

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
October 8, 2013

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, at 5:30 p.m., in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Himgary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

Members of the Board Present:

David A. Kaechele, Chairman, Three Chopt District  
Patricia S. O'Bannon, Vice Chairman, Tuckahoe District  
Richard W. Glover, Brookland District  
Tyrone E. Nelson, Varina District  
Frank J. Thornton, Fairfield District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoukas, County Manager  
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney  
J. Thomas Tokarz II, Deputy County Attorney  
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board  
Jane D. Crawley, Deputy County Manager for Community Services  
Timothy A. Foster, Deputy County Manager for Community Operations  
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development  
Wilbert J. (Bert) Childress, Technology Support Specialist, Manager's Office  
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services  
Eugene H. (Gene) Walter, Director of Finance  
Ralph J. (Joe) Emerson, Jr., Director Planning  
Jon B. Tracy, Director of Real Property

Mr. Kaechele called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. He announced that Mr. Nelson would be arriving a few minutes late. (Mr. Nelson arrived at 5:36 p.m.)

Mr. Vithoukas briefly referred to the two items listed on the agenda.

Proposed Land Donation by Attack Properties

Mr. Vithoukas recognized Mr. Silber, who narrated a slide presentation titled *Proposed Donation of Land in The Ridings at Warner Farm*. After a brief overview of the presentation, Mr. Silber showed an aerial map depicting the location of The Ridings at Warner Farm, which lies between Route 5, Turner Road, Long Bridge Road, and Yahley Mill Road. He next identified the property on the County's 2026 Land Use Plan and noted its Suburban Residential (SRI) land use

designation and proximity to Four Mile Creek Park and New Market Park. Mr. Silber explained the zoning classifications for The Ridings, which includes 616 acres and is proffered to contain no more than 650 residential units (230 townhomes, 183 zero lot line homes, and 237 single family homes). He advised that a master plan was provided with the rezoning to illustrate the planned development of the property. Approximately 312 acres (51 percent) of the development will be left as open space or improved as a part of the development's amenities. Mr. Silber pointed out areas of the development with subdivision approval, the development's access points, and the three Civil War battlefields within which the property is located. He then identified the approximately 87 acres of land within the development that Attack Properties has offered to the County, which consist of the following three parcels: 23 acres encompassing Civil War trenches and earthworks, 40 acres encompassing Fort Southard and the surrounding area, and 24 acres of commercially zoned land along Route 5. He and Mr. Foster responded to a question from Mr. Vithoukias regarding the location of the proposed Virginia Capital Trail.

Mr. Silber continued his presentation by noting that the Division of Recreation and Parks will eventually prepare a master plan for the parcels, if they are accepted by the County, to determine their potential long-term uses. These uses could include a small parking area and interpretative path on the trench parcel; a small parking area, historical marker, and walking and/or biking trails on the Fort Southard parcel; and a sports field with accessory parking on the Route 5 parcel. The County will need to make a determination about the use or fate of a dwelling that is situated on the property and currently being leased. Mr. Silber responded to questions from Mr. Kaechele regarding the location of the parcels offered for donation and the potential uses for the property. He also responded to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon pertaining to the status of state and/or federal development restrictions on the two historic parcels offered for donation.

Mr. Silber recognized Senior Assistant County Attorney Rhysa South, who continued the presentation by elaborating on the terms of the 19-page deed of gift, which include a number of restrictions limiting the future use of the commercial parcel. She noted that the commercial parcel is the most valuable in terms of assessed value and will qualify for sizable federal and state tax deductions. Ms. South and Mr. Silber concurred with Mr. Vithoukias that the amount of land being offered to Attack Properties represents the largest donation to the County in recent memory. Ms. South responded to questions from Mr. Kaechele concerning how the restrictions differ between the three parcels. She also clarified that the restrictions will apply in perpetuity. Ms. South introduced David Lionberger, a tax expert who has been assisting the County in this matter and who was in the audience. She concluded the presentation by advising that a Board paper will be presented at a future meeting this year if the Board concurs with the donation.

Mr. Vithoukias and Mr. Silber responded to questions from Mr. Kaechele relating to the historical significance of the land offered for donation, the status of and future plans for the property in this development that is not being donated, and the availability of public access to all three of the sites offered for donation. Mr. Kaechele thanked the developer and Mr. Nelson expressed excitement about the donation. Mr. Vithoukias noted that no formal action by the Board was necessary at this time.

## Richmond Region Tourism Update

Mr. Vithoukas recognized Jack Berry, President and Chief Executive Officer of Richmond Region Tourism. Mr. Berry distributed an information packet to the Board containing the *Richmond Region Tourism 2013 Annual Report*, a ten-year meeting planner with "Historic Richmond Region" logo, and a copy of his slide presentation on this item. He shared a brief video and narrated a slide presentation spotlighting the impact of tourism on the Richmond region and the five jurisdictions served by his agency (City of Richmond and Counties of Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico, and New Kent). Mr. Berry noted that the region's hotel-room sales broke records in 2012-13 and Henrico is fifth in Virginia in visitor spending. He provided several statistics regarding visitor spending in Henrico and pointed out that 50 percent of the County's proposed meals tax would be generated by visitors and commuters. Mr. Berry identified travel and tourism trends, pointing out that sports has been the region's number one tourism market segment since 2011 in terms of group bookings for hotel room nights. He explained how the Richmond region is marketed as a destination and identified the respective missions of the Virginia Tourism Corporation and Richmond Region Tourism. Mr. Berry compared the relatively small size of his agency's budget with the budgets of tourism agencies in similar metropolitan areas. He reviewed how his agency uses social media and publications and partners with other organizations to promote tourism in the region. Mr. Berry concluded his presentation by providing a taxi update, sharing a review of a Henrico restaurant (Peter Chang Café) that recently appeared in *New York* magazine's travel section, and profiling the Richmond region's mobile visitor centers. He expressed appreciation for Henrico County's support of his agency over the past 30 years.

Mr. Berry responded to questions from Mr. Kaechele pertaining to the level of tourism revenues generated within the County and use of the lodging tax to support the Richmond Convention Center. Mr. Vithoukas remarked that the County has significantly surpassed Williamsburg as a travel destination. In response to a question from Mr. Glover, Mr. Berry pointed out that his agency relies on social media and the internet to promote tourism rather than television advertising. Mrs. O'Bannon commented that she is interested in using some of the information provided by Mr. Berry at upcoming meals tax presentations in her district. Mr. Kaechele concluded the discussions by complimenting Mr. Berry on telling an impressive story about the region's tourism efforts.

The Board recessed for dinner at 6:19 p.m. and reconvened at 6:33 p.m.

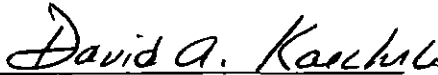
Mr. Vithoukas recognized Mr. Walter, who reviewed the highlights of a letter he sent to the Board on October 3, 2013, providing information on the partial federal shutdown and its impact on Henrico County. As a result of the lapse in federal appropriations, thousands of non-essential federal employees have been furloughed and a variety of governmental activities have ceased to function. Mr. Walter identified the mandatory programs that have continued to operate because their funding is independent of the federal appropriations process. He also explained how the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is being affected by the federal shutdown; the short term and long term impacts of the shutdown on the

County's economy; and the status of appropriations for federal and state grants. Mr. Walter noted the five public safety grant acceptance resolutions that were listed on the Board's 7:00 p.m. general agenda. Mr. Walter responded to a question from Mr. Kaechele concerning the impact of the shutdown on federal funds received by the public schools and also to a question from Mr. Glover relating to the regional impact of the shutdown.

Mr. Vithoukas briefly reviewed the several items on the Board's 7:00 p.m. not covered by Mr. Walter. Mr. Emerson responded to questions from Mr. Kaechele and Mr. Glover regarding the proposed change in the name of Brookriver Drive. Mr. Vithoukas advised the Board that a work session on the renewal of Comcast's cable television franchise will be scheduled for October 22 and a public hearing on the ordinance to grant the franchise will be scheduled for November 12, assuming approval of the introduction paper by the Board.

Mr. Vithoukas recognized Graham Moomaw and Ted Strong, who were in the audience covering the meeting for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. He announced that Mr. Moomaw was being reassigned from the County to cover Richmond City Hall and Mr. Strong was being reassigned from Chesterfield County to cover the County. Mr. Vithoukas offered best wishes to Mr. Moomaw and welcomed Mr. Strong.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Hemico County, Virginia