

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION  
OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
2400 WASHINGTON AVENUE**

**May 28, 2019**

**4:37 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Tina L. Vick; Sandra N. Cherry, D. Min. (arrived at 4:55 p.m.); Marcellus L. Harris III; David H. Jenkins; and McKinley L. Price, DDS-----5

**ABSENT:** Sharon P. Scott, MPA and Dr. Patricia P. Woodbury-----2

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Cynthia D. Rohlf; Collins L. Owens; Zina Middleton; Joye Thompkins; Darlene Bradberry; Tanner Council; Lisa Cipriano; Constantinos Velissarios; Maria Abilar; Shelia McAllister; Flora Chioros; Angela Hopkins; Nyoka Hall; Susan Goodwin; Florence Kingston; Venerria Thomas; Sonia Alcantara-Antoine; Louis Martinez; Craig Galant; Frank James; Jeffrey Johnson; Steve Drew; Jerri Wilson; David Freeman; Indiana Brown; and Josh Reyes

**I. Chesapeake Bay Foundation**

City Manager Rohlf introduced Mr. Tanner Council, Grassroots Manager, Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) in Hampton Roads, to provide an overview of CBF (a copy of the presentation, "Saving the Bay in Newport News – May 28, 2019", is attached and made a part of these minutes).

Mr. Council shared at a glance about CBF:

- Largest non-profit working to "Save the Bay"
- Offices in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and DC
- Focus on advocacy, restoration, education, and litigation
- More than 274,000 members (31% or ~ 85,000 in Virginia) engage citizens in Bay restoration efforts

Mr. Council advised of Chesapeake Bay facts:

- Largest estuary in North America, 3<sup>rd</sup> Largest in the World
- Largest land-to-water ratio of any estuary in the world (14:1)
- 64,000 Square Miles of Watershed
- 50 Major Tributaries & more than 100,000 rivers and streams!
- Average depth ~ 22 feet

- Over 3,600 species of plants and animals
- 18 million people
- Massive Economic Engine

Mr. Council advised that 13,000 miles of Virginia streams and rivers fail water quality standards; however, water quality was improving. CBF had seen grass return, clearer water, and good reports about blue crabs bouncing back. He advised unprecedented gains were being made with bay restoration.

Mr. Council indicated the sources of nitrogen pollution in the Chesapeake Bay were as follows:

- Agricultural Run-off (41%)
  - Animal waste and fertilizers wash off agricultural land or contaminate groundwater, polluting rivers, streams and the Bay
- Air Pollution (25%)
  - Air pollution from power plants and motor vehicles falls back to the ground and was washed into our waterway by rain
- Wastewater Treatment and Factories (16%)
  - Discharges from wastewater treatment plants and factories are released directly into our rivers and the Bay
- Urban and Suburban Stormwater Run-off (15%)
  - Stormwater running off parking lots, roofs, and other hard surfaces carries pollution like fertilizer and pet waste into our waterways
- Septic (3%)
  - The drain fields of septic systems deliver pollution to the rivers and the Bay through contaminated groundwater

Mr. Tanners indicated that the “dead zone” was caused by what was commonly known as “red tide,” which was excessive nitrogen and phosphorus pollution from human activities or areas with low amounts of oxygen in the Bay. He shared an excess in these nutrients also fueled the growth of dense algae blooms that blocked sunlight that underwater grasses need to grow in order to continue providing food for waterfowl and shelter for blue crabs and juvenile fish, with little or no oxygen, fish, crabs, oysters, and other aquatic animals literally suffocate. Mr. Tanner stated the size of the dead zone was decreasing each summer, but was still a major epidemic.

Mr. Council advised that Virginia was doing good and shared the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint plan:

- Pollution limit, or “diet”, for the Bay – Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)
- Aggressive Virginia plan (watershed implementation plan or WIP) with progress reports every two (2) years
- Time to implement: Began in 2010; 60% by 2017; 100% by 2025

Mr. Tanner indicated that Governor Ralph Northam issued a press release that Virginia and Maryland were on track to meet their goals; however, Pennsylvania was not.

Mr. Council advised of how CBF shared educational information about how to “Save the Bay”:

- Participated with schools on environmental education
- VoiCeS Adult Education
- Decision Maker Experiences
- Virginia Oyster Restoration Center
- Oyster Shell Recycling
- Oyster Restoration
- Shoreline Restoration

Mr. Council shared, since 1989, over 152,000 volunteers had removed approximately 6.5 million pounds of debris from nearly 7,390 miles of shoreline. He reminded of Clean the Bay Day, Saturday, June 1, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. – Noon with two (2) locations in Newport News, which included Peterson’s Yacht Basin (1325 – 16<sup>th</sup> Street) and Huntington Beach (River Road).

Mr. Council advised a “Saved Bay was Worth the Investment = A Better Economy for Virginia, worth \$8.3 Billion per year”.

With regard to oyster restoration, Vice Mayor Vick inquired how, or whether, people without direct access to the water, participate in the oyster restoration program. Mr. Tanner replied that CBF has partnered and worked with people who had direct water access and matched them up with someone interested in oyster gardening. No one had ever been turned away.

Vice Mayor Vick inquired about the number of times per year that the boat tour went out. Mr. Tanner replied four (4) times per year, two in the spring and two in the fall.

Vice Mayor Vick indicated, while looking at the City’s development projects and what was to come, it made one think about, and be more aware, of the shorelines and erosion. Mr. Tanner replied there were nature base solutions on ways to help.

## **II. 25-Foot Lot Guidelines**

City Manager Rohlf introduced Ms. Shelia McAllister, Director, Department of Planning, and Ms. Angela Hopkins, Senior Planner and Project Manager, Department of Planning, to provide the 25-foot lot guidelines in the Neighborhood Conservation District (NCD) overview, to include current regulations and the proposed guidelines (a copy of the presentation, “Neighborhood Conservation District (NCD) – May 28, 2019”, is attached and made a part of these minutes).

Ms. Hopkins indicated that the current regulations were as follows:

### **Non-Conforming Lot of Record**

- As of December 1994:
  - Two (2) or more contiguous lots held in single ownership
  - Ownership history certificate
  - Development on a lot less than fifty (50) feet and proceed only after approval of a special exception

### **Special Exception**

- Special Exception Criteria:
  - Single-family dwelling must be two (2) stories
  - Front yard setback must be average of block (not less than 15 feet)
  - Minimum side yard setback must be five (5) feet
  - Must have attached or detached garage
  - Proposed dwelling must be in harmony with surrounding neighborhood

Ms. Hopkins shared the purpose of the proposed design guidelines were as follows:

- Encourage reinvestment and stabilize the community
- Protect and strengthen desirable and unique physical features and design characteristics
- Protect and enhance the characteristic of a pedestrian oriented community
- Reduce conflict caused by incompatible and insensitive development
- Promote new compatible development
- Promote and retain all existing housing types

- Encourage harmonious, orderly and efficient growth and redevelopment of the area

Ms. Hopkins advised of the proposed design guidelines as follows:

**Goal of Design Guidelines**

- Work in conjunction with NCD Overlay Zoning District Regulations
- Identify common elements
  - (Guidelines do not specify architectural styles)
- Illustrate appropriate design of infill development on lot less than fifty (50) feet in width
- Illustrate appropriate design of any dwelling on any size parcel

**How Will Guidelines Work?**

- Department of Planning will administer design review process
- Property owner submits plans for construction on nonconforming lot
- Planning staff will review proposal for conformity with zoning overlay regulations and NCD guidelines
- Planning staff will render action on proposal (approve, disapprove or modify)

Regarding 25-foot wide lots, Ms. Hopkins advised of recommended design guidelines in an effort to influence how a house(s) was situated on the lot.

- Front yard setback should be no more than to 10-foot
- Side yard setback of 5-foot
- Rear yard setback of 20-foot
- No driveway – on-street parking was not required

Regarding 50-foot wide lots, Ms. Hopkins advised of recommended design guidelines in an effort to influence how a house(s) was situated on the lot.

- front yard setback of 10-foot
- Rear yard setback of 20-foot
- off-street parking would be required and curb cut should not exceed 10-foot in width
- driveway would not exceed 8-foot in width on the front yard setback (with more than one vehicle the driveway could be expanded)

Regarding 75-foot wide lots, Ms. Hopkins advised of recommended design guidelines in an effort to influence how a house(s) was situated on the lot with single ownership as follows:

- front yard setback of 10-foot
- Rear yard setback of 20-foot
- off-street parking would be required and curb cut should not exceed 10-foot in width
- shared one driveway

Regarding a vacant 75-foot wide lots, Ms. Hopkins advised of recommended design guidelines in an effort to influence how a house(s) was situated on the lot by dividing into two (2) 37.5-foot lots as follows:

- front yard setback of 10-foot
- Rear yard setback of 20-foot
- off-street parking would be required and curb cut should not exceed 10-foot in width
- shared one driveway

Ms. Hopkins shared the regulations for architectural details of the single-family dwellings as follows:

- Height, floors and ground floor elevation
- Roof and Pitch
- Location and dimensions of windows and doors
- Porches and porch additions

Ms. Hopkins explained how the City would get there?

#### **Amend Zoning Regulations**

- Division 3. Special Regulations for Neighborhood Conservation District
- Article XXXII. Board of Zoning Appeals
  - Special Exception
- Article V. General Regulations
  - Nonconforming lot of record

#### **Approve Design Guidelines**

- Setbacks, height, mass

- Parking, garages, driveways
- Development of non-standard lots
- Neighborhood compatibility

Ms. Hopkins indicated that in the NCD, there were homes built on slabs, which were not traditional homes; and with the new guidelines proposed homes were to be built on a crawl spaces or elevated porch, and be at least two stories to maintain character with the neighborhood.

Vice Mayor Vick questioned the problem with building on a slab, and why building on a slab was not an option. Ms. Hopkins replied there was not a problem with building on a slab, the NCD wanted to stay with the character of the neighborhood with new development. Ms. McAllister indicated nothing was wrong with building on a slab, but explained it may not be an appropriate fit with the character of the neighborhood.

Vice Mayor Vick advised that every house in the Southeast did not look the same, and questioned why a potential homeowner would be denied if they wanted to build on a slab. Ms. McAllister replied the guidelines are just guidelines. Building a house on a slab may be appropriate in a particular neighborhood. The reason for the discussions were to obtain feedback from City Council. City Manager Rohlf noted this was a draft, but wanted to share the proposed guidelines available, provide a visual of what the neighborhoods would look like, in order for City Council to review and provide input.

Vice Mayor Vick expressed concern about the guidelines, because someone could inherit a 35' x 100' wide lot but wish to build a rancher, and the proposed guidelines would not allow for that. City Manager Rohlf replied there could be citizens who would say that a rancher would not fit with the character of the neighborhood. Vice Mayor Vick indicated that a homeowner association could be established. She agreed there should be some guidelines but not so strenuous on a family who could not build a house to fit them as a family. The person may have inherited a house that had been neglected or dilapidated and wished to raze the house and rebuild. She did not believe the City should deny homeownership opportunity because of parking. Ms. McAllister replied that parking would not be the issue as a person could apply for a special exception. Vice Mayor Vick indicated that people had to pay for a special exception, which was an added expense, and some families may not be able to afford the additional cost.

City Manager Rohlf advised that the proposed guidelines were being established to keep the neighborhoods attractive so people would want to build, and to ensure a fit with the neighborhood as some lot were unique. The City was trying to encourage building new homes; however, wanted to be respectful of existing neighborhoods.

### **III. Short-Term Rentals Update**

City Manager Rohlf introduced Ms. Shelia McAllister, Director, Department of Planning and Ms. Flora Chioros, Assistant Director, Department of Planning, to provide an update on the proposed zoning regulations for short term rentals (a copy of the presentation, "Short Term Rentals – May 28, 2019", is attached and made a part of these minutes).

City Manager Rohlf advised that Short term rentals had been scheduled for a public hearing on the May 28, 2019 Regular City Council meeting agenda; however, Councilwoman Scott and Councilwoman Woodbury had concerns and wanted short term rentals to be deferred for action until the June 11, 2019 Regular City Council meeting. She indicated there were no comments at the Newport News Planning Commission but since had heard some feedback. City staff had worked on the short term rentals for approximately three (3) months and had been diligent on researching the issues and reaching out to other localities for comparison. On the evening agenda the consideration would be to establish definition, zoning district where short term rentals would be allowed and general regulations.

City Manager Rohlf advised that a few years ago the General Assembly was set to say that localities had to allow short term rentals, but also included a provisional permit that would be needed and taxes could be collected, with the middle ground stating short term rentals were allowed but needed some regulations. She advised that City staff had done a great job presenting the proposed guidelines.

City Attorney Owens advised under the current zoning ordinance it was unlawful for homeowners to allow short term rentals, but the proposed definition, zoning guidelines and general regulations would get homeowners in compliance, and allow short term rentals legally.

Ms. Chioros noted the need for regulating use of short term rentals:

- Staff was aware that short-term rental use was occurring within the city with approximately 40 - 50 rentals that could be found on numerous online websites.
- The regulations would allow staff the ability to monitor the use and potential nuisances that may occur with these rentals.
- The regulations also allowed the City to collect taxes from the use.

Ms. Chioros shared the proposed zoning regulation highlights as follows:

- Definition of short-term rental added
- Established which zoning districts short-term rentals would be allowed



- Short-term rentals would be allowed within single-family residential districts.
- Corporate apartments within multi-family residential districts currently could be rented out for shorter time periods.
- Established criteria for a short-term rental permit
  - Only allowed in dwelling units used as primary residence
  - No more than six (6) overnight lodgers
  - Required one additional parking space for a total of three (3) onsite spaces
  - Concurrent rentals not allowed
  - Short-term rentals could not be used for gatherings or meetings
  - Dwelling must meet all applicable Virginia and city health and building codes
  - Must have a business license and pay transient occupancy taxes to the City
  - Be current on City property taxes

Ms. Chioros noted other regulations in neighboring municipalities were as follows:

- Municipalities allowed the use, either by right, or through a conditional/special use permit process.
- The use was currently allowed in York County, James City County, the Cities of Hampton, Williamsburg, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach.
- Other Virginia municipalities were currently in the process of reviewing regulations for the use.

Ms. Chioros advised that the proposed short term rental ordinance would allow the use in the City, but limit it in such a way to protect the neighborhood and characteristics of being a good neighbor. She believed the City had found the middle ground, and as City Attorney Owens mentioned, once the short term rentals ordinance was adopted, it could be revised.

Ms. Chioros advised that the proposed zoning regulations for short term rentals would be on the May 28, 2019 Regular City Council meeting agenda for consideration.

Vice Mayor Vick questioned that homeowners currently operating short term rentals were being done illegally. City Attorney Owens replied yes, currently they were only allowed if permitted in certain zoning districts, if it was not listed in the matrix as an allowed use, was not allowed and not legal.

Vice Mayor Vick shared, at a Virginia Municipal League (VML) conference there were discussions about Airbnb and the hotel industry, who did not want the competition. She

wanted to know that short term rentals were regulated, but to a point it was still welcoming, because no matter what people say, it was still being done – similar to Uber. People should be given an opportunity. Mayor Price replied that the hotels may be unaware of the proposed ordinance; however, the hotels had information they wanted to share with City Council. The hotels were not trying to stop the proposed ordinance because the adoption of the short term rental ordinance had to happen to make it legal with the definition, zoning guidelines and general regulations. The hotel industry wanted the opportunity to express their concerns.

Ms. Chioros replied that short term rentals had been advertised, there had been discussions, articles were written in the Daily Press, and Regulations Committee members had reached out to the hotel industry.

Vice Mayor Vick questioned whether a person could purchase a house strictly for short term rentals. Ms. McAllister replied no, however the City currently had some, but was trying to prevent this from occurring. City Attorney Owens indicated that would be considered a rental property as there should be no more than three (3) unrelated people living in a house as a family unit. He stated short term rentals were for a period less than 30 days.

Ms. Chioros noted, the problem occurred in terms of the neighborhoods and not knowing one's neighbors or who would be in an adjacent house. The City was not in a transient society at this point in the City.

Councilman Harris questioned how the neighbors would know what was going on in their neighborhood and how neighbors would be notified that a short term rental was in their neighborhood. Ms. Chioros replied no, the regulations did not address the notification, but if there was a registry and there was a concern of a neighbor, the City could inform them at that time of the short term rental property. Ms. McAllister replied that could be added to the guidelines.

Ms. Chioros indicated the City was trying to find a balance between allowing the use, being sensitive to people who wanted to do this, and also protecting the neighborhood and people who may not approve of the use. She stated, while trying to find a balance, there was no perfect balance and added language to address health and safety issues. Ms. McAllister advised that a short term rental property owner had to live in a house 180 days of the year.

City Manager Rohlf noted the City could take a look at that the concerns of City Council. There would be challenges with enforcement. City Attorney Owens advised the short term rentals ordinance would be effective July 1, 2019. It was in the best interest of Airbnb and other sites – policing of their site and ensuring that their rules and regulations were been adhered too.

Vice Mayor Vick inquired whether there were any problems or concerns with the current short term rentals except the fact that they were operating illegally. Ms. Nyoka Hall, Zoning Administrator, Department of Codes Compliance, shared there had been a couple of notices of violation issued. There was a Recreational Vehicle (RV) in a driveway and was listed on Airbnb and was removed and stopped. There was a house built for the sole purpose of operating as an Airbnb, and they were also served a notice of violation. Short term rentals was a good investment, and the guidelines and regulations were to help and encourage those homeowners who were already started, an abatement issue and have them become legal.

Mayor Price was advised to leave the public hearing open, and continue the matter to the June 11, 2019 Regular City Council meeting.

#### **IV. Cultural Attraction Awards**

City Manager Rohlf advised, in keeping with City Council past practices, she had scheduled a presentation on Cultural Attraction Awards, related to the FY 2020 Recommended Operating Budget. She introduced Ms. Lisa Cipriano, Director, Department of Budget & Evaluation, to share the information and actual data on the Cultural Attractions Awards (a copy of the presentation, "Fiscal Year 2019 Cultural Attraction Fund Award – May 28, 2019," is attached and made a part of these minutes).

Ms. Cipriano indicated this was the fifth year for the Cultural Attraction Awards, which began in FY 2014. She advised that she would provide the Cultural Attractions Awards for the FY 2019 and the purpose of the funds as follows:

- To provide one-time operational and/or project support to local cultural arts entities adversely impacted by the continued effects of the economic recession
- To serve as a financial safety net to ensure the ongoing viability of local cultural assets, both private and public
- To serve as an incentive to encourage private fundraising and grant match investment

Ms. Cipriano advised that applications were accepted from April 1, 2019 – April 15, 2019 with:

- **Thirteen** applications received
- Total funding requested = \$352,500
- Total budget = \$250,000

Ms. Cipriano indicated the review and award process was as follows:

- Committee reviewed all Applications
- According to the process established by the City Council, City Manager reviews the requests and makes award of grants
- Award information was presented to City Council

Ms. Cipriano advised that the Review Committee consisted of staff from the City Manager’s Office, Department of Development, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism and Department of Budget and Evaluation, with the following review criteria:

- Record of financial sustainability
- Ability to leverage other funding
- Ability to use funding as one-time assistance
- Clear objectives and outcome measures
- Impact on the community clearly described
- Ability to generate additional economic effects

Ms. Cipriano noted there were additional considerations during the application process which included:

- Other funding provided by the City
- How proposed programs/projects fit within City priorities and upcoming citywide projects
- Anticipated Outcome Measures, relationship to Strategic Priorities
- Sustainability of program

Ms. Cipriano advised of the FY 2019 Cultural Attraction Fund Requests:

	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Program or Project</b>	<b>Request</b>
1	Mariners’ Museum	Replace 60-year old air-handling unit in Age of Exploration Gallery, overall updates to same Gallery	\$75,000
2	Mosaic Steel Orchestra	Facilitate operations of the After School Program at Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center	\$10,000

3	NN Public Art Foundation	Request of \$41,012 to finish the <i>Man and Crocodile</i> sculpture installation, \$24,530 for lighting upgrades to five locations	\$65,543
4	Peninsula Fine Arts Center	Support the <i>Toys</i> exhibition series for June 2019	\$60,000
5	Peninsula SPCA	\$2,000 for barnyard physical improvements, \$8,000 for general operating support	\$10,000
6	Port Warwick Foundation	Support security, debris removal, porta-johns	\$10,000
7	Virginia Living Museum	Support SHARK ZONE! 2019 summer exhibit (May to September 2019)	\$20,000
8	Virginia Symphony Orchestra	Expand the 2019-20 Pops! Season from 4 to 5 performances	\$15,000
9	Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble	Rent Ferguson Center Music and Arts Hall for upcoming concerts	\$2,000
10	Parks, Recreation & Tourism-Special Events	Support the World Arts Celebration	\$25,000
11	Virginia War Museum	Pathway construction in front of the Virginia War Museum for access to Military Vehicles, Weaponry in the park <i>(Not supported through the application process – requested additional information on number of visitors that would be using the pathway and it was City property and could use the funds from existing money that maybe available).</i>	\$45,000
12	Lee Hall Train Station Foundation	Support restoration of a donated Chesapeake & Ohio railway caboose	\$10,000
13	Virginia Arts Festival	Support mainstage performances at the Ferguson Center and Art Education for NNPS students	\$5,000

Ms. Cipriano shared the FY 2019 Cultural Attraction Fund AWARDS were as follows:

	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Program or Project</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Award</b>
1	Mariners' Museum	Replace 60-year old air-handling unit	\$75,000	<b>\$57,000</b>
2	Mosaic Steel Orchestra	Facilitate operations of after school youth steelpan orchestra ensemble DGCAC	\$10,000	<b>\$10,000</b>
3	NN Public Art Foundation	Lighting upgrades at 5 locations	\$65,543	<b>\$24,530</b>
4	Peninsula Fine Arts Center	Support <i>Toys</i> exhibition series starting June 2019	\$60,000	<b>\$55,000</b>
5	Peninsula SPCA	\$2,000 for barnyard physical improvements, \$6,000 general operating support	\$10,000	<b>\$ 8,000</b>
6	Port Warwick Foundation	Support security, debris removal, porta-johns	\$10,000	<b>\$10,000</b>
7	Virginia Living Museum	Support SHARK ZONE! 2019 summer exhibit (May to September 2019)	\$20,000	<b>\$20,000</b>
8	Virginia Symphony Orchestra	Expand the 2019-20 Pops! Season from 4 to 5 performances	\$15,000	<b>\$15,000</b>
9	Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble	Rent Ferguson Centers Music and Arts Hall for upcoming concerts	\$2,000	<b>\$500</b>
10	Parks, Recreation & Tourism-Special Events	Support the World Arts Celebration	\$25,000	<b>\$25,000</b>

11	Lee Hall Train Station Foundation	Support restoration of a donated Chesapeake & Ohio railway caboose	\$10,000	\$5,000
12	Virginia Arts Festival	Support mainstage performances at the Ferguson Center and Art Education for NNPS students	\$5,000	\$2,500
13	City Sponsored Pop-Up Events	Create funding for a broad variety of pop-up events in all districts of the City, targeted to area interests - <i>(To create/host event similar to what the City did during the Ella Fitzgerald celebration in 2016).</i>		\$17,470

City Manager Rohlf suggested that the Kroger (formerly the site for Old Kmart – 401 Oriana Road) parking lot area the City could sponsor a farmer’s market or food truck rodeo and were seeking input and ideas for Department of Parks, Recreations and Tourism. The pop-up event required less support and work with the community trying to energize that space. She suggested that pop-up would be throughout the City.

Vice Mayor Vick requested fully funding the Lee Hall Train Depot request as that foundation, committee and volunteers were dedicated. She suggested a deduction of \$500 from the Peninsula Foundation Arts Center (PFAC) and inquired how \$500 would assist the Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble. Councilwoman Cherry agreed that the Lee Hall Train Depot should be fully funded. Ms. Cipriano replied the \$500 for Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble would help defer some of the cost to rent a concert venue, as the specialized group focused on private performances for family and friends. City Manager Rohlf indicated she would revisit and review the request from Lee Hall Train Depot.

Ms. Cipriano advised of the next step:

- Prepare award letters and distribute funds
- Receive progress reports from the funded organizations

**V. Comments / Ideas / Suggestions**

Councilwoman Cherry indicated there were numerous concerns expressed about the amount of trash in the Southeast Community and questioned why the trash/bulk trash with orange markers sat for days before a pick-up was scheduled, the City needed to seek guidance from the Department of Public Works on how they could better serve the Southeast Community.

Vice Mayor Vick agreed with Councilwoman Cherry. Mayor Price indicated he thought orange markers meant the bulk trash. He said for example a 20-foot piece of a tree would not be picked-up because it would be too large to place in the truck. City Manager Rohlf replied if it was a vacant lot that would present a problem. Councilwoman Cherry stated it was a vacant lot. City Manager Rohlf indicated that there was a problem with regulations; however, the trash needed to be picked up because it was not good for the neighborhood. Vice Mayor Vick questioned whether the property owners would be responsible. City Attorney Owens replied no, renters would leave items in the house, the landlord would clean the house of debris, or for repair, and within a couple days, items would show up on a vacant lot. City Manager Rohlf indicated staff would have to revisit, but in the past, trucks were increased in neighborhoods.

Councilman Harris advised that the water fountains were inoperable at Riverview Farm Park on the Memorial Day weekend of May 24 – 27, 2019. City Manager Rohlf replied staff would look into the matter.

Councilman Harris questioned whether an update could be provided on the zoning situation with the property owner next door to Tommy Garner Air Conditioning and Heating Company (12535 Warwick Boulevard). City Manager Rohlf replied she would provide an update, but initially the work the property owner wanted to do required a conditional use permit; however, the work that the property owner was currently doing, was allowed to by-right at that site. When the property owner changed their application and did not require a conditional use permit, all conditions that could be placed on the property owner was taken away. The project would not come before City Council without a conditional use permit and the work could be done by-right. Vice Mayor Vick shared she had concerns and hoped it would not be a nightmare to the community. City Attorney Owens replied the property owner decided not to have outdoor runs because it would require a conditional use permit. He stated the property was commercial zoning and allowed by a matter of right, but if the zoning was changed, they were grandfathered. City Manager Rohlf advised more details would be provided to City Council.

Mayor Price advised that the NNPS Sub-Committee was almost complete and he would plan a meeting with the committee soon.

City Manager Rohlf indicated City Council was a little off for a quarterly meeting, the revised Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) would be presented at the June 11, 2019 City Council Work Session, and it would be appropriate to have a Joint Meeting with the School Board.

City Manager Rohlf questioned when City Council wanted to schedule the quarterly Joint Meeting to discuss the CIP. Vice Mayor Vick replied at least one hour would be needed. Councilman Harris indicated the June 25, 2019 City Council Work Session would work. City



Manager Rohlf replied she would talk to Dr. George Parker, Superintendent, Newport News Public Schools, to schedule the Joint Meeting for 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 during the regularly scheduled City Council Work Session.

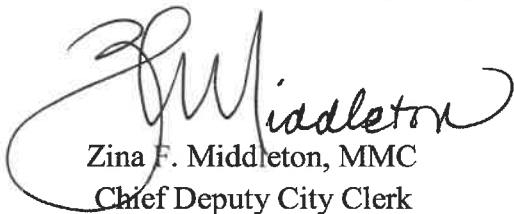
Councilwoman Cherry inquired about the request received from Ms. Angela Gilliam, Administrator/Curriculum Developer, Mr. Michael LeMelle, Director/Lead Instructor, and Ms. Raven LeMelle, Instructor/Programming Consultant with Point, Aim and Shoot Studios who were excited about the continued growth of the youth in the media arts program. As part of the learning objectives, while exposing the students to opportunities and expanding their photographic abilities, Point, Aim and Shoot Studios secured 55 entry passes to the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC, for Monday, June 17, 2019. A donation was requested, and three quotes provided, for local motor transportation companies. She advised that City Council was provided with the information. By consensus of the City Council, a donation in the amount of \$2,000 would be made from the contingency fund.

Mayor Price questioned whether a Resolution of Recognition of 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Athletic Program at Newport News Shipbuilding had been completed. Ms. Middleton replied that a Resolution of Recognition for 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Apprentice School at Newport News Shipbuilding had been completed; however, the Clerk's office did not have a Resolution of Recognition for the Athletic Program. City Attorney Owens advised that staff would have a Resolution of Recognition 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Athletic Program at the Newport News Shipbuilding on the June 11, 2019 Regular City Council meeting.

**VI. Closed Meeting**

(6:15 p.m. – 6:26 p.m.)

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS  
ON MOTION, COUNCIL ADJOURNED 6:26 P.M.



Zina F. Middleton, MMC  
Chief Deputy City Clerk

McKinley L. Price  
Mayor  
Presiding Officer

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk