

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

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at 10:45 a.m., in the Eastern Henrico Recreation Center Strawberry Hill Ballroom, 1440 N. Laburnum Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23223.

**Members of the Board Present:**

Frank J. Thornton, Chairman, Fairfield District  
Tyrone E. Nelson, Vice Chairman, Varina District  
Daniel J. Schmitt, 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  
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board  
Tanya B. Harding, CMC, Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant  
Timothy A. Foster, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations  
W. Brandon Hinton, Deputy County Manager for Administration  
Anthony J. Romanello, Deputy County Manager for Community Services  
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development  
Benjamin A. Sheppard, Director of Public Relations & Media Services  
Edwin C. (Neil) Luther IV, Director of Recreation and Parks  
Amy E. Cashwell, Superintendent of Schools  
Andy Jenks, Director of Public Relations and Communications, Henrico County Public Schools

Mr. Thornton convened the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Mr. Vithoukas recognized the members of the Board of Supervisors who were present as well as former Brookland District Supervisor Harvey Hinson, Dr. Cashwell, and YMCA of Greater Richmond President and Chief Executive Officer Tim Joyce. He noted the Board challenged staff with initiatives on many fronts during a two-day retreat in January. One of the projects emanating from these initiatives was an aquatics center. Mr. Vithoukas highlighted the hub of vital community services continuing to emerge along this stretch of Laburnum Avenue, including the Eastern Henrico Recreation Center that opened in 2011, Health Department East Clinic that opened in 2014, and new Fairfield Area Library that is scheduled to open in October 2019. A traffic signal and crosswalk across Laburnum Avenue will ensure residents are able to move safely among all these facilities. Mr. Vithoukas recognized Mr. Luther and Mr. Romanello for their work on the aquatics center project.

Mr. Thornton announced a six-acre property adjoining the Eastern Henrico Recreation Center and behind the Health Department East Clinic will serve as the future home of the

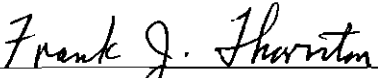
Henrico Aquatics Center, a 20,000-square-foot indoor swimming facility that is expected to open in early 2020. He credited the Board for its support of this project. The center will feature an eight-lane, 25-yard pool; a warm-water instructional pool; a waterslide and family spray area; and other amenities. It will be open to the public through means-based memberships and daily rates. The County will contribute \$8 million to the YMCA of Greater Richmond to fund construction of the center. The YMCA will build and operate the facility, with construction set to begin in early spring 2019. Mr. Thornton cited this project and partnership as an example of the Henrico Way and how Henrico's public and nonprofit sectors can come together and join forces for the benefit of the community.

Mr. Joyce commented on the center, noting it is an investment for the community. He pointed out the Y has been teaching children to swim and how to be safe around water for more than 100 years. One of the YMCA's most successful aquatic programs is *Learn to Swim*, which provides swim lessons to second-grade students throughout the region at no cost. With the opening of the center, the YMCA will be able to implement this program in Henrico for the first time.

Dr. Cashwell expressed excitement regarding this new partnership involving the County, Henrico schools, and the YMCA. She pointed out a community-supported aquatics program will allow the school system to add one more layer of critical "life ready" skills to prepare students for the rest of their lives. Dr. Cashwell said she envisions a future that involves expanded access not only for interscholastic swimmers at the high school level, but also for students of all ages who want to improve their skills, or for children and families who just want a friendly place to come and play. Having access to quality swimming areas will support the school system's "safety and wellness" cornerstone.

Mr. Vithoukias closed this press conference by citing incidents during the past year where children almost drowned and explaining the County will use a budget surplus generated by heightened sports tourism activity during Fiscal Year 2018 to finance the center. A budget amendment directing funds to this project will be forthcoming in December 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

  
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Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Henrico County, Virginia