

**COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
January 23, 2024**

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 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
Daniel J. Schmitt, Vice-Chairman, Brookland District
Roscoe D. Cooper, III, Fairfield District
Misty D. Whitehead, Three Chopt District
Jody K. Rogish, Tuckahoe District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoulikas, 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
Ben A. Sheppard, Director of Public Relations

American Public Works Association Awards Presentation

Mr. Vithoulikas began by celebrating the service of our men and women in our Departments of Public Works and Public Utilities for all their hard work throughout our community. Terrell Hughes, Director of Public Works, and Alvin Christian, Assistant Director of Public Utilities, recognized several employees who received recognition from the American Public Works Association (APWA).

Mr. Hughes recognized the following employees:

- Jason Bass, Joseph Madison, Latheasha Hinton, Kristen Burton, Brandon House, and Glen Moran for the Quick-Build Roundabouts;
- Ashley Austin, Ryan Levering, and Kristen Burton for the Henrico County Bike Plan;
- Kristin Owen and Michael Aust for the Henrico County Floodplain Symposium;
- Robert Whitaker, Jason Bass, David Swing, and Hagop Hovsepian for the Parham Road Over Shopping Center Underpass Infill;
- John Newton and Zach Harwood for the Old Nine Mile Road Landfill Stream Restoration;
- Ronald Jackson for the Honorable Mention Robert S. Hopson Leadership Service Awards; and
- Deana Williams for the Honorable Mention Public Works Hero Award.

Mr. Christian recognized the following Public Utilities employees:

- For the Henrico County Water Reclamation Facility Clarifier Rehabilitation Phase I (HM), Marchelle Sossong, Thomas Pulley, Carl "CJ" Almarode, Jason Garofalo, and Lee Maddox;
- For the Henrico Recycling Cart Roll-out, Josh Byerly and Irvin Jackson; and
- For the customer service award, Ronnie Miles.

For the last award, Mr. Nelson, Chairman of the Board, came forward to recognize Raymond Ross. Mr. Nelson explained it is not often the Board of Supervisors recognizes an individual with the Distinguished Community Service Medal. This medal is the highest honor that can be awarded by the Henrico County Board of Supervisors to an employee or citizen who performs a significant action that benefits the community and/or citizens so profoundly that it goes above and beyond the call of duty. Such recognition may be for a single act of service, or an extended period of service where the actions are carried out in a manner that reflects positively on the citizen or the employee and demonstrates a commitment to The Henrico Way. Mr. Nelson stated, on October 5, 2023, Raymond and his repair crew were on a jobsite to make a routine repair of a broken pipe. While operating a pipe saw, Taejon Harris was cut in the neck by the saw. Without hesitation, Raymond took control of the situation. He began first aid and gave instructions to his crewmembers so that the situation remained under control and kept all his fellow employees calm and rational during this traumatic incident. Mr. Nelson stated Taejon received over 100 stitches in his neck. Raymond's actions were beyond exemplary and exhibited the spirit of family and humanity. Mr. Nelson presented Mr. Ross with the Board of Supervisors' Distinguished Community Service Medal and thanked him for his service to the community and to his colleague. Mr. Ross thanked the Board for the recognition.

K-12 Funding Formula

Dr. Cashwell thanked the Manager and the Board for allowing her to speak on state funding for education. Mr. Nelson recognized Madison Irving, the Three Chopt District School Board member, who was also in attendance. Sheila Minor, Director of Finance, reviewed the sources of the school general fund budget. The County funds the required local effort for items under the standards of quality (SOQs), and also supports 100% everything else not covered by grants. Mrs. Minor gave background on the composite index explaining it is the local ability to pay that determines Henrico's funding from the Commonwealth to pay education costs. Next, John Wack, Chief Financial Officer for Schools, highlighted some of the FY2024 state aid for education that provides Schools with \$377 million in general fund revenue.

Mr. Wack stated, in July 2023, JLARC issued a report that included a series of recommendations and policy options for the General Assembly to consider regarding SOQ funding. Dr. Cashwell and Mr. Wack responded to messages from Ms. Whitehead regarding the JLARC study and the difference in its recommendation and the Governor's proposal.

Finance Update

Sheila Minor, Director of Finance, gave the Board an update on the tax reassessment notices and information on the bond issuance that was on the agenda for the 6:00 p.m. meeting. Mrs. Minor recognized Jason Hughes, the Real Estate Assessment Division Director, who was also in attendance at the meeting. Mrs. Minor shared what the standard reassessment notice looks like. This year when residents receive their notices, there will be a note at the bottom

that shows the effective tax rate increase as a result of the general reassessment. The Board and staff discussed the notice language, possible improvements, and the process for appealing a reassessment.

Mrs. Minor briefly reviewed the bond item listed on the agenda for this evening, being the first portion of the bonds approved by the voters in November 2022.

Prior to moving on to the next item, the Manager recognized Mr. Rogish and Mr. Schmitt who were both celebrating their birthdays.

Electric Vehicle Charging

Cari Tretina, Deputy County Manager/Chief of Staff, gave the Board an update on grant opportunities through the HEART Committee. She recognized Jamie Massey, Director of General Services, and Barbara Weedman, Director of Libraries, who were two of the HEART Committee members who assisted with the grant opportunity. Ms. Tretina explained the County was able to secure a Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant. This grant will expand access to publicly available electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in underserved communities. The grant was in the amount of \$1,452,800 with a County match of \$363,200. Mr. Schmitt noted for the next time to consider the Libbie Area because of the development in the area and to be careful with parking spaces out at the Sports and Entertainment Center since parking will already be tight. Ms. Whitehead asked if the grant process was the same as for the electric buses. Matt Chaffin, Assistant Director of Finance, explained the grant is not the same; electric school buses are more expensive and the grant process is more detailed.

The Board recessed at 5:16 p.m. and reconvened at 5:22 p.m.

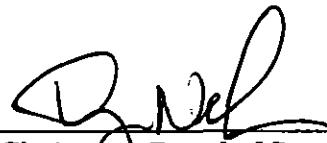
General Assembly Legislative Update

Cari Tretina, Deputy County Manager/Chief of Staff, and Andrew Newby, County Attorney, gave the Board an update on legislation pending in the General Assembly. Ms. Tretina reviewed HB578/SB538 – Building Code Violations and Blighted Properties. These bills will fix contradictory language regarding abatement periods; provide a default abatement period if the court does not specify one; include firms and corporations as possible defendants for subsequent offenses; and heighten fines for owners of blighted multi-family properties who violate the building code. Ms. Tretina next reviewed HB1502/SB194 – Vehicle Assessment Sunset, that would allow the County to continue to tax vehicle personal property at a lower rate than the general personal property tax rate. Ms. Tretina and Mr. Newby reviewed several others bill the County was watching.

Review of the Regular Meeting Agenda Items

Mr. Vithoulkas briefly reviewed the agenda items for the 6:00 p.m. meeting. Mr. Newby confirmed for Mr. Nelson that the Chair of the Board could make motions during the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.



Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia