



Joint Meeting
City Council/Board of Supervisors
Monday, September 9, 2019
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.



A joint meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlottesville and the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albemarle was held on Monday, September 9, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. at CitySpace, 100 5th Street NE, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Mayor Walker called the City Council meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and welcomed attendees. The following Councilors were present: Mayor Nikuyah Walker, Vice Mayor Heather Hill, Ms. Kathy Galvin and Mr. Mike Signer. Dr. Wes Bellamy arrived at 4:50 p.m.

Chair Ned Gallaway called the Albemarle Board of Supervisors meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. with the following Supervisors present: Chair Ned Gallaway, Vice Chair Rick Randolph, Ms. Ann Mallek, Ms. Diantha McKeel, Mr. Norman Dill, and Ms. Liz Palmer.

Mr. Gallaway turned the meeting over to City Manager Tarron Richardson and County Executive Jeff Richardson.

Dr. Tarron Richardson gave an overview of the agenda and introduced speakers.

City Attorney John Blair reviewed the Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail appointment made earlier in the summer and the process for making appointments. He advised of the recommendation for the County and City Attorneys to draft a Memorandum of Understanding in which the City and County agree to provide at least ninety days to the other body to consider a joint appointment recommendation. Both bodies unanimously agreed to have the attorneys move forward with drafting a Memorandum of Understanding.

Mr. Ryan Davidson of the City of Charlottesville Budget Department, reviewed the City/County revenue sharing agreement, which has been in place since Fiscal Year 1982-1983. He advised that the City does not allocate or designate revenue sharing dollars to specific programs or projects.

Mr. Davidson reviewed regional services and programs related to the Operating Budget:

- Shared Park Operations and Regional Recreation Programs
- Charlottesville Area Transit System and JAUNT
- Regional Public Safety Agencies and Facilities
- Regional Housing and Employment Programs
- Regional Services for Children Youth and Families

He also reviewed regional projects and capital programs related to the Capital Budget:

- Jointly Owned Facilities
- Parks and Recreation
- Public Safety
- Road Infrastructure, Transportation, and Traffic Improvements
- Other Joint Governmental Projects

Ms. Mallek clarified that funding has not been allocated to specific projects by reason of policy.

Ms. McKeel, Ms. Mallek and Ms. Palmer made comments about the way that the information was presented and advised that their constituents would want more specific information about where funds have been allocated.

City Attorneys advised that the budget report meets the minimum statutory agreement for reporting.

Mr. Gill asked Supervisors to provide an example of what they are looking for. Mr. Gallaway advised that the County is asking for accounting information for where dollars from the County are spent.

Mr. Randolph advised that County constituents are asking for more transparency and accountability based on State legislation changes last year. He suggested possible signage for projects jointly funded by the City and County.

Ms. Walker gave feedback that the process would be cumbersome for what the Board of Supervisors is asking for.

Mr. Signer summarized the presentation as a broad overview for all of the projects and activities that the City administers for the benefit of citizens in the City and County. He advised that the City Budget would be the document to review.

Ms. Galvin advised that what the Board of Supervisors is asking would be to handle the revenue sharing differently than any other revenue stream.

Mr. Gallaway advised that in the future, presentations should include dollar amounts.

Mr. Alex Ikefuna, Charlottesville Director for Neighborhood Development Services, provided the Hydraulic-29 Small Area Plan Implementation update. He advised that the project is not currently funded; however, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is considering alternate project submissions for SmartScale funding, with SmartScale applications due in August 2020.

Key Issues:

- 2020 Smart Scale Applications that could score well enough to be funded & meet Small Area Plan considerations
- Use of Route 29 existing funding of \$18,000,000
- Consider alternate funding mechanisms
- Address congestion and safety at Hydraulic & 29

Mr. Chip Boyles, Thomas Jefferson Planning District Executive Director, helped to facilitate discussion regarding the use of the \$18 Million for a revenue sharing project such as the proposed bridge crossing Rt. 29. The Board of Supervisors has sent a letter of support for the bridge project. If the funding has not been used within 2 years, it will be lost for the Hydraulic Road project. Final dollar amounts are being calculated in order to present a followup report at the MPO November meeting.

Mr. Mike Murphy, Deputy City Manager, and Dr. Stacy Pethia, Albemarle Principle Planner for Housing, presented a summary of the Housing Voucher Choice Program. Mr. Murphy described the Charlottesville Supplemental Rental Assistance Program.

Dr. Bellamy arrived at 4:50 p.m.

Dr. Pethia explained that the Virginia Department of Housing and Urban Development sets the number of vouchers and the funding available per locality. The more extreme low income a locality has, the more funding is utilized per household. Fair Market Value drives the funding.

Dr. Bellamy suggested having a joint meeting with the Housing Authority since the County does not have a board to handle housing. Staff manages housing. Mr. Murphy suggested having staff-to-staff ongoing communication.

Mr. Chris Engel, City Economic Development Director, made the presentation along with Ms. Siri Russell, Director of Equity and Inclusion for the County. Mr. Engel reviewed upcoming events for Minority Business Week September 14-20, 2019, and gave an overview of the Business Equity Fund. Ms. Russell advised that the City and County are exploring ways to collaborate in the future.

Ms. Siri Russell gave an overview of the shared journey by both localities regarding equity and inclusion. She advised of opportunities to share resources, connections and tools. Less than 1 in 10 local governments in the nation have an Office of Equity and Inclusion. She reviewed opportunities for fair partnership and collaboration:

- Joint planning for VLGMA Conference
- Albemarle Charlottesville Community Remembrance Project
- Regional equity profiles
- Joint training for senior leadership and department directors on diversity, equity and inclusion
- Regular connection and communication with other organizations
- Shared engagement with partners

Dr. Bellamy asked if the County would consider incorporating equity information in its communications. Members of the Board agreed.

Mr. Chris Gensic reviewed information about the Rivanna River Crossing project. He advised that the pedestrian and bicycle project would cover the area from the Woolen Mills neighborhood to Martha Jefferson Hospital. He advised that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will be doing a study, utilizing a consultant soon and include the City and County. Floodplain rules would come into play. The report is expected in approximately one year.

Ms. Galvin asked about having businesses that might benefit engaged in the discussions.

Mr. Dan Mahon gave further information about which entities have been involved.

Mr. Randolph asked for future reports to include a 500-year floodplain and 1000-year floodplain information.

Mr. Ikefuna advised that the City is working with VDOT to synchronize signalization at Emmett Street.

Ms. McKeel asked if further review could include the corridor rather than a single intersection.

Mr. Ikefuna gave an overview of Bike-Pedestrian Capital Improvement Projects for connectivity on Old Lynchburg Road.

Mr. Gensic reviewed priority areas for the trail and sidewalk from Sunset Bridge to Old Lynchburg Rd and Azalea Park, advising that there will need to be discussion of who maintains the areas once constructed.

Mr. Murphy and Dr. Pethia reviewed affordable housing activities for the City and County, and potential ways to collaborate:

- Charlottesville Supplemental Rental Assistance Program (CSRAP)
- Regional Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Permanent Supportive Housing project (The Crossings II)
- Jointly funded evaluation of nonprofit housing providers
- Joint land bank/property acquisition fund
- Joint affordable housing fund

Dr. Bellamy added information about the potential of The Crossings II, with the intent of ending chronic homelessness.

Mr. Blair advised of a provision in the City Charter that allows the City to provide more assistance than the County.

Dr. Richardson introduced new Charlottesville Area Transit (DAT) Director, Garland Williams. Mr. Williams greeted attendees.

Mr. Boyles reviewed the role, history, and engagement of the Regional Transit Partnership. Current strategies include:

- Partner with DRPT for a Joint Regional Transit Strategies Plan (TSP) with local funding match
- Develop a unified regional transit system marketing effort
- Implement a Joint Comprehensive Stakeholder Survey
- Review of FY21 operating budgets for CAT and JAUNT, including driver recruitment, compensation, and appreciation
- Develop consolidated ridership reporting and analysis to include CAT < JAUNT, UTS, Rideshare, Amtrak, e-scooters, etc.
- Peer system visit
- Partnership with Greene County Transit
- CAT and UTS ridership coordination for STIC Funding
- Develop joint funding MOU's for UTS and for JAUNT

He listed long-term opportunities for consideration:

- Consolidated Regional Transit Services
- Regional Transit Authority
- Increased fixed route services by JAUNT
- Shared mobility transit – 1st and last mile connectivity

Ms. Walker, in the interest of time, asked for agreement to extend the meeting by fifteen minutes. Ms. Mallek advised that she had to leave. The remainder of both bodies agreed to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to 6:15 p.m.

Ms. Mallek and Mr. Signer left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Kristel Riddervold gave an overview of the Climate Action plan, describing climate action planning in collaboration and alongside each other (City, County and University of Virginia). She mentioned local partnerships and the carbon neutrality resolution directives passed by City Council during summer 2019. She advised that climate action cannot be discussed as an aside, but must be integrated into everything.

Mr. Lance Stewart gave additional information about various work teams and efforts of working toward carbon neutrality. The potential for single branding approach used by City and County.

Ms. McKeel suggested including the School systems in on the conversation.

Ms. Galvin asked whether the Dominion Energy initiative for funding electric buses has been pursued. Ms. Riddervold advised that they are actively seeking the related information.

Mr. Bill Mawyer reviewed the Rivanna Sewer and Water Authority composting program and composting locations. Ms. Galvin thanked Mr. Mawyer for the oyster shell recycling program.

City Manager Richardson thanked all involved in coordinating the meeting and specifically Ms. Emily Kilroy for help in coordinating his first joint meeting as host locality.

County Administrator Richardson asked staff to coordinate action items that will inform a co-authored memorandum of understanding to help move the organizations forward. He asked that the Bodies get together in early 2020 rather than the previously proposed quarterly schedule based on the work that needs to be done, the momentum already created between the two Bodies, and the upcoming election. He advised of the intentionality between City and County staff to communicate proactively and he thanked staff for their work in preparation for this meeting. Mr. Richardson thanked Dr. Richardson and staff for hosting the County, and he turned the meeting back over to Chair Gallaway and Mayor Walker.

Chair Gallaway adjourned the Board of Supervisors meeting at 6:18 p.m.

Mayor Walker adjourned the City Council meeting at 6:18 p.m.