

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE NEWPORT NEWS CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2400 WASHINGTON AVENUE
OCTOBER 9, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

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

ABSENT: None-----0

A. Call to Order

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

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

B. Invocation

The invocation was rendered by Pastor Justin White, City Life 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 Councilwoman Sharon P. Scott, MPA.

D. Presentations

None

E. Public Hearings

1. Ordinance Authorizing and Directing the City Manager to Execute a Deed of Boundary Line Adjustment and Easement Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and Hampton Roads Academy (HRA) for Property Located Near 739 Academy Lane

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN DEED OF BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT AND EASEMENT, DATED THE 9TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2018, BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA AND HAMPTON ROADS ACADEMY. This ordinance authorized and directed the City Manager to execute a Deed of Boundary Line Adjustment and Easement between the City of Newport News, Virginia and

E. Public Hearings Continued

1. Ordinance Authorizing and Directing the City Manager to Execute a Deed of Boundary Line Adjustment and Easement Between the City of Newport News, Virginia and Hampton Roads Academy (HRA) for Property Located Near 739 Academy Lane Continued

Hampton Roads Academy (HRA) for property located near 739 Academy Lane. HRA requested the City convey a 2,452 sq. ft. portion of City owned property being used as a driveway to a City-owned pump station located at 739 Academy Lane. In exchange, HRA would convey a 3,725 sq. ft. access easement containing the former City property and other property owned by HRA. Information regarding the exchange was circulated to all appropriate departments and no objections were noted. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

F. Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Scott moved adoption of the Consent Agenda, Items 1 through 6, all inclusive, as shown below; seconded by Councilwoman Woodbury.

1. Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 25, 2018

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

2. Minutes of the Work Session of September 25, 2018

F. Consent Agenda Continued

2. Minutes of the Work Session of September 25, 2018 Continued

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

3. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2018

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

4. Resolution Terminating the Declaration of a Local Emergency Declared as a Result of Hurricane Florence

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, TERMINATING THE DECLARATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS DECLARED AS A RESULT OF HURRICANE FLORENCE. This resolution terminated the Declaration of a Local Emergency that was declared as a result of Hurricane Florence. On September 11, 2018, City Council approved Resolution NO. 13165-18, which consented to, confirmed and ratified the Declaration by the Director of Emergency Management of a local emergency on September 10, 2018, necessitated by Hurricane Florence. The City was spared any significant impact from the storm. A full assessment of all potential resultant damage was completed. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

5. Ordinance Amending and Reordaining City Code, Chapter 29, Parks, Squares and Recreational Facilities; Article II., General Regulations Governing Parks, Squares, Beaches, Golf Courses, Etc.; by Adding New Section 29-22, Individuals May Be Issued No Trespassing Notices Restricting Access to Certain Recreational Facilities

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 29, PARKS, SQUARES AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, ARTICLE II., GENERAL REGULATIONS GOVERNING

F. Consent Agenda Continued

5. Ordinance Amending and Reordaining City Code, Chapter 29, Parks, Squares and Recreational Facilities; Article II., General Regulations Governing Parks, Squares, Beaches, Golf Courses, Etc.; by Adding New Section 29-22, Individuals May Be Issued No Trespassing Notices Restricting Access to Certain Recreational Facilities Continued

PARKS, SQUARES, BEACHES, GOLF COURSES, ETC., BY ADDING THERETO A NEW SECTION, NAMELY: SECTION 29-22, INDIVIDUALS MAY BE ISSUED NO TRESPASSING NOTICES RESTRICTING ACCESS TO CERTAIN RECREATIONAL FACILITIES. This ordinance amending and reordained the City Code, Chapter 29, Parks, Squares and Recreational Facilities; Article II., General Regulations Governing Parks, Squares, Beaches, Golf Courses, Etc., by adding a new section 29-22, Individuals May Be Issued No Trespassing Notices Restricting Access to Certain Recreational Facilities. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism was periodically challenged with patrons who repeatedly or intentionally violate laws, ordinances or regulations that govern recreation facilities, programs and activities. Inappropriate behaviors included, but were not limited to, fighting, disorderly conduct, illegal drinking/drugs, and damaging/defacing park or recreational facilities. Approximately 20% of offenders who had received summonses from Park Ranger for inappropriate behavior over the past year had been charged previously. The proposed amendment would allow the City's sworn Park Rangers to issue written "No Trespassing" notices for repeat or serious violations. Consequences for offenders receiving "No Trespassing" notices include (1) First Offense – Banned from park for sixty (60) days; (2) Second Offense – Banned from park for six (6) months; and (3) Third Offense – Banned from park for twelve (12) months. Violating a "No Trespassing" notice could result in prosecution for "Trespassing after being banned," a Class 1 Misdemeanor. Individuals receiving a "No Trespassing" notice had the right to appeal for reinstatement through the Director of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

6. Resolution Opposing Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, Including Seismic Testing

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, OPPOSING OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING AND EXPLORATION, INCLUDING SEISMIC TESTING. This resolution opposed offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic testing. The U. S. Department of the Interior endorsed seismic testing, oil and gas exploration, and drilling in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean from Delaware Bay to Cape Canaveral. The endorsed activities could prove harmful to the City's tourism industry and economy, to the activities of the U. S. Navy, the Port of Virginia, to marine

F. Consent Agenda Continued

6. Resolution Opposing Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, Including Seismic Testing Continued

life and the environment. This resolution expressed City Council's opposition to offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic testing. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

G. Other City Council Actions

1. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with York County for a Stormwater Treatment Pond at 1001 Baptist Road Located within the Lee Hall Reservoir Watershed

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, DATED JULY 1, 2018, BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA AND THE COUNTY OF YORK, VIRGINIA REGARDING A STORMWATER TREATMENT POND AT 1001 BAPTIST ROAD. This resolution authorized and directed the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by and between the City of Newport News, Virginia and the County of York, Virginia, for a Stormwater Treatment Pond located at 1001 Baptist Road, within the Lee Hall Reservoir Watershed. Waterworks had been working with York County to construct several stormwater treatment facilities to capture run-off from reservoir watersheds that were not owned by the City to protect regional drinking water supplies. The stormwater treatment pond was located on City-owned property at 1001 Baptist Road, within the Lee Hall Reservoir watershed. Waterworks provided the land and easements, and York County funded all engineering, permitting, construction, operating, and maintenance costs. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

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

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

G. Other City Council Actions Continued

2. Resolution Authorizing and Directing the City Manager to Execute a Tower Space Lease By and Between Max Media of Hampton Roads, LLC and the City of Newport News, Virginia

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, THAT CERTAIN TOWER SPACE LEASE BY AND BETWEEN MAX MEDIA OF HAMPTON ROADS LLC AND THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, DATED OCTOBER 1, 2018, FOR SPACE ON A COMMUNICATIONS TOWER LOCATED AT OR NEAR 20 JEFFERSON AVENUE IN THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA. This resolution authorized and directed the City Manager to execute a Tower Space Lease by and between Max Media of Hampton Roads, LLC and the City of Newport News, Virginia, for space on a communications tower located at or near 20 Jefferson Avenue. The requested tower space lease between Max Media, as Lessor, and the City as Lessee, provided the City with space on Max Media's tower near the Seafood Industrial Park (SIP). The Lease would provide a "line-of-site" for security camera use by the Police Department, City Security, and the Department of Development to remotely view the piers and channels located in the SIP. Max Media agreed to allow the City use of the space on the tower for the nominal rental rate of \$10 per year for the five-year term, with automatic five-year renewals thereafter. Terms of the proposed lease, equipment and pricing had been negotiated in coordination with the City Attorney's Office, the Department of Development, Max Media, and the City's consultant on cell tower issues. The City Manager recommended approval.

(No registered speakers)

Councilwoman Woodbury moved adoption of the above resolution; seconded by Vice Mayor Vick.

Vote on Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

H. Appropriations

None

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

Mr. Antonio Thompson, P. O. Box 413, Newport News, advised that October 9, 2018 was his birthday. He addressed City Council regarding the subject of public safety and security, as well as the treasury enrichment of the City of Newport News. He expressed thanks to individuals for providing funds to allow him to get a passport. He also expressed support for the

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

legalization of marijuana. Mr. Thompson suggested that ninety percent (90%) of the profit earned as a result of the legalization of marijuana be donated to the Newport News Police Foundation. He urged the community to support the Piggly Wiggly Grocery Store in the Southeast Community, rather than steal and rob, as was done in the former Fresh Pride and Jim's Local Market.

Ms. Jannie Bazemore, 1004 Hampton Avenue, Newport News, indicated that the name "Huntington" as related to education was engrained in the memories of many in the City of Newport News and around the country - be it Huntington High School, Huntington Intermediate School, or Huntington Middle School. She stated the name was well known, and struck a chord when mentioned, brought a smile, and recalled precious memories. Ms. Bazemore indicated that Huntington Middle School was strongly supported, over the past 25 years, by the Huntington High School Alumni Association, and the Huntington Middle School PTSA (Parent/Teacher Association). Quiet, effective support was provided to Huntington Middle School to improve and advance the lives of the students and the Huntington staff members. She stated the financial support was small compared to the amount that would be asked of the Newport News City Council in support of the students of Huntington. She advised that the day funding is appropriated for Huntington Middle School deserved fanfare. She advised the amount to be requested was \$50 million. The initial request was less 10 years past. Ms. Bazemore advised that the budget was being prepared, meetings were underway, and City Council would be asked to provide favorable consideration to the request for the funds to immediately begin work on Huntington Middle School. The building was closed but she was looking forward to the reopening of Huntington soon. Ms. Bazemore asked that City funding be put in place for the children. She reminded that "Huntington would rise again."

Mr. Ravon Spruiell, 1237-36th Street, Newport News, advised that he served as a Coach at the Doris Miller football field for 15 years. He stated that the team experienced a great deal with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism for the past four years. The children received no help for basketball, baseball, football. The only help received was from the coaches and members of the community. The group followed all suggestions and regulations put forth by the Department of Parks, Recreation to be able to practice on the Doris Miller field, to include being a non-profit, but the field was shut down. He requested the same perks that others received. There was funding for the lights a Deer Park, but there were none at Doris Miller. The team was sent to the C. Waldo Scott field, with two yellow lights, for a group of approximately 80 children between the ages of 5 and 12, which was very unsafe. Mr. Spruiell stated he needed help and requested the same respect. He was not paid, but served as coach from his heart.

Councilwoman Scott inquired about the location. Mr. Spruiell replied it was the field at the Doris Miller Center. There are no lights.

Vice Mayor Vick indicated that Parks needed to get a handle on what was occurring with the youth and the situation with the field at the Doris Miller Center. She asked

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

City Manager Rohlf to instruct a meeting between Coach Spruiell and Mr. Michael Poplawski, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, to find resolution to the problem. City Manager Rohlf advised it was a safety issue. Parks was required to close the field because the lighting was deemed unsafe. She promised provide a full detailed report to City Council about the matter.

Mr. Spruiell advised that the team was relocated to the field at the C. Waldo Scott Center, and a promise was made to get lights, but the team would be required to pay. Mr. Spruiell stated as a non-profit, they had no money. The e-mail message stated the lighting would cost \$2,400. Vice Mayor Vick understood the frustration because Mr. Spruiell had met with Parks staff who detailed requirements. Initially, Parks promised to assist with no charge.

Mr. Adrian Whitcomb, 316-54th Street, Newport News, thanked members of City Council for adopting the Resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing. Everyone should recognize the danger that offshore drilling would create to the economy as well as the recreation and tourism.

Mr. Whitcomb advised that he had attended a meeting of the Denbigh-Warwick Business Association (DBWA), on Thursday, September 27, 2018, 7:30 a.m., at the Denbigh Community Center (15198 Warwick Boulevard). Mayor Price served as the guest speaker (The DBWA is an organization of concerned business owners and private citizens who come together in mutual business and community interests to sustain, enhance, and promote the business community and the vitality of the Denbigh area of the Newport News. The DBWA meet every fourth Thursday at 7:30 a.m. for a Meet and Greet, with the General Meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Denbigh Community Center. Mr. Whitcomb provided an idea which he thought the Mayor might implement – the Mayor of the City of Hampton holds a “Mayor’s Town Hall” meeting, held quarterly in different locations, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., when citizens were welcome to attend and ask questions. The City Manager, Chief of Police, and other City officials were also in attendance. Mr. Whitcomb suggested Mayor Price give the idea some thought. He requested an opportunity to have a dialogue with the Mayor.

Mayor Price advised that a Mayor’s Town Hall Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2018, 700 Town Center Drive, James Room, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Whitcomb announced 9th Annual International Soccer Tournament and Community Festival on Saturday, October 13th. This free event is open to the public and will take place at Riverview Farm Park, 100 City Farm Road, located at the intersection of Menchville Road and Riverview Parkway adjacent to Menchville High School. The event was sponsored by the Newport News Hispanic Advisory Committee.

Mr. Derrick Hollie, 2812 Scenic Meadow Street, Waldorf, Maryland, President of Reaching America, an organization he created to address complex social issues compacting African American communities. The issues include energy poverty, education, justice reform,

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

occupational licensing and free speech. He advised that the issue most worked on was reducing energy poverty across the board. Mr. Hollie explained that energy poverty existed when low-income families or individuals spend up to thirty percent (30%) of their total income on their electric bill, and tough choices had to be made when this occurs; i.e. to eat or pay the electric bill; bet prescriptions filled or pay the electric bill. He advised that 16% of Newport News residents living in poverty spent at least one quarter of their total income on their energy bill. Mr. Hollie advised that his passion for energy was deeply rooted, working for Norfolk Southern as a Brakeman at Lambert's Point, loading coal ships transporting coal around the world. He asked if natural resources were good enough for other countries, why was it not good enough for us at home. He added that his grandfather was a coalminer in Southwest Virginia. He asked and strongly urged members of City Council to refrain from adopting the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing. The environment must be protected. The technology used catered to the environment. He stated there were economic benefits to offshore drilling that could boost the economy and create jobs.

Mr. Dale Goode, 174 Luanita Lane, Newport News, thanked members of City Council for adopting the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing.

Ms. Ann Creasy, 801 Boush Street, Norfolk, advised that she worked for the Sierra Club, Virginia Chapter, thanked members of City Council for adopting the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing. She was excited that City Council joined other coastal communities to give a unified "no" to oil and gas drilling off the coast.

Mr. Joe Schy, 310 Woodside Drive, Newport News, advised that he had a Master's Degree in Environmental Health from Old Dominion University. He thanked members of City Council for adopting the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing, and felt they did the right thing as there was no benefit and the downside was unlimited.

Dr. Angela Herring, 11 Digges Drive, Newport News, requested a copy of the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing. She inquired whether it included a request that Virginia be exempted. City Manager Rohlf provided a copy of the resolution. Dr. Herring read the resolution to those present (See Consent Agenda, Item 6 - a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes).

Ms. Ruth Winters, 1126 N. Green Drive, Newport News, thanked members of City Council for adopting the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing.

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

Mr. Davie Lasris, 137 Hermitage Road, Newport News, thanked members of City Council for adopting the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing.

Ms. Mary Vause, 350 Williamsburg Court, Newport News, thanked members of City Council for adopting the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing. She thanked Councilman Jenkins for sponsoring the resolution. She also thanked Councilwoman Woodbury for her early support.

Ms. Heather Marconi, 425 Nicewood Drive, Newport News, thanked members of City Council for adopting the resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing. She thanked Councilman Jenkins for sponsoring the resolution.

Mayor Price advised that there that 17 other localities in the region also expressed support to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments

City Clerk Mabel Washington Jenkins wished Councilwoman Sharon Scott Happy Birthday. She also wished Ms. Cleder Jones, Director, Department of Communications Happy Birthday. Both shared their birthday on October 10.

Councilwoman Scott wished Ms. Cleder Jones, Director, Department of Communications Happy Birthday.

Councilwoman Scott reminded everyone of the North District Town Hall Meeting scheduled for on Monday, October 22, 2018, 7:00 p.m., at the Denbigh Community Center. The guest speaker would be Ms. Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, Director, Department of Libraries and Information Services. Ms. Antoine would share the different programs in the libraries citywide.

Councilwoman Scott thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation and sharing their points of view.

Vice Mayor Vick thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation and sharing their points of view.

Vice Mayor Vick shared that Girls Camp 2018 was held on Saturday, October 6, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., at An Achievable Dream Middle and High School (5720 Marshall Avenue), with over 100 girls. She indicated that she began this event six years prior for girls to reach teenage girls, 13-18 years of age, to encourage educate, empower and motivate them about

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

the importance of an education, to have strong self-esteem and self-respect for themselves and others as they worked to become future leaders, enabling them to stand on their own. Vice Mayor Vick extended thanks to Ms. Natale Ward Christian, Director, Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board and Hampton City Councilmember Chris Snead, for speaking to the girls, as well as her colleague, Councilmember, Dr. Patricia Woodbury for her monetary donation to help with the Girls Camp.

Vice Mayor Vick expressed concern about the level of violence, i.e. receiving e-mail messages daily from the Newport News Police Department about shootings in the City and 90% being black males between the ages of 18 and 25 years. Everyone struggles, but she believed that some of the grass-roots people from the neighborhood should come together to strategize – whether improving the City blocks; or increasing neighborhood watch groups, but something had to be done as a race, and as a people. All citizens were welcome to attend. Police Chief Steve Drew was working hard in the community. She felt, as productive tax-paying citizens, everyone needed to step their game up to determine what could be done in our neighborhoods. She urged all citizens to come with their ideas to support this effort.

Councilwoman Woodbury concurred with Vice Mayor Vick's comments, and indicated the importance of the Girls Camp to empower teen girls and speak about the importance of an education, having strong self-esteem and self-respect for themselves and others as they worked to become future leaders. She suggested a similar camp for the young men in the community.

Councilwoman Woodbury thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation and sharing their points of view. She felt good when so many people were interested in what was occurring in the City of Newport News and let their voices be heard.

Councilwoman Woodbury, commended Newport News' sister City, Hampton, who served as host for the Virginia Municipal League 2018 Annual Conference, held September 30, 2018 – October 2, 2018, at the Hampton Roads Convention Center. The theme was "Transformation Through Education." She stated that the royal carpet was rolled out the entire state of Virginia. It was a successful conference and she was glad that so many from Newport News and Hampton could attend.

Councilwoman Woodbury shared that she fulfilled a lifelong dream by attending the State Fair of Virginia, held September 28, 2018 – October 7, 2018, held at The Meadow Event Park in Caroline County, Virginia (Through 2008, the Fair was held at the Richmond Raceway Complex in eastern Henrico County). She encouraged citizens to attend to experience a wonderful experience.

Councilwoman Woodbury commended Mr. Michael Poplawski, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and staff, to include Park Rangers, for the outstanding City's Fall Festival of Folklife, held Saturday, October 6, 2018, and Sunday, October

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

7, 2018, at Newport News Park. The event was equally as good as the State Fair and included good food, entertainment, children's' activities, and shopping.

Councilwoman Woodbury shared that she attended a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for James River Signs, a new family-owned business, located at 724 City Center Boulevard, Suite A.

Councilwoman Woodbury recalled about the monthly joint meetings that she held in the past, with former School Board Member, Ms. Betty Dixon. Councilwoman Woodbury announced that she and newly elected School Board Member, Ms. Lisa R. Surles-Law, met and agreed to hold joint meetings once again at a location to be determined. All citizens were encouraged to attend and share ideas, and provide feedback. Councilwoman Woodbury advised that the announcement and meeting schedule would be forthcoming.

Councilwoman Cherry thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation. City Council was always thankful when citizens shared their thoughts, ideas, and what would make Newport News a better to live.

Councilwoman Cherry announced that October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month. She thanked Mr. Howard Gwynn, Commonwealth's Attorney, and his staff for hosting the Annual Ceremony for National Domestic Violence Awareness, held in the lobby of City Hall, 2400 Washington Avenue. The testimony shared by the young female victim was very moving. Councilwoman Cherry was pleased to see that he had a great deal of family support, as she had become a survivor of domestic violence.

Councilwoman Cherry extended thanks to Mr. Michael Poplawski, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and staff, particularly the Park Rangers, for executing a fun Fall Festival of Folklife, held Saturday, October 6, 2018, and Sunday, October 7, 2018, at Newport News Park. There was great entertainment, numerous exhibitors, and a variety of food and craft vendors. She stated there was a new Fall Festival tee-shirt available for sale.

Councilwoman Cherry announced that there would be a Town Meeting for the Huntington Heights community on Tuesday October 16, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Brittingham-Midtown Community Center (570 McLawhorne Drive). The meeting had been rescheduled due to the announcement of Mr. Everett Skipper, Director, Department of Engineering, and others scheduled to attend the September meeting would be present to talk about the traffic calming initiatives for Huntington Heights.

Councilwoman Cherry announced that the South District "Your Voice Matters" Town Hall Meeting would be held Thursday, October 11, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Brittingham-Midtown Community Center (570 McLawhorne Drive). The South District "Your Voice Matters" Town Hall Meeting would also be held Thursday, October 18, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2410 Wickham Avenue).

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilwoman Cherry announced the Community Fall Fest for the South District was scheduled for Saturday, October 27, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., at 617 – 27th Street. The event was free and no registration was required. All children should be accompanied by an adult. Adults should remind children to dress in costume as they could be eligible to win a prize. The event would include free miniature pumpkins, games, and prizes. This would be a fun day for the children. Donations of candy were welcomed and could be delivered to the City Clerk’s Office, City Hall, 2400 Washington Avenue, 9th Floor.

Councilman Harris thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation, as well as those watching on line.

Councilman Harris announced that there would be a male conference – “Crafted into Men: Male Leadership Seminar.” The Conference would be held on Saturday, October 20, 2018, 10:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m., at Booker T. Washington Middle School (3700 Chestnut Avenue). He encouraged those interested in attending to contact the Office of the City Clerk, Newport News City Hall, 9th Floor, at (757) 926-8634. Councilman Harris shared that the point of contact for the conference was his personal mentor, Dr. Diron T. Ford, Program Director. Dr. Ford, served as an administrator at Heritage High School, and would facilitate the Male Leadership Seminar.

Councilman Harris advised that the month of October was Bullying Prevention Month. Many students throughout the City of Newport New wore the color blue throughout the course of the month in an effort to bring awareness to bullying in the schools and communities.

Councilman Harris extended congratulations and thanks to those who participated in the efforts to assist the neighboring state of North Carolina, who was hardest hit by a catastrophic Category 4 Hurricane Florence during the week of September 10, 2018. There had been numerous disaster relief drives to assist citizens in the New Bern, Wilmington, Leland, Lumberton, areas of North Carolina. Ms. Karen Ciotta, a first grade teacher at Greenwood Elementary School, helped organize tractor trailers loaded with bottled water, food, personal hygiene and other supplies. Others leading disaster relief efforts in Wilmington and other areas of North Carolina included Reverend Dr. Willard B. Maxwell, Jr., Pastor of New Beech Grove Baptist Church, and Mr. Andrew Shannon, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Councilman Harris commended and recognized Ms. Imani Williams, a senior at Woodside High School (13450 Woodside Lane). He advised that she was doing great things in the community. Her activities include, but are not limited to: (1) Member of the National Honor Society; (2) Senior Class Vice President; (3) Ranked 8th in her class of approximately 500 students; (4) Member of the Key Club; (5) Member of the Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society Club; (6) Cheerleader; (7) Junior Usher at First Baptist Church Denbigh; (8) Member of the “Diamonds and Pearls” Female Empowerment Program at First Baptist Denbigh; and (9) Maintains a 4.28 GPA. Ms. Williams desired to attend Howard University in the fall.

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

Councilman Jenkins thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation.

Councilman Jenkins extended thanks to his colleagues on the Newport News City Council for their votes, particularly the Resolution to oppose Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing.

Councilman Jenkins indicated there were great things happening in the City of Newport News. He shared that he attended the State of the Region Address hosted by LEAD Hampton Roads, on Friday, October 5, 2018, at the Newport News Marriott (740 Town Center Drive). All economic indicators were great, with two years of sustained growth after 10 years of stagnation; more jobs were coming to the City, and the value of homes were increasing. He advised that he was excited to be a part of City government, and looked forward to things getting better.

Mayor Price shared that he attended an event on Thursday, September 27, 2018, 9:00 a.m., at the Newport News Marriott at City Center (740 Town Center Drive), to celebrate the Newport News Public Schools being awarded an \$800,000 College Readiness Program Grant by the Department of Defense to implement a National Math and Science Initiative in three Newport News Public High Schools (Denbigh, Heritage, and Warwick). The grant aimed to increase the number of students taking and excelling in college level Math, Science and English classes with an emphasis on traditionally under-represented students. English was added to the traditional STEM program.

Mayor Price acknowledged the new Holiday Inn Newport News City Center (980 Omni Boulevard). He and his colleagues attended the Grand Opening Gala, on Thursday, September 27, 2018, 7:00 p.m. Mayor Price advised this was a \$16 million dollar renovation of the former Omni Hotel.

Mayor Price and colleagues attended the Boys and Girls Club Fundraising Gala, on Saturday, September 29, 2018, at the Hampton Roads Convention Center (1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton).

Mayor Price advised that October was not only Bullying Month, it was also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Opening Ceremony was held in the lobby of City Hall, 2400 Washington Avenue, on Monday, October 1, 2018. He advised, on a typical day, domestic violence hotlines received approximately 21,000 calls, or approximately 15 calls per minute. To avoid domestic violence, Mayor Price asked citizens to be mindful of what was occurring in their homes was not violent. He indicated that conflict resolution was something that everyone should be a part of.

Councilwoman Cherry extended thanks to all of the Newport News City employees who provide different types of academies free to the community, to include the Citizens' Police Academy, Inaugural Citizens' Public Works Academy; a Citizens' Fire Academy

J. Old Business, New Business and Councilmember Comments Continued

and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). She commended the employees who provide the academies after house of work, and encouraged residents to sign up for an upcoming academy. She thanked Ms. Bazemore for participating in the Citizens' Police Academy. Councilwoman Cherry thanked every employee who stayed after normal working hours to service the citizens with the different academies.

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 7:52 P.M.

Mabel Washington Jenkins

Mabel Washington Jenkins, MMC
City Clerk

McKinley L. Price, DDS
Mayor
Presiding Officer

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk