

**COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
May 23, 2023**

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23, 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. Vithoulkas, 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
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

Prior to the start of the Work Session, Mr. Vithoulkas recognized Lt. Colonel Michael Palkovics, Assistant Chief of Police for Support Operations, who will be retiring after 30 years of service with the Division. Lt. Colonel Palkovics has accepted a position as Chief of Police in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, and will begin his new role on July 5th. Lt. Colonel Palkovics thanked the Manager, the Board, and the Division and noted his years of services and training had prepared him to take on this new role.

Mr. Vithoulkas next announced Gretchen Brown, who had been serving as Acting Director of Social Services, has accepted the role as Director of Social Services. Ms. Brown has been with the County since 2000.

Also, the Manager recognized John Zannino, Director of Recreation and Parks, who announced Matt Reynal, former Deputy Town Manager for the Town of Ashland, has accepted the position of Assistant Manager for Park Services.

Finally, the Manager welcomed Sean Jones, the new reporter from the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* who will be covering Board meetings.

Sportable Update

Hunter Leemon, Chief Executive Officer for Sportable, gave the Board an update on up-and-coming events and brought along a special guest athlete, Luca, to share his experience. Mr. Leemon explained Sportable was created to give opportunities to the lives of individuals with physical disabilities and visual impairments through sport. Since 2005, it has become Central Virginia's premier adaptive sports club, and it provides sporting opportunities to more than 400 athletes each year. He thanked the County for its continued support and shared several slides of photos with all the different activities and events throughout the County, particularly in Dorey Park with the cycling program. Luca, a 2nd grader who participates in Sportable, shared his experience and noted his favorites sports are tennis, basketball, rock climbing, swimming and cycling. Luca thanked the Board for its continued support.

Cari Tretina, Chief of Staff to the County Manager, recognized Dennis Bickmeier, Executive Director of Henrico Sports & Entertainment Authority, who announced earlier today the County will be hosting the Atlantic 10 Women's Basketball Championship in March of 2024 and 2025, bringing thousands of visitors and millions of dollars of economic impact to Henrico County and the region for the five-day, nationally televised tournament. The Division I conference championship represents the first marquee event for the arena-side of the 185,000-square-foot Sports & Events Center, which is under construction and scheduled to open this fall at Virginia Center Commons. Mr. Vithoulkas thanked Mr. Bickmeier and his staff for all their hard work in getting this contract.

North Gayton Road Interchange Update

Terrell Hughes, Director of Public Works, gave the Board an update on North Gayton Road Interchange. He noted since January 17, 2017 – October 26, 2022, there has been 1,851 reportable crashes; 7 fatal crashes, 492 crashes causing injury, and 9,514 calls for service. The problem arises from the westbound lanes of I-64 approaching the Short Pump area experiencing recurring congestion and a pattern of rear-end crashes during the PM peak hour, as well as US 250 between Lauderdale Drive and Cox Road experiencing recurring congestion.

Mr. Hughes gave the Board several "build package components" to suggest how to fix the interchange issue and shared slides showing the configuration of how each package would work. He explained Henrico supported moving forward with the N. Gayton DDI, I-64 and US 250 Parclo, and improvements common to both build packages as the preferred alternative with a phased approach to implementation that prioritizes the new interchange. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has recommended approval to the Federal Highway Administration. Funding is in place to start design and environmental study upon approval. Mr. Thornton asked for a timeline, and Mr. Hughes noted we are looking at 2 – 3 years.

Neighborhood Resource Center Update

Breanne Armbrust, Executive Director of the Neighborhood Resource Center, gave the Board an update on the Center's work in the Greater Fulton neighborhood and eastern Henrico County. The mission of the Center is to strengthen families, build relationships, share resources, and develop skills to enhance lives in Greater Fulton and eastern Henrico County. She reviewed the core principles of the Center and the programs they offer the families, including education, youth programs, adult programs, nutrition, food pantry, and the learning garden. Ms. Armbrust gave detailed information about the adult programs, such as the GED tutoring program,


financial coaching, and employment coaching. She discussed the average income and net worth of residents in the area and how the Center is helping the residents pay down their debt and prevent evictions, foreclosures, and car repossessions. Ms. Armbrust noted they have helped 267 Henrico County residents with \$254,696.08 in total debt retired. In conclusion, she reviewed the three-year plan of continued expansion in eastern Henrico.

Mrs. O'Bannon asked how medical issues are handled for the residents. Ms. Armbrust stated the Capital Area network has a small practice and they work with Bon Secours. She thanked the Board for their support and invited them to come on tour.

Mr. Thornton shared that Monica Smith-Callahan, Deputy County Manager for Community Affairs, attended the 25th Asian American Society of Central Virginia gala event where the County received an award for their recognition and support of the Society.

Mr. Vithoulkas asked Sheila Minor, Director of Finance, to review the County's investment profiles. Ms. Minor reviewed the County's portfolio and responded to questions from members of the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.



Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia