



City of Hampton

22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
www.hampton.gov

Council Approved Minutes - Final City Council Work Session

Mayor Donnie R. Tuck
Vice Mayor Linda D. Curtis
Councilmember Jimmy Gray
Councilmember W.H. "Billy" Hobbs
Councilmember Will Moffett
Councilmember Teresa V. Schmidt
Councilmember Chris Snead

STAFF: Mary Bunting, City Manager
Vanessa T. Valldejuli, City Attorney
Katherine K. Glass, CMC, Clerk of Council

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

1:00 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tuck called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Present 7 - Vice Mayor Linda D. Curtis, Councilmember Jimmy Gray, Councilmember Billy Hobbs, Councilmember Will Moffett, Councilmember Teresa V. Schmidt, Councilmember Chris Snead, and Mayor Donnie R. Tuck

DONNIE R. TUCK PRESIDED

AGENDA

1. [17-0053](#) Hampton City Schools - Briefing on Career Academies and Budget Scenario

Attachments: [Presentation](#)
[Presentation - corrected](#)

City Manager Mary Bunting welcomed Dr. Jeffrey Smith, Hampton City Schools (HCS) Superintendent, HCS staff, and HCS School Board Members. She indicated that Dr. Smith's staff would be providing an update to Council on the Career Academy development and the FY2018 HCS Recommended Budget.

Dr. Smith noted that the Career Academies will transform the learning experiences of students through the way in which teaching and learning are approached. The work on the academies between HCS and the City of Hampton, Workforce Development, the business community, and the community at large provides context for the true meaning of collaboration. He introduced Ms. Veronica Hurd, Director of the Academies of Hampton, and Ms. Susie Scott, Deputy Superintendent of

Operations and Support, who would be leading the presentation today. He noted that a full, detailed FY2018 HCS Recommended Budget will be provided to the School Board this evening.

Ms. Hurd reviewed the process for the creation of the Career Academies, the future goals, and how this program will move forward. Ford Next Generation Learning is being used to create this experience in Hampton and to provide informational resources for the City to draw upon.

Ms. Hurd noted that there has been some recent coverage on Wavy10, and HCS will provide that video to Council at a later time.

Mayor Tuck asked if each school will have a full complement of courses or if each school will only have one primary focus and students will have to make arrangements to take classes at several schools. Ms. Hurd stated that each school will have a full complement of courses; however, if they choose to have a more tailored experience, the student would need to go to the specific school with that focus. She noted that if a student was zoned for Hampton High School, but wanted to participate in the program at Bethel High School, the student would become a Bethel High School student. They would not travel between schools for classes. The students are made aware of all the opportunities available to them through the Success 101 course that is required in 9th grade, making their decision in 10th grade.

Mayor Tuck asked what would happen to students who wanted to get into a class that reaches capacity. Ms. Hurd stated that current enrollees in the academy have to apply. When the academies are opened at every school, class enrollment will move into a lottery system. Studies show that students will get into their first or second choice for class. Counselors will help guide students on the proper path.

Ms. Bunting noted that it can sometimes seem that there is only one academy that fits a student's career path, but that is not true. She provided an example of a student who wanted to be a doctor, but did not want to transfer to the Health and Sciences Academy, instead going through business and entrepreneurship courses at their current school to help better prepare them for opening their own practice. Ms. Hurd stated that there is a focus on transferrable skills.

Ms. Scott provided an overview of the development of the HCS 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and a brief summary of the FY2018 HCS Recommended Budget.

Mayor Tuck asked if there were any top priorities in the CIP. Ms. Scott stated that there were not any forerunners. There were a number of important items from

multiple schools, to include replacing windows, HVAC systems, and flooring. Some schools had very unique needs.

Vice Mayor Curtis noted that she currently has grandchildren in 8th and 9th grade. She asked what will happen to those who will not participate in the freshman academies course next year. Ms. Hurd stated that HCS encourages those who fall outside of the full implementation to apply for the academies and staff is looking at other opportunities for those who will not be part of the cohort.

Councilwoman Schmidt asked how these academies will address the demands of the Standards of Learning (SOLs). Dr. Smith stated that the SOLs serve as a foundation for the courses, but it is important to take students beyond those SOLs. Ms. Bunting noted that relevance connection is encouraged, so in core content classes like Algebra, a student might connect with the information better if they understand how it directly relates to their future. Dr. Smith stated that this is where the collaboration with the business community comes in, with collaborators working with teachers to provide that context in the classroom. He noted that the Governor's Office wants to move in this direction, and Hampton is on the cutting edge of leading the State in this work.

Councilwoman Schmidt stated that she did not recall hearing about the successes in terms of standardized test scores, which is what people outside of a school system look at to judge schools. Dr. Smith stated that suspensions are lower, standardized test scores are higher and grades are higher. The baseline data at HCS is very strong when looking at the current academy enrollees.

Councilman Gray asked if students would still have the option of pursuing a standard or advanced diploma, or if HCS expects more students will have advanced degrees. Dr. Smith stated that the overall framework will not change. There will be more dual enrollment course offerings. He believes that inherent to the academies process, students will stretch more to reach an advanced diploma.

Councilwoman Snead noted that in Nashville, one of the benefits the academies there experienced was a reduction in disciplinary problems. Some of the schools that had been considered the worst behaviorally are now among the best. She asked Dr. Smith to elaborate on this, because image and perception are important for school systems. Dr. Smith stated that a sense of belonging is important for youth. These smaller learning communities help students find that sense of belonging. He stated that in Nashville, there is data indicating that even gang activity has been reduced, and the ages of those involved in gang activities have changed. HCS's data shows a decrease in out-of-school suspensions for those enrolled in academies.

Mayor Tuck stated that great things have occurred and are on the horizon with HCS. He also challenged the School Board to an “escape room” contest against Council.

Presented by Dr. Jeffery Smith, Superintendent of Hampton City Schools, along with Veronica Hurd, Director of the Academies of Hampton, and Suzanna Scott, Deputy Superintendent.

2. [17-0091](#) Update on Hampton Roads Sanitation District's (HRSD) Sustainable Water Initiative for Tomorrow (SWIFT)

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

Ms. Bunting introduced Mr. Ted Henifin, Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) General Manager, who would be providing information on the Sustainable Water Initiative for Tomorrow (SWIFT) and how it might benefit Hampton as it stretches to meet the stormwater Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) imposed upon the City by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Staff is proposing action during the March 22nd Legislative Session.

In response to Mayor Tuck, Mr. Henifin stated that VIP on Slide 3 stands for Virginia Initiative Plant, a plant behind the Old Dominion University campus.

Mr. Henifin noted that since HRSD is at the bottom of the James River, and it cannot trade nutrient credits upstream, there are no localities that can buy its credits. They own a large surplus of valuable credit that has no market, so they looked for something to do with them to benefit the Hampton Roads area. HRSD can absorb the Hampton TMDL requirements to meet unfunded mandates that have locked the City into certain investments.

Mr. Henifin noted that there are timing issues. The City would need to continue to work on its TMDL projects right now to ensure that they are done by the deadline of 2031. HRSD does not know for sure if SWIFT will be feasible until the early 2020s. Because of this, HRSD is guaranteeing the City these credits through 2036, whether or not SWIFT moves forward. No later than the end of 2025, HRSD will provide a final decision on SWIFT. If HRSD can permanently offset the City's needs in 2025, it does not need to worry about TMDL ever again. If it cannot permanently offset the City's needs, the City has 11 years - the same timeframe it currently has - to meet TMDL.

Mr. Henifin noted that Hampton's agreement has been fine-tuned by review through the City Attorney and Public Works Offices, in addition to DEQ. It will be presented for action by Hampton on March 22nd, with all other locality agreements being completed by August 1st.

Councilwoman Schmidt noted that this project is in the billions of dollars. She asked how what the ratepayers are currently paying taking care of it. Mr. Henifin noted that HRSD is under a Federal consent decree to do work on the regional sewer system. The estimate to complete that work is approximately \$2.2 billion. The financial plan has already been developed to support that with the idea that it would be started after 2017. There are a series of rate increases already on the books, although they are not yet approved by the HRSD Commission. Those would move forward whether or not HRSD does this project. The idea is that HRSD will put aside the Federal project and do the nutrient treatment project first because it has more environmental benefits. It is still moving through the approval process. If it is approved, the Federal project will start in 2030 with completion in 2053.

Ms. Bunting noted that if the City had not been able to work out the credit trading, it would have had to increase the stormwater rates to cover the TMDL requirements. The City had originally projected an increase in those rates to occur this year, but is no longer requesting that increase.

Councilwoman Schmidt noted that there has been some controversy about the aquifers. She asked if HRSD has looked at other models for this project that are successful. Mr. Henifin noted that other localities are using the aquifers, although in mostly arid climates. HRSD does not believe there will be any issues, but there is some controversy. They have proven they can treat the water and remove contaminants, which is where most of the controversy exists, to levels below those that are causing concern. They are "non-detect" in almost every case. Further testing will be done.

Mr. Henifin stated that HRSD is breaking ground on its 1-million-gallon-per-day research facility in Suffolk on March 31st, which will provide 1 million gallons of treated water per day for further study. The plan is to run that facility for a year, apply for the permits in 2020, and start building the full scale facilities.

Councilwoman Schmidt noted that one of the benefits would be to see the land pumped up. She asked if those currently using this practice have seen any appreciation of their land. Mr. Henifin stated that one of the major users is Orange County in California. Their aquifer is not confined, so there is no clay layer on top of the soil. As such, they do not have the same settling issues. Other parts of the country have the same soil type as this area, but a good example is Long Beach, California. Oil removal resulted in significant subsidence, which was reversed by putting water into the ground. HRSD is confident from modeling that there will be a slowing down of soil subsidence.

Councilwoman Schmidt asked how far out the water spreads from the pumping

station. Mr. Henifin stated that there will be a series of wells at each treatment plant. Each well will put about 3-4 million gallons a day into the ground. It is a pressurized aquifer, so the water does not move far, but the pressure is felt through the whole aquifer. The modeling shows that the water moves about 30 feet a year, so it will take over 100 years to go one mile. The pressure will be felt as far as Maryland and North Carolina.

Mayor Tuck asked if there was a sense now that communities might create more impervious surfaces due to the reduction of nutrient discharge from this process. Mr. Henifin stated that communities will still have to meet all the newest building standards and impervious limits. In the long term, the Chesapeake Bay will benefit from that work and the work HRSD is doing.

Presented by Ted Henifin, General Manager of Hampton Roads Sanitation District.

3. [17-0096](#) Summary of Community Input re: Fox Hill Neighborhood Center Site Options

Attachments: [Presentation](#)
[Report](#)

Ms. Bunting introduced Assistant City Manager Laura Fitzpatrick, who would be presenting on the Fox Hill Neighborhood site development. There were significant wetlands issues with Asbury, the site initially proposed.

Ms. Fitzpatrick noted that neighborhood centers operate differently than community centers. The service area and facility for a neighborhood center is generally smaller. The governance and operation of the neighborhood center is a board of stakeholders in the neighborhood.

Ms. Fitzpatrick shared a map displaying Fox Hill Proper, which is smaller than the boundaries of Fox Hill. The neighborhood center is to replace a center that was operated in Fox Hill Proper that was destroyed by a tornado in 2014. The goal has always been to put the replacement in Fox Hill Proper, although wetlands constraints have required the City to look over sites outside of those boundaries.

Mayor Tuck acknowledged Mr. Fred Everett, President of the Fox Hill Athletic Association, who was present in the audience.

Ms. Bunting reminded Council that when the City considers acquiring a site, it does not negotiate in open session.

Presented by Laura Fitzpatrick, Assistant City Manager.

4. [17-0087](#) Update on Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Development: Revenue Estimates

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

Ms. Bunting introduced Mr. Karl Daughtrey, Finance Director, who provided the preliminary revenue projections. The City obtains most of its revenues from local sources, with some funding from the State. Although the State has adopted its budget, the City has not been provided all the information on locality specific revenues. A large portion of revenue estimates is personal property tax, and that is not run by the Commissioner of the Revenue until the end of March. Adjustments will be made at that time.

When presenting Slide 4, Mr. Daughtrey noted that the City of Newport News has not yet publically released their real estate tax estimate increases.

When reviewing Slide 11, Mr. Daughtrey noted that 44% of the population does not have a landline. This is up from 3% in 2003.

Councilwoman Snead noted that one piece of legislation the Virginia Municipal League and Virginia First Cities are pushing this year is taxing prepaid telephones when renewed. Currently, someone is only charged tax when they first purchase the phone. Another issue is people are now buying alternate hardware to watch television, no longer using cable, meaning they are not paying the taxes on that service.

When reviewing Slide 20, Mr. Daughtrey noted that 35% of the City's budget is committed to specific purposes.

Councilwoman Schmidt noted that she heard this is the first time in US history that the amount of money spent going out to eat is greater than the money spent on groceries.

Councilwoman Schmidt asked if Mr. Daughtrey had taken into consideration that Langley Speedway was offline in 2016 but will be back online in 2017 when looking at the increase in lodging tax revenues. Mr. Daughtrey stated that he did not look at Langley Speedway specifically in his projections, but rather the growth trends experienced in FY17.

Presented by Karl Daughtrey, Finance Director.

REGIONAL ISSUES

NEW BUSINESS

CLOSED SESSION

5. [17-0069](#) Closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 2.2-3711.A.1, .3, .5, and .7 to discuss appointments to the Planning Commission as well as those appointments as listed on the agenda; to discuss or consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose in the Fox Hill area where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the city; to discuss the expansion of an existing business in the Coliseum Central area where no previous announcement has been made of the business' interest in expanding its facilities in Hampton, and to consult with legal counsel employed or retained by the City regarding specific legal matters pertaining to rezonings and performance agreement incentives requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

At 2:58 p.m., a motion was made by Vice Mayor Curtis and seconded by Mayor Tuck, that this Closed Session - Motion be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt, Councilmember Snead and Mayor Tuck

6. [16-0391](#) Consideration of appointments to Citizens' Engagement Advisory Review Commission (CEARC)
7. [17-0044](#) Consideration of appointments to Hampton Senior Citizens Advisory Board
8. [17-0059](#) Consideration of appointments to Hampton Federal Area Development Authority
9. [17-0067](#) Consideration of appointments to the Citizens Police Academy Group
10. [17-0068](#) Consideration of appointments to Neighborhood Commission
11. [17-0093](#) Consideration of appointments to Community Policy & Management Team (CPMT)

- 12. [17-0094](#) Consideration of appointments to Hampton Commission on the Arts
- 13. [17-0095](#) Consideration of an appointment to Finance Committee

CERTIFICATION

- 14. [17-0057](#) Resolution Certifying Closed Session
At 6:16 p.m., a motion was made by Vice Mayor Curtis seconded by Councilmember Gray, that this Closed Session - Certification be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:
Aye: 7 - Vice Mayor Curtis, Councilmember Gray, Councilmember Hobbs, Councilmember Moffett, Councilmember Schmidt, Councilmember Snead and Mayor Tuck

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Donnie R. Tuck
Mayor

Katherine K. Glass, CMC
Clerk of Council

Date approved by Council _____