

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
February 14, 2023

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

Members of the Board Present:

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

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoulikas, County Manager
Andrew R. Newby, County Attorney
Tanya N. Brackett, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Michael Y. Feinmel, Deputy County Manager for Public Safety
W. Brandon Hinton, Deputy County Manager for Administration
Monica Smith-Callahan, Deputy County Manager for Community Affairs
Ty Parr, Director of Social Services/Assistant to the County Manager for Community Services
Cari M. Tretina, Assistant to the County Manager/Chief of Staff
Steven J. Yob, Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
Benjamin A. Sheppard, Director of Public Relations

Senior Connections Update

Amy Strite gave the Board an update as the new Executive Director for Senior Connections. Ms. Strite stated they have moved offices and are now located at 1300 Semmes Avenue. They are currently serving over 71,000 adults over the age of 55 who live in Henrico. They offer help with transportation, meal delivery, assistance for caregivers, social activities for older adults, volunteering and employment for older adults, and education on aging. She noted they partnered with the County to help get seniors vaccinated for COVID, and that 62% of adults in Henrico over the age of 65 are fully vaccinated. Ms. Strite shared results of a survey of seniors in Henrico, finding that the greatest needs were coordination, caregiver support, legal services, safe and affordable housing, friendly visits to help reduce isolation and loneliness, and help with understanding Medicare. Moving forward, she stated they will continue working with seniors on mental health, housing instability, and caregiving. Mrs. O'Bannon asked what the major concerns were with transportation. Ms. Strite explained the issue is finding individuals who can supply the additional support for our seniors who need transportation beyond medical appointments. Mr. Thornton asked what the number one request was for seniors in the community. Ms. Strite explained that more resources being offered for seniors was the greatest need. She thanked the Manager and the Board for their continued support.

Donation of Real Property

Curtis Anthony, Director of Real Property, recognized Charles Foldesi, a retired County employee, who wishes to donate four lots known as 1706 and 1708 Eden Avenue in the Buena Vista subdivision. Mr. Foldesi explained he worked for the County for over 45 years in the Information Technology Department. He stated the County was good to him and he wants to give back to the County. He would like to see the lots turned into affordable housing. He knows finding affordable housing has become hard, and it is his hope the County will turn the lots into affordable housing. Mr. Foldesi also presented the Board with a check for \$100,000. He explained there are seven homes that are currently on well water in his neighborhood, and he would like to have those homes hooked up to the County's water system. He explained that growing up he heard about children falling into the wells, and he would like to prevent this from happening in the future. Mr. Thornton thanked Mr. Foldesi for his generosity. Mr. Thornton expressed that Henrico is a county with a heart and it is residents like him that prove this. The Board concurred with Mr. Thornton.

The Board recessed at 6:01 p.m. and reconvened at 6:05 p.m.

Teen Summit RVA Update

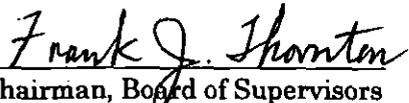
Monica Smith-Callahan, Deputy County Manager for Community Affairs, gave the Board an update on Teen Summit RVA. She explained the Summit was created after discussion with the Youth Violence Prevention Committee that was led by the County Manager, Chief English of the Police Division, and Dr. Amy Cashwell, School Superintendent. The Teen Summit RVA will be a regional event with Chesterfield County and the City of Richmond. This will be the first RVA high school leadership summit designed to connect students in a safe space to speak about topics that matter to them. Mrs. Smith-Callahan explained this will be a full day designed to amplify youth voices against violence. This will be a diverse group of 600 high school students that will be selected and have the opportunity to participate in mixed arts and entertainment, and discuss gun violence and safety, drugs and mental health, culture, and equity in their school districts. In addition, they will have the opportunity to explore summer work opportunities. Mrs. Smith-Callahan shared a slide showing the current sponsors for the event but noted they are still working on getting sponsors. She clarified this is a regional event and that all three regions are working together on this event. The Board shared their enthusiasm about the event and stated they are excited about this opportunity and definitely wanted to volunteer and offer assistance.

Hotel Connection Fee Holiday

Bentley Chan, Director of Public Utilities, shared a proposal for a new program to pay sewer connection fees for new and rehabilitated hotels and hotel properties with County utility credits. Mr. Chan stated currently there are 10 new hotels in the pipeline for the County that could benefit from the proposed program. The program could also help with the redevelopment of hotels on Williamsburg Road. Mr. Nelson asked how we alert current and new builders about the program. Mr. Vithoulkas explained our Economic Development Authority will help market the program and the Board will get a full presentation during budget hearings in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Schmitt noted he was excited to hear more about the program but also wanted to make sure Henrico is offering the most effective and affordable programming in the region compared to other localities. He wants to see what other localities are offering and make sure the County is offering the best.

General Meeting Agenda Overview

Mr. Vithoukas briefly reviewed the agenda items for the 7:00 p.m. meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.


Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia