

Board of Supervisors
Thomas M. Branin, Chairman
Daniel J. Schmitt, Vice-Chairman
Tyrone E. Nelson
Patricia S. O'Bannon
Frank J. Thornton

Supervisors' Agend-O-Gram



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County Manager
John A. Vithoukas

Summary of Actions Taken by the Board on March 24, 2020

Mr. Branin led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nelson delivered the invocation.

The Board approved the minutes of the March 10, 2020, Regular and Special Meetings.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Vithoukas thanked all those who continue to work around the clock to support the response to the COVID-19 coronavirus scourge. He recognized Fire Chief Alec Oughton, who updated the Board on modifications to the County's public safety response practices due to the pandemic. The Division of Fire has begun a series of messages to the community reminding residents how they can help first responders. These include asking the public to be judicious about using the E-911 system, to understand responders are wearing personal protective equipment to follow recommendations of public health agencies, and to recognize responders will be taking a more measured approach when caring for patients to ensure that this equipment is being preserved where appropriate. Also, the Division of Fire is deploying a robust question and answer phone call setup in partnership with the Police Division's Emergency Communications Center to help identify treatment options for callers who do not have a life-threatening emergency. The division will be developing social media videos and a podcast with additional information. Chief Oughton assured the Board that the division's workforce is strong and healthy and will be staying connected with Henrico's volunteer rescue squads and working closely with agency representatives in the County's Emergency Operations Center with the support of Mr. Vithoukas.

The healthcare crisis is causing a significant financial crisis and business interruptions, and the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 budget that was previously presented to the Board is no longer sustainable based on the revenue assumptions that were put forward. Mr. Vithoukas recognized Meaghan Coates, Deputy Director of Finance, who provided a budget update and an overview of a financial plan that will be workable going forward. Ms. Coates noted economic conditions are rapidly changing and the impacts will be harder to predict than other natural disasters the County has experienced. The County's budget priorities include providing relief for small businesses, ensuring stability for employees, and insulating the County from future instability. The County will be taking aggressive action on the expense side to manage the current year's outcome, will be very conservative for FY

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21, and will hope there is an upside in the budget the Board adopts in April for appropriation in July. Ms. Coates assured the Board that it will be hearing from staff on this front as additional information becomes available, positive or negative.

Almost 20 percent of the County's jobs fall within the hospitality and restaurant industries. On March 17, the Board of Supervisors became the first elected body in the nation to adopt an emergency ordinance providing taxpayers relief from penalties and interest associated with late payments of transient occupancy taxes and food and beverage taxes. This action by the Board may have saved thousands of jobs. Mr. Vithoukas thanked Ken Johnson from the business community's Management Roundtable for providing temporary supplies for the County's first responders, who are experiencing a shortage of personal protective equipment. Earlier in the day, Richmond Region Tourism, the Retail Merchants Association, County staff, and the County's Economic Development Authority implemented a creative program whereby the County will pay local restaurants to provide food for all three shifts of the County's first responders and frontline employees. This idea was initiated by a business in Sandston during a conversation with Mr. Nelson. Neil Amin, the Chief Executive Officer of Shamin Hotels, has offered the use of his hotels in all four of the major Richmond area localities for any public safety employees who are worried about exposure to COVID-19 and do not want to go home.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' COMMENTS

Mrs. O'Bannon announced she will be hosting a virtual town meeting on March 26 without a live audience that will be video streamed live on YouTube. The topics will be the 2020 Census and the County's budget. The public will have an opportunity to submit questions online or by email. Information will also be provided on where to call with questions about COVID-19.

RECOGNITION OF NEWS MEDIA

There were no media representatives present.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Branin read a proclamation recognizing April 12 - 18, 2020 as Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. He thanked the employees of the County's Emergency Communications Center for all the hours they have put forward.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

GENERAL AGENDA

82-20 Resolution - Signatory Authority - Agreement with Richmond Metro Habitat
Approved for Humanity - 335 Crawford Street - Fairfield District.

83-20 Approved Resolution - Signatory Authority - Commonwealth's Development Opportunity Fund Performance Agreement - Richmond Print Group, LLC - Fairfield District.

84-20 Approved Resolution - Signatory Authority - Commonwealth's Development Opportunity Fund Performance Agreement - SimpliSafe, Inc. - Brookland District.

85-20 Approved Introduction of Ordinance - To Amend and Reordain the Following Sections of the Code of the County of Henrico Titled:

- 20-414 "Enumerated; amount of license tax"
 - 20-416 "Scientific research and development services"
 - 20-446 "Enumerated; amount of license tax"
 - 20-475 "Enumerated; amount of tax"
 - 20-506 "Tax on owners and operators"
 - 20-507 "Tax on promoters generally"
 - 20-509 "Tax on promoters of athletic contests or races"
 - 20-531 "Levy of tax; amount"
 - 20-559 "Amount of tax"
 - 20-560 "Speculative builders"
 - 20-600 "Hotels"
 - 20-601 "Restaurants, soda fountains and similar businesses"
 - 20-624 "Small loan companies"
 - 20-625 "Persons other than small loan companies lending money for purchase of chattels secured by liens; purchasers of conditional sales contracts"
 - 20-626 "Other moneylenders"
 - 20-627 "Persons making first mortgage loans or purchasing mortgage notes"
 - 20-648 "Amount of tax"
 - 20-650 "Commission merchants"
 - 20-691 "License required; tax basis"
 - 20-692 "Amount of tax"
 - 20-793 "Term defined; amount of tax"
 - 20-818 "Amount of tax on persons furnishing water"
 - 20-819 "Amount of tax on persons furnishing heat, light and power, and gas"
- and
- 20-821 "Amount of tax for telephone and telegraph businesses"

to Raise the Threshold and Deduction for Business License Taxes from \$400,000 to \$500,000.

86-20 Resolution - Award of Engineering Services Contract - White Oak Sewage
Deferred Pump Station and Force Main Upgrade - Varina District.
to April
14, 2020

87-20 Resolution - Acceptance of Road - Varina District. (The Village at Olde
Approved Colony, Section D.)

ADDED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

88-20 Emergency Ordinance - To Provide Emergency Procedures for the Conduct of
Approved Public Business to Ensure the Continuity of County Government and Critical
 Local Services During the State of Emergency and Disaster Caused by the
 COVID-19 Pandemic.

89-20 Emergency Ordinance - To Reduce Penalties and Interest for Late
Approved Remittances of Food and Beverage Taxes and Transient Occupancy Taxes to
 Zero Percent Between March 17, 2020, and August 20, 2020.

90-20 Emergency Ordinance - To Reduce Penalties and Interest on Late Payments
Approved of 2020 Personal Property Taxes, Machinery and Tools Taxes, and Real
 Estate Taxes to Zero Percent From June 5, 2020, to August 5, 2020, and to
 Extend the Time for Payment of Vehicle License Taxes to August 5, 2020.

91-20 Resolution - To Initiate Consideration of Ordinance Amendments to Allow
Approved the Director of Planning to Approve Conditional Subdivision Plats and Plans
 of Development During the COVID-19 Pandemic.