

## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON Monday, October 18, 2010, AT 5:00 p.m. IN THE Basement Conference Room.

THE PROPOSED AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:

Planning Commission Interviews

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR

BY Paige Barfield

### **BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM – October 18, 2010**

Council met on this date to interview candidates for Planning Commission with the following members present: Ms. Edwards, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos.

### **COUNCIL CHAMBER – October 18, 2010**

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

### **AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS**

Mr. Tony Liu, a chapter participant in The First Tee of Charlottesville, was recognized for his selection to participate in the Home Care & Hospice First Tee Open. Mr. Liu thanked the First Tee program for giving him this opportunity. Mr. Norris also thanked Farmington for their strong support of the program. Mr. Wayne Hall accepted on behalf of Farmington's board of directors. He congratulated Mr. Liu.

Mr. Norris announced GED and Lifelong Learning Week. Ms. Susan Erno was present to accept the proclamation, representing the Adult Learning Center. She thanked Council for their support.

Mr. Norris announced that Charlottesville received recognition at the VML Green Government Challenge for excellent environmental policies. He presented the award to Mr. Aubrey Watts, who said it was thanks to Council's leadership that the city received this recognition. Mr. Huja congratulated the city on received a Gold rating this year and said we should strive for platinum next year.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Szakos announced a vigil Wednesday night on the Rotunda steps at 7:00 p.m. to commemorate young people who have taken their lives as a result of bullying because of their sexual orientation.

Mr. Norris announced the Bike Charlottesville meeting at CitySpace on the Downtown Mall. Council will hear a presentation from SVBC's fact-finding trip to Davis, California to learn how to become more bike-friendly.

The Legal Aid Justice Center will give an important presentation on school dropouts Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Paramount.

Absentee voting has begun for the November election. The last date to request an absentee ballot by mail is October 26<sup>th</sup>. For more information, visit the registrar's office in the City Hall Annex.

Ms. Edwards said the Thomas Jefferson TJ Health District will present a health summit on infant mortality rate Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup> in CitySpace. Register at the Parks and Recreation department, or go online: [recservices@charlottesville.org](mailto:recservices@charlottesville.org).

Mr. Norris announced a brief closed session will take place at the conclusion of the meeting to discuss the process for conducting City Manager interviews. Within the next fifteen days, Council will conduct interviews at a confidential time and location.

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Jim Nix, 2402 Kerry Ln., said future decisions regarding volume should be based on actual demand, not projections. By treating dredging as a multipurpose activity separate from the water plan, the cost could be better distributed. He urged Council to find a compromise quickly to take advantage of the current contracting environment.

Ms. Colette Hall, 101 Robertson Ln., requested that agenda item three regarding neighborhood CIP funds be removed from the agenda until the City Manager meets on October 21<sup>st</sup> with the neighborhood associations. The city needs to include neighborhoods at the beginning of the process.

Ms. Liz Palmer, 2958 Meechum Banks Dr., said a comment from a citizen was misinterpreted to mean Rivanna's study did not include small bites dredging. The HDR consultant said he did not believe incremental dredging was more economical.

Ms. Rebecca Quinn, 104 4<sup>th</sup> St. NE, said facts should not be considered unchanging. Dam supporters treat the 50-year projected water use as a constant. The demand analysis should be redone now that there are ten more years of data.

Mr. Bob Fenwick, 901 E. Jefferson St., asked Council who would bear the cost of building a new dam. The Albemarle County insert claims it will not cost the citizens anything. He said his water bill has increased 250% per gallon since 2007. Conservation is important. The spillway at Ragged Mountain should be repaired, then dredging should

come first. Citizens for a Sustainable Water Supply Plan have not said we will never need a new dam, but first things first.

Mr. Richard Statman, 116 Olinda Dr., thanked Council for their hard work in helping develop a water plan with Albemarle County that includes conservation, a phased approach, and respect for the natural environment. He said he is concerned about the insert Albemarle County is mailing out because it belies a sense of cooperation, does not reference anything, and is full of misinformation and selective editing. It advances doubt and division. He urged Council to ask for an apology and retraction of this insert.

Mr. David Repass, 227 E. Jefferson St., said the September 20<sup>th</sup> Council meeting discussion of the water supply plan was a beautiful example of what legislative process should look like. He encouraged Council to continue working together.

Ms. DeDe Smith, 2652 Jefferson Park Cir., said Council should go to a GED graduation for an amazing experience. She supports the discussion of a Tree Commission. It could serve an auxiliary purpose and be supportive of the Parks and Recreation department and NDS. It does not have to have a lot of power. She wants to see liaisons from community groups and nonprofit groups participate to enhance effectiveness and the collective intelligence of the group.

Mr. Bill Emory, 1604 E. Market St., referenced the 1975 Street Tree Guideline and said he supports discussion about the Tree Commission. He thanked Parks and Recreation, NDS, Public Works, the IT Department, and the Department of Forestry for putting together the Urban Forestry Management Plan approved in June of 2009. These plans are horses without a rider. We need someone willing to invest the time and energy to follow up on actions listed in the plan. We need public buy in and participation.

Mr. Jay Willer, City of Charlottesville, commended Council for asking the ASAP group to present but said they should listen carefully and critically. Be careful of the phrase “biological capacity”, which says we should somehow limit our impact on the environment to Charlottesville. That is an artificial standard. We cannot live solely on one piece of land.

Mr. Kevin Lynch, 609 Locust Ave., said the insert floated by the County service board and board of supervisors contains a lot of misinformation. This is not about replacing or repairing existing infrastructure. There are a lot of projects being billed as replacement projects but are instead large expansions. It is essential that the city looks into the claim that the Moorman’s River Pipeline is old and needs to be replaced.

## COUNCIL RESPONSES TO MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

Mr. Huja said he agrees with Ms. Hall about postponing the CIP report until the neighborhoods have had the opportunity to discuss it at their meetings. He thanked Mr. Emory for his presentation and said he supports the Tree Planning Commission.

Ms. Szakos said she came into the water supply discussion on September 20th with something she thought Council could compromise on, but after their discussion, they formed a plan, which she now supports. We have more compromise to do at some point perhaps, but Council's unity is particularly important, especially in the face of something like the county's proposed flier. She said she hopes that all parties will come into this process with open minds and be willing to work together.

Ms. Edwards said she agrees with Ms. Hall in deferring item three.

Mr. Norris said Council will pull item three from the agenda and asked Mr. Watts to follow up with staff. He thanked everyone for speaking on the water supply issue and said he is troubled by misinformation in the flyer. He hopes we can all agree on the basic facts and come to a good resolution.

Mr. Norris asked Council to re-nominate Jason Pearson for the Planning Commission. On motion by Mr. Huja, seconded by Ms. Szakos, the motion passed unanimously. (Ayes: Ms. Edwards, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja. Noes: None.) Mr. Norris said Council conducted Planning Commission interviews before the meeting and will discuss candidates in closed session at the conclusion of the regular Council meeting.

## CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Edwards, the following consent agenda items were approved (Ayes: Ms. Edwards, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja. Noes: None.)

- a. Minutes of October 4
- b. APPROPRIATION: \$247,036 – Appropriation of CACVB Fund Balance (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- c. APPROPRIATION: \$500,000 – 2010 Fast Charging Electric Vehicle Research and Development Project (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- d. APPROPRIATION: \$182,500 – Charlottesville/Albemarle Adult Drug Treatment Court Grant Award (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- e. APPROPRIATION: \$2,992.94 – Insurance Reimbursement - Repair of

- f. APPROPRIATION: Damaged City Vehicle (carried over)  
\$19,953 – State Criminal Alien Assistance Program  
(SCAAP) Grant for 2010-H3405-VA-AP (carried over)
- g. APPROPRIATION: \$376.73 – State Assistance for Spay and Neuter  
Program at SPCA
- h. RESOLUTION: Acceptance of Streets and Public Improvements in  
Cherry Hill PUD
- i. ORDINANCE: Text Amendments for Definitions and Penalties Related  
to the Historic Conservation District (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- j. ORDINANCE: Martha Jefferson Historic Conservation District  
(2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- k. ORDINANCE: Electrical Permit for Electric/Plug-In Vehicular Charger  
(EV Charger) (carried over)

**REPORT/RESOLUTION: JEFFERSON SCHOOL LETTER OF INTENT**

Mr. Aubrey Watts presented to Council. There is a letter of intent from the city indicating we will move forward with a lease for the Carver Recreation Center. This is not a detailed lease that would require further action by Council at a later date. It does help them complete the package in order to help them get the necessary commercial loan. Mr. Watts reviewed the terms and provisions of the lease and asked Council to authorize the City Manager to proceed with forwarding this document to the appropriate person.

On motion by Mr. Huja, seconded by Ms. Edwards, Council voted to approve the letter of intent. (Ayes: Ms. Edwards, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja. Noes: None.) Mr. Norris thanked the Jefferson School partners for keeping this project moving forward.

**REPORT: TREE COMMISSION**

Mr. Jim Tolbert reported on what a Tree Commission might do, and if Council decides they want to pursue forming the commission, staff will put together a proposal for a later meeting. He outlined best practices and the powers of a commission. Staff had a draft ordinance in 2005 that included a beautification committee, but that did not pass at the planning commission.

Ms. Szakos said Council would want to know about the budgetary impact. Mr. Huja said he supports a tree commission and has been trying to do this for the last fifteen years. He asked that specimen trees be addressed and said we should have someone

following up on all these issues and recommendations. He said we should be able to find volunteers to do this.

Mr. Norris said Ms. Smith's suggestion of having the commission work with existing nonprofit groups is an excellent idea.

Ms. Edwards said staff should consult with tree steward organizations. This is an opportunity to increase appreciation for trees in an urban environment, and we should also see how we can connect schools early in this process.

Mr. Huja said education is important.

### **REPORT: CHRA DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Randy Bickers and Ms. Amy Kilroy presented to Council. Mr. Bickers discussed steps they have taken so far with the master planning process, and outlined future steps. He gave an overview of existing neighborhoods and an overview of the master plan process, including CHRA redevelopment objectives, the adoption of a resident bill of rights, and resident and youth involvement. He gave an overview of redevelopment committee discussions, much of which was focused on the appropriate level of density. The final master plan is a living document. There were over 100 public meetings during the master planning process. He discussed plans for resident services, and issues they want to keep in the forefront during this process.

Ms. Kilroy presented on consultants' design scenarios for sites at Levy Avenue, Crescent Halls, Westhaven, a high density scenario for Westhaven, South 1<sup>st</sup> Street, a high density scenario for South 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Street SE, a high density scenario for 6<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Michie Drive, Madison Avenue, and Riverside Avenue. She discussed next steps and future planning, including researching funding sources and development partners.

Ms. Szakos asked about incorporating the planning district commission and their rather large planning grant for sustainable communities. We will be part of the implementation of that grant and will be working with them to see where we can plug into the resources they have.

Mr. Huja said he hopes CRHA will talk to the property owners soon for properties we do not already own.

Ms. Edwards asked what CRHA is hoping for during this whole process, conceptually. Mr. Bickers said this process is about changing lives for Charlottesville residents and improving the connection they feel to the city as a whole. It's also about changing the look of our housing, adding community space so we can bring additional programming into our sites, and changing the economic status of residents from within by adding retail space to our sites.

Mr. Norris said resident involvement is one of the most exciting aspects of this whole plan and is better than top-down tactics other cities have taken. He said he is proud of the Resident Bill of Rights. He expressed concern for over-concentrating low income housing. Mr. Bickers said taking tax credit units off the market changes financing. Mr. Norris said this is multi-year process and is not going to happen overnight. Many residents will not see changes for five to ten years. We should be sure we are maintaining existing infrastructure in the meantime. Mr. Bickers said we are getting capital fund dollars through HUD, and we remain committed to maintaining the sites and addressing energy efficiency issues.

Mr. Huja said we should continue to involve residents in the decision making process.

Mr. Norris says he appreciates continually looking for ways to involve the city. Please reach out and continue to keep Council involved. Mr. Bickers said he will present to Council again within the next couple of months. The next steps include working on a memorandum of understanding. CRHA views the city as a key partner.

#### **REPORT: UPDATE ON ASAP'S CITY-FUNDED RESEARCH FINDINGS**

Mr. Jack Marshall, president of ASAP, presented to Council. He summarized results of the first phase of their OSPS project, which will help the community find our right size. This is the first project of its kind in the nation. It examines the relationship between Charlottesville and Albemarle's growing population and their surrounding environment. He discussed the impact of population growth on forest cover and stream health, groundwater ecosystem services, ecological footprint, air quality, and ecosystems services. This study considers Charlottesville and Albemarle as one community. The study shows that we are depleting the resources of our area faster than they can be regenerated. This is based on no importing or exporting of biological products. In the last 35 years, our region has more than doubled its population. Our lifestyle relies on imports whose production degrades environments elsewhere.

Mr. Huja asked what the next steps in the study are. Mr. Marshall said ASAP will help Charlottesville and Albemarle examine economic costs of growth. They will review the surveys that have been undertaken asking residents over the last 25 years how they view issues related to growth and will use a database of more than 400 communities of varying sizes to interpret resident's satisfaction in communities and how they are dealt with.

Ms. Szakos said she finds a lot of the data valuable, but she questioned how it was possible to limit the size of the community and asked where people were supposed to go to live. Philosophically, this encourages sprawl, as it is against concentrating population in urban areas instead of limiting sprawl and preserving open space. Mr. Marshall said ASAP believes that smart growth and reducing sprawl is necessary but not sufficient.

You have to decide the right population for our community. Any community that has zoning already has a theoretical cap on growth. Ms. Szakos asked if this drives up housing costs and make affordable housing less available. Mr. Marshall said it may, but the cost of endless growth may be greater than trying to solve other problems.

Mr. Norris asked what the implications to date on Charlottesville are. Should the city put a halt on growth? Mr. Marshall said you have to weigh the pros and cons of growth. Mr. Norris asked how local we can realistically get. There is a lot of interest in local foods and trades in the community. Mr. Marshall said we need to reduce consumption and the number of consumers, or at least hold it steady.

Ms. Szakos said she is not comfortable with the natural conclusion of implementing ASAP's recommendations. Mr. Tom Olivie said importing is feasible in general, but the world on the whole has gone into an ecological deficit. We need to recognize the serious challenge facing the human race globally and locally.

Ms. Edwards said this is fascinating but creepy. The study has a place when we are discussing a comprehensive plan. Perhaps ASAP should be part of the community groups involved with redevelopment discussions.

### **REPORT: FOLLOW-UP FROM TRANSIT SUMMIT**

Ms. Judy Mueller discussed the Transit Development Plan. She said page ten, task seven: "Service Recommendations" summarizes the issues. There is a focus on route structure.

Mr. Huja said he is interested in talking to the consultant individually and as a group. We should restructure routes so they are more frequent and more accessible to our customers. He wants to see this restructuring effective the next cycle. He said Council has been asking for this for a long time. Ms. Mueller said this is the first time we have had the funding. We are fortunate the state is paying for this. Ms. Szakos asked if TDP was included in the plan. Ms. Mueller said it was. Mr. Huja said all members of Council would like to see improvements in our transit system. Ms. Mueller said staff does as well, for the least amount of money. If we are going to do incremental increases, we need to find out where we get the best value for our money. The time frame is between now and April.

Ms. Mueller said she will arrange for Council to meet with the consultant individually during the process, then schedule a work session when they come back with a recommendation.



**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mr. Norris said the city received a letter from Albemarle County regarding the future of the McIntire Recycling center, which will be on agenda for the November 1 meeting. Mr. Huja said he wants to discuss who is using what.

Ms. Edwards said the Dialogue on Race is going to have an update soon regarding an action plan. We still want to make sure we are reaching all sections of the community, so she requested the addition of a PHAR representative to the committee. She said she wants a comprehensive approach to how we are welcoming people coming out of jail into our community and wants to explore workforce plans. She said Council should have a work session on a bank program encouraging savings accounts.

**MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Betty Mooney, 201 Sunset Ave., said in regard to the discussion regarding solid waste options, the goal should be to recycle as much waste as possible. We should look at how much of that waste is now going to landfills and how much is actually being recycled.

Ms. DeDe Smith, 2652 Jefferson Park Cir., said she appreciates Council's discomfort with some of the studies ASAP does but is still attracted to the idea that we will sustain our environment. She likes the idea of limiting our consumption individually.

**CLOSED SESSION**

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Mr. Huja, Council voted (Ayes: Ms. Edwards, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos. Noes: None) to meeting in closed session for discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for appointment to the Planning Commission and for employment as City Manager, as authorized by Virginia Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (1).

**PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT**

Council reconvened in open session. On motion by Ms. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Norris, Council voted to appoint Ms. Lisa Green to the Planning Commission. (Ayes: Ms. Edwards, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos. Noes: None)

The meeting was adjourned.

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 President

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 Clerk