

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
MEETING OF COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2019

Mayor Alexander called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mrs. Courtney R. Doyle, Mrs. Angelia Williams Graves, Mrs. Mamie B. Johnson, Mrs. Andria P. McClellan, Mr. Tommy R. Smigiel Jr, and Mr. Martin A. Thomas Jr. Mr. Paul R. Riddick was absent.

He then called on the City Manager to proceed with the agenda.

A. POP UPS:

FLOATOPIA

Michael Goldsmith, Deputy City Manager, reported on preparations for Floatopia at Ocean View. They have been working with the Police Department, Fire Department, RPOS, and Public Works to make sure we have adequate resources on the beach to make sure we have no problems. They have been in contact with Virginia Beach Police, Coast Guard, Virginia Marine Resources Commission and Marine Police. Mr. Redick has put together an event action plan. Ms. Crouch has been working on a communications plan for the neighborhoods to make sure they're informed of everything. There will be additional trash receptacles and bathrooms. The goal is to have enough police presence to ensure everything stays under control and ensure the safety of folks attending the event as well as the entire community.

Mr. Goldsmith added they have reached out to the organizer of the event but as of this date he has declined to get a permit. Councilwoman Doyle asked to document the expense for these additional resources. Councilwoman McClellan commented other people have events and are properly permitted and comply with insurance and public safety and it is unfair when you have a rogue operator such as this. She also expressed concern about fireworks on our beaches in Ocean View that could cause fires and asked for police presence and controls.

Councilman Smigiel noted that the unorganized event in Virginia Beach made international news. He added that the community has concerns about this event. He hopes the message is clear that we do not want to prohibit people from having fun, but be responsible.

Mayor Alexander stated we are setting a bad precedent by allowing this to happen without a permit and that the person or persons organizing and promoting this event should be held accountable.

NEWPORT MANOR – FOURTH AMENDMENT TO LDDC

Ihsane Mouak, Senior Business Development Manager, stated Phase One has been completed. An amendment to the land disposition and development agreement will be coming before Council on July 9th. The amendment addresses a rearrangement of the parking agreements.

- Outside Closing date: 09/30/2019
- Developer to design, construct, landscape and equip Parcel A as 5 spaces parking facility
- Developer to design, construct, landscape and equip an 18 space parking facility on 35th Street and enter into a new parking agreement with NRHA
- Purchase price: \$32,314.00
- Development Schedule:
 - June 1 – July 30, 2019: Revise LDDC, permitting and submittal of tax-exempt bond application
 - August 1 – September 30, 2019: obtain financing, building permit and closing on City parcel
 - October 1, 2019: Ground breaking
 - October 1, 2020: Completion

B. CITY PLANNING UPDATE

George M. Homewood, Director of Planning, reported on the following:

“Hot” Planning Topics

- Gambling Machines
 - Five or more game machines require a conditional use permit
- CRS (Community Rating System) Update
 - Annual Recertification end of July
 - Postcards to be mailed to 11,000 households
- Shoreline stabilization at 533 Front Street
 - Breeden Investment Properties proposes to construct a stone rip rap revetment in support of new multifamily development
 - Wetlands Board hearing on July 10

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) REVOCATION CRITERIA

CATEGORY 1: GOAL OF COMPLIANCE

1. Delinquent Meals Tax
2. Failure to comply with conditions of CUP

CATEGORY 2: DIRECTLY TO REVOCATION

1. Revocation of any permit required by State or Federal Agency
2. Upon recommendation of the Business Action Team (BAT)

Pending Planning Items:

Biophilic Cities Resolution/Membership	July 9
Wards Corner Plan	July 23
Residential Proffers	July 23
Commercial and Mixed-Use Pattern Book	August 27
Multifamily Design Guidelines	August 27 (tentative)
Downtown Outdoor Dining Guidelines	n/a

BIOPHILIC CITIES RESOLUTION/MEMBERSHIP

James Morrison, Planner I, has been working on the application to be a biophilic city. Moving forward, Norfolk will join cities like Washington, D.C., Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco, Singapore and Wellington, New Zealand, as members of both the 100 resilient cities and the biophilic cities networks.

- Norfolk proposes to join this international network of cities, scholars, and advocates working towards:
 - Increasing human-nature connection in cities
 - Connecting local citizens and leaders with like-minded people and initiatives all over the world
 - Sharing best practices for integrating nature in cities
- **What does it mean to be in the network?**
 - Partner city calls, policy and planning briefs
 - Film and project profiles
 - Collaboration with other members

C. WARDS CORNER PLAN

Paula Shea, Chief Planner, stated the study was funded by a grant from the Virginia Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment. The grant is intended to help plan Urban Development Areas and the best way to link transportation and land use in our communities. This was an opportunity for Norfolk to develop a vision for the future of the Wards Corner Commercial area. The specific area of the study centers on the intersection of Little Creek Road and Granby Street.

The year-long study process was community-driven and there were three well-attended community workshops. The Advisory Committee included representatives from City Council and the City Planning Commission, civic leagues, local businesses, and larger property owners.

PROJECT GOALS:

- Identify short term implementation – in the next five years (traffic improvements and safety).
- More green space, neighborhood gathering areas, café dining and restaurants.
- Redevelop vacant or underutilized properties.

VISION:

- Transportation
 - New main street
 - Realign ramps
 - Multimodal center and future light rail
 - Trails and connections (Wellness Center, along RR tracks)
- Land Use
 - Transportation and connections create additional frontage and block pattern
 - Compact, walkable development
 - Gathering and community spaces throughout

FOCUS AREA 1

- Wellness Trail
- Redevelopment of apartment complex to same density
- Linear neighborhood park and realignment of Victory Drive intersection
- Redevelopment of commercial frontage
- Connection to proposed Terminal Boulevard Trail

FOCUS AREA 2

- Dalis Property reuse or redevelopment
- Infill of Harris Teeter block
- Community gathering feature
- Realignment of Maycox/Louisiana Drive intersection
- Trail along RR tracks

FOCUS AREA 3

- New main street
- Ramp realignment
- Redevelopment of Workforce Development and former Farm Fresh parcels
- Multimodal Hub

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Coordination and Economic Development
- Transportation
- Green Infrastructure
- Implementation Approach

NEXT STEPS

- City Council Public Hearing July 23rd

D. COUNCIL PRIORITIES

COUNCILMAN SMIGIEL:

- Commented that Virginia Natural Gas, after installing new lines, is not resurfacing or restriping streets adequately. He asked, is there a way to hold them accountable and do we have enough personnel to enforce that?
- Asked that citations be issued for illegal signage and damaged signage that have not been repaired.
- Asked for a copy of the City Manager's departmental flow chart.
- Asked the City Clerk for a copy of the Rules of Engagement for meetings and asked that City Council reexamine them. In addition, he suggested that New Business public comment period needs to be reduced from the current three minutes. Mayor Alexander suggested Councilman Smigiel, Councilwoman Graves, Mr. Muse and Mr. Pishko reexamine the rules and bring information back before City Council.

COUNCILWOMAN MCCLELLAN:

- Noted that a group of citizens have asked Council to consider participating with them in supporting the abolishment of nuclear weapons. She noted it's been adopted in Washington, D. C. and several other cities around the country. Mayor Alexander asked Mr. Goldsmith and Mr. Beaver to research the issue.
- Asked that City Council establish the Human Rights Commission. Mayor Alexander asked that Ms. Slappy, Mr. Goldsmith, Mr. Beaver and Mr. Melita discuss establishing a commission and bring the information back to City Council.

COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES:

- Invited City Council to the Tidewater Gardens Bank On class graduation, July 10th at 6 p.m. at the Hunton YMCA.
- Commented she recently observed an arrest and noted the officers involved were very polite and she thanked them for their professionalism during the process.

COUNCILWOMAN DOYLE:

- Reiterated her request for an inventory of city-owned properties, commercial and residential. She stressed the importance of putting properties back on the city's tax rolls and generating revenue for the city. Councilwoman Johnson asked to include NRHA properties as well.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON:

- Asked City Council to take note of what has been done on Princess Anne Road and added that the children's posters are displayed in the lobby of City Hall.
- Thanked the Department of Development for taking action and getting results for the Princess Anne Road Committee meetings.
- Expressed concern about the conditions surrounding the Evelyn Butts transfer station and the damage being done to properties that abut the transfer station, and she asked that those issues be addressed. Councilwoman McClellan suggested relocating the transfer station to the cul-de-sac area near the Third Precinct. She added there is a similar situation behind the Pretlow Library in Ocean View. Councilwoman Graves suggested in the short-term adding surveillance cameras.

E. CLOSED SESSION

Motion for closed session was approved for purposes which are set out in Clause(s) 29 and 1 of subsection (A) of Section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, as amended:

- (29) Discussion of the award of a public contract and terms and scope of the contract in the Downtown area where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position of the public body.
- (1) Discussion of candidates for employment.

Yes: Doyle, Graves, Johnson, McClellan, Riddick, Smigiel, Thomas and Alexander.

No: None.

Absent: Riddick.