

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON Monday, July 15, 2013, AT 6:00 p.m. IN THE Second Floor Conference Room.

THE PROPOSED AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:

Closed session as provided by Section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR

BY Paige Barfield

**SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM – July 15, 2013**

Council met in special session on this date with the following members present: Mr. Huja, Ms. Smith, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris.

On motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Szakos, Council voted, (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris; Noes: None), to meet in closed session for (1) discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for appointment to City boards and commissions, and (2) a performance review of the City Manager, as authorized by Va. Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (1).

On motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Szakos, Council certified by the following vote (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris; Noes: None), that to the best of each Council Member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered in the closed session.

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS – July 15, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council met in regular session on this date with the following members present: Ms. Smith, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris.

**AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Smith welcomed the Charlottesville Fire Department Youth Mentor Program. Mr. Cam'ron Douglas introduced himself to Council and thanked the Charlottesville Fire Department and Principal Johnson of Buford Middle School for hosting the program.

Ms. Galvin recognized the *Computers4Kids* program for their youth entrepreneur summer program and their participants.

Mr. Huja announced the first Council meeting in August has been cancelled.

Ms. Smith recognized Mr. Alex Zan and his "Yo Let It Go" campaign, which encourages community members to avoid confrontations. He thanked City staff and members of the community for their support. He announced the "All People Matter" think shop on Thursday, July 18. Contact Mr. Zan at 804-321-3636 if you want a "Yo Let It Go" poster in your business.

Ms. Smith announced the Racial Disparities in the Juvenile Justice System forums during the month of July.

Ms. Smith announced the Freedom Read-a-thon at the Jefferson School City Center in honor of Nelson Mandela, starting at 10:00 a.m. this Thursday.

Ms. Szakos wished a happy Ramadan to the Muslim community. Also, she was invited to the White House to be recognized for Charlottesville's healthy campaign initiatives. The City Market Work Session is Thursday, July 18 from 6-8pm to discuss proposals for the long-term plans for the City Market. The Taste of Ghana is next Thursday at Burley Middle School. Also, Ladies' Night is on Friday, July 26 as part of the African American festival, and the day-long festival will take place the following Saturday at Washington Park.

Ms. Szakos said July 18 is Nelson Mandela's birthday. In addition to the Read-a-thon, Mr. Mandela has asked people to consciously do one thing that makes the world a better place.

Ms. Szakos invited Rev. Bates to announce the Back to School Event on August 17 at the nTelos Wireless Pavilion.

Mr. Norris announced Westhaven Community Day on Saturday, August 3. Also, Belmont in the Park takes place Saturday July 20 from 4-8pm. Call 970-3503 for more information.

Ms. Galvin announced the Community Meeting and Dinner this Wednesday regarding the Strategic Investment Area at the Jefferson School City Center. Call 249-8294 if you need transportation to the meeting. Also, the City will have two cooling centers open this week at the Herman Key Center and Tonsler Park.

On motion by Mr. Norris, seconded by Ms. Smith, the following appointments were made to Boards and Commissions: to the CRHA, Latita Talbert; to the Sister City Commission, Anne Evans. (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja; Noes: None.)

Mr. Huja announced item three on the regular agenda regarding school funding has been withdrawn for consideration.

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Paul Long, 1410 Grady Ave., said he read recent coverage in the Daily Progress regarding the Yellow Cab Company's exclusive rights to the Amtrak station. This is a private business, and this should not be permitted. A similar agreement has been with the Airport, and

he objected because it is a joint operation of the City and County, which is unfair. Also when it snows, Yellow Cab doubles its fares, which is discriminatory against people who do not have their own means of transportation. It is unfair for cab companies to have monopolies; Charlottesville needs a regulatory entity to regulate taxi cab services. Council should intervene.

Mr. Joshua Hunt, co-owner at Beer Run, thanked Council for their receptiveness to their concerns about the Meade Avenue Trail Project. The businesses in this shopping center depend on parking for their livelihood. He thanked VDOT for agreeing to delay construction until the spring.

Mr. John Woodruff, co-owner at Beer Run, thanked staff for their time on the Woolen Mills Shopping Center parking situation. He said construction of the trail on the west side of Meade Avenue would have allowed a greater number of parking spaces to remain on the east side of the street.

Ms. Nancy Carpenter, 727 Denali Way, said make sure Sen. Kaine and Sen. Warner know how important the low income housing tax credit is. This is a pivotal resource for affordable housing.

Ms. Iona Bryant and Mr. Tamaurice Washington, said they rallied in support of Trayvon Martin. They said they disagreed with the verdict and believe justice was not served.

Ms. Colette Hall, 101 Robertson Ln., said City schools have faced shortfalls too often in the past two years. She said the school's superintendent is paid an excessive salary, and the schools should not vote an increase in pay when Title I funding is in jeopardy.

Mr. Brandon Collins, Fairway Ave., speaking on behalf of PHAR, said they received an award from the Wayside Center in Nelson County with the annual People's History Award. He said public housing resident's voices have been marginalized in the past, but they make positive impacts on the community, and he is proud of this award. He encouraged participation in the Racial Disparity forums in the coming weeks.

Ms. Dawn Woodford, City resident, said the City is very concerned with planting new trees, but her neighborhood in the Fifeville area is engulfed with kudzu. This destroys trees that are planted within three years. She asked the City to do something to curb the growth of the kudzu.

Mr. Tracey Saxon, local hip hop artist and resident of Charlottesville, said the kids who held the rally in support of Trayvon are very courageous. The racial profiling that goes on nationwide needs to stop, and it is also a problem here in Charlottesville.

Ms. Joy Johnson, 802 Hardy Dr., said the Trayvon Martin case shows that discrimination is still rampant. She said there is discrimination in hiring practices as well. Westhaven Community Day is August 3 from 10am-1pm, with free sports physicals, horseback riding, dunking booths, and more activities.

Mr. Melvin Grady, Hartman's Mill Rd., said the not guilty verdict in the Trayvon Martin case scared him greatly because it says that anyone can be attacked without provocation, and this is a dangerous message.

## **COUNCIL RESPONSES TO MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Szakos said she was at the vigil the youth organized yesterday. She was surprised by the verdict in the Trayvon case. She said apparently it is legal in the state of Florida for someone to kill a young man who was just walking by. We need to reexamine the laws of our country. A damaging message has been sent to the youth of the African American community, and we need to take whatever measures we can to reform laws and ensure this does not happen again.

Mr. Norris commended PHAR for their well-deserved award. He said he supports communicating our support for the low income housing funding to our Senators. Mr. Huja said he will issue a letter.

Ms. Smith thanked Mr. Long for speaking on the issue of regulating the taxi companies and asked about the legality of doing so. Mr. Brown said we have an ordinance that does provide some oversight in the permitting of taxi cab companies, and we will examine what more we can do. She thanked the staff for their hard work on the Meade Avenue Trail. She said she is concerned about invasive kudzu as well. This has been a tough summer because of the rain we have been getting. She said Parks and Recreation is taking this issue seriously. Mr. Huja asked staff to report back on this matter.

Ms. Galvin said the Trayvon Martin situation is a tragic one, and she shared quotes about the incident. Charlottesville can make sure its systems are fair and every neighborhood is healthy, beautiful, and open to all.

### **CONSENT AGENDA\* (Items removed from the consent agenda will be considered at the end of the regular agenda.)**

- a. Minutes for July 1**
- b. APPROPRIATION: Sidewalk Construction Funds - Appropriate \$50,000 from State Revenue Sharing & Transfer \$50,000 within Capital Improvement Program (2nd reading)**
- c. APPROPRIATION: Revenue Sharing Program for Bridge Rehabilitation - \$155,000 (2nd reading)**
- d. APPROPRIATION: Landscaping, Public Lecture Series and Final Intersection Configuration for McIntire Road Extended - Virginia Department of Transportation Funds - \$100,030 (2nd reading)**

- e. **APPROPRIATION: Tonsler Park Basketball Lighting Replacement Grant - \$100,000 (2nd reading)**
- f. **APPROPRIATION: Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for the City of Promise - \$97,500 (carried)**
- g. **RESOLUTION: Allocation of \$309,221.41 in Charlottesville Housing Fund Dollars for HOME Matching Funds, AHIP Initiatives, and Paint Program**
- h. **RESOLUTION: Jefferson School Amendment to Comprehensive Signage Plan at 233 4th Street NW**
- i. **ORDINANCE: West Main Street Density Zoning Ordinance (2nd reading)**
- j. **ORDINANCE: Franchise Agreement with Sprint (carried)**
- k. **ORDINANCE: Permit Parking Zone Ordinance Update (carried)**

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Galvin, the consent agenda was approved. (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja; Noes: None.)

**PUBLIC HEARING / ORDINANCE:** Street Closing - Parker Place (Unaccepted)  
(carried)

Street Closing - Parker Place

Mr. Brown presented to Council. Staff's recommendation is to close the platted cul-de-sac on the west side of Parker Place.

Ms. Smith asked who owned that area. Mr. Brown said it is currently a right-of-way property.

On motion by Mr. Huja, the public hearing was opened. Having no speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Szakos moved the ordinance; Ms. Smith seconded. The ordinance carried for a second reading.

**REPORT: Meade Avenue Trail Project**Meade Avenue Trail Project

Mr. Tolbert presented to Council. He reviewed the history of the City Walk project and gave an overview of current hurdles, including impact on businesses along Meade Avenue. He reviewed the three options staff has explored. He reviewed staff recommendations.

Ms. Galvin asked how much the grant was over-bid. She asked why Water Street extended was not already designed with parking on it. Mr. Tolbert said the developer has more information, but it was not a requirement for the project.

Ms. Galvin asked about tracking numbers. She asked if the new trail will extend to Chesapeake. Mr. Engel said it will.

Mr. Norris asked how many parking spaces were lost with the construction of City Walk. He said the added 17 spaces on City Walk are not really new; they are simply replacing spaces that have been lost, including the illegal spaces. Ms. Smith said exploring bus services provides a logical link to get down there.

Mr. Huja asked if it is possible to make the illegal parking spaces legal. Mr. Tolbert said that is not a possibility because this is a travel lane.

Council voiced their support for the direction of the project.

**RESOLUTION: Section 3 Policy Update**Section 3 Policy Update

Ms. Tierra Howard presented to Council.

Mr. Norris said he agreed with the expansion of the program. He asked if there are ways to do more with government funds and private sector projects. He said staff should keep this as part of their thinking and planning.

Ms. Szakos said she hopes this will not limit the number of developers who are willing to add significant affordable housing to their projects to utilize this fund. The benefits hopefully outweigh this possible downside, but she asked staff to keep an eye out for this.

Ms. Smith asked for a scenario of how this would work. Ms. Howard gave an example of when this policy would be in effect.

Ms. Galvin said this is not just about nonprofits and confirmed this would still apply to for-profit firms.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Mr. Norris, the resolution was approved. (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja; Noes: None.)

**RESOLUTION:** Housing Rehabilitation Loan to Value Policy

Ms. McHugh presented to Council on a policy regarding underwriting criteria for our housing rehabilitation program. She described current policies and practices.

Mr. Norris said there were written comments submitted to AHIP, but they were not received by Council. He asked if this would only apply to projects going forward. Ms. McHugh confirmed that this would only apply to new funding.

Mr. Norris asked if this proposal runs the risk of excluding residents who are not in immediate danger of health risks. Ms. Szakos said their homes still have value, so this would not exclude them.

On motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Szakos, the resolution passed. (Ayes: Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja; Noes: Mr. Norris.)

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Huja announced that the City Manager is now going to work closely with the Housing Authority to improve their operations as his stretch objective. This will be on consent agenda in August.

Ms. Smith asked for a report on the Promise Neighborhood progress at a future meeting.

**MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Brandon Collins thanked Mr. Jones for attending the last PHAR Board meeting. He gave an update on PHAR's current activities and highlighted issues with the community centers and playgrounds at the housing centers. He requested maintenance assessment in public housing units.

Ms. Joy Johnson said in an election year, which candidate will be sensitive and able to be in the community working with folks, particularly in the low wealth communities. She thanked Mr. Jones for committing to attending the next six months of PHAR meetings. She said if the attitude of the CRHA does not change about working with PHAR, they will be held accountable, and it will not look good for the City. Customer service needs to be improved.

The meeting was adjourned.