

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
October 25, 2011

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 4:45 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:

Frank J. Thornton, Chairman, Fairfield District
Richard W. Glover, Vice Chairman, Brookland District
James B. Donati, Jr. Varina District
David A. Kaechele, Three Chopt District
Patricia S. O'Bannon, Tuckahoe District

Other Officials Present:

Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E., County Manager
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Tanya B. Harding, Deputy Clerk to the Board/Administrative Assistant
George T. Drumwright Jr., Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Angela N. Harper, FAICP, Deputy County Manager for Special Services
Leon T. Johnson, Ph.D., Deputy County Manager for Administration
Robert K. Pinkerton, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
John A. Vithoukas, Director of Finance/Special Economic Advisor to the County Manager
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services
C. Michael Schnurman, Jr., Legislative Liaison

Mr. Thornton called the meeting to order at 4:53 p.m.

Mr. Hazelett briefly referred to the three items listed on this special meeting agenda.

2012 Legislative Program

Mr. Hazelett introduced Mr. Schnurman, who provided background information on the upcoming General Assembly Session and reviewed the County's draft 2012 Legislative Program. Mr. Schnurman began his presentation by noting that all of the members of the General Assembly are up for re-election this year and that there will be new faces in the County's delegation due to redistricting and the decision by an incumbent member of the House of Delegates to run for the office of Commonwealth's Attorney rather than his House seat. The County's delegation will have a net loss of one Senate seat, currently held by John Watkins. Mr. Schnurman further noted that the Governor has asked state agencies to submit three alternative budgets based on

expenditure reductions of two percent, four percent, and six percent although the Commonwealth is reporting a budget surplus. The General Assembly is expected to shift more responsibilities to local governments to help balance the state budget. In view of the difficult economy and fiscal environment at the state and local levels, County staff is proposing that the County not request new slate legislation during the 2012 Session but instead continue to inform its legislative delegation on "The Henrico Way" and ask that the General Assembly do no harm to the County. Three areas highlighted in the draft legislation program that are of special concern to the County include the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), road maintenance, and parallel local ordinances. These concerns will be shared with the County's delegation at its annual dinner meeting with the Board, which is scheduled for November 10.

Mr. Schnurman invited questions and discussion by the Board. Mrs. O'Bannon expressed concern regarding a proposed state constitutional amendment that would potentially require local governments to compensate business owners for operational as well as property losses resulting from public improvements such as road or utility projects. Mr. Schnurman, Mr. Rapisarda, and Mr. Hazelett responded to questions from the Board regarding the implications of this proposal, which will be considered again by the General Assembly during the 2012 Session. Mrs. O'Bannon requested that this matter be discussed with the County's delegation during the legislative dinner. Mr. Glover requested a copy of the bill introducing the amendment and the role call vote on the bill during the 2011 Session.

Mr. Kaechele asked for additional clarification of the parallel ordinance item contained in the County's draft Legislative Program. Mr. Schnurman, Mr. Rapisarda, and Mr. Hazelett offered additional information on this item, which pertains to proposed legislation that would allow the state to capture the revenue currently received by localities from traffic fines issued pursuant to local ordinances.

Mr. Thornton reiterated a concern he has expressed for the past several years relating to the restoration of voting rights for convicted felons who have been released from prison. He expressed his belief that society has been unfair to convicted felons who have served their time and voiced his concern that incarceration has become an industry in this country. Mr. Thornton stated that he plans to broach this issue with the County's delegation and would be appreciative if the delegation were to show more sensitivity to the issue.

In response to another question from Mr. Kaechele, Mr. Hazelett elaborated on rumors that have been circulating about a proposal at the state level to require all local government employees to contribute five percent of their salaries to VRS rather than allow localities to continue paying the employee's share on their behalf. He referred to other rumors that the state will require localities to pay all of the retirement costs for teachers rather than continuing to share this expense with localities. There was extended discussion by the Board, Mr. Hazelett, Mr. Vithoulkas, and Mr. Schnurman concerning the source of these rumors and the state's current revenue situation. Mr. Hazelett pointed out that VRS is just one area where the state is looking at shifting costs to localities in order to reduce its expenditures and meet its financial obligations.

In response to questions from Mr. Glover, there was discussion by the Board and Mr. Hazelett of the General Assembly's historic opposition to legislation that would provide counties with the

same taxing authority as cities and also discussion of the County's previous referendum on a meals tax. He also responded to questions from the Board pertaining to the status of state funds for local road maintenance and Richmond District representation on the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

Unidirectional Water Main Flushing

Mr. Hazelett recognized Art Petrini, Director of Public Utilities, who narrated a slide presentation on this item as well as the County's Water Quality Management Program. Mr. Petrini began his presentation by explaining that Unidirectional Water Main Flushing (UDF) is a systematic method of flushing drinking water distribution piping by strategically closing valves and opening hydrants to direct water at high velocities through target segments of pipe. The objectives of UDF are to manage drinking water, remove sediment in pipes, and maintain chlorine levels. Its benefits are maximizing water velocities to flush water pipes and remove sediment, improving water quality, and using less water than conventional flushing. During his presentation, Mr. Petrini also summarized the UDF procedure, provided general information on the County's water mains and proposed UDF schedule, reviewed the components of his department's anticipated UDF notification program, and identified possible issues while flushing. He also responded to several questions from the Board relating to the proposed flushing schedule and notification program. Mr. Petrini emphasized that the notification program should ameliorate any public concerns that UDF will waste water. Mr. Glover suggested that the Department of Public Utilities inform Henrico public schools about UDF and the Water Quality Management Program so that students can in turn educate their parents and grandparents.

Mr. Petrini introduced two members of his staff who were present, Assistant Operations Division Director Allison Buschy and Community Liaison Melvin Slough. In response to a question from Mr. Kaechele, he reviewed two additional slides diagramming conventional flushing and unidirectional flushing. He responded to a question from Mr. Glover regarding the status of his department's conversion to automatic meter reading.

The Board recessed for dinner at 5:53 p.m. and reconvened at 6:08 p.m.

Mr. Hazelett briefly updated the Board on the search for a missing child in Hanover County. He informed the Board that the County had assigned police officers and aircraft to assist the Hanover County Sheriff's Office with the search.

On motion by Mrs. O'Bannon, seconded by Mr. Kaechele, the Board approved going into a Closed Meeting at 6:09 p.m. for the following purpose:

Consultation with the County Attorney for Discussion and Consideration of the Acquisition of Real Property in the Three District for the North Gayton Road Extension Project, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as Amended.

The vote of the Board was as follows:

Aye
Frank J. Thornton
Richard W. Glover
James B. Donati, Jr.
David A. Kaechele
Patricia S. O'Bannon

Nay

On motion of Mrs. O'Bannon, seconded by Mr. Kaechele, the Board approved going out of the Closed Meeting at 6:26 p.m.

The vote of the Board was as follows:

Aye
Frank J. Thornton
Richard W. Glover
James B. Donati, Jr.
David A. Kaechele
Patricia S. O'Bannon

Nay


On motion of Mrs. O'Bannon, seconded Mr. Kaechele the Board approved the attached Certificate of Closed Meeting.

The vote of the Board was as follows:

Aye
Frank J. Thornton
Richard W. Glover
James B. Donati, Jr.
David A. Kaechele
Patricia S. O'Bannon

Nay

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.



Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia