

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
February 13, 2018

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, 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:

Frank J. Thornton, Chairman, Fairfield District
Tyrone E. Nelson, Vice Chairman, Varina District
Courtney D. Lynch, Brookland District
Patricia S. O'Bannon, Tuckahoe District

Member of the Board Absent:

Thomas M. Branin, Three Chopt District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoukas, County Manager
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., 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 Administration
Anthony J. Romanello, Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Benjamin A. Sheppard, Assistant Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mr. Thornton called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Mr. Vithoukas pointed out several staff members and one Board member were absent from the meeting. He briefly reviewed the items on this special meeting agenda.

Communications with Citizens During Emergencies

Mr. Vithoukas explained this item was being brought forward in response to concerns expressed to him by a member of the Board following the recent incident in Hawaii involving a mistaken emergency alert warning. He recognized Anna McRay, Deputy Coordinator for Emergency Management, and Tony McDowell, Fire Chief. Ms. McRay narrated a slide presentation titled *County of Henrico Emergency Notification System* following brief opening comments by Chief McDowell. She began her presentation by noting the system has been in place since 2004 and contains 25,925 business listings, 146,295 residential listings, 6,367 text listings, and 5,607 email listings. Ms. McRay reviewed the County's Code Red system and why it is used. There was discussion by Mrs. O'Bannon and Ms. McRay regarding the cost and benefits of National Oceanic and Atmospheric (NOAA) weather alert radios.

Ms. McRay resumed her presentation by explaining the voice and text components of Henrico's emergency notification system. She informed the Board that system subscribers can download a free application for iPhone and Android devices that will allow them to receive community and emergency alerts. Ms. McRay concluded her presentation by explaining how the system is administered by the Division of Fire's Office of Emergency Management.

Following her presentation, Ms. McRay clarified for Mrs. O'Bannon that the County's system is separate from the Commonwealth's system. There was discussion by Ms. McRay and Mrs. O'Bannon concerning how to disable the Code Red alarm on cellular phones and how mistaken messages would be handled by the Commonwealth and the County should this situation occur. In response to questions from Mr. Thornton and Mrs. O'Bannon, Ms. McRay noted how the public is made aware of the system and explained the registration process for citizens who wish to receive messages on their wireless phone, computer, or other wireless device in addition to their landline phone. Mr. Thornton requested copies of an informational brochure on the system that was produced by the Department of Public Relations & Media Services, so he can distribute them at future town meetings. Ms. McRay and Mr. Vithoukas identified the locations of the County's emergency shelters in response to a further question from Mr. Thornton. In response to a further question from Mrs. O'Bannon, Mr. Vithoukas explained how County staff prepares for major emergency events through tabletop exercises coordinated by Ms. McRay.

Mr. Nelson acknowledged Henrico County's cable television station (HCTV) is cited as one of the principal ways the County communicates with Henrico residents and asked about its viewership. Mr. Sheppard summarized the results of a recent communications survey conducted on behalf of the County and his department. He noted lower income and retired residents rely most heavily on HCTV because they are unable to afford upgraded cable television services. Mr. Vithoukas advised the Board that the County is taking steps to make greater use of social media in communicating with the public.

The Board recessed for dinner at 6:04 p.m. and reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

2018 General Assembly Legislative Update

Mr. Vithoukas pointed out the Board received a letter on February 9 updating members on the General Assembly Session, including proposed legislation with potential impacts to Henrico County. He informed the Board that Legislative Liaison Mike Schnurman was at the General Assembly. Mr. Vithoukas recognized Hannah Osborne, International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Fellow, who narrated a slide presentation on this item in Mr. Schnurman's absence. Ms. Osborne began her presentation by identifying important dates for the remainder of the 2018 Session. She then updated the Board on several bills of interest that have passed their respective houses and crossed over. These include House Bill (HB) 828/Senate Bill (SB) 268, which create a separate classification of personal property for valuing computer equipment for data centers; and SB 353, which allows the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to transfer a parcel adjacent to the White Oak Technology Park to Henrico County should the County and DCR come to an agreement on the transfer of an environmental protection easement. Mr. Vithoukas and Mr. Rapisarda elaborated on the purpose of SB 353. Mr. Vithoukas responded to a question from Mr. Nelson relating to HB 282/SB 268.

Ms. Osborne concluded her presentation by highlighting post-session activity legislative issues of interest, which will include a comprehensive study of the Line of Duty Act, a workgroup to discuss the impact of proffer reform, and a special session on tax reform. Mr. Vithoukaskas responded to questions from the Board regarding the status of these issues. Mr. Thornton suggested the County look at developing a new legislative coalition with other localities that share similar concerns. Mr. Vithoukaskas alerted Mr. Thornton and the Board that he has been having conversations with colleagues in other jurisdictions regarding these issues.

Regular Meeting Agenda Items

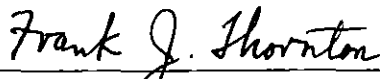
Mr. Vithoukaskas reviewed the agenda for the 7:00 p.m. meeting. He advised the Board that he had no Manager's Comments and pointed out there was one resignation paper on the agenda and six land use cases scheduled for public hearing. Mr. Vithoukaskas responded to a concern expressed by Mr. Nelson that the Henrico School Board had called a special meeting on the same evening as the Board of Supervisors meeting. He continued his review by highlighting the four other items scheduled for public hearing. At his request and in regard to one of these items, Mr. Rapisarda explained the difference between the terms "vacation" and "quitclaim." Mr. Vithoukaskas then referred to the five items on the general agenda. He responded to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon pertaining to the anticipated interest rate for the proposed water and sewer revenue bond issuance. Mr. Vithoukaskas concluded his presentation by informing the Board that three individuals were signed up to address the Board during the public comment period. Two of the individuals wished to express their support for extending transit service to the Short Pump area and one individual wished to voice concerns about the Police Division.

The Board recessed at 6:36 p.m. and reconvened at 6:41 p.m. in the Department of Information Technology's data center on the third floor of the Administration Building.

Tour of County Data Center

Tom Owdom, Director of Information Technology who will be retiring next month, greeted the Board and reminded them that the new data center was a combined effort of general government and schools. The following members of Mr. Owdom's staff and Henrico County Public Schools' (HCPS) Technology Department were present and introduced themselves: Travis Sparrow, former Network Engineering Manager and newly appointed Director of Information Technology; George Bains, Assistant Director of Information Technology; Brian Viscuso, Systems Engineering Manager; Brian Maddox, HCPS Director of Technology; Rosario Gamardella, HCPS Network Operations Manager and Information Security Officer; and Margaret Dalton, HCPS Senior Systems Administrator. Mr. Viscuso led the tour. He noted the new data center replaced a facility on the second floor of the building that was installed in the 1970s. The new center has tripled the storage capacity of the previous facility while using only one-third of the space it required.

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



Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia.