



**Norfolk Theatre Festival:** Norfolk is excited to bring the highest caliber of theatrical performances to our city for residents, visitors and the community to enjoy. What started as an idea of the Mayor in 2018 has finally taken shape into this inaugural celebration of unforgettable, theatrical performances that has been spearhead by Anthony Stockard of Norfolk State University and Rob Cross of the Virginia Arts Festival. For the next three days and nights, the lights in Norfolk will shine boldly on Chrysler Hall, the Attucks Theatre, G.W.C Brown Memorial Hall Mainstage Theatre, the Wells Theatre, the Selden Arcade and the Norfolk Botanical Garden. You can find more information on the festival [here](#).

**Department of Utilities Apprenticeship Program:** Last fall, the Department of Utilities began an Operations Apprenticeship Program aimed at training Norfolk residents for hard to fill operational positions. The Department of Human Resources created 15 special project “apprentice” positions in support of the program. Staff from the Department of Utilities developed the curriculum and served as the teachers for a rigorous 6-month training program on water distribution system and wastewater collection maintenance as well as industrial equipment maintenance. The program consisted of classroom instruction, hands-on demonstrations, equipment operation, and actual work experience with City crews. More than 150 applications were received for the 15 positions, and this week 11 well-trained Norfolk residents graduated from the program, 4 of whom are residents of the St. Paul’s Area. We are pleased to report that many of the graduates have already received offers of permanent City positions, and the remainder are currently going through the formal interview process.



**Agile Team Norfolk:** The City’s initiative to create a culture of innovation among all levels of Team Norfolk is finishing a successful first year. I am pleased to share that 256 employees representing 24 departments have completed training which has given them the tools and knowledge to increase efficient delivery of services and to enhance the quality of services for citizens. Many graduates have already implemented improvements in their workplace and we have plenty of training opportunities in 2019 so even more employees can make Norfolk better every day.

**Diggs Town Program:** The Diggs Town Ambassador program is Keep Norfolk Beautiful’s newest outreach initiative for FY19-FY21. This community engagement-based partnership will work to establish an awareness and development of environmental stewardship through education, problem solving, focus groups, team building, and volunteerism. The primary focus is to support meaningful and sustainable behaviors that build a resilient neighborhood. Diggs Town residents as ambassadors in their neighborhoods capitalizes on building the community’s assets, inspiring change and motivating a love and connection to create and maintain someplace beautiful that everyone can be proud to call home. This collaborative effort, a work based on open communication, ongoing assessment and maximizing community resources, promotes the potential to transform communities from just an address on a street to a dynamic place that contributes to the overall stability and health of our city.



**The Historic Attucks Theatre:** The Apollo of the South video documentary is now available. This 26-minute documentary celebrates the rich history, performances and 100th anniversary of the Attucks Theatre. You can watch the documentary [here](#).

## **Norfolk Happening Now! Upcoming Events for Your Awareness**

**Feb. 14-17** (Times vary) **Norfolk Theatre Festival** @Locations Vary

Discover the riches of the Norfolk theatre scene in a whirlwind weekend in February 2019—the perfect Valentine’s getaway! The entire schedule can be found [here](#).

**Feb. 17** (4-6pm) **The 'Salute to Black Composers' Concert: I Sherman Greene Chorale** @Norview High School

The I. Sherman Greene Chorale, Inc., renowned locally and nationally as one of the leading exponents of choral music, continues to earn accolades for its performance of the music of the Masters, as well as its interpretation of traditional Negro Spirituals.

**Feb. 21** (10:30am-12pm) **Pinewall Station Groundbreaking Ceremony** @Pinewall Station

Come out to the Pinewall Station Groundbreaking Ceremony!

**Feb. 22 & 23** – **City Council Retreat** @ Virginia Arts Festival

**Feb. 22** (8-10pm) **Virginia Ballet Theatre Winter Concert** @Old Dominion University Theatre

Come and experience the passion and beauty of Virginia Ballet Theatre and indulge your senses in an evening of past and contemporary classics of dance!

**[Video highlights of the latest happenings in Norfolk!](#)**

**[Attucks Theatre Documentary](#)**

**[Working with Developers](#)**

## Council Interests

**School Board Meeting, 02/06/2019**

*Office of Budget & Strategic Planning*

### **Work Session, 4:00 p.m.**

**SEAC/GEAC Appointments** – The School Board unanimously approved the nominees for the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and the Gifted Education Advisory Committee (GEAC).

**Accountability Plan** – Lauren Campsen and Tanya Bhasin, School Board members, presented their latest draft of the School Board Accountability Plan to the School Board. The plan uses School Board Goals and Priorities to establish specific, measurable targets for NPS and the Board to meet in the next five years. The School Board discussed the details at length and agreed to several further modifications; most significantly, the committee agreed to remove language referring to “High Performing Schools” as too polarizing without substantially changing the objective of improving student SOL scores. The committee promised a final draft incorporating changes to address School Board concerns for vote at the February 20 business meeting. Noëlle Gabriel, School Board Chair, congratulated the committee for putting together a good plan.

**Educational Planning** – Tracy Richter of Cooperative Strategies gave his final presentations regarding the two educational planning votes that the School Board plans to take at their February 20 meeting. After further community feedback, their final recommendation for the possible Lake Taylor Middle School conversion is to convert the school to a 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade school rather than a K-8 for the 2019-2020 school year. Under this plan, Fairlawn Elementary would host a pre-kindergarten to second grade program, Poplar Hall Elementary would close, and Ingleside Elementary’s rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade would go to Norview Middle School. The School Board’s discussion focused around wanting more detailed information about the costs to move programs and staffing implications.

Richter also presented results from the January NPS School Start Times Survey, which gathered public input about the proposal to move to later high school start times. Among teachers, parents, and students at elementary, middle, and high school levels, students are the least satisfied with existing school start times, with 49% showing some level of dissatisfaction. Middle school teachers were the most satisfied, with 68% responding positively. For both teacher and parent groups, those affiliated with high schools were the least satisfied. Neither students nor parents expressed strong dissatisfaction with school bus ride times; 33% of middle school parents expressed some level of dissatisfaction, the highest level reported. High school teachers had the least confidence that later start times could improve student performance and benefit students, but all respondent groups had a 50% or higher level of agreement that they could. All groups ranked academic performance and health and sleep as the most important factors when considering a change in school start times.

For both policy discussions, Gabriel asked School Board members to submit all questions by February 15 so that the administration and Richter could have fully prepared answers for the workshops scheduled before the February 20 meeting so that these issues could be voted on at that meeting.

**School Board Policy Review** – The planned discussion of student suspension policy and service animal policy was moved to the next meeting to allow a timely meeting adjournment.



**SIXTY-DAY TENTATIVE SCHEDULE  
COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS AND MEETING TOPICS**

**February 22-23, 2019 - City Council Retreat**

**UPCOMING ITEMS FROM JANUARY 24 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:**

- **City Planning Commission (Applicant)** zoning text amendment to create the Downtown – Saint Paul’s (D-SP) zoning district
- **Electri-City Services LLC (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow construction of a single-family residence that does not meet the lot size and setback standards within the R-C (Residential – Coastal) zoning district at 3650 E Ocean View Ave
- **Richardson Homes Inc (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow construction of a single-family residence on a previous platted flag lot within the SF-6 (Single-Family) zoning district at 1927 E Bayview Blvd
- **East Beach Living Apartments (Applicant)** conditional use permits to allow the construction of a multi-family apartment community with 92 dwelling units and 3,180 square footage of commercial space on the ground floor at 7950 Shore Dr
- **Aldi Inc (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow the sale of 4-packs of alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption at a proposed grocery store at 730 W 21<sup>st</sup> St
- **Corner Gallery LLC (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow the operation of a banquet hall with live entertainment at 4400 Colley Ave
- **Galaxy NC LLC (Applicant)** closing, vacating and discontinuing the southeast corner of intersection of Doswell St and Pecan Point Rd and parcel being a right of way containing 600 square foot and the southern 10-foot portion of a 20-foot lane, and parcel being a right of way containing 3000 square foot

**February 26, 2019**

**WORKSESSION**

**BRIEFINGS:**

- General Assembly Update
- Utilities Apprenticeship Program Update
- 3x3x3 Report

**UPCOMING ITEMS FROM FEBRUARY 28 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:**

- **Richard Katz (Applicant)** change of zoning to allow surface parking for Cogan’s Pizza at 811-815 44<sup>th</sup> St
- **J.D. Lewis Construction (Applicant)** change of zoning and conditional use permit to allow the development of a multi-family apartment community with 150 dwelling units at 1045,1063,1065, and SS 38<sup>th</sup> St
- **Tidewater Communications LLC (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow the replacement of a 545-foot tall AM/FM Radio Tower

- **Colonial Heights Church of Christ (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow a religious institution to operate a daycare center at 831 Mayfield Ave and 833 Marvin Ave
- **Reaver Beach Brewing Company (Applicant)** conditional use permits to allow for a new microbrewery to operate with limited entertainment options at 3800 and 3808 Colley Ave and 737 Michigan Ave
- **The Bold Mariner Brewing Company (Applicant)** conditional use permits to allow for a new microbrewery to operate with limited entertainment options at 1901 E. Ocean View Ave and 9638 Capeview Ave
- **Robyn Thomas (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow a nightclub to operate with on-premises alcohol sales and live entertainment with a disc jockey and dance floor until 2:00 am at 218 W. 25<sup>th</sup> St
- **James Flanigan (Applicant)** closure of a portion of Shumadine Road between 37<sup>th</sup> St and 38<sup>th</sup> St
- **Annette Stone (Applicant)** conditional use permit to allow a nightclub to operate with on-premises alcohol sales and live entertainment with a disc jockey and dance floor until 2:00 a.m. at 846 E Little Creek Rd
- **Development Certificate – Aldi** – Modification of a previously approved 21<sup>st</sup> Street PCO (Pedestrian Commercial Overlay) Development Certificate to allow renovations to the façade at 730 W 21<sup>st</sup> St

**March 5, 2019**

**WORKSESSION**

**BRIEFINGS:**

- Norfolk Zoning Ordinance One Year On