

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
July 11, 2017

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, July 11, 2017, at 5:30 p.m., in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

**Members of the Board Present:**

Patricia S. O'Bannon, Chairman, Tuckahoe District  
Frank J. Thornton, Vice Chairman, Fairfield District  
Thomas M. Branin, Three Chopt District  
Harvey L. Hinson, Brookland District  
Tyrone E. Nelson, Varina District

**Other Officials Present:**

John A. Vithoulikas, County Manager  
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney  
Joseph T. Tokarz, II, Deputy County Attorney  
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board  
Tanya B. Harding, CMC, Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant  
Timothy A. Foster, Deputy County Manager for Community Operations  
W. Brandon Hinton, Deputy County Manager for Community Services  
Douglas A. Middleton, Deputy County Manager for Public Safety  
Anthony J. Romanello, Deputy County Manager for Administration  
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development  
C. Michael Schnurman, Legislative Liaison  
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mrs. O'Bannon called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Mr. Vithoulikas briefly referred to the items on this special meeting agenda, noting the second item was held over from the June 27, 2017, special meeting because it was preempted by the extended briefing on Essex Village.

**Updates to the County Code Required as a Result of 2017 General Assembly Legislation**

Mr. Vithoulikas recognized Andrew Newby, Assistant County Attorney, who narrated a slide presentation on this item. Mr. Newby cited three amendments to the County Code that will be required as a result of the following legislation adopted during the 2017 General Assembly Session: Time Extension for Approved Plans of Development and Subdivision Plats, House Bill (HB) 1697; Dangerous Dog, HB 2381; and Nuisance Abatement Lien Priority, Senate Bill 920. The amendments will be placed on the Board's August 8 regular meeting agenda for public hearing. Mr. Rapisarda pointed out the legislation was effective July 1 and the Board will simply be updating the County Code to comply with these changes in state law.

Mr. Newby provided background information on each of the three amendments. The first of these was requested by the Home Builders Association of Virginia in light of the continued effects of the housing crisis and extends the validity of approved plans of development and subdivision plats to July 1, 2020. The second amendment makes it optional for an officer to apply for a summons for a dog owner to appear in court when the officer has reason to believe the dog is dangerous, reduces from 45 days to 30 days the time an owner has to get a dangerous dog registration certificate when the dog has been found to be dangerous, and establishes criteria for an officer or court to determine when a canine or canine cross breed shall not be considered a dangerous dog. The third amendment specifies that the County's lien for costs incurred to abate certain nuisances is of equal dignity with liens for local real estate taxes. Mr. Newby and Mr. Rapisarda explained the term legal dignity for Mrs. O'Bannon. They clarified the legal definition of bawdy house for Mr. Thornton.

The remaining portion of Mr. Newby's presentation pertained to a new tax exemption allowed by 2017 General Assembly legislation for the surviving spouses of first responders who were killed in the line of duty. HB 1884 gives localities the option to exempt from taxation the principal residence of such spouses who have not remarried. The new exemption is modeled on a similar exemption for surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action that was mandatory and went into effect in 2015. Mr. Newby reviewed the scope of the exemption, which would apply retroactively to January 1 if the Board chooses to adopt an ordinance.

At the conclusion of Mr. Newby's presentation, Mr. Vithoukias and Mr. Rapisarda advised the Board that staff is working on a proposed ordinance for the Board's consideration to provide dog owners with the option to purchase permanent dog tags. In response to questions and comments from Mr. Hinson, Mr. Newby and Mr. Rapisarda elaborated on the scope of HB 1697. In response to questions from Mr. Thornton, Mr. Schnurman reviewed the legislative history of HB 1697 and Planning Director Joe Emerson provided statistics on the number of lots in Henrico that are grandfathered by the extension granted in the legislation. Mr. Branin noted the extension provides developers with a cost savings. Mr. Emerson confirmed for Mr. Branin that the extension does not affect proffered conditions but preserves the engineering for subdivision plats and plans of development, especially in regard to stormwater requirements.

The Board recessed at 5:59 p.m. and reconvened at 6:10 p.m.

## **GRTC Transit Development Plan**

Mr. Vithoukias noted Henrico County worked with GRTC six years ago on the current Transit Development Plan (TDP). He recognized Todd Eure, Transportation Development Division Director, who in turn introduced GRTC Director of Planning Garland Williams and Jarrett Walker & Associates consultant Scudder Waggs. Mr. Eure narrated a slide presentation on this item. He began by providing background information on the TDP, which is required by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) and funded by the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and GRTC. TDPs inform VDRPT of transit operators' capital, operating, and maintenance needs and help identify unmet or unfunded needs. They also track the progress of mid-range and long-range plans for regional transit.

Mr. Eure next reviewed maps of GRTC's current network, including route coverage zones and its planned 2018 network. He provided a time line of GRTC's TDP effort involving Henrico, including short-term Henrico route recommendations, Willow Lawn connection points, Henrico

Express rider surveys, a core design workshop, planning for service to Atlantic at Brook Run senior apartments, and planning for service to the Fareva facility. He responded to a question from Mr. Nelson pertaining to the rollout date for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service in Henrico. Mr. Eure then reviewed maps of the current Henrico transit network in the eastern portion of the County. At Mr. Vithoukas' request, Mr. Eure elaborated on a \$600,000 appropriation contained in the County's Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget for route optimization. He responded to questions from Mr. Nelson and Mrs. O'Bannon relating to ridership and service schedules for the Seven Pines route.

Mr. Eure continued his presentation by reviewing a map of the current Henrico transit network in the western portion of the County and how that network will look in 2018. Mrs. O'Bannon expressed concerns that Henrico Doctor's Hospital is only served by transit on weekdays while St. Mary's Hospital is served seven days a week. Mr. Eure next identified the planned changes in 2018, which will include Route 7 schedule adjustments, the extension of Route 19 with more frequent service, and the discontinuation of Routes 1 and 2 in western Henrico. Service to St. Mary's will be replaced by Route 77 and service to Regency Square will be replaced by Route 79. He also showed a map depicting GRTC boarding information by stop.

Mr. Nelson questioned whether the County is doing a disservice to its citizens, especially millennials, by not considering the extension of bus service further west along Broad Street and to other areas of the County. In response to questions from Mr. Nelson, Mr. Eure explained the public outreach part of the TDP process and how the County gauges service demand. Mr. Hinson suggested the full Board would benefit from a transit presentation he and Mr. Nelson heard earlier in the day at a Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Branin advised that a study is underway to determine the costs of having a jobs bus serve the Innsbrook area. Mr. Vithoukas stated Innsbrook will become part of the County's public transportation spine after the current routes are optimized in this year's budget. He pointed out the County is spending \$6.8 million for public transportation in the FY18 budget, \$600,000 of which are new funds for route optimization. Mr. Vithoukas commented on the history and evolution of bus service in the County, which started with a jobs bus to Willow Lawn in the 1950s. Mrs. O'Bannon advocated providing weekend bus service to Henrico Doctor's Hospital and said she anticipates a greater demand in the future for service in her district with the redevelopment of Regency Mall. Mr. Nelson suggested the Board consider expanding BRT service to the Williamsburg Road corridor as Tree Hill Farm and Rockets' Landing continue to develop.

Mr. Eure resumed his presentation by identifying possible transit changes in 2018, including providing service to Richmond International Airport through a Route 7 adjustment, consolidating two-way service onto Staples Mill Road through a Route 18 adjustment, and extending service on Brook Road to Parham Road. He concluded his presentation by citing the following next steps in the TDP process: developing conceptual alternatives, drafting short-term network recommendations, conducting public and stakeholder outreach, and developing a five to ten-year conceptual network. Mr. Eure advised the Board any changes in funding will be part of future annual County budgets.

### **Regular Meeting Agenda Items**

Mr. Vithoukas briefly reviewed the agenda for the 7:00 p.m. meeting, first noting there would be one Manager's Comment recognizing an employee in the County Attorney's Office. He mentioned the two resignation resolutions and one appointment resolution and advised the

Board that two of the rezoning and provisional use permit items, which were companion cases, had been withdrawn by the applicant. In response to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon, Mr. Vithoukas confirmed that staff had refunded the application fee for Agenda Item No. 182-17 (PUP2017-00012). Mr. Vithoukas pointed out there were three public hearings on non-zoning matters. In explaining the first of nine general agenda items, Mr. Vithoukas noted most of the budget amendments being considered by the Board for July 2017 were related to meals tax fund transfers for school capital projects. He concluded the review by mentioning one individual had signed up to speak during the public comment period.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia S. O'Bannon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Henrico County, Virginia