

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
March 12, 2024

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 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:

Tyrone E. Nelson, Chairman, Varina District
Daniel J. Schmitt, Vice-Chairman, Brookland District
Roscoe D. Cooper, III, Fairfield District
Misty D. Whitehead, Three Chopt District
Jody K. Rogish, Tuckahoe District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoulikas, County Manager
Andrew R. Newby, County Attorney
Tanya N. Brackett, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Michael Y. Feinmel, Deputy County Manager for Public Safety
W. Brandon Hinton, Deputy County Manager for Administration
Monica Smith-Callahan, Deputy County Manager for Community Affairs
Cari M. Tretina, Deputy County Manager/Chief of Staff
Steven J. Yob, Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
Ben A. Sheppard, Director of Public Relations

Sidewalk Project Prioritization

Sharon Smidler, Transportation Development with the Department of Public Works, reviewed sidewalk projects prioritization. She reviewed the current pedestrian improvement projects, noting they have 29 completed projects, 65 programmed/funded, and 23 pending grant applications. She shared several slides showing pedestrian and bicycle crashes from 2018-2023 and the hot spots throughout the county with the highest numbers.

Mrs. Smidler broke down the priority projects as Tiers 1 through 4, with Tier 1 being the highest priority. Mrs. Smidler reviewed each magisterial district and the miles of sidewalks that will be covered based on each tier.

Terrell Hughes, Director of Public Works, clarified for Mr. Schmitt regarding CIP funding. Mr. Nelson asked if items that are currently on Tier 3 and Tier 4 could potentially move up to Tier 1 or Tier 2. Mr. Hughes stated all of the projects could potentially be moved to a different Tier based on changing circumstances in the community, such as crash data. Ms. Whitehead wanted to confirm every road was accounted for. Mrs. Smidler explained they used the GIS system to account for all the roads within the County system, but if a road currently has a sidewalk or if a sidewalk project is currently underway it would not be accounted for within the project. Mr. Nelson asked if there was any data on bike traffic and counts. Mr. Hughes stated they have some data on bike traffic. It is a complete picture, but

he can get the information to the Board. Mr. Nelson requested the information because he knows residents request bike lanes. Mr. Hughes noted he is happy to meet with each Board member individually to discuss their districts and priority areas that might not be identified.

Division of Police Update

Eric English, Chief of the Police Division, gave the Board an update on Violent Crimes, Firearms Violations, Property Crimes, and Overdoses for 2023. Chief English shared the statistics for homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, with all violent crimes down by 5%. He gave the Board a breakdown per district of violent crime and the hotspots for each district. Ms. Whitehead questioned if the "assault on officers" statistics included assault on school resource officers. The Chief stated they were not but would get that information back to the Board. He clarified the robberies and larceny statistics included data from schools.

Mr. Nelson explained he and several of the Board members sit on the Airport Commission, and they have had several conversations with the Chief at the Airport. They are currently dealing with car thefts at the Airport and wanted to know if the Chief had reached out or if our Police Division has worked on that issue. Chief English explained they have not been made aware of these issues, but he is happy to reach out and offer resources or help if needed. The Chief responded to questions from Mr. Nelson regarding recruitment, explaining it has been a challenge, but they currently have two recruitment teams visiting universities at this moment and will continue to visit college campuses. Mr. Nelson asked about diversity and if that was still a challenge. Chief English stated it has gotten better but would like to see more diversity and will continue to work on it.

Mr. Vithoukias recognized Jason Wood, Deputy Chief of Operations for the Division of Fire, who gave the Board an update on cancer screening for the Division of Fire. Chief Wood recognized retired Chief Greg Nuckols. He was proud to announce the Division of Fire had received the 2024 Health and Safety Award for Best Practices in Fire Services for the work the Division is doing with cancer screenings. He shared a brief video narrated by Fire Chief Jackson Baynard explaining the screenings and how they have benefited the Division and the process each firefighter goes through when getting the screening. To date 385 firefighters have been screened. Retired firefighters are able to receive the screening as well, with 60 retired firefighters receiving the screening to date. Jay Hudnall, a current firefighter with the Division, explained the screening was a lifesaver for him. He shared his story and was very appreciative of the County for doing the screening. Chief Wood stated the screening is not mandatory but explained they encouraged firefighters to do the screening.

The Board recessed at 5:16 p.m. and reconvened at 5:29 p.m.

Sheila Minor, Director of Finance, stated she was happy to share with the Board all three bond rating agencies (Fitch, Moody's, and S&P) recently affirmed the County's triple AAA bond ratings. The rating agencies visited Henrico in February and performed independent assessments of our financial health, economic vitality, political and regulatory environment, and corporate governance.

Earlier today, the County went to the market with these ratings to sell \$121.4 million in 20-year general obligation bonds and secured a low rate of 3.07%. This is outstanding given the recent increase in interest rates and the volatility experienced in the market overall.

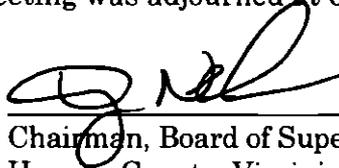
Regional Greenhouse Gas Plan

Nicole Keller, Resilience Planner with Plan RVA, and Sarah Stewart, Program Manager with PlanRVA, and Steve Yob, Deputy County Manager for Community Operations, gave the Board information on the Regional Greenhouse Gas Plan. They explained the plan is to support cooperation among the nine jurisdictions of Central Virginia to support resilience and environment, emergency management, community development, transportation, data, and analysis. Ms. Stewart reviewed the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant and what the funds would be used for. Ms. Keller reviewed the project timeline, noting the grant submission was this month. In conclusion, they shared the priority reduction measures and noted they are looking forward to continuing working with the County.

Review of the Regular Meeting Agenda Items

Mr. Vithoukias briefly reviewed the agenda items for the 6:00 p.m. meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.



Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia