Main Part I to attest payments had been satisfied. The HRSD Lackey Interceptor Force Main Extension project included the installation of 9,900 linear feet of 24-inch force main near the intersection of Yorktown Road and Crafford Road. The City, under the original Agreement, was required to make payments to HRSD quarterly until the obligated cost was satisfied. HRSD notified the City, as of March 31, 2019, that the City had paid all of its obligation, and no further payments would be accruing. HRSD requested an Amendment to acknowledge the ending of the Agreement. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

7. Motion Designating City Council's Voting Delegates and Alternate Delegate to the National League of Cities (NLC)

City Council was requested to designate, by motion, the City's Voting and Alternate Voting Delegates, for the National League of Cities (NLC) Annual Business Meeting during the Annual Business Meeting held in San Antonio, Texas, November 20-23, 2019. The Annual Business Meeting was scheduled at the conclusion of the conference on Saturday, November 23, 2019. As a direct member City, Newport News was entitled to four votes at the meeting based on population. A voting delegate must be officially designated by the City as NLC Bylaws prohibited voting by proxy, and the voting delegate or alternate must be present to cast the City's votes.

(No registered speakers)

Vice Mayor Vick volunteered to be the City's Voting Delegate. Councilman Jenkins volunteered to be the City's Alternate Delegate.

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

7. Motion Designating City Council's Voting Delegates and Alternate Delegate to the National League of Cities (NLC) Continued

Councilwoman Cherry moved to designate Vice Mayor Vick as the City's Voting Delegate, and Councilman Jenkins as the Alternate, at the NLC Annual Conference Business Meeting; seconded by Councilwoman Scott.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

H. Appropriations

Councilwoman Scott moved adoption of Appropriations, Items 1 through 8, all inclusive, as shown below; seconded by Vice Mayor Vick.

1. Department of Development–Southeast Community Redevelopment Initiatives

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$500,000.00) TO SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT (\$500,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$500,000.00 for Southeast Community Redevelopment Initiatives. An appropriation of \$500,000.00 was requested to support ongoing redevelopment initiatives in the Southeast Community, including strategic acquisition and infrastructure investments. Funding for these ongoing initiatives, which would benefit the Southeast Community, were anticipated in the approved FY 2020 Bond Authorization. Specifically the funds were to be appropriated from the Community Development category of the FY 2020 Bond Fund Authorization. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Woodbury inquired whether the funds were from a grant, or whether it was something separate. City Manager Rohlf responded that these funds were not a part of the CNI grant, but were separate and would support the general community.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

H. Appropriations Continued

2. Department of Human Services (DHS) – FY 2020 Bond Authorization, Public Buildings Category: Rouse Tower Building Renovation Project

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$541,660.00) TO ROUSE TOWERS RENOVATIONS (\$541,660.00). This resolution appropriated \$541,660.00 for planning/design services and construction costs for proposed renovations to facility space occupied by the Department of Human Services (DHS). The proposed Rouse Tower renovation planning project would begin an agency plan to improve the efficient use of building spaces, accommodate program adjacencies, relieve crowding, enhance safety, and foster compliance with client information security guidelines. Additionally, a redesigned first floor reception area, with an improved layout, client focused meeting areas, and security features, would help create a more welcoming, efficient, and secure environment. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

3. Newport News Police Department (NNPD) – FY 2020 Bond Authorization, Equipment Category: Upgrade of the 911 Computer Assisted Dispatch (CAD) System, the Police Records Management System (RMS), and the Sheriff's Jail Management System (JMS)

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$1,800,000.00) TO CAD/RMS/JMS UPGRADE (\$1,800,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$1,800,000.00 from the FY 2020 Bond Authorization in the Equipment category for upgrade of the 911 Computer Assisted Dispatch (CAD) System, the Police Records Management System (RMS), and the Sheriff's Jail Management System (JMS). The requested funds would provide for the upgrade of the 911 Computer Assisted Dispatch (CAD) System, the Police Records Management System (RMS), and the Sheriff's Jail Management System (JMS) along with supporting hardware. The RMS and JMS systems served as the primary records repository for both the Police Department and the Sheriff's Office. The proposed upgrades would guarantee the continued viability and support of these critical public safety systems. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

H. Appropriations Continued

4. Department of Parks, Recreation, & Tourism – FY 2020 Bond
Authorization: Improvement Projects

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$2,618,300.00) TO ATHLETIC FIELD LIGHTING (\$807,300.00), RECREATION FACILITIES (\$161,000.00), GOLF COURSE RENOVATION (\$950,000.00), PARK ROADWAY PAVING (\$200,000.00) AND IMPROVEMENTS AND PARK FACILITIES (\$500,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$2,603,300.00 from the FY 2020 Bond Authorization for select improvements to parks and recreation areas. The projects identified in the FY 2020 appropriation request were longstanding park and facility repair and replacement projects being undertaken to maintain safe access to existing services. The total appropriation request from the FY 2020 Bond Authorization was \$2,603,300. The projects that were funded through this request would not increase operating costs. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Cherry observed that lights were being replaced for several locations. Citizens had expressed concerns regarding lights at the Doris Miller Community Center. She requested an update on what was happening with the lighting at the Doris Miller Center. City Manager Rohlf asked Mr. William Roche, Assistant Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, Parks Division, to respond. Mr. Roche replied that Ms. Tammie Jordan, Assistant Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, Recreation Division, headed up the project, with the guidance of Mr. Michael Poplawski, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. He advised that the items being funded with this request were those that posed a significant safety hazard. He advised that there were two or three of the light poles that would fail and would cause disruption in the ability to serve the public. The entire study totaled \$5 million to improve lighting. Although the Doris Miller Community Center was being studied, it was not a part of the item before City Council.

Councilwoman Cherry noticed there was discussion about the pool cover at the Doris Miller Community Center. She recalled older poles being removed due to safety. She inquired whether there would be lighting replaced at the Doris Miller Community Center.

City Manager Rohlf indicated there was a study done that identified priority projects, primarily based on public safety. Additional funding was included in the CIP for lighting across the City. The most needed projects would be targeted in an effort to provide additional use for the citizens.

Councilwoman Cherry inquired whether the City would be able to accommodate citizens at other sites that were unable to use the Doris Miller Community Center because of the lighting issue. City Manager Rohlf indicated that she would have staff prepare a report and present it to City Council on the timing of lights.

H. Appropriations Continued

4. Department of Parks, Recreation, & Tourism – FY 2020 Bond Authorization: Improvement Projects Continued

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

5. Department of Public Works – FY 2020 Bond Authorization: Public Buildings

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$3,104,000.00) TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS RENOVATIONS AND REPAIRS (\$2,300,000.00), EMERGENCY GENERATORS (\$334,000.00) AND CITY HALL FUEL TANK REPLACEMENT (\$470,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$3,104,000.00 from the FY 2020 Bond Authorization Public Buildings category. The Building Services Division was responsible for the maintenance and repairs of City-owned buildings. This appropriation would allow for major renovations and repairs to City-owned buildings, purchase emergency generators, and the fuel tank replacement at City Hall. The City Manager recommended approval.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

6. Department of Engineering – Citywide Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Program

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$8,039,000.00) TO CITYWIDE SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION PROGRAM (\$8,039,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$8,039,000.00 from the FY 2020 Bond Authorization Sewer Rehabilitation category for the Citywide Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Program. The improvements would reduce storm and ground water infiltration into the City's sanitary sewer system, correct known sanitary sewer defects, and provide reliable sanitary sewer service to project area residents. The improvements include replacement of Pump Station 001 at Oak Avenue and 18th Street; Warwick Boulevard and Ridgeway Place; Oak Avenue, Parish Avenue, and Huxley Place Sewer Rehabilitation, Pump Station 49 Force Main re-routing, sewer rehabilitation in PS 004 Basin, Citywide upgrade of pump stations for resilience, Citywide improvements at pump stations for control and ventilation, and Citywide manhole rehabilitation. The funding would also address small localized problems and/or emergency repair projects. The funding source for the program would be \$8,039,000 from the FY 2020 Bond Authorization Sewer Rehabilitation Category. The City Manager recommended approval.

H. Appropriations Continued

6. Department of Engineering – Citywide Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Program Continued

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

7. Newport News Public School (NNPS) – General Obligation Bond Fund: HVAC Replacements for Woodside High School and Deer Park Elementary School

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (10,000,000.00) TO WOODSIDE HIGH SCHOOL HVAC REPLACEMENT (\$7,380,323.00) AND DEER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HVAC REPLACEMENT (\$2,619,677.00). This resolution appropriated \$10,000,000.00 from the General Obligation Bond Fund to Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) for HVAC replacements at Woodside High School and Deer Park Elementary School. The appropriation would fund two HVAC replacement projects – (1) \$7,380,323.00 at Woodside High School and (2) \$2,619,677.00 at Deer Park Elementary School. This appropriation would complete the appropriation to the NNPS for the FY 2020 Capital Improvement Plan. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

8. Department of Engineering – FY 2020 Capital Improvement Plan Streets and Bridges Category: Grant Funded Projects

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$5,000,000.00), FEDERAL REVENUE (\$2,915,750.00) AND STATE REVENUE (\$5,866,758.00) TO CAMPBELL ROAD RECONSTRUCTION UPC 105625 (\$6,000,000.00), TECH CENTER PARKWAY EXTENSION PHASE II (FORMERLY HOGAN DRIVE EXTENSION) UPC 108722 (2,000,000.00), WASHINGTON AVENUE STREETScape AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS UPC 109059 (\$400,000.00), CITYWIDE FLASHING YELLOW ARROW UPGRADES UPC 111034 (\$775,750.00), JEFFERSON AVENUE AT PAVILION PLACE TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPC 111035 (\$645,000.00), ROCK LANDING DRIVE AT OMNI BOULEVARD TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPC 111065 (\$1,095,000.00), OYSTER POINT ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS – I-64 RAMP WIDEN-

H. Appropriations Continued

8. Department of Engineering – FY 2020 Capital Improvement Plan Streets and Bridges Category: Grant Funded Projects Continued

ING UPC 113259 (\$2,000,000.00), J. CLYDE MORRIS BOULEVARD PAVING –WARWICK BOULEVARD TO CSX UPC 115732 (\$433,379.00), J. CLYDE MORRIS BOULEVARD PAVING – CSX TO JEFFERSON AVENUE UPC 115368 (\$433,379.00). This resolution appropriated \$13,782,508.00 from the FY 2019 and FY 2020 Capital Improvement Plan Streets and Bridges category for transportation projects. The City utilized a number of grant programs to construct and maintain its roadway network. Nine (9) projects received grant funding for FY 2019 and FY 2020, including the following: (1) Campbell Road Reconstruction; (2) Tech Center Parkway Extension Phase II; (3) Washington Avenue Streetscape and Pedestrian Improvements; (4) Citywide Flashing Yellow Arrow Upgrades; (5) Jefferson Avenue at Pavilion Place Traffic Signal; (6) Rock Landing Drive at Omni Boulevard Traffic Signal; (7) Oyster Point Access Improvements – I-64 Ramp Widening; (8) J. Clyde Morris Boulevard Paving – Warwick Boulevard to CSX; and (9) J. Clyde Morris Boulevard Paving – CSX to Jefferson Avenue. Total funding appropriation for these projects was \$13,782,508.00, which included \$8,782,508.00 in grant funding, and \$5,000,000.00 in City matching funds. Funding was available from the Grant Fund and General Obligation Bond line items of the Streets and Bridges category in the FY 2020 CIP. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

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

Dr. Robin Van Tine, 105 Cannon Drive, Newport News, extended thanks to the City Council for the \$300,000.00 line item in the CIP for the City Farm Park. He urged them to continue that line item in subsequent years in an effort to make the Park available to the citizens.

Dr. Van Tine extended thanks to City Manager Rohlf for allowing the free public tours to explore Warwicktowne archaeology, on Saturday, October 26, 2019, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the City Farm Park. The tours were hosted by the City's Historic Services Division. There was no cost to attend the tours; however, participants were required to make an appointment by calling the Newport News Park Campsite Office at (757) 888-3333. Space was limited to 15 individuals per tour, first-come, first served.

Dr. Van Tine also urged the City to begin work on a proposed trail to run by the James River and Deep Creek.

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

Dr. Van Tine expressed support for the creation of a Citizens' Advisory Committee to be led by Mr. Michael Poplawski, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. Dr. Van Tine indicated that members of the Citizens to Save Riverview Farm Park would be happy to assist.

Dr. Van Tine expressed support for Virginia Organizing, particularly for the transit dependent (Virginia Organizing was a non-partisan statewide grassroots organization dedicated to challenging injustice by empowering people in local communities to address issues that affect the quality of their lives. The Newport News Chapter, led by Ms. Jackie McIntyre and Ms. Jay Johnson, was present to address City Council regarding bus concerns with Hampton Roads Transit and requesting better service.) Dr. Van Tine indicated there was talk that some had lost their job due to poor service. This was a serious issue that public transportation in Newport News was not what it should be for the amount paid. He urged City Council to give thought to what could be done to improve transit in Newport News.

Mr. Antonio Thompson, P. O. Box 413, Newport News, quoted Bible scriptures from 1 Thessalonians 4:16, alluding to United States President, Donald Trump, being the Trump of God, and I Corinthians 15:52. He advised that United States President, the Honorable Donald Trump, would be re-elected in 2020, and he would prevail against those calling for his impeachment.

Ms. Shawna Lawson, 631-31st Street, Newport News, a member of Virginia Organizing, a non-partisan statewide grassroots organization dedicated to challenging injustice by empowering people in local communities to address issues that affect the quality of their lives. Ms. Lawson referenced a list of demands/requests sent to members of City Council regarding public transportation (a copy of the list is attached and made a copy of these minutes). She reiterated the requests, which included the following: (1) Bus routes to connect to Jefferson Avenue and Warwick Boulevard on Denbigh Boulevard, Oyster Point Road, Main Street, and Harpersville Road; (2) An expansion of service hours, especially during the weekends and holidays where transit services are available through 1:00 a.m.; (3) Increased retention of bus operators so that promised services are actually fulfilled; (4) An improved system for monitoring where buses are in their route that is streamlined and accessible for all consumers; (5) The reduction of missed and delayed trips; and (6) All bus routes to run at least every 30 minutes. Ms. Lawson understood that HRT would propose a regional funding system. Members of Virginia Organizing questioned how this system would affect City services.

Mr. Albert Williams, 125 Linbrook Drive, Newport News, a member of Virginia Organizing, a non-partisan statewide grassroots organization dedicated to challenging injustice by empowering people in local communities to address issues that affect the quality of their lives. He urged members of City Council to intervene and help with the public transportation problem.

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

Mr. Williams shared that he personally relied on HRT to get to and from Thomas Nelson Community College on a daily basis. His route included the 108 and 111 routes. When he missed one of them, he was put behind and may lose a class credit(s). He believed that HRT should be held accountable for the interruptions in service. He believed that a relay system be installed in order that people could be alerted when their bus would be delayed, allowing time to make other transportation arrangements. Mr. Williams referenced the list of demands/requests sent to members of City Council regarding public transportation as shared earlier by Ms. Shawna Lawson. They believed that 30-minute routes would help solve the problem. He further believed that a communication system be installed on each bus.

Ms. Roya Garcia, 1037-23rd Street, Newport News, commented that youth had nothing to do in the Southeast Community. She indicated there was too much gun violence. She further indicated that everything was closed once school was out for the day. It seemed as though City Council funded organizations and activities, but did not fund activities that aided the youth in the Southeast Community. She reminded that the youth were also citizens that mattered.

Ms. Chyna Hodges, 750-20th Street, Newport News, a 21-year old student at Thomas Nelson Community College shared that her 18-year-old brother was killed due to senseless gun violence. She was lost as a result, and affected emotionally by her brother's death. Ms. Hodges believed that more funding, support, and resources must be poured into the grass-roots organizations that worked with youth on a daily basis. She urged City Council to support those individuals and organization doing the work, such as Us4Us and Empower All, who worked directly with children that were overlooked by Guidance Counselors, teachers, and the community.

Ms. Clarissa Jones, 562 Blue Point Terrace, Newport News, shared that she was a single mother of two teenage boys. She shared that one of her sons had been shot on two separate occasions. She further shared that her son was not interested in spending time at Community Centers, or playing sports, because most allowed the younger kids to intermingle with the older teenage youth. Ms. Jones requested funding for Us4Us, who worked with and helped teenagers in the community.

Mr. Donavon Barnett Wright, 1037-23rd Street, Newport News, shared that he was a business owner in Newport News. He also requested funding for grass-root organizations that cared and worked with children to prevent them from going from the street to prison. He observed that City Council cared about various issues, such as traffic, but he was concerned with a different type of traffic; i.e. youth going from the streets, and traffic between guns into the youth's hands. He suggested that a "Stop Sign" be installed to cease those aforementioned activities. Mr. Wright advised there were no programs put in place that were created to help the

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

youth prior to them getting into serious trouble. Grass-root organizations, such as Us4Us, also known as the “Good Dad Gang,” worked with teens. The teens advised of their needs and Us4Us developed the programs which helped them, and kept them from going to prison, dropping out of school, or killing one another. The City continued to fund organizations that did not work. He reiterated that funds should be allocated for grass-root organizations such as Good Dad Gang and Empower All.

Captain Patrick Wright, 942 Shore Drive, Newport News, extended thanks to City Council for including a \$300,000 line-item in the 2020 CIP for the City Farm Park.

Captain Wright also extended thanks to City Council for their interest and assistance extended to Virginia Organizing, in their efforts to improve bus service in the City and region. In successive CIPs, there was a stated goal of the cultivation and promotion of a positive image of the City, particularly among millennial workers. Millennials, when polled about issues that mattered the most, put the environment at the top of the list. To the City’s credit, there had been a robust recycling effort, but there needed to be more.

Captain Wright challenged the City Council, and the citizens, to commit to the ban of single-use plastics; i.e. grocery bags, straws, foam cups, etc. These items littered the City streets, parks, and waterways; clogged storm drains, and filled up the landfill. These threaten one of the City’s oldest industries – the seafood industry. No one wants to live in a trashy City. He suggested claiming the mantle of “the Green City”.

Captain Wright urged City Council to encourage the State government to follow the lead of ten other states and pass the container deposit law, also known as the “Bottle Bill,” or container deposit legislation. He urged citizens to think globally and act locally.

Ms. Lucy Van Tine, 105 Cannon Drive, Newport News, extended thanks to the City Council for the \$300,000.00 line item in the CIP for the Riverview Farm Park/City Farm Park. This would make a start in getting City Farm ready for the public to enjoy.

Ms. Van Tine extended thanks to City Council opening City Farm property up for free public tours on Saturday, October 26, 2019, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the City Farm Park. The tours were hosted by the City’s Historic Services Division. There was no cost to attend the tours; however, participants were required to make an appointment by calling the Newport News Park Campsite Office at (757) 888-3333. Space was limited to 15 individuals per tour, first-come, first-served. Newport News citizens would enjoy getting a view of their fabulous riverfront land and looking out at the Warwick and James Rivers and Deep Creek.

Ms. Van Tine called attention to problems with the Hampton Roads transportation City bus service. She suggested having Riverview Farm Park and Grissom Library added to the bus routes. She believed that all of the City’s parks, especially the riverfront parks, and all libraries should be assessable to all Newport News citizens.

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

Mr. Adrian Cook, 750-20th Street, Newport News, addressed City Council on behalf of United Soldiers for United Streets. He shared that September 19, 2019 marked the one-year anniversary of his release from federal prison after serving nearly ten years for selling drugs in the Southeast Community. He realized that he had never imagined living to the age of 18. Mr. Cook, at 39-years of age, realized that the youth of the City were in the same situation, with many not making it to the age of 18 years. He committed himself, if he could put his life on the line to destroy the community, he could do the same to build up the community. He urged City Council to assist him in building the community by allocating resources and funds to the programs, to grass root organizations, such as Us4Us and Empower All, who were speaking with the youth daily, embracing them, and letting them know that they were loved. Mr. Cook asked City Council to provide resources to assist in providing the children hope, love, and to teach financial literacy, and show that opportunity was available. He was saddened that many youth graduated but died prior to attending college. He indicated now was the time for action and reiterated the request to allocate funds to programs.

Mr. David G. Wilson, 550 Pavilion Place, #3, Newport News, advised that he was the founder of the organization, Good Dad Gang, and a member of Us4Us. He shared that he served 19 years in prison, with 10 spent in solitary confinement. He had destroyed his community and was willing to buckle down and do what was required. He concurred with Mr. Cook, advising that once the community was destroyed, it was destroyed for the youth that followed. He indicated that he had not previously attended a City Council Meeting, and he listened intently on what was being said and done, referencing the word “for” with millions being allocated for various projects. Mr. Wilson shared that he spent a great deal of his time in the streets where children were dying. He further shared that he was from the Marshall Courts community, with the Doris Miller Community Center being in the 800 block; and while Assistant Parks Director, Mr. Roche, advised that the lights were not operable in front of the Doris Miller Community Center, but there was no safety hazard. He knew that many children died daily on the corner that was not considered a “safety hazard” due to the dark areas. He was saddened that \$1.8 million was allocated to fix a project other than the lighting.

Mr. Malik Jones, 750-29th Street, Newport News, shared that building a personal relationship with youth could bring a major change in a community. Many young men and women would blame the City officials, not taking personal responsibility for a particular situation. Citizens failed to realize that listening was the key – youth failed to listen to leadership, and leadership failed to listen to the youth. Mr. Jones suggested leadership should begin by building a personal relationship with the youth and incorporate their thoughts into the agenda regarding what was occurring in the community – youth would begin to make a major change.

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

Ms. Jannie Bazemore, 1004 Hampton Avenue, Newport News, suggested members of City Council, stop and take time to observe what was happening to the Southeast Community. The youth were suffering from a lack of revitalization and programs. Huntington was a place for the youth in the past. Ms. Bazemore extended thanks to the City Council for including Huntington Middle School in the CIP. She advised they needed to speed up the funding for Huntington Middle School. Funding for the plan and design of the school should be appropriated immediately. Ms. Bazemore inquired whether the funding should continue to be delayed while more and more of the Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) would need to be repaired and/or rebuilt. They would need more than roofs and HVAC systems. Rumor was spreading that Warwick High School needed to be rebuilt. She questioned whether Warwick High School would take priority over Huntington Middle School. Many of the NNPS were 50 years in age or older. No other school project should take funding over Huntington Middle School which had been neglected for years – some of which was due to completely closing the school and erecting an alternative site with no school and giving it a Huntington name, which was unacceptable. Ms. Bazemore asked members of City Council to keep in mind every day that Huntington Middle School was closed, the City and the School Board was in violation of the court-ordered busing plan, which remained in effect. That plan provided for neighborhood schools for middle school students in Newport News. No action was pursued on that plan as it would hold up progress. She advised that progress was being held up anyway. In June 2020, Huntington Middle School would become a school on paper with no students, meaning the community and the children were failed. Ms. Bazemore indicated, between the City and the School Board, past and present, the demise of Huntington Middle School should never have happened. She advised the only way to reconcile with the Southeast Community was for the immediate reopening of Huntington Middle School. On behalf of the Huntington High School Alumni Association, Ms. Bazemore urged that City Council speed up the funding for Huntington Middle School to proceed with the education of the students and keeping the students in the downtown area. Ms. Bazemore concluded with her signature phrase, “Huntington shall rise again.”

Mr. Adrian Whitcomb, 316-54th Street, Newport News, distributed a flyer about the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes). He referenced a historical presentation by Mr. J. Michael Moore, Historic Sites Curator, Division of Museums and Historic Services, at an event Unveiling the Deep Creek and American Revolution Interpretive Marker, on Saturday, October 19, 2019, 3:00 p.m., at the Menchville Marina (494 Menchville Road South). The marker honored the contributions of a forgotten French hero of the American Revolution. For further details, citizens were invited to go to YouTube and search “Washington-Rochambeau Deep Creek,” as well as the link at the website, www.saveriverviewfarmpark.com.

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

Ms. Pam Hall, Newport News, a resident of the Southeast Community, spoke on behalf of Huntington Middle School. She read excerpts from Mary McLeod Bethune's Last Will & Testament, written more than 50 years prior (a copy of Ms. Hall's remarks are attached in full and made a part of these minutes). She left the following in her will: (1) the challenge of developing confidence in one another; (2) a thirst for education; (3) respect for the uses of power; (4) faith; and (5) a responsibility to young people.

Mr. William Harrell, President and CEO, Hampton Roads Transit (HRT), advised that HRT desired to work closely with the members of Virginia Organizing. HRT had met with the group. He agreed that there was room for change to improve public transportation. He advised that HRT was working closely with the City of Newport News. Ms. Lisa Cipriano, Director, Department of Budget and Evaluation, was the Chair of the Financial and Management Committee. They had worked carefully on their financial numbers and projections. He advised that the issues that occurred in FY 2016 had not re-occurred. He shared that some funds had been returned to the localities. Mr. Harrell advised the funding model was their challenge. HRT celebrated there was \$5 billion worth of construction in the region; i.e. roads, bridges, and tunnels, to include the I-64 Widening Project, the HRBT Project, and the High Rise Bridge. He advised the project had been on the books for 30 years, only in FY 2013 when the General Assembly created the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund, they created funds for roads, bridges, and tunnels, but excluded public transportation. Mr. Harrell advised that HRT had undertaken a project called Transform Transit, where a Strategic Plan was in the works to come up with Regional Standards so not to solely rely on General Fund sources. He understood that services were not optimized in the region. HRT recognized forty-five percent (45%) of the operating budget came from the General Fund of localities. He advised that transportation competed with the many needs amongst localities – schools, parks, public safety, lighting, helping the youth, etc. He advised that there was a structural problem with how public transit was funded. HRT was committed to improving public transit. He asked the members of Virginia Organizing to assist during the General Assembly Session so that leaders understood that part of the quality of life needed for the community was good bus transportation. Mr. Harrell stated that HRT was committed to addressing the issues expressed by Virginia Organizing in collaboration with the City of Newport News.

Vice Mayor Vick expressed support for Bus Rapid Transit. Mr. Harrell envisioned connecting Jefferson Avenue and Mercury Boulevard. They were doing environmental work on the issue and looked forward to updating City Council on the matter of Bus Rapid Transit.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments

Councilwoman Scott thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation and voicing their opinions and concerns.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Scott thanked Ms. Chyna Hodges and Ms. Roya Garcia, for their attendance and doing their first public speaking position in front of City Council and invited them to come again.

Councilwoman Scott thanked Mr. Harrell for his attendance and personally speaking to the Newport News community. It was important for citizens to see that he was engaged directly with his organization and worked with HRT in the best interest of the citizens.

Councilwoman Scott shared that she participated in the 100 Moms March, held on Saturday, October 19, 2019 to bring awareness to domestic violence in the community. There was a great turnout, to include Mayor Price, Congressman Bobby Scott, members of the NNPD Young Commissioners, members of the NNPD Homicide Support Group, Transitions Family Violence Services, The Catalyst Effect, GROW Foundation, Inc. (Girls Recognizing Our Worth), Boys and Girls Club of the Virginia Peninsula, Newport News Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, and many young attendees. Councilwoman Scott advised that she was feeling optimistic about the way the community was engaged in the perils that impacted the citizens and the community. It was good to see the outpouring of love by the citizens and the youth who participated in the event.

Councilwoman Scott congratulated the Newport News Sheriff's Office (NNSO) for the 6th Annual Project Lifesaver Motorcycle Ride, on Saturday, October 12, 2019. Home Safe/Project Lifesaver provided rapid response to save lives and reduce the potential for serious injury to adults and children who wandered due to Alzheimer's, Dementia, Autism, Down Syndrome, traumatic brain injury and related disorders.

Councilwoman Scott also applauded the NNSO for the many volunteers that helped take care of some of the City's disadvantaged citizens. She and her colleagues attended the NNSO 14th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, held Thursday, October 17, 2019, at the Holiday Inn Newport News - City Center (980 Omni Boulevard).

Councilwoman Scott and her colleagues attended the Community and Consumer Awards Recognition Luncheon on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at the Hampton Marina Hotel (700 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton). This organization, Insight Enterprises, Inc. Peninsula Center for Independent Living, headed by Executive Director, Mr. Ralph Shelman, assisted individuals with disabilities on the Virginia Peninsula and Middle Peninsula to live independently. Councilwoman Scott advised that these individuals did more as a disabled community than some in the abled community. She applauded Mr. Shelman and his staff for their hard work.

Councilwoman Scott reported to the residents of the Warwick Lawn community that the Campbell Road project was slated to begin its upgrade in January 2022.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Scott announced the next North District Town Hall Meeting would be held on Monday, October 28, 2019, 7:00 p.m., at the Denbigh Community Center (15198 Warwick Boulevard). There would be Open Discussion. All citizens were welcome to attend to share their ideas.

Councilwoman Scott extended condolences to Mrs. Beverly Diamonstein and family on the passing of former Delegate Alan Diamonstein. Delegate Diamonstein, a devoted public servant and beloved community leader, died on October 17, 2019. Councilwoman Scott indicated that his death was a great loss to the City of Newport News and the Commonwealth of Virginia. It was difficult to measure all that he had done to impact the City and State. She had watched him as he worked in collaboration with different businesses and leaders throughout the Commonwealth to make the City and State a better place to live.

Vice Mayor Vick thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation and voicing their opinions and concerns, particularly the members of Virginia Organizing, with whom she had met about their transportation concerns. Vice Mayor Vick shared that many issues to which City Council could have an impact, relied on funding. She shared their concerns regarding transportation and advised that she was determined to make Bus Rapid Transit a reality, especially on Jefferson Avenue.

Regarding comments from Us4Us, Vice Mayor Vick advised that she was also concerned about the youth in the community and the violence everywhere nationwide. She explained that the City of Newport News had a summer jobs program for the past five (5) years that employed youth, which was a pivotal project in the City. The original focus was in the South District, which had the highest crime rate, because they knew if individuals attained an education, and a strong work ethic, the pace would be set for a better life. She urged those in attendance to be aware of what was available in the City. Vice Mayor Vick commented about the Brooks Crossing Innovation and Opportunity Center Ribbon Cutting, on Saturday, August 24, 2019, at 550-30th Street, with STEM classes and various trainings that would help, urging all to be connected. She shared that she personally was enlightened in her youth with a summer job knowing it could help her get out of poverty and build a better life because of a strong work ethic. Vice Mayor Vick urged families to bring the youth out – there was the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center; Hampton Roads Community Action Program (HRCAP); all of which could assist the youth and get them on a path to work to better their lives.

Vice Mayor Vick extended condolences to the King family, on the passing of their mother, Ms. Pearl King.

Vice Mayor Vick extended condolences to Mrs. Beverly Diamonstein and family on the passing of former Delegate Alan Diamonstein.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Woodbury advised that she also attended the NNSO 14th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, held Thursday, October 17, 2019, at the Holiday Inn Newport News - City Center (980 Omni Boulevard). She was amazed by the number of volunteers that help in the City of Newport News to make it a better place.

Councilwoman Woodbury advised that she also attended the Community and Consumer Awards Recognition Luncheon on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at the Hampton Marina Hotel (700 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton). She commended Mr. Ralph Shelman, Executive Director, Insight Enterprises, Inc. Peninsula Center for Independent Living, for all of his hard work to assist individuals with disabilities on the Virginia Peninsula and Middle Peninsula to live independently.

Councilwoman Woodbury advised that she attended the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route event at the Unveiling of the Deep Creek and American Revolution Interpretive Marker, on Saturday, October 19, 2019, 3:00 p.m., at the Menchville Marina (494 Menchville Road South). She encouraged citizens to visit YouTube and search "Washington-Rochambeau Deep Creek," as well as the link at the website, www.saveriverviewfarmpark.com. She was grieved that the NNPS did not teach history anymore. She referenced a historical presentation by Mr. J. Michael Moore, Historic Sites Curator, Division of Museums and Historic Services, who provided the best history lesson.

Councilwoman Woodbury advised that she served on the Board of Directors of Hampton Roads Transit (HRT). She further advised that she was interviewed by WAVY-TV10. There was a 10-year strategic plan being worked on in an effort to make things better. She consistently reminded the Board that the Peninsula was treated as a stepchild and did not receive services that Norfolk and other cities on the Southside received. Councilwoman Woodbury assured members of Virginia Organizing that their list of demands/requests were articulated. Their goals were well represented and were being worked on.

Councilwoman Woodbury thanked members of Us4Us for their attendance and participation, and for using their life experiences to help others and would help save the City's youth. She wished Us4Us well and offered her assistance. She concurred that relationships with youth would help guide and save them.

Councilwoman Woodbury shared that City Council received a presentation on E-scooters at its earlier Work Session of October 22, 2019. She indicated that scooters could also help with transportation.

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

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Cherry extended condolences extended condolences to Mrs. Beverly Diamonstein and family on the passing of former Delegate Alan Diamonstein. Delegate Diamonstein was a true friend and mentor and would be sorely missed. Councilwoman Cherry indicated Delegate Diamonstein was a “quiet giant,” but very thoughtful and helpful in her career.

Councilwoman Cherry extended condolences to the family of Apostle Garna Renauld Trafton, Pastor of Bread of Life New Creation Community Church, Newport News, who transitioned on Monday, October 21, 2019. The family would be kept in prayer.

Councilwoman Cherry extended thanks to the City’s Department of Libraries and Information Services, for the Salute to the Heroes of the Southeast Community Exhibit, held Saturday, October 12, 2019, at the Main Street Library (110 Main Street). She was humbled as her late husband, Mr. Gregory Cherry, was one of the heroes honored. Councilwoman Cherry encouraged everyone to stop by the Virginiana Room at the Main Street Library. The exhibit was free and very inspiring.

Councilwoman Cherry advised that the NNPS was celebrating Red Ribbon Week, October 22-26, 2019, which focused on alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, as well as violence prevention awareness events. She extended thanks to Ms. Christina Buckingham, School Counselor at Newsome Park Elementary School, who extended an invitation to Councilwoman Cherry to participate in the program on Monday, October 21, 2019. The children did a great job and creating and innovating their own rap songs, and shared them with stellar performances. Councilwoman Cherry extended kudos to Ms. Fulp’s and Ms. Womack’s classes, who were the winners. She further congratulated Master Police Officer Brandon Maynard, who showed his talent by doing the dance, Cupid Shuffle. She shared the takeaway from the program was to “Say No to Drugs”.

Councilwoman Cherry celebrated and extended thanks to the vision impaired community with Insight Enterprises who had a “Walk with the Blind”. The walk was held on Saturday, October 12, 2019, in Williamsburg. She was humbled to be able to walk with them, down the Duke of Gloucester Street, and past the Capitol, helping her to appreciate their ability as opposed to their disability. Councilwoman Cherry reminded that the blind also desired to live full lives.

Councilwoman Cherry announced that the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day was scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Drop-off locations would be provided at the three Newport News Police Precincts, (South – 5849 Jefferson Avenue; Central – 9710 Jefferson Avenue; and North – 368 DeShazor Drive). This was a safe way to discard un-used and expired medications. She reminded that these medications should not be flushed down the toilet or discarded in the City’s waterways.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Cherry announced that the Community Fall Festival would be held on Saturday, October 26, 2019, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., at 617-27th Street, for children, ages 2 – 17 years. Free pony rides would be available, as well as games and prizes. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Children were encouraged to dress in costumes to receive a prize. The event was sponsored by the Downtown Newport News Merchants and Neighbors Association, Inc., in partnership with the James A. Fields House, Inc.

Councilwoman Cherry advised that a great time was had at the Pumpkin Paint and Carve, on Saturday, October 19, 2019, 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m., at 617-27th Street.

Councilwoman Cherry announced that the South District “Your Voice Matters” Town Hall Meeting, scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2019, would be cancelled. The South District “Your Voice Matters” Town Hall Meeting, scheduled for November 14, 2019, would be combined, and held at the Brittingham-Midtown Community Center (570 McLawhorne Drive), 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. This would be a follow-up focus on traffic calming measures for the Huntington Heights community. The “Your Voice Matters” meetings would be held on its regular schedule during the month of December.

Councilwoman Cherry thanked members of the Us4Us organization for their attendance and participation, and for sharing their thoughts, concerns, and ideas. She advised that there were many activities that occurred in the City for youth, and most were free of charge, especially through the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center. She explained that the City Council could not do it all, nor could one organization do it all; but if they collaborated, the masses could be reached. Councilwoman Cherry advised that it would have been nice to receive information about the organization – who they were, what they did, and what their plans were, but she encouraged them to continue their work. If there was a gap in services, City Council could offer the services of Us4Us. There were multiple groups and organizations throughout the City, and everyone may not be reached, but together a larger impact could be made. She suggested Us4Us to get connected with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. Everyone must work together, and stop the blaming and shaming. Find out what the City was doing prior to pointing a finger and saying what the City was not doing.

Councilwoman Cherry thanked and commended members of Virginia Organizing for their attendance and participation, and for sharing their thoughts and concerns. She concurred with Vice Mayor Vick regarding Bus Rapid Transit. City Council had discussed the matter in the past, but was aware that it was a cost issue. City Council would continue to work with HRT to obtain the services needed in the community.

Councilman Harris thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation, and for sharing their thoughts, concerns, and ideas.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilman Harris extended condolences to Mrs. Beverly Diamonstein and family on the passing of former Delegate Alan Diamonstein. Delegate Diamonstein was a “powerhouse” in politics in both the City and the State, with many mentorships throughout the course of his political career.

Councilman Harris reminded about his comments regarding Mr. David Wilson, Founder of the Good Dad Gang, who brought together a group of young people on Monday, September 23, 2019, at the Pearl Bailey Library (2510 Wickham Avenue). This group of teenagers spoke passionately about their experiences. It was easy for City leaders to suggest what they thought the youth needed, but no one knew like the youth. Councilman Harris encouraged the Good Dad Gang to speak with Chief Steve Drew, NNPD, and Mr. Alan Archer, Assistant City Manager, about how to receive additional information and get the Good Dad Gang added to the list of organizations that request funding from the City. He realized that things needed to be done differently. Looking at some of the grass root organizations in the City, he believed that the Good Dad Gang brought a different dynamic to the table. He advised that he would attempt to help them during budget time in an effort to reach the demographic with the most need.

Councilman Harris shared that he participated in an Student Council Association Leadership program at Crittenden Middle School, and commended Ms. Teri Jones, Principal, at Crittenden Middle School. There was brief discussion about the number of students being impacted and how they were bursting at the seams with students in the building. City Council would work to rectify an issue that continued to grow. Councilman Harris reminded that Mayor Price continued to meet about Huntington Middle School. He assured the public the project had not been pushed to the side, but worked to get the best plan in place. It would come down to the youth being educated, safety, and maximizing their potential.

Councilman Jenkins extended thanks to the members of the Good Dad Gang for the forums they sponsored and the worthwhile discussions. He looked forward to future meetings and hoped that other members of the community would join in.

Councilman Jenkins extended thanks to the members of Virginia Organizing for their attendance and participation. He indicated that mass transit was an issue for which he was very concerned.

Councilman Jenkins extended thanks to members of the Huntington Alumni Association for their attendance and participation, to remind City Council that the rebuilding of Huntington Middle School should be a priority.

Councilman Jenkins extended thanks to members of the Save Riverview Farm Park for their attendance and participation, talking about the plans for Riverview Farm Park and keeping the issues in the forefront.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Mayor Price extended condolences to Mrs. Beverly Diamonstein and family on the passing of former Delegate Alan Diamonstein. Recalling the “E.F. Hutton commercial,” he advised when Alan Diamonstein spoke, people listened. He was a quiet leader in the community and did a great job for the Commonwealth. Governor Northam had instructed that flags be at half-mast in honor of Former Delegate Alan Diamonstein.

Mayor Price announced that the Newport News Oyster Roast was scheduled for Friday, October 25, 2019, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., at City Center (701 Town Center Drive). Admission was free. The public was invited to enjoy roasted oysters, seafood, food trucks, and live music by the band Slap Nation.

Mayor Price announced that the 2019 Newport News State of the City was scheduled for Tuesday, October 29, 2019, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., at the Newport News Marriott at City Center (740 Town Center Drive). The event was sold out, but citizens would be able to view it on Newport News TV, Channel 48.

Mayor Price announced the Whittaker Place Apartments Grand Opening Celebration, scheduled for Thursday, October 31, 2019, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at 1003-28th Street. He encouraged residents to visit and view the transformation of former Whittaker Hospital.

Mayor Price reminded that Election Day was Tuesday, November 5, 2019, for the State Senate, House of Delegates, and the Newport News Clerk of the Circuit Court. He encouraged everyone to be a part in the government, and exercise their civic duty.

Mayor Price announced that Monday, November 11, 2019 was Veterans Day. The City of Newport News would have its first Veteran’s Day parade. The parade would begin at the Newport News City Hall (2400 Washington Avenue), 10:00 a.m., and proceed to the Victory Arch, for the traditional Veterans Day service at 11:00 a.m.

Councilwoman Cherry extended kudos to the Newport News Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, for a great Fall Festival, held on Saturday and Sunday, October 5-6, 2019. She extended thanks to Mr. Michael Poplawski, Director, and staff, for making it a fun event for the community.

K. Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS,
ON MOTION, COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mabel Washington Jenkins".

Mabel Washington Jenkins, MMC
City Clerk

McKinley L. Price, DDS
Mayor
Presiding Officer

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk