

**MINUTES OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2400 WASHINGTON AVENUE
July 10, 2018
10:00 A.M.**

PRESENT: . Sandra N. Cherry, D. Min.; Marcellus L. Harris III; David H. Jenkins;
McKinley L. Price, DDS; Sharon P. Scott; Tina L. Vick; and Dr. Patricia P.
Woodbury -----7

ABSENT: None-----0

Call to Order

Mayor Price called the meeting to order. He welcomed and thanked all for their attendance at the July 10, 2018 Organizational Meeting of the Newport News City Council. Mayor Price stated the purpose of the meeting was to have the successful candidates duly sworn in to serve for a term of four years, to elect a Vice Mayor, and to adopt any ordinances regarding the City Council's Rules of Procedure.

Mayor Price recognized elected officials and other dignitaries present.

Invocation

The invocation was rendered by Reverend Dr. Dwight Riddick, Sr., Senior Pastor, Gethsemane Baptist Church, Newport News, Virginia.

The 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 members of the Newport News Mayor's Youth Commission. Participating members included Ms. Jordan Sanders, Ms. Katie Fremaux, Kim; and Mr. Melvin Clyburn-Wilson.

Presentation of Certificates of Election by the Newport News Electoral Board

Mayor Price introduced members of the Newport News Electoral Board: Mr. Sean Devlin, Chair; Mrs. Deloris J. Thomas, Vice Chair; and Mr. Wendell A. Barbour, Secretary; to present the Certificates of Election to the newly elected and re-elected City Council members.

(a) Mr. Sean Devlin, Chair, Newport News Electoral Board, presented a Certificate of Election to the Honorable McKinley L. Price, DDS., Mayor, City of Newport News, for a four-year term of office, beginning, July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2022.

**Presentation of Certificates of Election by the Newport News Electoral Board
Continued**

Mr. Devlin also presented a Certificate of Election to the Honorable Sandra N. Cherry, D. Min.; a member of the Newport News City Council, Seat "B" South District 3, for a four-year term of office, beginning, July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2022.

(b) Mrs. Deloris J. Thomas, Vice Chair, Newport News Electoral Board, presented the Certificate of Election to the Honorable David H. "Dave" Jenkins, a member of the Newport News City Council, Seat "B" Central District 2, for a four-year term of office, beginning, July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2022.

(c) Mr. Wendell A. Barbour, Secretary, Newport News Electoral Board, presented the Certificate of Election to the Honorable Sharon P. Scott, a member of the Newport News City Council, Seat "B" North District 1, for a four-year term of office, beginning, July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2022.

Oaths of Office

The Honorable Bryant L. Sugg, Judge, Circuit Court, Newport News, administered the oath of office to the Honorable McKinley L. Price, DDS., re-elected as Mayor, at-Large, City of Newport News City Council, for a four-year term of office, beginning, July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2022.

The Honorable Bryant L. Sugg, Judge, Circuit Court, Newport News, administered the oath of office to the Honorable David H. "Dave" Jenkins, elected as a member of the Newport News City Council, Seat "B" Central District 2, for a four-year term of office, beginning, July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2022.

Apostle Charlie and Senior Pastor Vikki Ammons, Restoration Christian Church, Newport News, Virginia, administered the oath of office to the Honorable Sandra N. Cherry, D. Min., re-elected as a member of the Newport News City Council, Seat "B" South District 3, for a four-year term of office, beginning, July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2022.

The Honorable Gary A. Mills, Judge, Circuit Court, Newport News, Virginia, administered the oath of office to the Honorable Sharon P. Scott, MPA, re-elected as a member of the Newport News City Council, Seat "B" North District 1, for a four-year term of office, beginning, July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2022.

Oaths of Office Continued

The Oaths of Office were administered individually to the newly elected member, and re-elected members, of the Newport News City Council (copies are attached and made a part of these minutes). The written oaths were signed by all parties for filing with the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the City of Newport News (copies are attached and made a part of these minutes).

Election of the Vice Mayor

Mayor Price asked for nominations for the position of Vice Mayor for the City of Newport News.

Election of the Vice Mayor Continued

Councilwoman Woodbury nominated Councilwoman Tina Vick for re-appointment to the position of Vice Mayor; seconded by Councilwoman Cherry.

Councilwoman Scott commented that she was unable to support Councilwoman Vick for Vice Mayor because she supported her opponent and did not intend for her to be re-elected. She advised that she was making a statement because she viewed several posts on Facebook during her Council campaign which was not true of her vote against Vice Mayor in 2016's re-organization. Vice Mayor Vick also supported Councilwoman Scott's opponent during the Council election. Councilwoman Scott wished Vice Mayor Vick well, but was unable to support her.

Vote on Roll Call:

Ayes: Cherry, Harris, Jenkins, Price, Vick, Woodbury

Nays: Scott

Motions Regarding Rules of Procedure

City Attorney Owens advised the Rules of Procedure were enacted by Chapter 2, Administration, of the Code of the City of Newport News, Virginia. He announced that there were no amendments or ordinances regarding Rules of Procedure.

Remarks by Council Members

(a) The Honorable Sandra N. Cherry, D. Min. thanked the family, friends, and citizens for their attendance. She stated that it was a great day in Newport News. She shared that the City's tagline was "Great Things Are Happening in Newport News," but added that "Great Things Are Happening in the South District of Newport News." Councilwoman Cherry acknowledged the presence of Ms. Clara Cherry, and Carolyn Cherry, her in-laws from her late

Remarks by Council Members Continued

husband, Mr. Gregory Cherry. Councilwoman Cherry indicated in her four years on City Council that she realized there was no power, title, or position on earth that could make a person important, as promotion only came from God. She was reminded to be humble, stay humble, and remain humble in this work. She praised God, who alone provided victory, and gave strength to walk, talk, greet, shake hands, and listen to each person while on the campaign trail; and praised God for the citizens in the South District, and allowing her another opportunity to make the neighborhoods and communities better for all. She also praised God for Team Cherry, who loved, supported, and encouraged her, as well as their hard work to, in the words of her late husband, “put a Cherry on top.”

(b) Councilman Harris thanked the family, friends, City officials, and citizens for their attendance. He extended congratulations to his colleagues on City Council who were re-elected – Councilwoman Scott, Councilwoman Cherry, Mayor Price, and newly elected Councilmember, Dave Jenkins. Councilman Harris thanked Mayor Price, from whom he learned a great deal, by observing him in the Mayoral campaign. Councilman Harris congratulated Mayor Price and specifically thanked Mayor Price for his support and openness during the campaign.

As Councilmembers celebrated their victories, Councilman Harris encouraged Council members to come together for the course of time to make decisions that would be impactful to all citizens in the City of Newport News. He advised that he looked forward to continue engagement with his colleagues of City Council, members of the Newport News School Board, which would be critical; as well as with the citizens to ensure that everything was done to provide a City in which everyone wanted to live, work, play, and worship. He looked forward to convening in the Council Work Session to handle the business of the City. He expressed excitement about the next phase of leadership in the City of Newport News.

(c) Councilman Jenkins thanked the family, friends, City officials, and citizens for their attendance, and expressed appreciation for their support. He thanked those team members that worked hard in his Council campaign and worked for a vision to make Newport News a better place. He thanked everyone for their encouragement throughout. He encouraged the citizens to remain in touch, keep talking, and sharing ideas, as it required everyone’s involvement to make Newport News the City that it should be.

Councilman Jenkins expressed appreciation for serving with a distinguished group – Mayor Price and his colleagues on the Newport News City Council. He advised that he had learned a great deal in his transition period, and looked forward to serving with them.

Councilman Jenkins advised that he had met with the Department Heads of all of the City’s Departments. He indicated that each of them was concerned about the City of Newport News, and wanted to make it better. He was impressed with the passion and professionalism of the City officials, and knew everyone was in a position to do great things in Newport News. He thanked the citizens for the opportunity to serve.

Remarks by Council Members Continued

(d) Councilwoman Scott thanked the family, friends, City officials, and citizens for their attendance. It was an exciting day for her, as well as a bitter sweet day, as it was the final time that she would be sworn in as Councilwoman Scott on this podium. Each time it felt as exciting as it did the first time. She gave honor to God as the 2018 Council election was different than any she had experienced. She indicated that God showed His might throughout the campaign. She also thanked the citizens who continued to show their support. Citizens let her know that she has made a difference, and vowed to continue to do so.

Councilwoman Scott indicated that the world was full of constants. She shared the constants that impact our lives are change, choice, and principle. She advised that everyone needed to be intentional about their constants in Newport News. The City was rapidly changing – the demographics, the needs, the desires, and all of the things that make Newport News a great City. She advised that City Council would need everyone’s help to ensure the City of Newport News continues to thrive and to be a City of choice. According to newspaper and magazine articles, Newport News had become a destination choice for millennials. Councilwoman Scott expressed excitement to work with this team of Council members to ensure goals were met. Other things she believed the City should be intentional about included job training, small business development, and youth activities that change the mindset of the youth. She thanked citizens for the great opportunity to serve. On the campaign trail, she walked through neighborhoods, hearing so many stories and issues. What she saw and heard were astounding. She indicated that she looked forward to working with the team, congratulated newly elected Councilmember Dave Jenkins, re-elected Councilmember, Dr. Cherry, and Mayor Price. She extended congratulations to Vice Mayor Vick on her re-election to the position of Vice Mayor. Councilwoman Scott reiterated that she looked forward to working with everyone, to include the City Manager, to make sure that all of the needs of the citizens were met. Councilwoman Scott indicated that she looked forward to the groundbreaking of the Denbigh Community Center in 2020. She urged citizens in the North District to stand with her as this comes to fruition, so children in the North District would have an opportunity to learn to swim, and be healthy. She wished all Godspeed.

(e) Vice Mayor Vick thanked the family, friends, City officials, and citizens for their attendance and for showing support. She extended congratulations to Mayor McKinley Price and Councilwoman Scott, as well as her Council colleague in the South District, Dr. Saundra Cherry, on their re-election, and to the newly elected member, Dave Jenkins, to the Newport News City Council. Councilwoman Vick expressed excitement on the work they would do together as City Council worked for the greater good of the citizens in Newport News. She thanked her colleagues for their support for the position of Vice Mayor in 2016, and again in 2018. She advised, during the two years, she had been available to attend meetings and events in the Mayor’s absence. She established Vice Mayor Office hours each Wednesday, at the Newport News City Hall, on the 10th floor, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, in the City Manager’s Conference Room. As a Council member, born and raised in the City of Newport News, she loved Newport News – a place located in a prime location where the beautiful James River met the Chesapeake Bay - a City of 23 miles of land which housed the citizens with diverse backgrounds, whose main goal was to do the best for their families. A place rich in heritage, dating back to the founding of

Remarks by Council Members Continued

America, and Christopher Newport, Captain of the Susan Constant, the lead ship that carried the Jamestown settlers in 1607. With her love for the City, and her continued hard work, with her Council colleagues, she looked forward to serving as Vice Mayor for the next two years. She thanked her colleagues for their trust in the position.

(f) Councilwoman Woodbury extended congratulations to re-elected members of City Council - Mayor McKinley Price, Dr. Saundra Cherry, Councilwoman Scott, and the newly elected Council member – Dave Jenkins. She thanked the family, friends, City officials, and citizens for their attendance and for showing support. She expressed her desire to see the Chambers equally full at the Regular City Council Meetings, which would let Council members know that the citizens were engaged and cared. Councilwoman Woodbury advised that she looked forward to working with both the newly elected and the re-elected, not to reflect individual goals and desires, but to reflect the goals and desires of the citizens each represented. She urged her colleagues to always remember who they represented, and to put it beyond their personal thoughts and beliefs.

(g) Mayor Price thanked the Honorable Bryant L. Sugg, Judge, Circuit Court, Newport News, for coming, aside from his busy schedule, to administer the oaths, and honoring Council with his presence. Mayor Price also thanked his family – his 99-year old mother, Ms. Rosa Price; his 3-year old grandson, Asa; his wife, Valerie Scott Price, who was gracious in allowing him to do things he needed and wanted to do; Major Robert Coleman, his Campaign Manager; his daughter, the Honorable Marcia Price; and both his dental staff and the Clerk's Office, as well as his Assistant, Ms. Phyllis Weinstock. Mayor Price thanked the citizens of Newport News for their trust and re-electing him to the position of Mayor. He looked forward to working with the new Police Chief, Steve Drew, and the new Superintendent of the Newport News Public Schools, Dr. George Parker.

Mayor Price stated there was something special about public service. To help a citizen or someone in need, kept everyone going. He thanked the citizens for the opportunity to continue in the position of Mayor of the City of Newport News. He advised that he looked forward to working with a unified and cordial City Council, and promised to continue having openness, public input, and collaboration as the foundation of any decisions made. City Council may not always agree, but it was their aim not to be disagreeable. Mayor Price indicated it was a great time to be a citizen in Newport News. Tremendous things were going on, and there was no place to go but upward.

Adjourn

Mayor Price, on behalf of City Council, thanked everyone for their presence. He extended an invitation to everyone to attend a reception being held in the City Hall Lobby immediately following the Ceremony.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS,
ON MOTION, COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 10:40 A.M.



Mabel Washington Jenkins, MMC
City Clerk



McKinley L. Price, DDS
Mayor
Presiding Officer

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk