

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2400 WASHINGTON AVENUE
FEBRUARY 23, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: McKinley L. Price, DDS; Sharon P. Scott; Tina L. Vick; Dr. Patricia P. Woodbury; Herbert H. Bateman, Jr.; Saundra N. Cherry, D. Min.; and Robert S. Coleman-----7

ABSENT: None-----0

A. Call to Order

Mayor Price stated the City Code identified the procedure for citizen participation regarding items on the Council agenda, as well as the opportunity for citizens to address City Council on matters germane to the business of the Council. He explained matters that were germane to the business of Council meant matters that the City Council, by law, were empowered to act upon. This did not include announcements that were personal to an individual, business, or organization. He pointed out copies of the ordinance highlighting citizen participation and encouraged citizens to review the document.

Mayor Price requested that cell phones and/or pagers be silenced or turned off.

B. Invocation

The invocation was rendered by Reverend Dr. James G. Cobb, Trinity Lutheran Church.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Vice Mayor Robert S. Coleman.

D. Presentations

None

E. Public Hearings

1. Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Lease Agreement By and Between the City and Pacific-Gulf Marine, Inc., Not to Exceed Five (5) Years, for the 23rd Street Pier and Adjacent City-Owned Property

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN LEASE BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, AND PACIFIC-GULF MARINE, INC. DATED THE 23RD DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2016, FOR THE 23RD STREET PIER. This ordinance authorized the City Manager to execute a Lease Agreement, not to exceed five (5)

E. Public Hearings Continued

1. Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Lease Agreement By and Between the City and Pacific-Gulf Marine, Inc., Not to Exceed Five (5) Years, for the 23rd Street Pier and Adjacent City-Owned Property Continued

years, by and between the City of Newport News, Virginia, and Pacific-Gulf Marine, Inc., for the 23rd Street Pier and adjacent City-owned waterfront property along the James River in the Downtown area. The current lessee, Interocean American Shipping, d/b/a Tote Services (Tote Services) lost its bid to continue the contract with the Maritime Administration (MARAD) for management of the three United States crane ships, currently moored at the pier. Tote Services had given proper notice under its lease, to terminate use of the 23rd Street Pier, at the close of business on February 29, 2016. Pacific-Gulf Marine, Inc. (PGM) was awarded the MARAD contract for management of the three crane ships, and requested a five (5) year lease with the City, beginning March 1, 2016, and expiring February 28, 2021. PGM agreed to an increase in the daily fee structure from \$800 to \$850 per day, providing annual revenue of \$310,250, plus applicable taxes. All other terms and conditions of the existing lease with Tote Services would remain in the proposed lease with PGM. The City Manager recommended approval.

Mr. Todd Johnson, P. O. Box 6479, New Orleans, LA, was available to answer questions.

Councilwoman Scott moved closure of the public hearing; seconded by Vice Mayor Coleman.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Price, Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman
Nays: None

Councilwoman Vick moved adoption of the above ordinance; seconded by Vice Mayor Coleman.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Price, Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman
Nays: None

2. Ordinance Authorizing Zoning Text Amendments ZT-16-376, ZT-16-377, and ZT-16-378; City of Newport News, Amending City Code, Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance; Article II., Definitions, Section 45-201, to Define a New Use, Police K9 Training Facility; Article IV., Section 45-402, to Add it to the Summary of Uses by District Matrix, and Article V., General Regulations, to Add New Section 45-535; Police K9 Training Facility

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 45, ZONING ORDINANCE, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, ARTICLE

E. Public Hearings Continued

2. Ordinance Authorizing Zoning Text Amendments ZT-16-376, ZT-16-377, and ZT-16-378; City of Newport News, Amending City Code, Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance; Article II., Definitions, Section 45-201, to Define a New Use, Police K9 Training Facility; Article IV., Section 45-402, to Add it to the Summary of Uses by District Matrix, and Article V., General Regulations, to Add New Section 45-535; Police K9 Training Facility Continued

II., DEFINITIONS, SECTION 45-201, DEFINITION OF CERTAIN WORDS AND TERMS, BY ADDING THERETO THE DEFINITION OF POLICE K9 TRAINING FACILITY; ARTICLE IV., SUMMARY OF USES BY DISTRICT, SECTION 45-402, SUMMARY OF USES BY DISTRICT, BY AMENDING USE "F" ENTITLED COMMUNITY FACILITIES; AND ARTICLE V., GENERAL REGULATIONS, BY ADDING THERETO A NEW SECTION, NAMELY: SECTION 45-535, POLICE K9 TRAINING FACILITY. This ordinance authorized Zoning Text Amendments ZT-16-376, ZT-16-377, and ZT-16-378, City of Newport News, to the City Code, Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance; Article II., Definitions; Section 45-201, to define a new use, Police K9 Training Facility; Article IV., Summary of Uses by District, Section 45-402, by adding Police K9 Training Facility; and Article V., General Regulations, by adding new Section 45-535, Police K9 Training Facility. These amendments added Police K9 Training Facility to the Zoning Ordinance, allowing it in specific districts by right, and providing regulations for its use. On February 3, 2016, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 7:0 to recommend approval of this request. The City Manager recommended approval.

Mr. Joe S. Frank, 2 Madison Circle, Newport News, thanked members of the Planning staff for their assistance with this matter. Mr. Frank reminded that the Police K9 Training Facility had been previously located at the City Farm (100 City Farm Road) and was in dire need of replacement. The Newport News Police Foundation had agreed to try to get a new facility built. In connection with that, the Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) donated five (5) acres of land behind the Brittingham-Midtown Recreation Center (570 McLawhorne Drive) to build the facility. The Police Foundation sought volunteer organizations in the community, of builders, professionals, architects, and engineers to get the facility built. The Zoning Text Amendments before City Council allowed the K9 Training Facility to be built in the existing zoning behind the Brittingham-Midtown Community Center. Once approved, the City Attorney could complete the transaction of the deed transferring the property from the NNPS to the City. There would be a lease from the City to the Police Foundation, allowing them to operate the Facility during construction, and allowing the people contributing their services to have a tax deduction for their contributions. At completion of the construction, the lease would terminate, and the property would revert to the City and the City would own the Facility. On behalf of the Newport News Police Foundation, Mr. Frank urged members of City Council to adopt the ordinances. He expressed appreciation of support received from City Council and businesses coming together to make this happen.

E. Public Hearings Continued

2. Ordinance Authorizing Zoning Text Amendments ZT-16-376, ZT-16-377, and ZT-16-378; City of Newport News, Amending City Code, Chapter 45, Zoning Ordinance; Article II., Definitions, Section 45-201, to Define a New Use, Police K9 Training Facility; Article IV., Section 45-402, to Add it to the Summary of Uses by District Matrix, and Article V., General Regulations, to Add New Section 45-535; Section 45-535, Police K9 Training Facility Continued

Councilwoman Woodbury inquired about the location of the current Police K9 Training Facility. Mr. Frank responded that it was located at the City Farm (100 City Farm Road). He stated the ceiling had begun to fall, there was mold and mildew, and the Facility had become unfit for human habitation.

Councilwoman Scott moved closure of the public hearing; seconded by Vice Mayor Coleman.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Price, Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the above ordinance; seconded by Councilwoman Vick.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Price, Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

F. Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the Consent Agenda, Items 1 through 3, as revised both inclusive, as shown below; seconded by Councilwoman Vick.

1. Minutes of the Work Session of February 9, 2016

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

Abstention: Price (Was not present at the Work Session of February 9, 2016).

F. Consent Agenda Continued

2. Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 9, 2016

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

Abstention: Price (Was not present at the Special Meeting of February 9, 2016).

3. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 9, 2016

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

Abstention: Price (Was not present at the Regular Meeting of February 9, 2016).

Councilwoman Scott moved adoption of the Consent Agenda, Item 4, as shown below; seconded by Councilwoman Vick.

4. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA) between the Secretary of the Air Force through Joint Base Langley-Eustis (Langley Air Force Base) and the City of Newport News, for Fire Rescue Services and Emergency Medical Services

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT FOR MUTUAL AID FIRE RESCUE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE COMMANDER, 633D AIR BASE WING JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS (LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE) AND THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA. This resolution authorized the City Manager to execute a Mutual Aid Agreement between the Secretary of the Air Force, acting by and through the Commander, 633D Air Base Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis (Langley Air Force Base) and the City of Newport News, Virginia ("The Parties") for fire rescue services and emergency medical services. The parties wished to augment fire protection capabilities available in their respective jurisdictions, by entering into a Mutual Aid Agreement. The authority to enter into this agreement was set forth in various Federal Codes, Emergency Management Regulations, and the Fire Emergency Services Program. This Agreement would become effective on the date of the last signature to the Agreement, and would remain in effect for five (5) years from that date, and automatically renew annually, for a term of 20 years. The City Manager recommended

F. Consent Agenda Continued

4. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA) between the Secretary of the Air Force through Joint Base Langley-Eustis (Langley Air Force Base) and the City of Newport News, for Fire Rescue Services and Emergency Medical Services Continued

approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Price, Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

G. Other City Council Actions

None

H. Appropriations

Councilwoman Scott moved adoption of Appropriations, Items 1 through 3, as shown below; seconded by Councilwoman Vick.

1. Newport News Television (NNTV) – Public, Educational, and Governmental (PEG) Fee Funds: Purchase and Upgrade of Production Equipment

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM PEG FEE DESIGNATED FUND BALANCE (\$500,000.00) TO NNTV PEG FEE EQUIPMENT (\$500,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$500,000.00 for the purchase and upgrade of production equipment for Newport News Television (NNTV) from the Fund Balance generated by Public, Educational, and Governmental (PEG) fees. The City held franchise agreements with local cable company carriers, that required the companies to remit to the City revenue based on a formula for each basic service subscriber served in Newport News. According to the agreement, this revenue was to be used by the City for cable-related purposes at the discretion of the City. These funds would be used for the purchase and upgrade of production equipment used by NNTV. Approval of these funds would reduce the current revenue collected, and the fund balance associated with the accumulated PEG fees, by \$500,000 from \$1,535,778 to \$1,035,778. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Price, Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

H. Appropriations Continued

2. Department of Engineering – FY 2016 Bond Authorization, Stormwater Drainage Category: Christopher Shores Area Drainage Improvements Project

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$540,000.00) TO CHRISTOPHER SHORES AREA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (\$540,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$540,000.00 from the FY 2016 Bond Authorization, Stormwater Drainage Category for the Christopher Shores Area Drainage Improvements Project. The project was located in the Anderson Park/Hampton Roads Bay Watershed in the Southeast Community of the City. The area south of 16th Street, identified as the Christopher Shores subdivision, had little to no drainage systems to collect stormwater runoff, and caused flooding of roadways during minor storm events. Improvements to the drainage in the area included additional catchment of stormwater runoff and upgrade of the existing systems to current City standards. The majority of the work would be in the City right-of-way, with permanent drainage easements being acquired where outfall pipes transversed private property. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Mayor Price filed a declaration in accordance with Section 2.2-3115H of the Virginia Code, that stated, pursuant to Subdivision A2 of Section 2.2-3112 of the Virginia Conflict of Interest Act, that for the City Council Agenda of February 23, 2016, (i) the City Manager recommended to the Newport News City Council that they appropriate an FY 2015 Bond Authorization in the amount of \$540,000 for the Christopher Shores Area Drainage Improvement Project (“the transaction”); (ii) that he was a resident of Christopher Shores; (iii) that he was one of many Newport News citizens (a group) that lived in Christopher Shores who were affected by the transaction; and (iv) that he was able to participate in the transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest (a signed written declaration was filed with the City Clerk prior to the City Council Meeting at which the transaction was considered – February 23, 2016; and is attached and made a part of these minutes).

Councilwoman Cherry filed a declaration in accordance with Section 2.2-3115H of the Virginia Code, that stated, pursuant to Subdivision A2 of Section 2.2-3112 of the Virginia Conflict of Interest Act, that for the City Council Agenda of February 23, 2016, (i) the City Manager recommended to the Newport News City Council that they appropriate an FY 2015 Bond Authorization in the amount of \$540,000 for the Christopher Shores Area Drainage Improvement Project (“the transaction”); (ii) that she was a resident of Christopher Shores; (iii) that she was one of many Newport News citizens (a group) that lived in Christopher Shores who were affected by the transaction; and (iv) that she was able to participate in the transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest (a signed written declaration was filed with the City Clerk prior to the City Council Meeting at which the transaction was considered – February 23, 2016; and is attached and made a part of these minutes).

H. Appropriations Continued

2. Department of Engineering – FY 2016 Bond Authorization, Stormwater Drainage Category: Christopher Shores Area Drainage Improvements Project Continued

Councilwoman Cherry inquired whether there would be an alternate route to get in and out of the neighborhood once the work began. Mr. H. Reed Fowler, Director, Department of Public Works, replied that there would be an alternate route to allow travel in and out of the Christopher Shores neighborhood.

City Manager Bourey indicated staff would make sure there was an alternate route available.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Price, Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

3. Department of Engineering – State Revenue Sharing Program Fund and FY 2016 Bond Authorization, Stormwater Drainage Category: 27th Street and Buxton Avenue Grade Adjustment Project

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$350,000.00) AND STATE REVENUE (\$350,000.00) TO 27TH STREET AND BUXTON AVENUE GRADE ADJUSTMENT PROJECT (\$700,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$700,000.00 from the State Revenue Sharing Program Fund (\$350,000.00) and the FY 2016 Bond Authorization, Stormwater Drainage Category (\$350,000.00) for the 27th Street and Buxton Avenue Grade Adjustment Project. The intersections of 27th Street, 28th Street, and Buxton Avenue, had a history of tidal flooding during both minor and major storm events. This grade adjustment project included raising grade elevations of the roadways, water line improvements and upgrades to traffic signalization. The requested funds were to fully fund the construction phase of the project, and were anticipated to begin in the Spring of 2016. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Price, Scott, Vick, Woodbury, Bateman, Cherry, Coleman

Nays: None

I. Citizen Comments on Matters Germane to the Business of City Council Continued

Mr. Antonio Thompson, 1211-25th Street, Newport News, addressed City Council on the topic of the City's treasury enrichment, public safety and security, as well as

I. Citizen Comments on Matters Germane to the Business of City Council
Continued

the importance of recycling. He reminded that February was Black History Month, and shared that he considered Mayor Price to be his Black History Hero. Mr. Thompson expressed appreciation for Mayor Price.

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments

City Manager Bourey provided an update on the City's proposal to relocate the School's Center for Operations and Transportation (S.C.O.T. facility). He advised that there was one unsolicited proposal received from W. M. Jordan Company (11008 Jefferson Avenue) to relocate the S.C.O.T. facility. The proposal, received in 2015, was reviewed. W. M. Jordan Company was contacted to advise that the City could not accept the proposal as submitted, and requested modifications. Modifications were made, and W. M. Jordan Company provided a resubmittal. The City then advertised allowing anyone else interested in offering a competing proposal. Two proposals were received – S. B. Ballard and City Center Concepts. Staff wanted to fairly evaluate all three alternatives. A committee was established, consisting of City staff, and the City Attorney, as well as the School District's staff. A consultant was employed to ensure the analysis was done properly. The committee met a number of times – most recently one week prior, and unanimously decided that two of the proposals were not feasible, and did not meet the needs of the School District. The S. B. Ballard proposal had a significant amount of wetlands associated with it that would create significant problems for construction, and represented one building, and did not meet the needs of the School District, who expressed concern about that fact. That proposal could not proceed further in the process based on committee recommendations and the City Manager's acceptance of the recommendations. The proposal received from City Center Concepts involved a large amount of wetlands, but did not have sufficient land area. City Manager Bourey advised that he wanted the process to be transparent. He advised that those two proposals would not proceed further, but the process would proceed with the W. M. Jordan Company proposal to negotiate and work to develop a contract that met the requirements and cost parameters for the School District. City Manager Bourey advised that members of the School Board and City Council were briefed earlier at a joint Special Meeting, but he wanted to make it known to the public. He advised that he would continue to make sure the public was informed about the process moving forward.

Mayor Price thanked Vice Mayor Coleman for chairing the February 9, 2016 Work Session and Regular Meeting of City Council, and stepping in to handle many of the events and activities in his absence.

Mayor Price attended a Retirement Reception for the Honorable Mamye E. BaCote on Sunday, February 21, 2016, to honor and recognize her distinguished service to the 95th District as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 2004 – 2016. The Reception was hosted by the Ladies of the Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and held at the Newport News Police Department (9710 Jefferson Avenue).

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Mayor Price extended congratulations to Reverend Dr. Corey L. Brown, on his 10th Anniversary at Providence Baptist Church, 1331-30th Street, Newport News. A Celebratory Gala was held on Sunday, February 21, 2016, at the church.

Mayor Price shared that he attended a wonderful tribute to Alan and Beverly Diamonstein, held at the Ferguson Center for the Arts, on Sunday, February 21, 2016. During the event, the concert hall was officially named the Alan and Beverly Diamonstein Concert Hall. Mayor Price stated this was a great honor to a couple who had given tremendously to the community for so many years.

Mayor Price stated that he attended a private reception and unveiling ceremony on Monday, February 22, 2016, at the Virginia Air and Space Center (606 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton), in honor of Dr. Katherine G. Johnson. Dr. Johnson, 96 years of age, was a NASA pioneer, and earlier mathematician, was nicknamed "the Human Computer." Dr. Johnson was a Presidential Medal of Freedom Recipient. Astronauts had so much trust in Dr. Johnson, it was said that they asked Dr. Johnson to check the computations from the computer. Mayor Price congratulated Dr. Johnson and thanked her for representing the community.

Councilwoman Scott thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation at the North District Town Hall Meeting on Monday, February 22, 2016, at the Denbigh Community Center (15198 Warwick Boulevard). She expressed appreciation for the citizens' continued support, and bringing information to insure that the issues that faced the North District and the City were addressed.

Councilwoman Scott mentioned a concern addressed at the North District Town Hall Meeting about all of the trees being cut down adjacent to the Warwick-Denbigh Shopping Center at the southeast corner of the intersection at Warwick and Denbigh Boulevards. She promised that their concern would be addressed. She thanked those citizens for bringing the matter to her attention and stated that members of City Council valued the greenery left in the City.

Councilwoman Scott thanked members of the Newport News School Board for meeting with the City Council at the earlier Work Session, held at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue). It was a very engaging meeting, and provided members of the Newport News City Council the opportunity to exchange information with members of the School Board, which was long overdue.

Councilwoman Scott reminded citizens about the 2016 Virginia Senior Games, scheduled for May 17-21, 2016 in Newport News. She advised that this was the third year that Newport News had been fortunate to host this event in the City, with support from all over, leading to an increase in revenue from use of Newport News restaurants, hotels, museums, gas stations, shopping districts, etc. The Senior Games were open to all athletes, aged 50 and up. She encouraged citizens to sign up to participate. Sporting events included archery, badminton,

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

basketball, billiards, bowling, cycling, disc golf, golf, horseshoes, pickleball, racquetball, road race, softball, swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, and volleyball. The registration deadline was May 1, 2016.

Councilwoman Vick advised that she was delighted to read the proclamation celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Newsome House Museum and Cultural Center at a Rededication Ceremony on Saturday, February 20, 2016 at the site (2803 Oak Avenue). The ceremony included Mr. Zachary Hines, Jr., who performed with his band, Fortress, at the event. The community came out to show their support.

Councilwoman Woodbury commended the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce for their continuous networking opportunities. She attended the Business Connection After Hours event, on Thursday, February 18, 2016, at Travinia Italian Kitchen and Wine Bar (11810 Fountain Way, Suite A). It was a great opportunity to meet new people and to learn about what people were doing throughout the City.

Councilwoman Woodbury attended the Holistic Wellness Expo of Hampton Roads on Saturday, February 20, 2016, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., at Mary Immaculate Hospital Conference Center (2 Bernadine Drive). The event was sponsored by LINK of Hampton Roads.

Councilwoman Woodbury attended the Installation Service of New Pastor/Founder, Dr. Jimmy L. Searcy, at Grace Temple Worship Center Church of God in Christ (21 Turlington Road).

Councilwoman Woodbury attended the Commencement Exercises of the Newport News Shipbuilding Apprentice School, on Saturday, February 20, 2016, 2 p.m. at the Worship Center, Liberty Baptist Church (1021 Big Bethel Road, Hampton).

On behalf of Sister Cities Newport News, Councilwoman Woodbury announced that there would be incoming International delegations from Greifswald, Germany (March 18 -15, 2016) and Neyagawa, Japan (March 24-30, 2016). She stated this was an opportunity to showcase the City of Newport News. Homestay families were sought to host any of the students in the delegations.

Councilwoman Woodbury extended condolences to the Preston Family.

Councilman Bateman thanked City Manager Bourey for the update on the Youth and Gang Violence Initiative, presented at the City Council Work Session of February 23, 2016. He was pleased with how well the program was progressing. He advised the citizens of Newport News that City Council was keeping an eye on the program.

Councilman Bateman urged citizens, as they saw graffiti as they drove through the City of Newport News, to take a picture of it and send it in. The City had been successful in

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

making sure they reacted to the graffiti, and would get rid of it. He suggested citizens contact him, or the 3-1-1 Call Center on their mobile app.

Councilwoman Cherry thanked all of the citizens for their attendance and participation at the meeting to express their points of view. She reiterated that their voices mattered. She stated that City Council was committed and they did care.

Councilwoman Cherry indicated that she had a great time during the Mayor's Book Club monthly reading, at Watkins Early Childhood Center (21 Burns Drive). This month's book was entitled, "Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus," by Mo Willems. In the book, the pigeon had temper tantrums because he could not have his way. The lesson was to teach the children to choose alternatives when one idea did not work. She encouraged citizens interested in reading to children to contact the City Clerk's Office and provide their name and contact information. The readings were held once each month at one of four Early Childhood Centers.

Councilwoman Cherry announced the next Coffee with a Cop, was scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, 2016, 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., at Hardee's Restaurant (8104 Newmarket Drive, Hampton). She reminded that this was a joint effort between the Newport News Police Department and the Hampton Police Department. All citizens were invited to attend. This was a great opportunity to hear the collaboration between the two Departments.

Councilwoman Cherry announced that the musical production of "The Wiz," a Broadway hit, was scheduled for February 18 – 20, 2016, and February 25 - 27, 2016, at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue), in the Ella Fitzgerald Theater, in celebration of its 40th Anniversary. She announced that tickets were sold out for all performances.

Councilwoman Cherry reminded residents in the South District, that the South District "Your Voice Matters" Town Hall Meetings would convene, beginning Thursday, March 10, 2016, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., at the Brittingham-Midtown Community Center (570 McLawhorne Drive) for residents that lived from Mercury Boulevard North to Harpersville Road; and Thursday, March 17, 2016, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue) for residents from Mercury Boulevard South to the waterfront. All residents were invited to attend. These meetings were a collaborative effort of the Newport News Police Department, the Newport News School Board, and the Newport News City Council.

Councilwoman Cherry announced that the Your Voice Matters Town Hall Meeting on March 17, 2016 would end at 7:00 p.m., providing the opportunity to attend the City-sponsored EPA Building Blocks Workshop, called Equitable Development (a collaboration of the City, NNPS, and the NNPD). This would be a community meeting, beginning at 7:00 p.m., also at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue).

Councilwoman Cherry thanked Mr. Michael LeMelle, of The LeMelle Group, for working with the community on the production of "The Wiz." She announced that Mr. LeMelle

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

would host a Spring Bread Film Camp, entitled "Point, Aim & Shoot," during Spring Break (April 4 – 8, 2016), at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue). The camp was for children ages 7 – 12. The fee was \$105 per participant, \$95 for each additional sibling. She encouraged citizens to register their children.

Councilwoman Cherry wished her niece, Ms. Kimberly Britt, a Happy Birthday. Ms. Britt celebrated her birthday on February 23rd.

Vice Mayor Coleman advised that the City's partnership with New Beech Grove Baptist Church for the Flint, Michigan water crisis far exceeded expectations. He announced that the last truck headed to Flint Michigan left on Saturday, February 20, 2016. He commended the community for their great show of support. He recalled approximately 140,000 pounds of water was sent to Flint, Michigan. He thanked the community, members of New Beech Grove Baptist Church, an all of the volunteers throughout the Hampton Roads Region, who donated or assisted with the project.

Vice Mayor Coleman advised that he attended a the meeting of the Newport News Public School Board, on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, 6:30 p.m., at the Newport News School Administration Building, (12465 Warwick Boulevard). He and attendees learned about everything involved with making the school's schedule. He announced that February was School Board Appreciation Month. He extended best wishes and a Happy School Board Month to all members of the Newport News Public School Board.

Vice Mayor Coleman reiterated comments about the meeting with the City Council at the earlier Work Session, held at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue). It was a very engaging meeting, and was a great first step to improving communication.

Vice Mayor Coleman advised that School Board Member, Mr. Darian Scott announced that he would not seek re-election to the School Board. Vice Mayor Coleman indicated that Mr. Scott had done a fantastic job in his four-year tenure on the School Board and thanked him for all of his hard work on the Newport News School Board.

Vice Mayor Coleman attended a Community Discussion about Human Trafficking on Thursday, February 18, 2016, 6:30 p.m., sponsored by the Newport News Department of Human Services Neighborhood Leadership Institute, at New Beech Grove Baptist Church (326 Tabbs Lane). Ms. Tanya Street, founder of Identifiable ME, international speaker and talk show host, shared her personal experiences as a trafficking survivor. Lieutenant Michael Hudgins, Newport News Police Department Community Outreach, shared information to help citizens recognize and eliminate trafficking in their community.

Vice Mayor Coleman attended and participated in a "Know the Issues Forum," on Friday, February 19, 2016, 5:30 p.m. at the Newport News Police Department, Community

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Room (9710 Jefferson Avenue). He indicated it was a spirited event, with a great deal of information disseminated. He thanked citizens for their attendance and participation at the event.

Vice Mayor Coleman shared that the Mayor's Book Club was at Whole Foods Market (12080 Jefferson Avenue) on Saturday, February 20, 2016, where he read two books, "Corduroy" by Don Freeman, with the theme being don't judge a book by its cover; and "The Little Mouse, Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear," by Don and Audrey Wood, with the theme, if you don't want to share, eat it real fast. Vice Mayor Coleman thanked Ms. Izabela Cieszynski, Director, Department of Libraries and Information Services, and staff, as well as the volunteers that helped bag groceries at Whole Foods Market, to include Commissioner of Revenue, Priscilla Bele. Vice Mayor Coleman announced that Whole Foods Market would donate five percent (5%) of the sales on Wednesday, February 24, 2016, to the Mayor's Book Club. He encouraged citizens to shop at Whole Foods Market on Wednesday.

Vice Mayor Coleman attended the 95th House District Town Hall Meeting, hosted by Delegate Marcia Price, on Saturday, February 20, 2016, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., at New Beech Grove Baptist Church (326 Tabbs Lane). He commended Delegate Price for the good job that she was doing in Richmond during the 2016 Legislative Session on behalf of the City of Newport News.

Vice Mayor Coleman reiterated the remarks by Mayor Price about the tribute to Alan and Beverly Diamonstein, held at the Ferguson Center for the Arts, on Sunday, February 21, 2016, naming the Concert Hall in honor of the Diamonsteins. Vice Mayor Coleman stated it was a beautiful event for a beautiful couple. He thanked President Paul Tribble and his wife Rosemary, for hosting the event.

Vice Mayor Coleman was an evaluator for the Boys and Girls Club of the Virginia Peninsula for "Youth of the Year." He stated it was a tough competition, with many young people involved, who did great on their interviews. He was impressed with all of the youth. He advised that the winner of the "Youth of the Year" would be announced on Thursday, March 24, 2016, at the 28th Annual Steak and Burger Dinner, at the Hellenic Community Center (60 Traverse Road).

K. Adjourn

Mayor Price adjourned the meeting by addressing the citizens. He stated, "May what you say and do uplift the City of Newport News."

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS,
ON MOTION, COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:58 P.M.

Mabel Washington Jenkins

Mabel Washington Jenkins, MMC
City Clerk

McKinley L. Price, DDS
Mayor
Presiding Officer

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk