

MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK

Regular Meeting
July 18, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened. A Regular Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:01 p.m., Tuesday, July 18, 2023, in the Board Room, York Hall, by Chairman Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: W. Chad Green, G. Stephen Roane, Jr., and Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Absent. Walter C. Zaremba and Sheila S. Noll

Also in attendance were Mark L. Bellamy, Jr., Deputy County Administrator; Brian Fuller, Assistant County Administrator; Richard E. Hill, Jr., County Attorney; and Diane C. Ingram, Senior Administrative Coordinator/Assistant Deputy Clerk.

Invocation. Reverend Seonyoung Kim, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Chairman Shepperd led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

YMCA PRESENTATION

Mr. Adam Klutts, President and Chief Executive Officer of the YMCA of the Virginia Peninsula, came forward and noted the many YMCA volunteers and staff in attendance. He also introduced architect, Mr. Thomas Tingle, who had participated in many of the YMCA's past projects. He then provided a brief, but informative presentation on the organization, which included the following information:

- The Victory YMCA is 20 years old, and the Wilkinson YMCA is 15 years old.
- The YMCA helps kids succeed and gain confidence; prepares teens for life through acquired leadership skills; teaches youth and adults to swim and be safe in the water; and enables people of all ages to grow healthier in spirit, mind, and body.
- The YMCA/York County partnership includes the Victory YMCA facility, which was built on land owned and leased from York County. The partnership also includes the R. F. Wilkinson YMCA built on land owned and leased from Sentara, which the County helped to support with a \$1.5 million donation.
- Statistics: Victory has a total member annual average of 14,832 and a total visits annual average of 273,750. R. F. Wilkinson has a total member annual average of 5,311 and a total visits annual average of 86,750.
- Both facilities provide a safe environment for youth and teens; serve as a central hub for connection, growth, and development; and offer services and programs for the whole family.
- The Victory Family YMCA and the R. F. Wilkinson facilities are desperately in need of expansion so that each may continue to serve and meet our growing community needs.
- The YMCA's partnerships with localities, hospitals, and other entities enable them to run programs outside of the YMCA physical facility.

Mr. Klutts then shared renderings of the proposed Victory and R. F. Wilkinson facility expansions to include where they would be located and how each would be utilized. He noted that the Victory project will be \$8,439,363 and the R. F. Wilkinson project totals \$2,538,368. In closing, he stated that the YMCA is interested in partnering with the County to potentially become a storm shelter when and if needed.

Chairman Shepperd thanked Mr. Klutts for the interesting presentation and pointed out that both he and Supervisor Green had previously served on the YMCA Board and that Vice

July 18, 2023

Chairman Roane currently serves on the Board. He then asked Mr. Klutts to elaborate on the Learn To Swim and First Tee programs.

In response, Mr. Klutts stated that the YMCA offers multiple versions of Safety Around Water and Learn To Swim programs. However, he pointed out that every child that attends the day camp participates in both of these important programs. He explained that the First Tee program, primarily housed out of Kiln Creek, teaches kids values through the game of golf. All of the programs he noted are rapidly recovering and increasing in the aftermath of COVID.

Mr. Green asked about the status of the Learn To Swim program in conjunction with the York County School Division.

Mr. Klutts stated that the YMCA initiated a pilot program at the elementary school level, and then COVID hit. However, he noted that they would be pleased to reinstate another pilot program, perhaps even this fall.

Mr. Green stated that he will contact members of the York County School Board to encourage them to reinstate this important program in our schools.

Mr. Roane noted that since becoming a YMCA Board member, he has become cognizant of just how important the facility and programs are to the County residents. He then asked if the membership numbers were increasing or if they were flat.

Mr. Klutts responded that the numbers have returned to the pre-COVID levels and are steadily climbing.

Mr. Roane asked what other opportunities for partnership are there for the YMCA and the School Division other than the Learn To Swim program.

Mr. Klutts stated that the After School Program is a big opportunity for collaboration. However, they also offer tutoring, provide mentorships, and are about to launch a Power Scholars program designed to prevent learning loss for children during the summer.

Chairman Shepperd stated that the YMCA is an integral part of our community and that he truly appreciates Mr. Klutts taking his time to give a presentation this evening.

In conclusion, Mr. Klutts stated that the YMCA does not turn anyone away due to their inability to pay. He explained that confidential, financial scholarships are available for eligible individuals.

WILLIAMSBURG AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Mr. Matthew Scalia, Executive Director of the Williamsburg Area Transit Authority (WATA), came forward and provided a presentation on WATA that included the following information:

- Their two major capital projects are the WATA Operations and Maintenance (O&M) facility at 7239 Pocahontas Trail, and the Northern Transfer Center (NTC) on Hornor Lane.
- The O&M facility lacks proper administrative space, wash bay capability, inventory storage, space for fleet and operations expansion, and is not Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant.
- The proposed future O&M will include: an 8,000 square foot expansion that will provide the much needed administrative space, two expansion bays and room for two more in the future, new wash bay, improved maintenance equipment, above ground fuel tanks, separate bus and private parking, outdoor storage, full facility generator, improved security, and electric bus charging infrastructure.
- The O&M project will cost \$16,137,726 which will be funded 52 percent by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA); 44 percent by the state; two percent by the local government; and two percent is still unfunded.
- Timeline for the project: design completed, September 30, 2023; advertisement for bids, mid-October 2023; anticipated award, mid-December; estimated construction completion, approximately September 2025.
- The purpose of the proposed location of the Northern Transfer Center, at the triangle of Mooretown Road, Hornor Lane, and Old Mooretown Road, is to provide a better experience for our customers and employees.

- The property location for the Transfer Center was purchased by WATA in October 2021.
- New Transfer Center features include: four bus bays, two flex bus bays, 12 standard parking spaces, two single occupancy staff restrooms, male and female customer restrooms, a customer service window, common office space for three desks and 300-350 square feet of leasable shell space.
- The Northern Transfer Center cost is \$2,677,990 to be funded: 28 percent by FTA; six percent by the state; zero percent by the local government and 66 percent is unfunded.
- Proposed timeline for the Transfer Center project: complete design, January 29, 2024; advertisement for bids, mid-February 2024; anticipated award, mid-April 2024; and estimated construction completion, approximately December 2025.

In conclusion, Mr. Scalia shared renditions of the aforementioned buildings and expansions. He also stated that he would be happy to provide additional clarification or answer any Board questions.

Chairman Shepperd opened the floor for Board comments and questions.

Mr. Roane asked when electric buses would actually be utilized by WATA.

In response, Mr. Scalia stated that he does not have any firm projections at this time. However, he noted that in transitioning to an electric fleet, the main concern is having the appropriate infrastructure. He also explained that it will likely be four years before the utilization of electric buses in the WATA fleet.

Mr. Roane asked if a sidewalk would be constructed connecting the new Northern Transfer Center to the adjacent YMCA.

Mr. Scalia responded that a sidewalk would be installed, making a connection between the two facilities.

Mr. Green asked if WATA is getting pressure or is considering incorporating fully automated bus routes like many of the larger cities in the country.

Mr. Scalia responded that not having been in this position very long, he has only attended the Virginia Transit Association Conference and there was no discussion on this matter. One of the biggest challenges, he explained, that WATA is facing is securing qualified bus drivers. Another challenge he identified was recovering from the pandemic and the inability to provide the same route frequency as pre-COVID due to a lack of drivers and modest gains.

Chairman Shepperd asked what the current ridership is for WATA.

Mr. Scalia stated that it has increased to near pre-pandemic levels, just shy of a million for the fiscal year.

Chairman Shepperd asked if there was a need for bus traffic on Route 17 in York County.

Mr. Scalia stated that they had hoped to run a demonstration route on Route 17 and received some funding for this expanded service; however, due primarily to the lack of drivers, WATA has been unable to do so. He stated that the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) has shifted some of the funding they were to provide for future years and he expects the demonstration route in the County to commence in the next year or two.

Chairman Shepperd thanked Mr. Scalia for his excellent presentation.

CITIZENS' COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Doug Holroyd, 103 Marina Point – I am sure some of you, or most of you have seen the recent articles in the *Daily Gazette* and on WTKR regarding Springfield Road. Residents in that area are still concerned with the overall traffic flow. Following February's presentation to this Board, the County Administrator agreed to submit a request to A.G.E. Consulting, Inc. to evaluate the feasibility of providing a temporary access road through Hawk's Nest. That report is now available. I have had the opportunity to both review it and comment on it. It is both accurate and thorough. It clearly points out the permitting requirements are the major issue in terms of the timeline for executing a temporary road and it pushes it to greater than three years

July 18, 2023

which I think we all agree is beyond the timeline of the Tranquility construction period. So I have to reluctantly agree with the County Administrator's conclusion. It does not make sense to go forward with that. The report concludes that an alternate path was or is available so that just brings us back to when we have large developments, and they do have impact on the community we need to be thinking. We need to be taking the time to ensure that we have looked at all viable alternatives. We missed it on this particular project, given that outcome the residents face up to five years of construction traffic along Springfield Road, and there is not much of an alternative to address that. That brings me back to a recommendation I had made in February and during my presentation to this Board I had suggested that it would be a very magnanimous gesture by the Board to provide a property tax rebate to the residents of Springfield Road for the past year. I think the trouble in the challenge that they are going through would make sense that we would reach out to them and try and offer some sort of a solution. In the absence of District One Supervisor tonight, I will ask you, Mr. Chairman, to consider taking that action forward. Thank you.

Ms. Elizabeth Wilkins, 228 Church Street – I am here on behalf of York Citizens for a Code of Ethics. There seems to be an ongoing lack of trust in our County government to do the right thing for the good of all York's residents, and we feel that adopting basic ethical guidelines for yourselves as a Board is essential and long overdue. I would first point to the Springfield Road debacle, the long-term residences there have endured almost two years of heavy construction traffic on their previously quiet road and are likely looking at several more years before the buildout of about 200 homes in the so-called Tranquility development is complete. The irony of the name is not lost on anyone and if you have driven that road on a recent weekday, you will know what I mean. These residents do not deserve the treatment they have received by the County in approving the project with inappropriate construction access. Showing no regard for the families who have lived there for generations. Promises by the County to somehow remediate the problem are still just promises. Special interests always seem to come first. The second urgent case in point is the plan to bring Princess Line Cruise ships to Yorktown. You may dismiss the opposition as being about a few residents not wanting to have our pretty view spoiled or wanting to keep Yorktown to ourselves, but it goes without saying that this is not Miami or Baltimore or Norfolk. This is a town of fewer than 300; people with a half-mile historic waterfront. More importantly, this is truly hallowed ground, the birthplace of our nation and I would argue that it belongs to all Americans. I am sure you would describe yourselves as patriotic and yet here you seem willing to sell historic Yorktown to the highest bidder. True, tourism can be a good thing for local economies, but there is a scale at which returns are diminished relative to costs and the massive Princess Cruise ship surely crossed that line. Furthermore, the residents of York have serious questions about the process behind the Princess deal, which was made without public knowledge or input, nor even a chance to ask you any questions. Again, special interests always seem to come first, and this has to change. So, how would a code of ethics benefit York County? Such codes promote a culture of transparency and accountability, and obligate each elected official to put the public good above personal or private interests. As you know, York County is the lone holdout among neighboring local governments. All of the surrounding municipalities have adopted codes of ethics. It is high time for York to do the same. Thank you.

Mr. Steven F. Kennedy, 104 Penn Drive – Topic tonight is your communications with the public, and a memo from Mr. Morgan dated June 22nd. Some undesirable language and rhetoric continues to creep into your communications on the whole Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) discussion. The word weaponized was being thrown around as if one request for FOIA was good or the other one was bad. Then we started to use words like demonize on the topic of surpluses. June 22nd is the memo to you from Mr. Morgan. Second to last paragraph, for the sake of time, "care should be taken not to demonize budget surpluses. Agencies and departments should be encouraged and rewarded for generating surpluses to create an incentive for staff to treat the public's money as if it were their own." I read it three times, gentlemen. Three times we are incentivizing public stewards and if I ask about what is going on with my money, I am a demon, bad policy. They say the optics are bad, whomever they is in election year. There are lots of theys out there. See, when you throw this out at the public square, you are throwing out the concept of reward with no risk. I would love to start a hedge fund where there is no downside and treating money as if it is your own as inaccurate thinking, thinking. You are simply a pass through organization. You are not a fiduciary. I am one. I have been one for 37 years. Because when you are wrong in the real world of capital allocation or in deficit years in this side of the dais, there is no negative consequences; on this side of the dais bad things happen. So what I really want to know is, is he advocating for maybe receiving a commission or an override or maybe a stocking stuffer at Christmas? When you are right, running three consecutive years of surplus, gentlemen, especially in the middle of a crushing recession, is bad policy. Please do not tell us we are demons for asking what you are doing

with our money. We are so far removed from the system of taxation sanctioned by our founders, and maybe been taught at the Antonin Scalia Law School. If I am not mistaken, today our local system of taxation and the magnitude of revenue, \$250 million, has transcended raising the funds required to support the necessary minimal functions of government. Minimal functions of government is the emphasis. Speaking of surplus, as I took my Chad Green pen out, we are going to challenge you again to support conservation. I wrote two checks. Thank Mrs. Kennedy, \$3,000 each to the Historic Virginia Land Conservancy, Conserve York County Foundation. We are also going to sponsor a debate. You are going to hear about that shortly. We intend to, we also have two media outlets that have agreed in principle to co-moderate that debate. Thank you, good night and you will see us soon.

Ms. Alyssa Adams, 111 Smith Street – Good evening. Thank you for the opportunity to speak this evening. Place making, which is a term the Board of Supervisors uses to describe making desirable destinations for a visit. At least that is what I think it means. My question, and all I have are questions, is what kind of place will Yorktown become with the advent of large cruise ships that are 16 stories tall, two and a half lengths of a football field, and that tower over the Coleman Bridge as it passes through to the proposed pier at the Watermen's Museum. Imagine a New York City block floating down the York River descending on our small waterfront beach that runs a half a mile from Comte De Grass Street to Watermen's Museum. It would be an amazing, spectacular sight. I have to agree with that, but after the sixth visit, the 10th visit, the 20th visit, the 30th visit, or the 60th visit, it may not seem so spectacular. It may not seem so amazing when you cannot find a place to park, a place to eat, a place to enjoy the beach, a place to enjoy the historic sites. Yorktown does not compare in size to the large industrial ports and major cities, and 2,000, 3,000 person ships would create many negative issues on our small infrastructure. The issue of pollution, not only from the ship, but from the tenders and the tour buses, particular matter from cruise lines have been proven to cause asthma in children at busy ports. Do we want to expose our visitors to that? And what about the issue of Highway 17 and the Coleman Bridge opening and closing on a frequent basis? How would that affect commuters? How would that affect businesses on either side of the bridge? What money would be lost in terms of delayed deliveries and not being able to get to work on time? And what about the issue of money? How many cruise ships would have to visit Yorktown on a regular basis to pay for infrastructure and maintenance on our roads and extra security? I am just making guesses here. I am just throwing out these numbers. I am, they are just educated guesses. I am guessing that between port fees, bus tours, small purchases like a T-shirt, that maybe it would be \$200,000, maybe \$250,000 total per visit, if that. Infrastructure needed might cost \$15 to \$40 million, and then how much to maintain per year. Again, these are just numbers that I am extrapolating on my own. As an example, it would take 60 ship visits at \$250,000 per visit to equal \$15 million. Yorktown is small; 3,000 person cruise ships are big. I am just, it just, I do not know, it baffles me. Princess is owned by Carnival, which is a company that makes billions. They were worth \$12 billion in 2022. They are publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Does Princess care about Yorktown? I think Princess cares about their shareholders. I do not know. Does York County want to sell at Yorktown for the price of a T-shirt from Colonial Williamsburg? Thank you.

Mr. Larry Raithe, 114 Church Street, immediately adjacent to York Hall – Good evening. I appreciate your time to address you this evening with some thoughts and concerns on the cruise lines. I am a retired naval officer. I have served on everything from destroyers to aircraft carriers and even though I was an aviator, I may not be an expert, but I know a fair amount about waterfront operations and the impacts and I am concerned why would we be doing this. How would we be doing this and you know not getting these questions answered. I have looked at the online, the information available. I see the County's checklist of what they are doing to make sure everything is going okay and they are dealing with FEMA, they are dealing with the Coast Guard, they are dealing with Norfolk on what the procedures are. No where do I see any questions about if or why. So, like many of these other folks, I am concerned why this process is so far along. There are other cruise lines that come in here that are small, 160 passengers, appropriate to the historical setting. What you just heard, why would someone go and put millions into a pier if they do not plan to use that pier on a regular basis, eventually completely inappropriate to the setting of Yorktown. It is all about money, gentlemen, and those of us in the Village are getting a little bit tired of potentially on our backs, getting money for the County, for Williamsburg, for Jamestown. My biggest concern at this point is interaction with you all. We have asked some administrative folks in the County to meet with us. They had all kinds of reasons they did not want to meet with us. Honestly, some of you we have asked and the answer was we have not heard from the ship, you know from the ship lines. I understand that, but what would be preferable is if you would meet with us, your constituency to understand our concerns, share what you know. I suspect, I just got to believe you know more than we do.

July 18, 2023

Share with us what you know, hear our concerns so that when you do talk with the ship lines, you have in your minds what our concerns are and you can express those to the people in the meetings. We do not feel like we are getting represented. We are just concerned about the impacts of it. You all do not live here. You do not take your morning walks down there with your dogs, your grandkids. You are not down there having family gatherings, like a lot of the folks that come to the beach here and we are just feeling like there is not a whole lot of interest in what matters to us. So my request is, if we contact you again and ask for some of your time to get together that you please meet with us, talk with us, hear what we have to say, write down what our concerns are so they can be taken forward. That list of actions that are ongoing, there is nowhere that says meet with villagers and hear what they say. It is all about the people that are going to do things because it is already going to happen. So I appreciate your time and just request that you would meet with us. Thanks.

Ms. Teri Hodson, 207 Nelson Street here in the Village – Again, I am here to talk again about the enormous cruise ships that are slated to come to historic Yorktown. I really do not know how we got from January finding out about it to here. We have been given no information, there has been zero transparency we have asked for, just answer some questions and cruise ships are already coming. You can sign on today. How did we get to that point without any citizens' input and zero transparency really. We have gotten no answers. I am all, again, I am all for business and tourism. This cruise ship mentioned earlier that comes here, they get off, they get on a bus and they go to Williamsburg. We do not see a penny. Now maybe there is dock fees and that type of thing, but why do we not take advantage of that? Why do we not have them go to the National Park and go to the Great Revolutionary War Museum and the Watermen's Museum, instead we are going, I do not know? It feels like the Watermen are selling their soul at that museum. I am really concerned about that. I have, I did not really have anything prepared. I am just really upset and I just wanted to be here and just tell my concerns again. No one. We asked the Board of Supervisors, we have asked the County Administrator, we have asked people in the County to please answer our questions. No one, it is like you are lock in step and you will not answer any of our questions and our concerns. And when you have no information or misinformation, that is where everything gets all haywire and if you could just calm us down by answering questions, that would be really, really great. I just wish you would listen and hear us and answer questions. That is all I have to say and I will be back again until we get answers. Thank you.

Mr. David Bowditch, 702 Main Street, The Hornsby House Inn – Most of you know me. I am here to let you know that I am really against this cruise ship idea. It is a bad idea all the way round. I do not need a lot of questions answered. On the face of it, it is a bad idea. Having 2,000 people get off at the pier, down the hill, for this trial balloon thing is also a bad idea. It is 40 to 60 buses lining up to take all these people to Williamsburg. The logistics, none of it makes sense in my mind and then they return that evening. The same thing is in reverse. The scale of it is not for our Village. It is a bad idea. I want to repeat that again and again. If this goes well this next summer, I understand you want to consider building up here for a large cruise ship to come through the bridge and park at the Watermen's Museum. That is equally a bad idea. This is Mayberry, not Miami so take that in mind and please try to stop this in its tracks. Thank you very much.

Ms. Barbara Luck, 139 Smith Street – Members of the Board, I respectfully disagree with your apparent belief that more is better and bigger is better. The Village of Yorktown is small and finite. Thanks to the protective band of National Park Service property that makes it so your efforts to entice and accommodate larger and larger crowds here may be well intentioned, but they are misguided by trying to please everybody. You are pleasing nobody. You cite insufficient restrooms for beachgoers as partial rationale for enlarging the Dock Master's Office, but perhaps the present limited number of restrooms puts a passive cap on the number of beachgoers which would improve visitor experience for the finite number who continue to come and whom we welcome. Thousands of Princess Cruise passengers periodically disembarking here can only contribute to overcrowding, disruption and infrastructural changes that will negatively alter the character of this tiny town forever. In three minutes, I can only focus on the ship's inappropriate scale and unwieldy numbers, but I can at least allude to some of the more sobering problems connected with Princess, including a history of environmental irresponsibility, air and water pollution generated by a virtually unregulated shipping industry, economic status, or even downturn at ports of call and potential irreparable damage to the 18th century shipwrecks lying offshore that have not yet been fully studied, and in some cases not even located. In conclusion, I refer to national nightly news coverage and posit that taxpayer money should not be poured into hosting behemoth cruise ships, but rather into increasing the County's climate change resiliency. Thank you.

Chairman Shepperd asked if the individual who recently wrote the letter to the Board of Supervisors with all of the questions was present and if so to come forward to the podium.

Ms. Alyssa Adams stated that she was the sender and as such came forward.

Chairman Shepperd stated that the letter was well written, and he appreciated the comments. However, he noted that there was a problem with the letter in that the hyperlinks did not work, and he and the other Board members were interested in receiving all of the referenced information. He then asked Ms. Adams to add the appropriate links to the letter and resend it to each Board member.

As there were no other speakers, Chairman Shepperd closed the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting.

Chairman Shepperd noted that he and likely other Supervisors would be addressing the cruise ship matter later in the meeting during the Board's Comments.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS AND REQUESTS

Mr. Richard E. Hill, County Attorney, had no report.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS AND REQUESTS

Mr. Mark Bellamy, Deputy County Administrator, stated that Fire Chief Kopczynski recently reminded him that we are currently in hurricane season, with August and September being the peak months, and asked that he relay the following suggestions to the public: develop an emergency plan for your family; visit the County's Emergency Management website for suggestions on how to prepare for such an event properly; and visit the County's property information webpage to determine the flood zone for your property. He also announced that the County is holding its first-ever job fair on July 26th at the Yorktown Library from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. He also offered his thanks to Chief Kopczynski and his staff for their successful completion of an emergency management drill held earlier today. In addition, he thanked all of the County staff that was involved in the recent July 4th celebration. Specifically, he thanked Brian Fuller, Assistant County Administrator; Kristi Olsen, Director of Economic Development and Tourism, and her staff for the terrific job they did to make this event such a tremendous success. Lastly, Mr. Bellamy announced that this is the last meeting Ms. Paula Hersh, Director of Public Affairs, would be in attendance as she would be retiring on the first of next month. He thanked her for her dedication to and hard work for the County.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE BOARD

Mr. Green asked the Library Director, Kevin Smith, to look into and report back to the Board about possible grants that other surrounding locality libraries have taken advantage of in order to obtain paddle boards, kayaks, and other outdoor equipment that can be checked out by library patrons. He also stated that he too knows little about the Princess Cruise Line's plans to dock at Yorktown. However, he pointed out that he will be present at the upcoming informational meetings on August 14th and 15th at the Watermen's Museum, at which time he will pose those questions that citizens have already forwarded to him. Mr. Green also noted that a prior commitment to the Chamber of Commerce had resulted in his absence at the last information meeting on this topic. He asked the Deputy County Administrator to be sure that the specifics of the upcoming cruise information meetings be well publicized on the County website and any other appropriate publicity venue.

Mr. Roane encouraged residents that are having mosquito issues on their property to visit the County webpage, where they can find a wealth of information on how to handle this pesky problem. Regarding the Princess Cruise ships coming to Yorktown, he stated that he has received many questions from residents, and he too has mathematical as well as logistical questions that need answering. He stated that the County is in conversations with Princess Cruise Lines, and there will also be a follow-up community presentation that should answer our questions. At that point, he added that it would be a great opportunity to initiate a portal on the County website to begin capturing the information as we receive it.

July 18, 2023

Mr. Bellamy remarked that he has already spoken with Kristi Olsen about initiating a portal on the County website for just that purpose and that this endeavor is already in the works.

Chairman Shepperd stated that he wanted to share with the public how he makes decisions as a Board member. He explained that the first time he learned about Princess Cruise Lines was when their representative set up a meeting, one-on-one, with some of the Supervisors. Moreover, he stated that neither he, nor the other Board members, to his knowledge, ever campaigned and solicited the cruise line to come to Yorktown. He pointed out that the County has and continues to welcome the tall ships as they are unique and fit well into the historical groundwork of Yorktown. Initially, he noted that the only information he received was that the cruise ship would enter the river and approximately 40 percent of the passengers would leave the ship temporarily for a day excursion. Then he learned that a dock costing approximately \$4 million to be connected to private property would be privately built and gifted to the County by the cruise line. Chairman Shepperd stated that a citizen had provided him with information about a large cruise line that also visits a small community on the coast of Maine. Unfortunately, he stated he was unable to reach anyone at this locality in order to obtain additional information on this matter. He pointed out that he had recently received an invitation to meet with a group of concerned citizens regarding this matter; however, he stated that he has no other information to present and, as such, is unable to answer any questions on this matter at this time. The letter regarding the cruise ship, which he referenced earlier in the meeting, was very informative; however, he looks forward to receiving it again with active links so that he may thoroughly review all of its contents. He stated that over the many years serving on the Board, he has learned not to state his position until he has thoroughly investigated a matter so that he may address it appropriately. He announced that he will be meeting with the cruise line representative shortly onboard one of their ships, at which time he will obtain more information and get some perspective on this matter. He stated that a public meeting on this matter will be held at which the business representative will present the information and answer questions. After this public meeting, he stated that he will be pleased to hear citizens' views on this matter based on the information everyone has received. He reported that he had sent a letter to one of Virginia's legislators asking for a place marker of approximately \$1 million to be placed in the state budget. He explained that this does not mean the cruise proposal is a done deal; however, he noted the importance of acquiring a place marker in such situations as should it move forward, the state would help fund whatever infrastructure we need to accommodate the cruise ships. Regarding water safety for children, Mr. Shepperd stated that when he served on the YMCA Board, he tried very hard to initiate a Learn To Swim program in the York County School Division, initially starting with Tabb Elementary School. He encouraged parents to provide their children with the opportunity to learn this important skill that might save their life.

RECESS

Chairman Shepperd called a brief recess at 7:23 p.m.; the meeting reconvened at 7:32 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was considered and **approved on a vote of 3:0**. A summary of actions taken is below.

Chairman Shepperd asked if a Board member would like to pull, ask for clarification or offer comments on any of the consent items. Since there were none, he called for a motion.

Mr. Green moved that the Consent Calendar be approved as submitted, Item Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14, respectively.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (3) Green, Roane, Shepperd
Nay: (0)

Item No. 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Thereupon, the following minutes were approved and resolutions adopted:

June 6, 2023, Regular Meeting

Item No. 4. REQUEST FOR REFUND OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES FROM DISABLED VETERANS. Resolution R23-78.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TAX REFUNDS TO INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR REAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PURSUANT TO CODE OF VIRGINIA § 58.1-3219.5, TAX RELIEF FOR DISABLED VETERANS, FOR THE TAX YEARS 2021-2022

Item No. 5. REQUEST FOR REFUND OF PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES – T.H.P. LLC. Resolution No. 23-79

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A TAX REFUND TO T.H.P. LLC FOR THE TAX YEARS 2021-2022

Item No. 6. REIMBURSEMENT FROM BOND PROCEEDS FOR EXPENDITURES MADE OR TO BE MADE IN CONNECTION WITH COUNTY PROJECTS. Resolution No. R23-88

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE COUNTY'S INTENT TO REIMBURSE ITSELF FROM THE PROCEEDS OF ONE OR MORE TAX-EXEMPT FINANCINGS FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURES MADE AND/OR TO BE MADE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPPING OF CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS APPROVED IN THE ADOPTED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

Item No. 7. REIMBURSEMENT FROM BOND PROCEEDS FOR EXPENDITURES MADE OR TO BE MADE IN CONNECTION WITH SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECTS. Resolution No. R23-89.

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE COUNTY'S INTENT TO REIMBURSE ITSELF FROM THE PROCEEDS OF ONE OR MORE TAX-EXEMPT FINANCINGS FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURES MADE AND/OR TO BE MADE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPPING OF CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR SCHOOL PROJECTS

Item No. 8. COMMENDATION OF A RETIRING EMPLOYEE. Resolution No. R23-92.

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND MOLLIE DEVANE, PROGRAM MANAGER III WITH JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM COUNTY SERVICE

Item No. 9. COMMENDATION OF A RETIRING EMPLOYEE. Resolution No. R23-93.

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND ANN H. THOMAS, COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM COUNTY SERVICE

Item No. 10. ANNUAL TERM CONTRACTS – PUMP AND HAUL SERVICES. Resolution No. R23-94.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS TO ADVANCED SEPTIC AND SEWER INC., EAST COAST INFRASTRUCTURE INC., AND TIDEWATER MARINE INTERNATIONAL INC., FOR PUMP AND HAUL SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

Item No. 11. ANNUAL TERM CONTRACTS – PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECTS. Resolution No. R23-96.

July 18, 2023

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACTS TO WILSON ENGINEERS LLC, BOWMAN CONSULTING GROUP LTD., CLARK NEXSEN INC., PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC., AND RINKER DESIGN ASSOCIATES, PC FOR VARIOUS ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECTS AS MAY BE REQUIRED

Item No. 12. AGREEMENT FOR DISASTER DEBRIS REMOVAL SERVICES. Resolution No. R23-104.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR DISASTER DEBRIS REMOVAL, REDUCTION, AND DISPOSAL SERVICES WITH THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY

Item No. 13. FY2024 ARPA LAW ENFORCEMENT EQUIPMENT GRANT FUNDING. Resolution No. R23-102.

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDING OF \$220,000 FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT LAW ENFORCEMENT EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Item No. 14. DESIGN AND PERMITTING OF NEW QUARTER PARK KAYAK LAUNCH. Resolution No. R23-98

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH LEGACY ENGINEERING, PC FOR THE DESIGN AND PERMITTING OF THE NEW QUARTER PARK KAYAK LAUNCH

NEW BUSINESS

Item No. 15. CONTRACT FOR CHILLED PONDS. Resolution No. R23-99

The matter was considered and **approved on a vote of 3:0.** A summary of the proceeding is below.

Mr. Brian Fuller, Assistant County Administrator, stated that a business named Chilled Ponds of Chesapeake recently purchased the Iceplex in Kiln Creek. The new owners have indicated that they will continue our past relationship whereby the County can provide instructional classes at the facility. However, he noted that with the new, proposed contract the County will be able to offer free ice time for citizens twice a week for an hour and a half and also a once-a-month Learn to Play Hockey program. Mr. Fuller stated that it is a much better agreement than the County had with Iceplex and more favorable monetarily.

Mr. Roane asked how many citizens utilized the Iceplex under the old agreement, and since the new owner also owns the Hampton Roads Admirals hockey team, he asked if the team would utilize the rink for practice.

In response, Mr. Fuller stated that the County only used the Iceplex for instructional programs and a Learn To Skate program once or twice during the season. Only a nominal number of citizens utilized the ice rink. He added that the new owner plans to make major renovations to the structure in order to modernize the facility. He pointed out that the rink will rarely be used for the Admirals' practice but rather would be used for tournaments.

Chairman Shepperd reiterated that the new owner, under the proposed contract, will open the facility weekly for skating sessions and two times per week for an hour and a half of open skating.

Mr. Green then moved the adoption of proposed Resolution R23-99.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH CHILLED PONDS AT YORKTOWN, LLC, A VIRGINIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (3) Roane, Green and Shepperd
Nay: (0)

Item No. 16. ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR WHITES FAULKER SANITARY SEWER PROJECT. Resolution No. R23-101

The matter was considered and **approved on a vote of 3:0**. A summary of the proceeding is below.

Mr. Robert Krieger, Director of Public Works, explained that this is the next phase of the Whites Faulker Sanitary Sewer Project. He stated that the design work for this project will cost slightly over \$1 million, which upon completion, will provide sanitary sewer to approximately 100 residences and 40 businesses that are located between Dodd RV to slightly past the Tractor Supply Company on Route 17. The plan, he added, is to complete this project in sections and hopefully by way of gravity sewer as opposed to any use of grinder pumps. He stated that after speaking with many of the affected homeowners and business owners, everyone appears to be very excited about the project. He pointed out that this project is included in the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and will be funded by the Internal Services Fund, composed of sewer connection fees and bi-monthly billing.

Mr. Bellamy added that this project is so important because it protects the Newport News Watershed.

Mr. Roane asked what percentage of the residences and businesses the County can expect to connect to the new sewer.

Mr. Krieger stated that the proposed ordinance outlines when customers are mandated to connect; however, he pointed out that this will lead to more development in the area since public sewer will now be available.

Mr. Green asked about the cost of the current connection fee.

Mr. Krieger responded that it is \$3,700 for residences but for a business it is dependent upon the size of the water meter.

Chairman Shepperd stressed that in such a case the customers, whether residential or commercial, are mandated to hook up to the sewer. He asked if vacant lot property owners will have to pay to hook up immediately and when the project will commence.

Mr. Krieger explained that vacant lot owners do not have to pay for the tap fee and connection until the property is developed. The approval of the proposed resolution will kick off the design phase which will take us to the bid phase. He stated that the design phase will likely take 12 to 15 months.

Mr. Shepperd stated that if the County does this again, we should notify affected businesses and residents that they can pay their tap fee in advance, especially since they will still have to pay to run the connection from the tap to the home/business and to address any current septic system properly. In addition, he explained that the landowner can enter a contract to pay the sewer tap fee over time, and should the fee be elevated, those who have purchased one or are in a contract for a tap are able to remain at the lower price.

Mr. Krieger stated that he will have letters including this important information mailed out to all of the landowners that will be impacted by this project.

Mr. Roane then moved the adoption of Resolution R23-101.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DESIGN PHASES AND BIDDING PHASE WITH BROWN AND CALDWELL, FOR WHITES FAULKNER SANITARY SEWER PROJECT

On roll call the vote was:

July 18, 2023

Yea: (3) Green, Roane, Shepperd
Nay: (0)

Item No. 17. VIRGINIA 9-1-1 SERVICES BOARD PSAP CONSOLIDATION GRANTS FUNDS.
Resolution No. R23-103

The matter was considered and **approved on a vote of 3:0**. A summary of the proceeding is below.

Mr. Terry Hall, Director of Emergency Communications, stated that on February 22, 2023, when James City County came to us regarding consolidating with our 911 service, there was much discussion among and presentations provided to this Board. He added that the Board's approval of this consolidation became effective on July 17th, allowing the County to solicit the Virginia E911 Services Board for \$1 million to help with the cost of consolidation. He explained that these funds would be used to pay for the required technology, bricks and mortar, personnel, and other necessary items.

Mr. Roane then moved the adoption of Resolution R23-103.

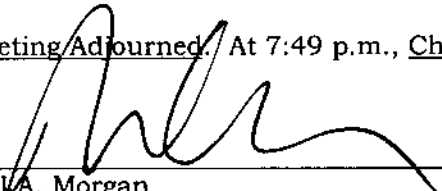
A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDING OF \$1,000,000 IN THE COUNTY GRANT FUND FROM THE VIRGINIA 9-1-1 SERVICES BOARD FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT (PSAP) CONSOLIDATION PROJECT WITH JAMES CITY COUNTY

On roll call the vote was:

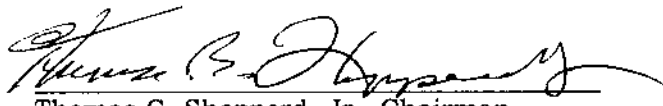
Yea: (3) Roane, Green, Shepperd
Nay: (0)

CLOSED MEETING - None.

Meeting Adjourned. At 7:49 p.m., Chairman Shepperd declared the meeting adjourned sine die.



Neil A. Morgan
County Administrator



Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr., Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors