COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING April 13, 2021

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting at 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, in the Board Room of the Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

Members of the Board Present:

Daniel J. Schmitt, Chairman, Brookland District Patricia S. O'Bannon, Vice-Chairman, Tuckahoe District Thomas M. Branin, Three Chopt District Tyrone E. Nelson, Varina District Frank J. Thornton, Fairfield District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoulkas, County Manager
J. T. (Tom) Tokarz, County Attorney
Tanya Brackett Harding, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Brandon Hinton, Deputy County Manager for Administration
Cari Tretina, Assistant to the County Manager/Chief of Staff

Energy Management Program Update

Carrie Webster, Energy Manager for the Department of General Services, and Susan Moore, Facilities Director for Schools, outlined the County's energy management program to reduce energy use, support green buildings, encourage conservation, improve efficiency, and increase the use of renewable energy.

Ms. Webster also discussed the County's solar power purchase agreement under which a contractor installs, operates, and owns solar power panels on County buildings and sells the generated electric power at lower rates than those of Dominion Energy Virginia. The first two projects were at the Libbie Mill Library and the Mental Health East Center, and the second round of projects will begin shortly on the Public Safety Building and the new buildings at Tucker High School, Highland Springs High School, and Brookland Area Elementary School.

Ms. Webster stated the third round of proposed solar projects will include the Western Government Center parking deck where a canopy for the solar panels must be constructed on the top level, the Fairfield Area Library, and the Recreation & Parks Main Office. Ms. Moore stated the schools in the third round will be Glen Allen High School, Harvie Elementary School, Holman Middle School, Kaechele Elementary School, and Colonial Trail Elementary School.

Mr. Branin asked about the cost of the canopy for the Western Government Center parking deck and questioned the wisdom of moving forward at that location. Mr. Vithoulkas stated he would get back to the Board with additional financial information.

Central Virginia Transportation Authority (CVTA) and GRTC Transit System Update

Meghan Coates, Director of Finance, and Todd Eure, Assistant Director of Public Works, updated the Board about the new Central Virginia Transportation Authority and the GRTC Transit System. Ms. Coates shared GRTC cost information and stated that projected CVTA revenues indicate that Henrico will be the largest source of CVTA funds by FY 2022-23.

Mr. Eure discussed current GRTC services and the COVID-19 pandemic's effect of ridership. The County's priorities for GRTC system expansion are Brook Road service to the proposed GreenCity project and Virginia Center Commons and service to the Azalea Avenue/Richmond Henrico Turnpike corridors to serve development in the vicinity of the Richmond Raceway.

Mr. Eure noted that Henrico has no representation on the GRTC Board of Directors and reminded the Board that GRTC is currently co-owned by the City of Richmond and Chesterfield County. Therefore, changing the Board membership requires modification of the GRTC by-laws and articles of incorporation with the approval of the Richmond City Council and Chesterfield Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Nelson expressed the desire for Henrico County to be represented on the GRTC Board of Directors, and Mr. Branin requested Mr. Eure to look at moving stops in the Short Pump area that are at dangerous intersections and the possible use of smaller buses on some routes.

Mr. Vithoulkas noted the plan is to have a series of regional meetings and that there may be the need for legislative action at a later date.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Henrico County, Virginia