# COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING November 14, 2023

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

والحرر المسارية

Č,

÷

è.

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, Deputy County Manager/Chief of Staff Steven J. Yob, Deputy County Manager for Community Operations Benjamen A. Sheppard, Director of Public Relations

#### GreenCity Update

Andrew Newby, County Attorney, recognized Brendan Staley, counsel to the GreenCity Community Development Authority (CDA), Doug Sbertoli, counsel for Scott Farm Partners, LLC, and Cari Tretina, Deputy County Manager and Chief of Staff. Mr. Newby explained the proposal for a new CDA to incorporate the Scott Farm and St. Gertrude's properties into a CDA with the former Best Products property. The property owners have petitioned the Board for the creation of the new CDA to help finance public infrastructure improvements on the Best Products property. Mr. Newby highlighted the different financing tools to be used by the CDAs, including a special tax in the new CDA and bonds and special assessments in the original CDA. He alerted the Board that the proposal to create the new CDA and amend the original CDA will be set for a public hearing at a special meeting on December 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

#### **READ Center**

Chris Miller, Director of Programs, gave the Board an update on the READ Center, which offers reading and education for adults 18 and over. The Center currently serves 100 -150 students per year in a classroom setting and have about 100 - 150 volunteers who help with the program and work with the students. Mrs. Miller recognized a student, Lance, who has been a student at the Center for four years. He explained he was in an accident at a young

age in which he suffered brain damage and was not able to read. At the center, he has learned to read and become the Vice President of the student council. Mrs. Miller thanked the Manager and the Board for their continued support of the READ Center.

# St. Joseph Villa Update

5

ئې ....

Jennifer Friar, Chief Executive Officer, gave the Board an update on St. Joseph Villa. She gave a brief overview of who they are, noting they were founded in 1834 and are the longestserving children's non-profit in the country. They serve families experiencing homelessness, mental and behavioral health challenges, and specialized education needs. Ms. Friar noted one of the main goals when she started was to end chronic homelessness for veterans. In 2021, Flagler Housing & Homeless services led a coalition of partners to functionally end veteran homelessness in the region and is now working to scale these efforts for youth and families. Her current staff is 250 employees. They are right now looking to hire a Richmond Youth Outreach Specialist to help with managing the increase in homelessness for youth aged 18 - 24.

Mrs. Friar reviewed the education services they offer. All of the students placed with them come from local school divisions. Last year, 32% of the students came from Henrico. Students have the opportunity to participate in career and transition services and engage in offcampus learning experiences with Henrico non-profit partners such as Lewis Ginter and FeedMore. The main goal is to transition students back to their zoned public school.

Mrs. Friar explained they just held the inaugural conference specifically designed for public school teachers and administrators to provide best-practices to effectively work with students with autism.

In conclusion, Mrs. Friar noted her excitement for the Fall Line Trail. She thanked the Board and the Manager and noted she looks forward to continued partnerships.

The Manager briefed the Board on the 7:00 p.m. agenda, and noted tomorrow the Clerk, Ms. Brackett, will be celebrating her birthday. Mr. Thornton sang Happy Birthday in French, and everyone wished Ms. Brackett a very Happy Birthday.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Tonte & Thornton

Chairman, Board of Supervisors Henrico County, Virginia