# COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING April 11, 2023

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 11, 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

### Member of the Board Absent:

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
Benjamen A. Sheppard, Director of Public Relations

### Tax Relief for the Elderly

Sheila Minor, Director of Finance, gave an update on the Real Estate Advantage Program (REAP) that provides tax relief to the elderly and disabled. She reviewed the current REAP Program noting it provides a tax exemption up to \$3,000 (increased later that evening to \$3,200) for residents who: (i) are 65 years of age or older or permanently disabled, (ii) own and reside at the property, and (iii) have a maximum net taxable income of \$75,000 and a maximum net worth of \$500,000. She discussed possible additions to the Program to address concerns and ideas proposed by the Board during legislative budget reviews in March. Staff proposed keeping the existing REAP program and adding a "tax freeze" for those with a maximum net worth of \$700,000 and a maximum net taxable income of \$105,000. Mr. Branin asked if the program would start in FY 2024, and Mrs. Minor confirmed it would begin in 2024. In response to a question from Mr. Thornton, Mrs. Minor agreed staff would promote the current and expanded Program to increase awareness among eligible participants.

Under the "tax freeze" proposal, Mrs. Minor explained the assessed value of participants would continue to reflect fair market value, but the Program would provide an exemption equal to the difference between current tax and tax year immediately prior to the participant entering the

Program. Mr. Branin indicated he wanted to discuss more details about positive ways to make the expanded Program work for residents. The Manager noted the questions and comments of the Board and stated this was the purpose of the work session. Staff will continue to work on the Proposal with the Board.

# General Meeting Agenda Overview

Mr. Vithoulkas briefly reviewed the agenda items for the 6:00 p.m. meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Frank J. Showton Chairman, Board of Supervisors Henrico County, Virginia