

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2400 WASHINGTON AVENUE
SEPTEMBER 27, 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 Marcellus L. Harris III-----7

ABSENT: None-----0

A. Call to Order

Mayor Price called the meeting to order and welcomed all. He 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.

Mayor Price welcomed Assistant City Manager Cynthia Rohlf, who was substituting for City Manager Jim Bourey.

B. Invocation

The invocation was rendered by Pastor Chris Hallaren, Grace 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 Mr. Kai Healy, a member of Troop 368, Boy Scouts of America. Mayor Price shared that Kai, with less than 17 months in scouting, had attained his Star Rank. He had been selected to the Honor Camping Society (Order of the Arrow). Kai had also been selected to be the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 368. He established his personal goal to receive the rank of Eagle Scout within two (2) years.

D. Presentations

1. Resolution of Recognition: The Honorable Robert S. Coleman

The Honorable Robert S. Coleman accepted the Resolution. He was accompanied by his wife Jaime, and son Jacob.

Mayor Price shared that the City Council wished to honor and recognize the Honorable Robert S. Coleman for his four years of service as a member of the Newport News City Council.

D. Presentations Continued

1. Resolution of Recognition: The Honorable Robert S. Coleman Continued

Mayor Price advised that the Honorable Robert S. Coleman had served the citizens of the City of Newport News as a representative of the North District since 2012. As part of his service, he was appointed to serve on the Newport News Transportation Safety Commission; and had been selected to serve as Vice Mayor by his peers on City Council.

A product of the Newport News Public Schools (NNPS), the Honorable Robert Coleman graduated from Warwick High School in 1989 before attending Thomas Nelson Community College and beginning his career with the Newport News Sheriff's Office. He rose through the ranks of the Sheriff's Office, working from Corrections Deputy to the rank of Major. As he progressed through the ranks, the Honorable Robert S. Coleman had responsibility for numerous functions, to include the work release program, substance abuse counseling, home electronic monitoring, job training, civil process, courtroom security, transportation, information technology, and fleet management. He was instrumental in the implementation of a new Records Management System utilized by all public safety agencies within the City.

The Honorable Robert S. Coleman was a vocal leader and advocate for the citizens of his district, as well as the citizens of the City as a whole. He was very active in several civic organizations, including the Foodbank of the Virginia Peninsula, the Community Free Clinic of Newport News, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and the American Red Cross, the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes," and the Coats for Kids Programs. He was a founding member of the Denbigh Youth Alliance, and in 2014, was selected by Governor Terry McAuliffe to serve on the State Executive Council for At-Risk Youth and Families.

Mayor Price, on behalf of the members of the Newport News City Council, recognized the Honorable Robert S. Coleman for his two years as Vice Mayor, four years as a member of the Newport News City Council, and expressed appreciation for his many contributions to the City of Newport News, the Virginia Peninsula, and the Hampton Roads Region.

E. Public Hearings

1. Ordinance Authorizing Conditional Use Permit No. CU-16-370, to Mishorim Gold Newport News, LP., to Operate an Amusement Arcade in the DW Shopping Center (formerly Denbigh Village) Located at 14346 Warwick Boulevard, Suite No. 416

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NUMBER CU-16-370 FOR THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING AN AMUSEMENT ARCADE ON A SITE ZONED C1 RETAIL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT. This ordinance granted Conditional Use Permit No. CU-16-370 to Mishorim Gold Newport News, LP., to operate an Amusement Arcade in the DW Shopping Center (formerly Denbigh Village) located at 14346 Warwick Boulevard, Suite No. 416 and

E. Public Hearings Continued

1. Ordinance Authorizing Conditional Use Permit No. CU-16-370, to Mishorim Gold Newport News, LP., to Operate an Amusement Arcade in the DW Shopping Center (formerly Denbigh Village) Located at 14346 Warwick Boulevard, Suite No. 416 Continued

zoned C1 Retail Commercial. The proposed amusement arcade, operating as Breakout Adventure Games, would join new amusement uses approved in the renovated DW Shopping Center. The use was consistent with the Framework for the Future 2030 Comprehensive Plan land use map and surrounding uses. On September 7, 2016, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 8:0 to recommend approval of this request, with conditions. The City Manager recommended approval.

Mr. Emil Goduti, 12 Digges Drive, Newport News, was available to answer questions.

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Councilwoman Scott moved adoption of the above ordinance; seconded by Councilman Bateman.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

2. Ordinance Authorizing Conditional Use Permit No. CU-16-372, to Stoney Run Village, LLC., for the Sale of Off-premises Alcohol in an Establishment of Less than 1,600 Square Feet, Located at 620 Stoney Creek Lane, Suite 20

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NUMBER CU-16-372 FOR THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE OFF-PREMISES SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR AN ESTABLISHMENT OF LESS THAN 1,600 SQUARE FEET ON A SITE ZONED R9 MIXED USE DISTRICT. This ordinance granted Conditional Use Permit No. CU-16-372 to Stoney Run Village, LLC., for the sale of off-premises alcohol in an establishment of less than 1,600 square feet, located at 620 Stoney Creek Lane, Suite 20, and zoned R9 Mixed-Use. Tamarind International Market, a small grocery store in Stoney Run Village, wished to sell alcohol off-premises in a leased space of less than 1,600 square feet. The use was consistent with the Framework for the Future 2030 Comprehensive Plan land use map and surrounding uses in the mixed-use community of Stoney

E. Public Hearings Continued

2. Ordinance Authorizing Conditional Use Permit No. CU-16-372, to Stoney Run Village, LLC., for the Sale of Off-premises Alcohol in an Establishment of Less than 1,600 Square Feet, Located at 620 Stoney Creek Lane, Suite 20 Continued

Run. On September 7, 2016, the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 8:0 to recommend approval of this request, with conditions. The City Manager recommended approval, with conditions.

Ms. Michelle Hime, 8035 Fairmont Drive, Williamsburg, was available to answer questions.

Councilwoman Scott moved closure of the public hearing; seconded by Councilman Harris.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

3. Ordinance Authorizing Change of Zoning No. CZ-16-382, to Port Jefferson, LLC., for Property Located at 591 City Center Boulevard and Zoned C2 General Commercial with Proffers to C1 Retail Commercial with Proffers, to Allow Development of a Health Center

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN ORDINANCE NO. 5028-97 BY AMENDING THAT CERTAIN MAP ENTITLED, "ZONING DISTRICT MAP" (CONSISTING OF REAL ESTATE TAX ASSESSMENT MAPS 001 THROUGH 322 AND KEPT ON FILE IN THE OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF CODES COMPLIANCE AND PLANNING) DATED THE 10TH DAY OF JUNE, 1997, WHICH SAID MAP IS MADE A PART OF THE SAID ORDINANCE NO. 5028-97. This ordinance amended Ordinance No. 5028-97, amending the Zoning District Map for Change of Zoning Application No. CZ-16-382, by Port Jefferson, LLC., for property located at 591 City Center Boulevard, and zoned C2 General Commercial, with proffers, to C1 Retail Commercial, with proffers, to allow for the development of a Health Center. The existing zoning proffers prohibited development of the health center as proposed; thereby requiring the re-zoning of this area. The change of zoning was consistent with the Framework for the Future 2030 Comprehensive Plan. On September 7, 2016,

E. Public Hearings Continued

3. Ordinance Authorizing Change of Zoning No. CZ-16-382, to Port Jefferson, LLC., for Property Located at 591 City Center Boulevard and Zoned C2 General Commercial with Proffers to C1 Retail Commercial with Proffers, to Allow Development of a Health Center Continued

the City Planning Commission voted unanimously 8:0 to recommend approval of this request. The City Manager recommended approval.

Ms. Myrina Gaglione, Virginia Beach, was available to answer questions.

Mr. R. J. Nutter, 1405 Blue Heron Road, Virginia Beach, Attorney for the applicant, spoke in favor of the application. He thanked the Planning staff for their assistance.

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

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

Councilwoman Cherry referenced Regulatory Review notes, stating, due to the building requirements of CHKD health center, the existing master plan prevented its development. She inquired whether there was a plan prior to the plan before City Council, that prevented CHKD from doing what they needed to do; and that plan became void to put the new plan in place. Assistant City Manager Rohlf responded in the affirmative, confirming Councilwoman Cherry's statement.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

F. Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Scott moved adoption of the Consent Agenda, Items 1 through 4, both inclusive, as shown below; seconded by Councilwoman Cherry.

1. Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 13, 2016

(No registered speakers)

F. Consent Agenda Continued

1. Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 13, 2016 Continued

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

2. Minutes of the Work Session of September 13, 2016

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

3. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 13, 2016

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

4. Resolution Canceling the November 8, 2016 Meeting of the Newport News City Council

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION CANCELING THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 8, 2016. This resolution canceled the November 8, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Newport News City Council. The Newport News City Charter stated that the City Council shall have regular meetings at least once per month. City Council requested to cancel its Regular Meeting of November 8, 2016 to recognize the Presidential General Election scheduled on this date. City Code, Chapter 2, Section 2-21, allowed changes to the City Council meeting schedule pursuant to special resolutions of the Council. In compliance with the City Charter and the City Code, there would be one (1) regular scheduled meeting of the Council on November 22, 2016. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

G. Other City Council Actions

No items submitted.

H. Appropriations

Councilman Bateman moved adoption of Appropriations, Item 1, as shown below; seconded by Vice Mayor Vick.

1. Department of Engineering – FY 2016 Bonds Authorized and Unissued, Streets and Bridges Category: One Accessible City; Pedestrian, Bicycle and Road Safety Enhancement Program; Bright Lights, Safe Nights Street Lighting Program

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED (\$1,815,000.00) TO ONE ACCESSIBLE CITY; PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLE AND ROAD SAFETY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (\$565,500.00); BRIGHT LIGHTS, SAFE NIGHTS STREET LIGHTING PROGRAM (\$140,000.00); NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (\$300,500.00); TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE AND INSTALLATION (\$209,000.00); WARWICK BOULEVARD AT YORKTOWN ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS (\$200,000.00) AND J. CLYDE MORRIS MEDIAN ENHANCEMENTS AT RIVERSIDE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (\$400,000.00). This resolution appropriated \$1,815,000.00 from the FY 2016 Bonds Authorized and Unissued, Streets and Bridges Category for the One Accessible City; Pedestrian, Bicycle and Road Safety Enhancement Program; Bright Lights, Safe Nights Street Lighting Program. Six Safety Improvement Projects were identified by the Department of Engineering. The projects would include enhancing pedestrian bicycle accommodations at pedestrian crossings, upgrading roadway lights, traffic calming in neighborhoods, roadway reconstruction, enhancement of greenways and bikeways, new traffic signals, CSX railroad crossing replacement, removal of existing guardrails and piping of existing drainage ditches. The total funding request for these projects was \$1,815,000.00. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

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

Mr. Adrian Whitcomb, 316-54th Street, Newport News, President of “Riverview Park Citizens,” stated that Newport News was fortunate to have many miles of waterfront along the James River, the river that made Newport News. On behalf of the non-profit organization, Mr. Whitcomb urged City Council to retain in the public’s hands, what had already been zoned as park land. The Deep Creek/Menchville Master Plan of 1990, the Riverview Farm Park Master

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

Plan of 1991, and the Framework for the Future 2030 all acknowledged the need for all of the City Farm and the city-owned portion of the marina to become a public park. Mr. Whitcomb reminded that the aforementioned plans were adopted by City Council and the land re-zoned to park land.

Mr. Whitcomb shared that there was an on-line petition to keep the City Farm as park land. He stated the name, Riverview Farm Park, was the heart of the farm, and the actual waterfront, with a view that belonged to the citizens, and should forever remain a park for all to enjoy. The Riverview Park Citizens asked that City Council confirm their commitment to conserve all of the land as part of Riverview Farm Park. This unified park would become one of the high points, and make the upper two-thirds of Newport News a more attractive place to live (a copy of Mr. Whitcomb's remarks are attached and made a part of these minutes).

Mr. Terry Jones, CEO and Founder, "Brothers on the Block," 4309 William Styron Squares, North, Newport News, was present to show support and celebrate the Honorable Robert S. Coleman. Mr. Jones commended the members of the Newport News City Council, as one body, after listening to the media reports around the country with reference to violence and crime surrounding "Black Lives Matter" protests. He was excited about the Newport News City Council and stated that Newport News had made great progress. He stated Newport News had the best Mayor and Police Chief in the Hampton Roads region. Mr. Jones advised that he was excited about tackling the challenges that faced Newport News. He thanked members of City Council for the great work they were doing in the City of Newport News.

Mr. Joe A. Leming, 377 DeShazor Drive, Newport News, referenced an article in the September 14, 2016 edition of the Daily Press that included information turning out to be a death sentence of a farm at Riverview Farm Park. The magnificent, iconic, and beautiful red barn was to be torn down. The explanation and justification for demolishing the barn included funding and "funny business." The barn was City property, on City land that was gated and fenced, with a posted sign to prohibit trespassing, yet still had City employees working on the site. The City Farm lost half of the trust members in the City's barn. Mr. Leming stated, if termites were ignored long enough, wooden beams would be damaged. He further stated, bowing brick walls escaped notice, while termites and disappearing tresses escaped observation. He stated the barn enjoyed benign neglect. At worst, vandals and/or thieves were involved and deserved an investigation. Regarding funding, Mr. Leming indicated that the park was about quality of life, which was quantifiable. Three sets of numbers were presented to City Council at the September 13, 2016 City Council Work Session to include money to kill the barn, money to keep the barn from falling down, and money to keep the barn usable. Mr. Leming suggested that there may be "barn usables" that would generate income. Council should have the amount of quantifiable quality of life money lost by losing the barn's usables. A list of those usables would have been helpful. He suggested that City Council reconsider killing the barn, in an attempt to study the usables – find out what they are, and what they were worth financially – prior to killing the work of art.

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

Mr. Michael Crichlow, owner of Michael's Bail Bond Company, 962 Hollymeade Circle, Newport News, advised that he had provided commercial bail bond services for the City of Newport News for approximately 13 years. He reminded that he addressed City Council at its September 13, 2016 Regular Meeting, advising them that he was opposed to the City of Newport News spending \$52,520 for the Pre-Trial Services program, when the State of Virginia was funding the program at \$1,891,000. The City of Hampton spent only \$35,000. He recalled City Manager Bourey stating at the September 13th meeting that the City was no longer funding the Pre-Trial Services Program. Mr. Crichlow, quoting from material on the City's website, that the City Manager recommended \$52,520 in funding for the program. Mr. Crichlow felt that the City Manager lied to him, the Council, and the citizens. He apologized, if wrong. He reiterated that there were approximately 54 Bail Bondsmen between the Cities of Newport News and Hampton that provided commercial bail bond services at no cost, and Newport News did not need to spend \$52,520 for Pre-Trial Services, especially when the State provided Newport News and Hampton approximately \$2 million. Mr. Crichlow urged that City Council consider doing away with funding the program. He referenced a bail bondsman by the name of Ms. Jennifer Anderson that approached City Council in 1998 about the issue of Pre-Trial Services being funded by the City. The City's response to Ms. Anderson was that the City would end their funding of Pre-Trial Services. It was amazing that nearly 18 years later, the City was still talking about funding for Pre-Trial Services, and suggested that Newport News follow suit.

Mr. Crichlow advised that he had followed Councilwoman Woodbury's political career. He commended her for her website, advising that he agreed with her conservative policy, and urged the citizens of Newport News to also review Dr. Woodbury's website.

Councilman Bateman inquired whether Newport News appropriated the money received from the State. Ms. Lisa Cipriano, Director, Department of Budget and Evaluation, said no. Councilman Bateman suggested that Ms. Cipriano meet with Mr. Crichlow regarding the matter.

Ms. Darlisha Moore, 13232 Christy Lane, #9, Newport News, commented about the Conditional Use Permit No. CU-16-372 to Stoney Run Village, LLC, allowing the sale of off-premises alcohol. She expressed opposition to this ordinance, stating that allowing the store to sell alcohol was a deficiency. She felt that Newport News needed additional resources to channel young people toward something more positive. The sale of alcohol would impair their thinking.

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments

Mayor Price reminded about C.R.I.M.E. (Creating Responsibility In My Environment) Initiative. He invited Newport News residents to become involved in this exciting program. C.R.I.M.E. stressed community and citizen involvement by encouraging residents to take an active role in the improvements of their communities. Six crime control goals were developed by the members of C.R.I.M.E. in 2015. The teams and the community were dedicated

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

to pursue those goals. Mayor Price announced that the C.R.I.M.E. initiative would host a Community Summit, on Saturday, October 1, 2016, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., at Warwick High School (51 Copeland Lane). Attendees would be given the opportunity to speak with members from each of the six teams about the initiative, learn how to get involved, and hear about the impact C.R.I.M.E. could have in their respective neighborhoods. Mayor Price noted the C.R.I.M.E. team goals as follows: (1) Positive Partnerships Between the Community and Police; (2) Strengthen Families; (3) Increase Measurable Success for Youth; (4) Grow and Develop Community Leadership; (5) Reduce Homelessness; and (6) Increase Communications of Positive Developments in the City.

Mayor Price announced the 43rd Annual Newport News Fall Festival of Folklife, scheduled to be held Saturday, October 1, and Sunday, October 2, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., at Newport News Park (13560 Jefferson Avenue). The Festival would include over 200 exhibitors, heritage trade demonstrations, children’s activities, entertainment, and over 20 food booths. Admission was free.

Mayor Price announced that the City would celebrate “International Walk to School Day” on Wednesday, October 5, 2016. This was a global event that involved communities from more than 40 countries participating in walking or biking to school. This event had become part of a movement for year-round safe routes to school. A team of walkers would begin at Booker T. Washington Middle School (3700 Chestnut Avenue), and walk toward Marshall Elementary School (743-24th Street) as the children gathered and meet up to join the group of walkers.

Mayor Price invited citizens to participate in the “1000 Youth Stop Bullying March” on Sunday, October 9, 2016, 2:00 p.m., at Todd Stadium (12465 Warwick Boulevard).

Mayor Price announced that the Mayor’s Book Club was in full swing. Citizens were invited to join the effort and volunteer to read to pre-school children. Donations for the Mayor’s Book Club were welcomed.

Councilwoman Scott thanked the citizens for their support of the Denbigh Day Parade and Festival, Saturday, September 17, 2016, hosted by the Denbigh Lions Club. The theme for the Festival was “Denbigh Day Backs the Red, White, and Blue.” She indicated there was a great turnout and was enjoyed by all.

Councilwoman Scott had the opportunity to attend the picnic hosted by the USS Newport News Liaison Committee for the crew and members of the USS Newport News and their families on Saturday, September 24, 2016, 12 noon, at Victory Landing Park (50-23rd Street). She met the Commanding Officer, Commander Patrick Clark, and the Executive Officer, Lieutenant Commander Thomas Kim. She thanked them and the crew for their service. She thanked the committee for making the event a success.

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Scott thanked Ms. Sheila McAllister, Director, Department of Planning, for attending the North District Town Hall Meeting on Monday, September 26, 2016, to share her valuable knowledge about the City of Newport News. The meeting was very informative and enjoyed by all in attendance.

Vice Mayor Vick also thanked Ms. Sheila McAllister, Planning Director and staff, for the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood Transformation Kick-Off Meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2016, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., at Dunbar-Erwin Elementary School (726-16th Street). Representatives from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) made a site visit on Tuesday, September 20th for the grant. After speaking with grant recipients, partners, officials, resident leaders, and stakeholders, the representatives were given a tour of the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood (The City of Newport News and the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority were awarded a \$500,000 Choice Neighborhood Initiative Planning Grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development).

Vice Mayor Vick also encouraged citizens to attend the 43rd Annual Newport News Fall Festival of Folklife, on Saturday, October 1, and Sunday, October 2, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., at Newport News Park (13560 Jefferson Avenue).

Vice Mayor Vick announced her Annual Girls Camp, scheduled to be held on Saturday, October 8, 2016, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., at An Achievable Dream Middle & High School (5720 Marshall Avenue). All girls must register prior to the event. Girls Camp was recruiting 100 Newport News girls, ages 13-18, to participate in the free event. The application deadline was October 3, 2016. Selection was on a first come-first serve basis. Girls Camp was supported by local organizations to include Women's Empowerment Development, Inc., Transitions Family Violence Services, Good Seed Good Ground, and the Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast. Girls Camp was designed to build self-esteem, learn essential life skills, and encourage girls to be leaders of tomorrow.

Councilwoman Woodbury thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation, particularly those who spoke about the Riverview Farm Park plan. She expressed appreciation to them for their appreciation of the land's value, and what a resource it would be for the youth. It could be a wonderful park. She read the reviews. She stated it was a good plan then, and it was a good plan now. It was a shame to see the property lost to development.

Councilwoman Woodbury thanked Mr. Crichlow for his attendance and trying to save the City \$52,000. If more citizens came down and made suggestions how to do that, the City would have plenty of money.

Councilwoman Woodbury advised after participating in the wonderful Denbigh Day Parade and Festival on September 17th, she and colleagues attended the 3rd Annual Virginia Brazilian Festival, 1:00 – 7:00 p.m., at City Center. They all learned something to say in Brazilian.

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilman Bateman thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation and for sharing their concerns with City Council. He shared his thoughts about the Riverview Farm Park land. The citizens there had been involved for 26 years. There was a general theory among some of his colleagues that a Developer would develop the land, and it would therefore not be available to the public. He shared that the City was having an archeological excavation and survey done, and looked forward to the results. He felt there was a great deal of historical value to that property which made the land even more special. He expected there would be many focus groups, discussion, and consensus building about whatever occurs on that land. He hoped that a consensus would be reached, and citizens would be able to come and go, and enjoy the river and the land.

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. Members of City Council were concerned about the issues presented.

Councilwoman Cherry congratulated and thanked former Vice Mayor Rob Coleman. She advised that he was missed, but he pledged to be her Grill Master for her events, and looked forward to seeing him in the community. She further thanked his wife Jaime, who was a great support for the Vice Mayor.

Councilwoman Cherry advised that she, Mayor Price, and Councilwoman Woodbury attended the Lifelong Citizenship Award Ceremony, recognizing 90-year old citizens for their contributions to the Community. The Ceremony was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016, at the Brittingham-Midtown Community Center (570 McLawhorne Drive). She advised that we could learn some real life lessons and gain some wisdom by sitting with the Seniors because they were treasures to the community. She congratulated each award recipient.

Councilwoman Cherry reiterated the remarks made by Vice Mayor Vick regarding the Choice Neighborhood Initiative Planning Grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She thanked Ms. Sheila McAllister, Planning Director and staff, for being foot soldiers and visiting the community to do the door-to-door knocking for the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood Transformation Kick-Off Meeting held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., at Dunbar-Erwin Elementary School (726-16th Street). She indicated that this was a great opportunity for the City, and residents also needed to be committed to the long process, and felt it would be worth it to see a difference made in the Ridley and Marshall Courts areas.

Councilwoman Cherry congratulated Mr. Shawn O'Keefe, Youth Program Specialist, Department of Human Services, at the South Morrison Family Education Center; and Dr. Rosanne Walter, Assistant Director, Department of Human Services, on their retirement from the City of Newport News. Councilwoman Cherry thanked each for their work, and indicated that their hard work had not gone unnoticed.

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Cherry also thanked Mr. Darcy Terry, and the Denbigh Warwick Business Association Denbigh Core Action Committee for their work on the Denbigh Day Parade and Festival, Saturday, September 17, 2016, hosted by the Denbigh Lions Club. She indicated that it was a great event.

Councilwoman Cherry thanked Mr. Steve Oldham, CEO, Tucanos Brazilian Grill, for the kind invitation to the 3rd Annual Virginia Brazilian Festival, held Saturday, September 17, 2016, 1:00 – 7:00 p.m., at City Center. It was a great event and fun was had by all. She looked forward to the 4th Virginia Brazilian Festival.

Councilwoman Cherry advised that October 17, 2016 was the deadline to register to vote in the November 8, 2016 Presidential Election. She advised that there would be a Voter Registration Rally on Saturday, October 1, 2016, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., at the Brittingham Midtown Community Center (570 McLawhorne Drive).

Councilwoman Cherry announced that “Coffee With A Cop,” for the North District, was scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2016, 8:00 – 10:30 a.m., at Tabernacle Baptist Church (401 Lucas Creek Road). It was a great opportunity to get to know the City’s law enforcement officers. She encouraged all citizens to attend, meet the officers, and have a great conversation with them.

Councilwoman Cherry announced the next South District “Your Voice Matters” Town Hall Meeting, would be held on Thursday, October 13, 2016, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., at the Brittingham Midtown Community Center (570 McLawhorne Drive), for residents from Mercury Boulevard South to the waterfront. The “Your Voice Matters” Town Hall Meeting, usually held at the Downing–Gross Cultural Arts Center, would be on Thursday, October 20, 2016, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., at Jim’s Local Market (3101 Jefferson Avenue). The title and dialogue for both meetings would be about the progress of Newport News Public Schools (NNPS). All citizens were welcome to attend.

Councilwoman Cherry asked everyone to save the date for Saturday, October 29, 2016, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., for the Community Fall Fest. Free pumpkins would be available for all children. Children were welcome to attend, and dress in costume. There would be games and prizes for all. The event would be free and open to all children. Citizens were advised to contact the City Clerk’s Office for additional details, at 926-8634.

Councilwoman Cherry urged all citizens to remember their bulk trash pick-up day.

Councilman Harris thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation and for voicing their concerns.

J. New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilman Harris reiterated the remarks made by his colleagues regarding Denbigh Day Parade and Festival, Saturday, September 17, 2016, hosted by the Denbigh Lions Club. He advised that it was his first time being able to participate in the Parade. He recalled being the recipient of candy as a young boy, but for the first time, he was thrilled to be able to hand candy out to the citizens. He and his family enjoyed the festivities.

Councilman Harris was invited to attend the 2016 AbuUnityFest on Sunday, September 18, 2016, 12 noon – sunset, at King-Lincoln Park (600 Jefferson Avenue). The event was a part of Virginia's Stop the Violence Movement. He was unable to attend, but his wife, Rasheena, did a presentation on Voter Registration. He reiterated that October 17, 2016 was the deadline to register to vote in the November 8, 2016 Presidential Election. He urged citizens to tell a friend or family member that was not registered to vote to do so by October 17th and to go out on November 8, 2016 and exercise that right to vote.

Councilwoman Scott congratulated New Beech Grove Baptist Church on their 91st Anniversary. They would celebrate this momentous occasion on Saturday, October 8, 2016.

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, MMC
City Clerk

McKinley L. Price, DDS
Mayor
Presiding Officer

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk