# COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING May 24, 2016

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., 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:

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

#### Other Officials Present:

Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
Joseph T. Tokarz, II, Deputy County Attorney
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Tanya B. Harding, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk to the Board
Joseph P. Casey, Ph.D., Deputy County Manager for Administration
Timothy A. Foster, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
W. Brandon Hinton, Assistant Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Douglas A. Middleton, Deputy County Manager for Public Safety
C. Michael Schnurman, Jr., Legislative Liaison
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mr. Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority (RMTA)

Mr. Vithoulkas recognized the following Henrico County representatives who serve on the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority (RMTA) Board of Directors: Virgil Hazelett, Harvey Hinson, Dave Kaechele, and Marvin Tart. He then introduced Angela Gray, RMTA's Chief Executive Officer, who recognized all of the members of the RMTA Board who were present, including Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hazelett, Mr. Hinson, Mr. Tart, Chairman Jim Holland (Chesterfield), Vice Chairman Darius Johnson (Richmond), Dick White (Chesterfield), Bill Woodfin (Chesterfield), and Marilyn West (Richmond). Ms. Gray also recognized the following members of the RMTA executive staff who were present: Curtis Doughtie, Director of Finance; Joi Dean, Chief of Staff; Sheryl Johnson, Director of Human Resources; and Theresa Simmons, Director of Operations.

Ms. Gray prefaced her slide presentation with the comment that RMTA is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and has undergone a number of organizational changes during the past few years, including equalization of representation on its Board of Directors among the three participating jurisdictions. She began her presentation by reviewing the primary objectives of the organization and its mission, which is to build and operate a variety of public facilities and offer public services, especially within the Richmond metropolitan area, each of which is operated and financed primarily through user fees. In the interest of time, Ms. Gray abbreviated her presentation and focused on how RMTA's 6.6-mile expressway system connects the Richmond region and on the organization's fiscal fitness. She noted RMTA's FY2017 budget is \$41.9 million, with \$14.1 million available for capital expenses because of excess revenue over operating costs and debt service. Ms. Gray concluded her presentation by explaining graphs highlighting the organization's six-year capital plan and long-range capital outlay.

Mrs. O'Bannon suggested Ms. Gray make RMTA updates to the Board of Supervisors every couple of years. Mr. Nelson pointed out the same presentation was provided to the Richmond City Council the previous evening and would be shared with the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors the following evening. Mr. Holland remarked that the RMTA Board felt it was important to reach out to the governing bodies of the member jurisdictions and determine which projects are important to them. He reiterated that RMTA receives no federal, state, or local government funding. Mr. Holland also thanked the Board of Supervisors for hosting the RMTA Board of Directors and executive staff.

Ms. Gray and Mr. Holland responded to questions from the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Gray clarified for Mrs. O'Bannon that RMTA is not currently looking at transitioning to fully automated tolls or eliminating toll workers because the expressway is heavily commuter-based. The coin machines are aging, however, so RMTA is conducting an educational effort to encourage greater use of smart tags and easy passes. Mr. Holland clarified for Mr. Glover that RMTA has no new projects planned at present but is looking forward to going to the General Assembly as they materialize. Ms. Gray informed Mr. Thornton that RMTA has begun submitting requests for proposal (RFPs) through Virginia's online, electronic procurement system (eVA) in an effort to attract more local and minority contractors and small business owners.

Mr. Nelson concluded the discussion by thanking Ms. Gray and the RMTA Board of Directors and executive staff for the presentation and their presence.

The Board recessed for dinner at 5:49 p.m. and reconvened at 5:57 p.m.

## **Overview of Proposed Bond Referendum**

Mr. Vithoulkas narrated the first portion of a slide presentation on proposed projects for the 2016 bond referendum. He began with an overview of the presentation, first reminding the Board of Supervisors of its discussion with the School Board of proposed bond referendum capital projects during the legislative budget reviews in March. Mr. Vithoulkas noted the School Board adopted a resolution on May 12 formally requesting the Board of Supervisors to consider putting a bond referendum question before Henrico voters to fund part of the Schools' Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). He pointed out that Virginia's counties, unlike cities, must

obtain voter approval to issue general obligation bonds. The purpose of this presentation was to focus on the need for referenda to fund large capital projects for not just schools but also for other service areas within Henrico County. During his portion of the presentation, Mr. Vithoulkas reviewed the need for a long-term capital funding strategy, high demand for quality debt, five bond referendum project categories, six-year schedule of the proposed \$419.8 million referendum, and resilience of the County's financial plan against political economic instability. He also explained graphs depicting the County's current and projected gross debt, debt per capita, gross debt as a percentage of assessed value, debt service as a percentage of general fund expenditures, funding sources for the proposed referendum, and need for continued caution in planning for state revenues. He concluded his portion of the presentation by providing the Board with a timeline for the proposed referendum, which would include approval of a Board resolution on June 14 requesting the Circuit Court to order the referendum election for November 8.

During his part of the presentation, Mr. Vithoulkas responded to questions from Mrs. O'Bannon regarding hotel and motel tax revenues and the schedule for the County's previous bond referendum in 2005. He responded to a question from Mr. Glover pertaining to the impact of the bond referendum on the County's undesignated fund balance. In response to further questions from Mrs. O'Bannon, Mr. Rapisarda reviewed the project amounts contained in the five proposed referendum questions as outlined in the draft resolution that staff was recommending come before the Board for consideration at its June 14 meeting. In response to a question from Mr. Nelson, Mr. Vithoulkas noted the percentage of citizens approving each of the questions on the 2005 bond referendum. He assured Mrs. O'Bannon that the referendum questions will be drafted to provide the Board with maximum flexibility in allocating him funding for projects contained in the referendum.

Mr. Hinton narrated the second portion of the presentation, which included the location, estimated cost, and other information on each of the proposed school and general government bond referendum projects. These projects are as follows: Schools (\$272.6 million) - Adams Elementary School (ES) renovation, Chamberlayne ES renovation, Crestview ES renovation, Pemberton ES renovation, Seven Pines ES renovation, Skipwith ES renovation, Tuckahoe Middle School renovation, Tucker High School renovation, Brookland Area ES (new), Glen Allen ES addition, Glen Allen Tech Center, and Eastern Area Tech Center; Recreation and Parks (\$74.6 million) - Greenwood Park (Phase 2), Tuckahoe Park, Taylor Park, Cheswick Park, Deep Run Park, Dorey Park, Tuckahoe Creek Park, and Three Lakes Nature Center Park; Library (\$24 million) - Fairfield Library replacement; Public Safety - Fire (\$22.1 million) - Staples Mill Fire Station, Eastgate Fire Station, and Woodman Road Training Center; and Public Works (\$26.5 million) - Richmond-Henrico Turnpike and countywide pedestrian improvements. Mr. Rapisarda concluded the presentation by reviewing the wording of the proposed referendum questions. He responded to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon concerning how the questions will appear on the printed ballot. Mr. Vithoulkas advised the Board that staff plans to work with the school administration in coordinating teams of staff and citizens that will be available to go out into the community and educate the public on the referendum.

Following the presentation, there was discussion by the Board and Mr. Vithoulkas relating to the Greenwood Park and Dorey Park projects. Mr. Nelson expressed an interest in including additional baseball fields at Dorey Park and an enclosed facility with an indoor track at Greenwood Park or at another site. Mr. Glover suggested the enclosed facility could accommodate convocations and high school graduations. Mr. Vithoulkas suggested staff will look at making further adjustments to the recreation and parks projects prior to the June 14 Board meeting when the Board will consider the resolution requesting the Circuit Court to order the referendum.

## Varina Library Opening Schedule

Jerry McKenna, Director of Libraries, briefly updated the Board on this item. He reminded the Board that the library grand opening celebration is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on June 1 and the library will be open for business at 9:00 a.m. on June 2. Mr. McKenna showed several slides pertaining to the new library, which contained photographs of the checkout desk, public computers and information desk, and exterior of the building. Mr. Vithoulkas thanked John Neal, Director of General Services, for his hard work in ensuring this project was completed on schedule despite the recent prolonged periods of rain. Mr. Nelson noted his excitement in regards to the opening and informed the Board he has plenty of photographs of the library on his telephone that he will be pleased to share.

### Regular Meeting Agenda Items

Mr. Vithoulkas briefly reviewed the agenda for the 7:00 p.m. regular meeting, which included one public hearing item and several general agenda items. He informed the Board that he would be making one comment at the meeting and one or more citizens would be addressing the Board during the public comment period in support of a publicly-funded museum/history center. He responded to questions from Mr. Nelson and Mrs. O'Bannon concerning the County museum/history center citizen proposal.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Henrico County, Virginia