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

June 12, 2018 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Marcellus L. Harris III (left at 5:07 p.m.); Sharon P. Scott, MPA; Tina L. Vick;

Patricia P. Woodbury Herbert H. Bateman, Jr.; and Saundra N. Cherry, D. Min. -6

ABSENT: McKinley L. Price, DDS-----1

OTHERS PRESENT: Cynthia Rohlf; Mabel Washington Jenkins; Wanda Pierre; Darlene Bradberry; Joseph DuRant; David Jenkins; MaRhonda Echols; Terry Boone; Shelia McAllister; Lisa Cipriano; Keith Ferguson; Sh'lea Frazier; Constantinos Velissarios; Maria Abilar; Susan Goodwin; Florence Kingston; Carol Meredith; Flora Chioros; Interim Chief Michael Grinstead; Chief Steve Drew; Lieutenant Harry Atkinson; Chief Ranger Rob Ferrel; Michael Poplawski; Venerria Thomas; Flora Chioros; Craig Galant; Dawn Barber; David Freeman; Cleder Jones; Eoghan Miller; Jerri Wilson; Zina Middleton; Indiana Brown; Jeanice Peacock; and Josh Reyes

## I. Closed Meeting

(4:00 p.m. - 4:10 pm.)

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza

City Manager Rohlf advised that concerns were expressed about loitering, vagrants, undesirable and illegal activities at the MLK Plaza. An interdepartmental enforcement team was organized and comprised of the staff from the City Manager's office, Parks and Recreation, Codes Compliance, Public Works, the City Attorney's office, and the Police and Fire Departments. The primary recommendation was to add fencing on the field across from MLK Plaza Park, between 26<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Streets. The 6 foot iron rod fence would connect with the NNRHA Spratley House Apartments (651 – 25<sup>th</sup> Street) existing fence and would run to the Esquire Barber Shop (611 – 25<sup>th</sup> Street) and replace the existing chain-linked fence. Other efforts included a stepped-up enforcement presence, additional signage, trash receptacles, enhanced technology, email/communication exchange, additional maintenance and litter collection to change the physical environment that were contributing to the criminal activity in the area.

Councilwoman Scott noted a fence erected around the park would comply with Park and Recreation because parks closed a at certain time. City Manager Rohlf stated the fence would be erected across the street.

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Vice Mayor Vick questioned whether loitering signs could be erected, she indicated she had seen signage in other cities and also trimmed the tree branches, the trees were being used as cover for the negative activities. City Manager Rohlf replied that the tree branches would be cut back and park hours signage erected that could be enforced.

Councilwoman Cherry inquired about a no trespassing sign. Ms. Bradberry replied it was illegal to erect a no loitering sign because the park was public.

Vice Mayor Vick advised that she had spoken to Reverend James Brown, Huntington Alumni Association who stated they had provided free food and clothes. She questioned whether the organization could require that individuals help clean up the park prior to distributing the free items. There were 15-20 men standing in front of the park at any given time during the day. City Manager Rohlf replied standing in front of the park on a public street and not enforceable.

Councilwoman Cherry stated citizens could not use the bus stop. City Manager Rohlf replied she understood citizens were uncomfortable being at the bus stop with the ongoing illegal activities.

Vice Mayor Vick indicated organizations distributed free clothing and other items each Saturday in the former Fresh Pride parking lot. Councilwoman Scott suggested requiring the organizations have the citizens perform community service hours.

Councilwoman Cherry advised that she was happy that the City was moving forward. This should be a community effort, not just the Police or Park Ranger. City Manager Rohlf stated cameras had been installed as well.

Councilwoman Cherry questioned whether any arrests had been made. Lieutenant Harry Atkinson indicated from March – May 2018, there had been 13 summons for drinking in public issued, but with no arrests. The fence should cut down on drug trading. Councilwoman Cherry inquired about the number of summons one person could have before an arrest was made. Lieutenant Atkinson stated Chief Ranger Ferrel was working with the City Attorney's office to incorporate a policy or ordinance that would ban a person from the park for 30-60 days and arrested if caught trespassing.

Councilwoman Cherry indicated that was perpetuating the issue. She understood the City had to work with what was available, but needed changes to be made. Lieutenant Atkinson stated that was the reason for Chief Ranger Ferrel working with the City Attorney's office to try to get the ban. Those individuals that were issued summons for drinking in public

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were being tracked, in order see the history of the individuals and petition the Commonwealth Attorney's office. That individual could then be located and served with notice to appear before the Judge. Should that individual be caught drinking, with alcohol on their breath or alcohol on their person, that individual would be arrested and taken to jail and charged with a misdemeanor. That process would provide an individual with a choice to go into a substance abuse treatment program or serve jail time.

Councilwoman Cherry asked how long it would take to get a handle on this issue, and how long was enough. Vice Mayor Vick replied, with addiction, there could be a place and had services available but those individual had to want help. Councilwoman Cherry understood, but that individual could not continue to be a public hazard to the community. Lieutenant Atkinson stated they were working within the law until changes were made.

Councilwoman Scott questioned where the square/park was legally closed at night. Lieutenant Atkinson replied yes.

Mr. David Freeman, Assistant to the City Manager, indicated many illegal activities took place in the field behind 7-Eleven and added a fence on the field across from MLK Plaza Park, between 26th and 25th Streets. The 6 foot iron rod fence would connect with the NNRHA Spratley House Apartments (651 – 25th Street) existing fence and would run to the Esquire Barber Shop (611 – 25th Street), would replace the existing chain-linked fence, and would certainly make an impact. That would force individuals back out to 25<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson Avenue. The number of individuals in the park had decreased since the team put actions into place and the Police and Park Ranger were keeping the press on, to make the park available for families to visit.

Chief Ranger Ferrel advised that cameras were installed to capture hot spots and would start to clean around the bus stop.

Vice Mayor Vick questioned whether signs could be erected informing individuals that cameras were in use. Chief Ranger Ferrel replied that those signs had already been erected along with no trespassing signs from sunset to sunrise. He stated no littering signs were erected because there was a problem with cigarette butts.

City Manager Rohlf introduced and welcomed the new Police Chief Steve Drew; who would begin July 2, 2018 and had already been out in the community. The Swearing-in Ceremony was scheduled for Thursday, June 28, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue).

## II. Youth and Gang Violence Briefing

City Manager Rohlf, introduced Ms. MaRhonda Echols, Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Program Manager, to provide the Youth and Gang Violence briefing (a copy of the presentation, "Youth and Gang Violence Initiative Briefing – Building Better Futures" is attached and made a part of these minutes).

Ms. Echols indicated she would provide a brief review of the Youth and Gang Violence Program and planning for the Summer Training and Enrichment Program (STEP). She stated she took great pride in the program. The Youth and Gang Violence Program was four (4) years into the program and had gained national recognition. The program component and overview for planning preparation of the fifth year of Summer Training and Enrichment Program (STEP) began December 2017. The Summer Program was 12 weeks/10 weeks in length. STEP continued to serve 15-24 year olds. Applications were accepted from February – March 2018, with 425 program participants. There were 32 STEP Coaches, serving the City. Participants were interviewed at Courthouse Green and the Doris Miller Community Center. The participant orientation for those out-of-school was held June 4-8, 2018, with worksite start date of June 18, 2018, and for those in-school June 18-22, 2018 with worksite start date of July 2, 2018. The participants worked five (5) days per week, worksite would end on August 22, 2018, with the closing ceremony scheduled for Thursday, August 23, 2018, at 12 noon, at the Marriott at City Center (740 Town Center Drive).

Ms. Echols advised when the Youth and Gang Violence Program began, it served a small section (Southeast Community) of the City. The program had evolved and served any resident within the City of Newport News between the ages of 15-24 years of age.

Ms. Echols indicated, that 2017 was the first time STEP had more non-profit and private sector agencies than City served agencies. Extending their reach to provide youth and opportunity to obtain permanent full-time employment at the end of the program.

Ms. Echols further indicated that STEP had maintained a relationship with Thomas Nelson Community College and New Horizons Regional Education, where the 19-24 year old youth could have a site visit to introduce them to a trade program. Trades were important market and representative in the mentioned there were always have openings in trades, but could never keep those positions filled.

Ms. Echols advised that there were seven (7) Outreach Workers to spread throughout the City. Conversations began with the Police Department about where the "hot

spots" that still existed in the City. It was important to be somewhere that there was a known problem areas or someplace the young people hung out. Some of the hot spots were: Aqueduct Apartments, Aqua Vista Apartments; Courthouse Green Apartments; 27<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut Avenue; Marshall-Ridley; Stuart Gardens Apartments; Walker Village; Old Oyster Point Apartments; Brighton Apartments; and Riverland Apartments. The Outreach Workers also receive information from the community.

Ms. Echols advised that new ideas were always being explored, "The Pop-Up Shop" assisted with those young people who had to go to court, or had a job interview and did not have the proper attire. The STEP representatives reached out to Thrift Shops and Goodwill; those stores that had clothing, but not geared toward young people. Pop-Up Shops had acquired clothing and had their own clothing closet with shoes and accessories. The young people could come in, obtain the items needed, and talk, with no questions asked. This turned into relationship building. STEP was invested in seeing the young people's lives change for the better. Another program was "Polly Topics" which helped young ladies with life skills, conflict resolution, while polishing nails, nail art, doing hair and make-up, was a structured activity created to engage and communicate. Ms. Echols shared another program was Choose Use to Release Negative Thoughts (CURNT) because a lot of the youth were driven by music; however, the lyrics they used were not always the lyrics one wanted youth to hear. STEP had acquired real studio equipment and space at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center, and wanted youth to capitalize on more than just music (i.e. building relationships, and partnerships, while working on conflict resolution).

Ms. Echols presented an overview on the Seeing Opportunities Within (SOW)

Program:

- The SOW Program was created to provide intensive intervention services to high-risk and/or gang-affiliated youth and young adults.
- Street Outreach Workers were assigned to identify and engage gang-affiliated youth and those involved in high-risk behaviors, at the neighborhood, street, and home level.
- Street Outreach Workers built relationships with gang-affiliated youth and their families to reduce bonds to gangs, provide access to social and educational services, and provide positive adult role-models.

Ms. Echols shared the Priority Areas of SOW:

### Outreach

o Enhanced efforts to engage the community and target population.

## • Re-Entry

O Strengthen partnerships to connect incarcerated individuals with services and assist with re-integration into the community.

#### Education

o Build collaboration with select middle and high schools to teach character development, conflict resolution, and interpersonal relationships.

# • Community Collaboration

- o Build collaboration with community partners to provide access to Outreach Staff and streamline services.
- o Teach character development, conflict resolution, and interpersonal relationships.

Ms. Echols indicated that the Boys and Girls Club had secured a federal grant from Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as part of the re-entry program, the goal was be able to integrate with life skills and job readiness development for those individuals returning from DJJ. She advised that the Hampton University Upward Board Program offered an opportunity to assist those youth in a low-income bracket and high school students from families in which neither parent held a bachelor's degree, while supporting and preparing the participants for college entrance, to propel those individuals who had a dream and goal to attend college. Ms. Echols advised that STEP had a new partnership with Liberty Baptist Church. Churches had driven a lot of outreach efforts in the communities. Liberty Baptist Church held 50-piece Band Opera Concerts at Detention Centers, and in the communities, to expose young people to the arts.

Councilman Harris questioned whether STEP representatives had been able to access and collaborate with the middle and elementary schools. Ms. Echols replied that schools generally reached out to STEP. As a result, visits were held at Crittenden and Huntington Middle Schools.

Ms. Echols provided a brief overview of the Strategic Planning:

- Awarded contract to Carrington Consultants, LLC to create a 3-5 Year Strategic Plan for stakeholders over the next six months.
- Facilitate focused discussions with Steering Committee to identify values, vision and mission statement, goals and objectives, priority alignments, and measurable outcomes.
- Review of available data to include resources, gaps, and indicators
- Facilitate focused discussions with community and other key stakeholders
- Final Plan Release: October 2018

# Accomplishments

- Served over 1,500 youth and young adults in the STEP program over a fouryear period. Partnered with 72 organizations to provide worksite training opportunities for participants.
- Decreased juvenile criminal offenses consistently each summer during STEP enrollment.
- Established a partnership with New Horizons and Thomas Nelson Community College to screen and refer STEP participants for skilled training that would lead to unsubsidized sustainable employment.
- Hired seven (7) Street Outreach Workers who engaged with 50 clients across all three City Council Districts.
- Recognized by the National Gang Center as a "best practice" site for youth employment and business partnerships.
- Provided technical assistance through the National Gang Center and Cities United to other sites.

Councilwoman Scott questioned how many of the initiatives had been utilized in the North District. Ms. Echols replied that STEP had traction in the Southeast, but the Central and North Districts were not excluded.

Councilwoman Woodbury inquired about the statistics on the STEP program. Ms. Echols replied some of the statistics were kept. STEP had 85 young people hired by the STEP partners. She stated most of the programs they were trying to keep stats and track the STEP participants, if and when the participants returned to the program. Councilwoman Woodbury stated the statistics would be vital when being recognized by the State or on a National level. Ms. Echols agreed.

Councilwoman Scott inquired about the percentage of the STEP participants who were 18-24 years old, because after the program those individuals were at home or in the street contributing to some of the crime stats in the City. Ms. Echols replied 15% were but 18-24 years of age remained in the program. Councilwoman Scott questioned what could City Council do to reach that segment of population that needed the services the most. Ms. Echols replied participants had inquired about raising the hourly rate and some of the participants were restricted where they could work because of their record, as to where they could or could not work.

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City Manager Rohlf indicated after five (5) years, it was time to review the program, statistics and numbers, and determine what could be done differently with input from Council. She stated Assistant City Manager Archer would be tasked over the course of the next year, before the 2019 STEP program, to look at specific ways to make some changes that had been mentioned and to develop other programs over the next 8-9 months. STEP had pilot programs with businesses and had partnership (i.e. Shipyard). The STEP program needed to be redefined and enhanced, they were doing great work.

Councilwoman Scott thanked Ms. Echols, and the team for what had been done, but suggested the City look at the best use of taxpayer dollars moving forward.

Councilwoman Cherry commended Ms. Echols and the team for all of the work being done in the community and thanked City Manager Rohlf for her promise to review. City Manager Rohlf replied with the review of STEP, the City may have to add new programs to better reach the intended population with more intensive training for the 19-24 year old.

Councilwoman Scott believed that a lot more of the business community would participate and she had spoken to some developers and businesses. The businesses did not want to do the vetting, but wanted participants to come in already cleaned up, focused and ready to work.

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Councilman Bateman questioned what percentage of the Youth and Gang Violence Initiative was dedicated to STEP. Ms. Echols replied a majority of the program. Councilman Bateman recalled defining levels of gang activity and identifying specific geographic areas when STEP initially began. He inquired whether STEP continued to track that information. Ms. Echols replied yes. Councilman Bateman stated he appreciated that the program was looking at new options of all the time and recommended the Music Research Center located in Charlottesville which had been successfully ongoing for more than ten (10) years, started by Mr. John Hornsby (brother of Bruce Hornsby) and Dave Matthews sat on that board. He suggested Ms. Echols should a day, and get a tour which could complement what being done here in Newport News.

Councilwoman Cherry questioned the 60% - 40% ration of STEP 2018. That 40% of the participants were the high school students (16-18 year olds) and 60% was of the 19 - 24 year old participants. Ms. Echols replied it was the opposite 60% the participants were the high school students (16-18 year olds) and 40% was the 19-24 year old participants.

Vice Mayor Vick indicated that the human data was just as important. She advised when she was elected to City Council in 2008; there were no job opportunities in the

South District. She applauded the efforts of the STEP program team and outreach workers. When one attended the culminating event, which was the human data, to see the youth and their parents, it was emotional attending the closing ceremony because the parents were thankful that the young people had obtained a job and the youth were happy for the experience. The STEP program had blessed many families and helped introduce them to the world of work and the beginning of their self-sufficiency. Vice Mayor Vick encouraged the City Council to attend the closing ceremony in August.

Councilwoman Woodbury inquired about the follow up from four (4) years with the previous program participants. Where were they now? That could be the inspiration for the new program participants. Ms. Echols replied that would be part of the closing ceremony in August 2018.

City Manager Rohlf informed City Council that they would be receiving a call from Carrington Consultants, LLC to obtain their input.

## III. State Budget and Impact on Newport News Briefing

City Manager Rohlf introduced Ms. Jerri Wilson, Management and Legislative Program Analyst, to present a briefing on the State Budget and Ms. Lisa Cipriano, Director, Budget Department of Budget and Evaluation, to provide remarks on the Impact on Newport News (see the "State Budget and Impact on Newport News Briefing (attached and made a part of these minutes).

Ms. Wilson shared that the State share of the City's budget was less than the 12% and noted there were four (4) categories on how State Dollars would Impact the City's Budget as follows:

- Recovered Costs reimbursements for services provided on behalf of Virginia
  - o Examples: City Jail, Juvenile Services
- Non-categorical Aid revenue raised by Virginia and shared with localities
  - o Examples: Grantor's tax on deeds, Motor home titling
- Shared Expenses funding for services that were considered joint responsibilities
  - o Examples: Constitutional Officers
- Categorical Aid funding for specific uses
  - o Examples: Law Enforcement, Human Services

Ms. Wilson noted some of the State Budget Highlights:

- State operating budget approximately \$115 billion over the biennium
- Extends health coverage to persons with income up to 138% of the Federal poverty level
  - Estimated 400,000 newly eligible participants statewide (approximately 85K in Hampton Roads)
  - o Begins on/about January 1, 2019
  - o Net savings of \$371 million
  - Includes Training, Education, Employment, and Opportunity Program (TEEOP)
  - o Implements a provider tax to cover cost of expansion
- Revised revenue forecast estimates = additional \$120 million
- Fully funds K-12 SOQ re-benchmarking
- Increasing cash reserve top priority for legislators

Councilwoman Woodbury inquired about the last three (3) benchmarking of the schools. Ms. Wilson replied it should be done every two (2) years. She stated the City provided the schools with more than double of what the State required for each locality.

Ms. Wilson shared notes on this budget:

- Percentage of State Revenue from the four (4) categories remains relatively flat
  - o (approximately 11.5% of total revenue)
- Very little "new" money to the City in FY 2019
  - Funding to add staff in Human Services to implement Medicaid expansion programs
  - o Slight increase in public safety funs, HB599
- Salary actions for teachers and State supported locals contingent on revenue; don't occur until July 1, 2019 (FY 2020)

Ms. Wilson informed of the City Legislative Priorities Funded:

- Added \$500K in FY 2019 for nuclear femtography center at Jefferson Laboratory (JLAB)
- Added \$20 million general funds in FY 2019 for Stormwater Local Assistance Fund

- Increased Enterprise Zone program by \$685,533 each year to avoid Real Property Investment Grant (RPIG)
- Provided \$350 million in FY 2019 for the Port to dredge channel to 55'

Councilwoman Woodbury questioned whether the \$20 million for Stormwater Local Assistance Fund was statewide or for this region. Ms. Wilson replied it was statewide.

Ms. Wilson shared the Mental Health Initiatives Funding included:

- Added \$52.8 million over the biennium to fund waiver slots
- Added \$11.4 million to address capacity issues at mental health facilities
- Added \$13.8 million for supportive housing
- Fund System Transformation, Excellence and Performance in Virginia (STEP-VA) at \$17 million for detox and outpatient services
- Funded jail discharge planning, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training and other services at \$17.8 million

Councilwoman Woodbury questioned whether the \$17 million for STEP-VA was for the entire State. Ms. Wilson replied for the entire State of Virginia.

Councilwoman Cherry inquired whether the criteria for STEP-VA was available. Ms. Wilson replied no. Councilwoman Cherry indicated the City could benefit from this program.

Councilwoman Woodbury asked whether there were any statistics on GO-VA and the status of successful grants. Ms. Kingston replied that the Peninsula had received funding for unmanned test facilitate which was on the list for Region 5, working on a revenue sharing agreement, and higher education to facilitate and collaborate with educational pieces. There were allocations across the regions and another part that was not by region, but by projects. Entrepreneurship was another area included.

Ms. Wilson noted Other Funding in the State Budget was as follows:

- Increase GO Virginia by \$5 million in FY 2019 and by \$10 million in FY 2020
- Maintain \$100,000 each year for Newport News Aviation Academy
- Add \$20 million over the biennium to public safety (HB599)
  - O Year one (1) increase = 3.7% over FY 2018

o Year two (2) increase = 3.9% over FY 2019

Ms. Wilson indicated what was next?

- Virginia would apply to Federals for a 1115 waiver to implement the Training, Education, Employment and Opportunity Program (TEEOP)
- Target date for enrolling newly eligible Medicaid recipients in January 2019
- Legislators would continue to shift revenue to General Fund Reserve Fund
  - o GFRF separate from Rainy Day Fund
  - o Combined RDF and GFRF deposits approximately \$1 billion
- Some uncertainty on the impact of Federal tax changes to Virginia tax filters
- Possible Fall Special Session on State Tax reform

Councilwoman Cherry inquired about Training, Education, Employment and Opportunity Program (TEEOP) what age would be served, who would provide the training, and who would be responsible for accountabilities. How would all those pieces of the TEEOP work? Ms. Wilson replied the program was new; however, some of the components were being developed.

Ms. Cipriano advised that the FY 2019 Adopted Operating Budget would be impacted by the State Budget. The General Fund FY 2019 Operating Budget would be impacted by:

- Adopted on May 8<sup>th</sup> \$486,531,000
- Medicaid Expansion Effective January 1, 2019
- Impact Department of Human Services
  - o State Funding determined by:
    - Current Funding vs Current Workload
    - Projected increase in workload due to Medicaid Expansion
    - Historical staff and operations costs
    - New State Funding for the City \$384,013
    - To be used for staffing, office space (furnishings and supplies), and training for the first year
    - Six (6) new positions and part-time staff; one-time costs for furniture
    - Stated would fund 100% for FY 2019. State would fund 84.5% beginning FY 2020

Ms. Venerria Thomas, Director, Department of Human Services shared that 78,000 residents would become eligible, but would process more applications. She stated there was over 50,000 residents would receive Medicaid assistance. She advised in some cases, it would not impose an additional work load, for example if an individual had previously applied for Medicaid and did not qualify, because their application was on file, DHS could simply resubmit the application).

Ms. Cipriano shared the adjusted FY 2019 General Fund Operating Budget:

• Increased by \$384,000 to \$486,915,000

Ms. Cipriano noted the FY 2019 School Operating Fund:

- What changed? Average Daily Membership (ADM) used for final State calculation
  - Acting Newport News Public School Superintendent's March 2018
     Budget Proposal \$26,884
  - o State Superintendent FINAL June 7, 2018 Budget \$26,787
  - o 97 fewer students
  - o An increase over FY 2018 at \$26,636
- ADM Decrease Affected Standard of Quality Programs
  - o Basic State Aid Funding, vocational, Gifted, Special Education programs, as well as Prevention/Intervention programs, and Fringe Benefits portions of State Funding
- Some Increases in Other Revenue areas (Supplemental Lottery Per Pupil Allocation)
- Required Local Effort \$55,697,690
  - o FY 2019 City Funding for Operations \$110,169,923

## IV. Campbell Road Project Q & A

City Manager Rohlf noted that the Campbell Road Project would be on the evening agenda for public hearing and Mr. Craig Galant, Assistant Director, Department of Engineering, was available to give a brief overview and answer any questions (a copy of the presentation, "Campbell Road Project Update – June 12, 2018" is attached and made a part of these minutes)..

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Councilwoman Woodbury questioned whether anyone would lose their home. City Manager Rohlf replied no, a majority were temporary easements.

Mr. Galant provided a brief overview and updates of the Campbell Road Project Goals were as follows:

- Provide curb, gutter and sidewalk north of Bland Boulevard
- Remove ditches and upgrade drainage system
- Improve roadway geometry
- Minimize impact on residents
- Upgrade pedestrian crossing at Bland Boulevard and a slip lane for buses
- Current Schedule (same as presented January 2018)
  - o Advertisement November 2018
  - Construction Starts January 2019

Councilwoman Woodbury inquired about a slip lane? Mr. Galant replied it was a pork chop area designed and designated and was easier for buses to make a right turn.

Mr. Galant noted on the Engineering Department website there was a link to the Project Status Public Web Site, which described the project and provided contact information. At the same site it showed the scheduled work, start date, end date, estimated cost and percentage of the work completed. The project status web portal was located at: <a href="http://gis2.nngov.com/projectstatus/#/map">http://gis2.nngov.com/projectstatus/#/map</a>.

Mr. Galant shared that the Campbell Road Project Action on the evening meeting agenda would:

- Permission to negotiate for (or condemn, if necessary) 36 temporary easements, 6 permanent easements and one lot purchase. A detailed listing was provided for City Council.
- The temporary easements are for construction and grading transitions that do not permanently affect the property, typically only a few hundred square feet. Driveway aprons will be replaced within the area of the work.
- The permanent easements were for drainage structures that would be installed in the yards by the roadway, also typically a few hundred square feet.
- The vacant lot purchased was for the stormwater pond needed for the project, about 0.6 acres.
- Appraisals were completed totaling \$96,982.36

Councilwoman Woodbury inquired about the project from Bland Boulevard heading North. Mr. Galant replied a grant application was submitted for funding and was denied as the project did not meet all of the requirements.

Mr. Galant explained the acquisition process as follows:

- The owners would be sent a certified letter with the appraisal and a matching offer.
- Accepted offers would be scheduled for closing.
- Non-accepted offers would be negotiated by the City Attorney's office, and scheduled for closing if accepted.
- If not successfully negotiated, the City Attorney would begin the condemnation process, which allowed access and escrowed the appraised cost until a final value was set by the courts.

Councilwoman Cherry inquired about flooding and the elevation at Bland and Warwick Boulevard. Mr. Galant replied there was no flooding at that location.

## V. Comments / Ideas / Suggestions

Councilwoman Woodbury inquired about the Rock Church and noise in the Riverside area, and whether the City received any feedback. City Manager Rohlf replied that she met with the church and voice the concerns and followed up with the City Attorney's office who would be working on an ordinance to bring back before Council in order to assist with the noise ordinance.

Chief Grinstead indicated that the Police spoken with both the citizens and the church. He stated that they were not very cordial when speaking to one another. They were informed that the City Attorney was working on a noise ordinance. City Manager replied she was hoping they would be good neighbors, but unfortunately that had not happened.

Councilwoman Scott questioned the changes to the noise ordinance; because citizens had informed her that the Police would come out, but could not enforce the ordinance. City Manager Rohlf replied that some of the language was removed which took away the ability to enforce the ordinance. The City Attorney informed the Police not to enforce the ordinance because there was legal ramifications that could cost the City money. Councilwoman Scott stated the City needed to get the ordinance done straight away because it was becoming a big uproar in the community, when the Police was called and unable to do anything.

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Councilwoman Scott shared there had been a number of individuals who cleaned their cars between Fort Eustis and Denbigh Boulevard in the middle of the streets, and it remained littered. She asked about "Adopt-a-Spot" and how was the program was managed. She indicated that she was trying to get people engaged.

Councilwoman Scott advised that the City could not have businesses where the grass was 12" tall with trash and grass growing in the cracks of the sidewalk (at Oriana Road and Denbigh Boulevard). She stated she had talked to the Directors of Public Works and Codes Compliance. City Manager Rohlf replied the City had been in discussion with the business about how close to the street that business was required to maintain, the Code did required businesses to go up to the street. The code also required citizens to maintain their property to the street.

Councilman Bateman advised that there has been a proliferation of graffiti and the City should do a public service announcement or campaign, make it an initiative to make it go away. Mr. Andy Wilks was great and once informed the graffiti was removed.

Councilman Bateman inquired about the quality of housing in Newport News for the future, he did not want residential housing at the City Farm property, but the City still needed housing. In order for the City to grow there should be tax abatement for people who invested and improved their homes. The City could incentivize and get ahead of the game. City Manager Rohlf replied staff was working on this issue.

Councilwoman Cherry requested an update on the Jefferson Lab Ion Collider Project. She stated preparations had been made and wanted to know where the City was in the process. City Manager Rohlf replied she would have a presentation to update City Council; however the SCOT was only a small piece. Councilwoman Cherry stated that was the only piece that she recalled. She stated the City should be transparent and get the whole story. She requested that Jefferson Lab present at a future work session.

Vice Mayor Vick noted, on Friday, June 8, 2018, at the Hampton Roads Convention Center, the Cities of Newport News and Hampton, the Navy, the Shipyard, the Peninsula Council on Workforce Development, and Thomas Nelson Community College discussed building a Navy for the future of Hampton Roads. It was a call to action, as the Navy had set goals to have 365 ships built, which meant more high paying jobs coming to Hampton Roads. She would like to have a Work Session presentation in the near future.

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS ON MOTION, COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:27 P.M.

Zina F. Middleton, MMC Chief Deputy City Clerk Tina L. Vick Vice Mayor Presiding Officer

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City Clerk