

## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON Monday, May 16, 2011, AT 6:30 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 – May 16, 2011**

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

On motion by Dr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Huja, Council voted (Ayes: Dr. Brown, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris; Noes: None; Absent: Ms. Szakos, Ms. Edwards) to meet in closed session pursuant to section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code for consultation with legal counsel regarding the negotiation of the terms and conditions of a community water supply cost sharing agreement with the Albemarle County Service Authority, as authorized by Virginia Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (7).

On motion by Dr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Huja, Council certified by the following vote, (Ayes: Dr. Brown, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Noes: None; Absent: Ms. Szakos), 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 – May 16, 2011**

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

### **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Mr. Norris read a proclamation for Bike Month. Scott Paisley, Heather Higgins, Mac Lafferty, and Ruth Stornetta were present to accept the proclamation. Ms. Higgins overviewed local events for Bike Week.

Mr. Norris read a proclamation for Public Works Week. Ms. Judy Mueller was present to accept the proclamation on behalf of Public Works Department employees.

Mr. Norris acknowledged seven high school seniors who received Charlottesville City Scholarships. Ms. Linda Seaman presented the following scholarship winners: Shaniece Bradford, Champrea Frye, James Dowell, LaToya Hughes, Richard Washington, Valerie Washington, and Christopher Yates.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Edwards announced the Dialogue on Race and local businesses' Minority Business Summit on May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30am – 3:00pm. The summit is free, but registration is required. Call 970-3115 or visit [Charlottesville.org/dialogue](http://Charlottesville.org/dialogue) to register. June 16-18 is the Juneteenth Celebration. For more information contact Maxine at 295-6332 or Tamyra Turner at [tturner@pvcc.edu](mailto:tturner@pvcc.edu). Mr. Huja announced the Community Band Festival on July 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11am-8pm. The event is free, sponsored by the Charlottesville Municipal Band.

Mr. Norris announced the Parks & Recreation sale on outdoor pool passes for the 2011 season. There is a discount on passes sold before May 31. Call 970-3260 for more information. A Flag Day Celebration will be held June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Pavilion at 6:30pm to salute armed forces, featuring the Charlottesville Municipal Band.

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Jeannette Kantz, 1223 Park St., protested reduced bus services and asked Council to restore route 2A.

Ms. Page Sullivan, 101 Melbourne Park Cir., protested reduced bus services and provided a petition with 61 names of people that have ridden in the past week for Route 2A.

Mr. Scott Beyer, 2556 Summit Ridge Trail, said if we build up certain growth areas in the City, we can preserve other parts of it. Growth areas assist in preserving single family neighborhoods. The City should revisit talks about rebuilding growth areas. He said West Main between Amtrak and the UVA hospital, the area between Water St. and South St., Cherry Ave. between Ridge and 6<sup>th</sup> St. SW, and 5<sup>th</sup> St. Ext. between the Tonsler tennis courts and Baily Rd. are key areas to examine for building.

Mr. James Halfaday, 2423 Sunset Rd., said the City should do better for JPA area businesses while the bridge is out. Please post more signs.

Mr. Tyler Frankenberg, 516 Brandon Ave., of the UVA Planning Students Research Department, Campbell Hall School of Architecture, presented on behalf of the graduate class in Housing and Community development. The class conducted research in

affordable housing and workforce training and examined innovative solutions from other municipalities around the U.S. Prof. Suzanne Moomaw assisted in compiling the reports.

Mr. Mac Lafferty, 135 West Park Dr., spoke regarding bike helmets for youth. He reviewed statistics on bike head injuries, especially for children 14 and under. He asked Council to support ordinance requiring helmets for 14 and under.

Mr. Peter Castiglione, 1516 Chesapeake St., owner of Maya Restaurant, spoke on the safety of bike lanes on West Main St. He described the bike accidents he has witnessed in the past four years. The bike lanes on West Main St. are dangerous. He asked who is liable in accidents. Improvements on West Main St. are going in the right direction. The City should create bike lanes that do not share a path with automobiles. He also asked the City to reallocate taxi stand spaces at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Main to ameliorate losing 12 spaces along that corridor.

Mr. Brandon Collins, 536 Meade Ave., said he was excited to see Council pass the resolution about Uranium Mining and asked for it to be read publically. Please follow through with as much action as possible on clean energy. Do not cut bus service hours or routes; the City should always be looking to expand. Citizens are reliant on public transit. Extend hours to serve late night users.

Mr. James Richardson, 115 E. High St., echoed praise for improvements to West Main St. When considering removal of parking spaces, please remember the 2008 downtown parking study data. Removal of on-street parking may not be as significant to businesses as some perceive.

Mr. Mike Basile, 288 Albert Ct., spoke on violence and mobs on the downtown mall Friday nights. This is still happening despite video surveillance and increased police presence. He discussed violent incidents from this past weekend and asked Council to take steps to stop violence on the downtown mall.

Mr. Scott Paisley, 1207 Oak Hill Dr., thanked Mr. Castiglione and the midtown merchants for engaging in dialogue to improve infrastructure and bicycle safety. He thanked Ms. Alexander and the City for their work and asked staff to focus on incomplete bike lanes. Simply increasing ridership helps most of all.

Ms. Ruth Stornetta, 307 C 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW, said it is illegal to open your car door into oncoming traffic, which includes bicyclists. Please make bike lanes on West Main St. continuous. She said changes to the road can benefit all users. She asked bikers present in support of the improvements to West Main to stand.

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

Dr. Brown thanked the bicyclists who were in attendance. He agreed with Mr. Paisley that the more people who are bicycling, the more people are aware of the rules of the road.

Mr. Huja thanked the bikers in attendance and said biking is a positive mode of transportation. We should complete West Main St.

Ms. Edwards asked Ms. Valerie Washington to come forward to comment on the concern about violence from youth on the downtown mall. Ms. Washington said young people need to have something to do. Youth are not aware of opportunities in the City for healthy activities. There should be a specific gathering place. Mr. Dominique Morris said teenagers do not know what they want to do. The biking community could help with activities. A boxing arena would be a good outlet. Cost-effective activities geared towards teenagers and older youth are needed. Mr. Norris said the City will work on this.

Mr. Norris thanked Mr. Collins for sharing his ideas on transit. He agreed that expansion of service, not cuts, should be the focus. He thanked Ms. Kantz and Ms. Sullivan for discussing the importance of bus service in their neighborhood. He said Mr. Beyer made an excellent point about preservation of rural areas and single family neighborhoods. He also thanked the bicyclists for attending.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Huja said he wanted to be sure the public understood that the 14 and Under helmet ordinance is for children. Dr. Brown asked to pull the helmet ordinance from the agenda.

Ms. Edwards asked for a portion of the Uranium Mining resolution to be read aloud for the edification of the public.

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

- a. Minutes of May 2
- b. APPROPRIATION: \$5,625 – Downtown Mall Directional Signage Purchases (2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 readings)
- c. APPROPRIATION: \$22,840 – City Hall Window Damage - Appropriation of settlement from Nautilus Insurance Company (2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 readings)
- d. APPROPRIATION: \$22,500 – Police Department - Reimbursed Overtime (2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 readings)
- e. APPROPRIATION: \$187,500 – Market Street Parking Garage - Replacement of PARC Equipment (1<sup>st</sup> of 2 readings)

- f. APPROPRIATION: \$23,000 – 2010 State Homeland Security Program Grant (Hazmat) (1<sup>st</sup> of 2 readings)
- g. RESOLUTION: Resolution Supporting the Moratorium on Uranium Mining in Virginia (1<sup>st</sup> of 1 reading)
- h. RESOLUTION: Initiation of Text Change Regarding University Related Uses (1<sup>st</sup> of 1 reading)
- i. RESOLUTION: Initiation of Zoning Text and Map Amendments - 104 Stadium Road (1<sup>st</sup> of 1 reading)
- j. ORDINANCE: Unzoned Properties (2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 readings)
- k. ORDINANCE: Abandonment of Storm Drain Easement (2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 readings)
- ~~l. ORDINANCE: 14 and Under Helmet Ordinance (1<sup>st</sup> of 2 readings)~~

**PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE:** UTILITY RATES (deferred to next meeting)

Mr. Bernard Wray presented to Council and provided a brief overview of the utility report, which is available on the city website. He introduced Ms. Sharon O'Hare and Ms. Lauren Hildebrand, who were available to answer questions.

Mr. Norris asked Mr. Wray to explain where the rate stabilization fund came from. Mr. Wray said in 2008 we started charging a rate facility fee for new home construction. The money was put in a separate fund because we knew debt service would increase dramatically over the next several years, and this fund was used to stabilize the rates over the long term.

Mr. Huja asked them to state rate increases. He asked why the City does not charge more to people who use more, i.e. a tiered rate structure. Ms. O'Hare said the City examined tiered rates this year, but the City's customer base is different from Albemarle County. This structure is usually only used for single family units, and the City does not want to penalize economic development or single family residential units.

The public hearing was opened.

Mr. Bruce Edmonds, Woolen Mills, said he is the owner of a small business located downtown. Council should consider voting no on a tax increase for water and sewer bills. It is premature to raise these rates until the county cost-share agreement is finalized. City tax payers should not have to pay for county increases.

Ms. Colette Hall, 101 Robertson Ln., said we are repeating the same action over again expecting a different result. The Albemarle County Service Authority decided not to raise rates. City tax payers should not be subject to continuous rate increases. Water and sewer use are not optional for City residents, putting residents at the mercy of local government and RWSA.

Ms. DeDe Smith, 2652 Jefferson Park Cir., said she is shocked to see that rate stabilization for water and sewer has increased from last year. There is well over \$1 million in combined subsidy, and this is digging us deeper into the requirement that we subsidize these rates. Paying these off with connection fees discourages affordable housing. We do not have limitless growth potential like Albemarle Co. Rate subsidies hide the true cost of what residents are paying for water and sewer and loss of city assets from the water plan.

Ms. Katie Chester, 1915 E. Market, said in regard to tiered rates, businesses should also be encouraged to use resources more sparingly.

Ms. Betty Mooney, City of Charlottesville, said do not vote for the rate increase. Our water and sewer rates have been going up since 2002, despite using less and less water. We do not need a new dam, and we do not need higher rates. The Albemarle Service Authority is not raising rates for the second year in a row. We do not have a cost share agreement with the county yet. This is not sustainable.

Having no further speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Edwards explained why tiered rates do not work well for many City residents, particularly lower income residents with large families who rent. It is important to have conservation information available for all types of residents, including landlords and businesses.

Mr. Norris agreed with those who urged Council not to adopt the higher rates, particularly regarding the water issue, particularly because we do not have a cost share agreement. The net increase is very modest, but that is because there is a heavy amount of subsidy built in.

Ms. Edwards said she wants to make sure Council handles this issue appropriately.

Dr. Brown asked Mr. Wray to address why Albemarle did not recommend a rate increase. Mr. Wray said there are various possible reasons, but staff would have to clarify with Albemarle County staff. Dr. Brown said he has been concerned over stabilization rates over the last several years, because it makes residents think this is costing less than it actually is. Mr. Wray explained why the new fee stabilizes. Dr. Brown asked what would happen if Council does not vote to pass the ordinance. Mr. Wray said the City would operate at a financial loss. Funds would have to be taken from elsewhere in the budget. Mr. Wray said they budget utility rates simply to break even.

Dr. Brown asked to detail what the effects of not passing the ordinance would be for the second reading and to provide public information on why the county did not recommend a rate increase while the City did. Mr. Norris said his concern is specific to water, not sewer and gas. Mr. Wray said we can examine rates across the board. Mr.

Huja said he also wanted the information Dr. Brown requested. Ms. Edwards asked this be deferred until full Council was present.

A vote on the motion was deferred until next meeting.

### **PUBLIC HEARING: RIVANNA PUMPING STATION**

Ms. Lauren Hildebrand presented to Council. She summarized Council's tour of potential Pump Station sites, reviewed the history of the pump station decision process and summarized preliminary costs of Option A, Option C and Option D. The schedule for a decision on the pump station site requires that a plan be submitted for the pump station by late December. The engineer can finish the study work in 12 weeks, and the study results can be evaluated in late August. Staff requested direction from Council regarding options worthy of design efforts.

Mr. Frederick presented to Council on Hazen & Sawyer's preliminary reports on tunneling. More needs to be researched about the geology at that depth to determine what the actual cost of the project would be. Staff does not recommend we pursue this.

The public hearing was opened.

Ms. Joanna Salidis, 129 Goodman St., said Options A, B and C are completely unacceptable. Reevaluate whether we need to build a new sewage station at all. The trend in local government favors building new infrastructure over repairing old infrastructure. New water and sewer rates are an example of the trend of the county shifting the cost of growing population to City rate payers. Development in the County is paid for by the City. Price tags are bogus.

Mr. Brandon Collins, 536 Meade Ave., said he appreciates that the Woolen Mills Association has been actively engaged on this issue. Option D is the least of the evils. Think about other alternatives and ensure adequate studies on the impact of air and water quality, the impact on the neighborhood, and the total cost.

Ms. Victoria Dunham, 2000 Marchant Street, thanked Council for taking Option A off the table. She said bringing back Option A is a threat being held over the neighborhood's head. Option C places the onus on a small group of people to support wastewater infrastructure that supports the City, County and UVA. State Farm should not be allowed to singlehandedly take Option D off the table. Please take A and C off the table permanently. She asked those present in support to stand.

Ms. Katie Chester, 1915 E. Market St., said this process has outraged her. She asked how the City can tolerate building a sewage pumping station in a residential neighborhood. Option C is more of the same. Money should not be the only factor, but also the effect on quality of life and environmental impact. The process has been

frustrating. We should hire a completely impartial consultant who has done this before. If Council is willing to study Option C, they should be willing to study Option D.

Mr. Bill Herrick, 1915 E. Market St., said Option C or a hybrid thereof would require blasting, which would shake the old surrounding buildings and impact the integrity of their structure. State Farm should not be able to impact the decision. Choose citizens first. He asked if the 10% increase in sewer would pay for the pump station.

Ms. Cindy Cartwright, 1404 E. Market St., said she is representing her children. She showed Council the posters her children made, which illustrated pleas not to build the pumping station.

Mr. Evan Hanson, 1404 Burgess Ln., said he and his wife love walking in the neighborhood, and he was shocked the original pumping station was located where it presently is. The City has the opportunity to right a wrong that was made several years ago. This should not be in anyone's back yard. He asked that Council demand RWSA set up an independent commission to set up a demand analysis and seek other options.

Ms. Colette Hall, 101 Robertson Ln., said she empathizes with Woolen Mills not wanting a larger pump station in their neighborhood. The City should not always bow to County wishes. The County should find land to house this new pump station and should take responsibility for their growth.

Mr. Pressley Thatch, owner of a moving company at the end of Market St., said the neighborhood has worked hard over the years to maintain and nurture its historic value. If Council chooses Option C, that removes the ability for neighbors to use historic style renovation in future development of their facility, which makes future development unlikely to be residential.

Mr. Fran Lawrence, 1729 Chesapeake St., said Council should make sure Option A stays off the table. State Farm would not oppose Option D at the end of the day. Technology should prevent the smell from affecting State Farm, especially since the station will be located downhill.

Mr. Chris Harris, 1900 Chesapeake St., said neighbors are frustrated with various schemes. This a problem of design process more than design product. He suggested setting up design criteria based on neighborhood, City, County and RWSA discussions. Revise the design process, and review other alternatives and solutions.

Mr. Fred Wolf, 603 Lexington, said he is about to purchase a property directly affected by Option C. The emphasis should not be solely on cost. The City should find a solution that shares the burden equally. We need accurate, updated flood map data to account for the dam removal in 2007. Please do not approve RWSA's request to study only Option C.



Mr. Bill Maloney, 1909 E. Market St., said he is concerned over the five to ten year effect of the pump station, especially yard erosion and the effect on surrounding structures. The scale of the project is massive, leaving a 15-30 foot space between the river and where the easement will be. Stays would be granted with good faith effort.

Mr. Bill Emory, 1604 E. Market St., asked Council to review comments he sent earlier in the day. He thanked RWSA for treating wastewater and asked Council to dream about the process and reconnecting with the river.

Ms. Ewing said we have to take the deadline very seriously or contact DEQ and clarify whether the December deadline is real or not. We should examine options that would make it so we do not have to build a new pumping station. We should ask RWSA to think creatively about other options.

Mr. Bruce Edmonds, Woolen Mills, said Council must reject Option C. Continue to support the past resolution of the Council to reject Option A. He thanked Mr. Norris for attending Friday's Woolen Mills neighborhood Association meeting.

Ms. Nancy Beckstrom, 1909 E. Market St., said her backyard would be badly affected by the trench that would be constructed under Option C.

Ms. Betty Mooney, City of Charlottesville, said this discussion is frustrating and encouraged Council to question the \$2 billion price tag to fix leaky pipes.

Ms. DeDe Smith, 2652 Jefferson Park Cir., said ask not only what it would cost to repair pipes instead of building a new station, but whether we will have to fix leaky pipes anyway because of DEQ regulations. Please consider that Riverview Park is unique

Having no further speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Norris said Council needs to decide whether or not to move forward with Option C. He asked for clarity on the basic need for this project. He asked if there was a green infrastructure approach that could be taken to mitigate storm water management issues. Ms. Hildebrand said sewer rehabilitation is a three-pronged approach. Staff is rehabilitating existing sewers that are high priority, then looking at capacity downstream. Staff must examine the system as a whole as a part of the comprehensive sewer system study. Mr. Norris said even if we were able to reduce infiltration by 50%, we would still need an upgrade in our pipe system. Ms. Hildebrand said this was true.

Mr. Huja said he wants to take Option C off the table. Dr. Brown said we need to talk about what other options are available. Mr. Huja said Option D and Option E should be considered.

Ms. Edwards agreed with Mr. Huja. This is a good time to think about what the best solution for our community is. She questioned the judgment regarding the culture of the neighborhood. People lost their quality of life with the initial decision to locate the

pump station. She asked for assurance that the trailer park community is welcomed to attend and contribute to the Woolen Mills association. She has not heard from them and is concerned by that.

Mr. Huja asked Mr. Frederick when the pumping station was built. He said late 1970s to 1981. Dr. Brown asked if there was flexibility on the deadline. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Frederick to discuss negotiations with DEQ that got us to this deadline. Mr. Frederick said he canvassed our infrastructure system in 2004 and was disappointed to find how poorly the sewer system was operating. Sanitary sewer overflows is EPA's number one priority nation-wide.

Dr. Brown said we need to study options and see what we can do, but we have to figure out a way to collaborate. State Farm was adamant against Option D for the same reasons Woolen Mills neighbors are against having it in their neighborhood, particularly because of the odor. He asked to keep more rather than fewer options on the table. He asked to explore options C, D and E, including tunneling.

Mr. Norris agreed with Mr. Huja that we should take Option C off the table. The option is clearly a non-starter because of the impact on the neighborhood and the financial impact. Option D is the lesser of evils. One private property owner should not trump dozens of city and county residents whose home and quality of life would be affected by this project. We can work with State Farm to find a good solution. He said he is intrigued by Option E and thinks it is worth exploring, but first prefers to discuss the viability of Option D with State Farm.

Mr. Huja moved to reject Option C and study Options D and E. Mr. Norris said studying Option E is a very expensive proposition, and we should only do that as a fallback position if Option D is not a possibility. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. Dr. Brown clarified that Council would pay its share of the \$400,000 price tag to pay for researching Option E. Mr. Norris confirmed.

Mr. Huja thanked the citizens of the neighborhood who came to speak.

#### **REPORT: FINAL TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CTG)**

Mr. Watterson, director of CAT, presented to Council. The Department of Transportation is looking for endorsement from Council supporting the Transit Development Plan (TDP). Mr. James Baker, from Connetics Transportation Group (CTG), presented to Council on meetings since the March 3<sup>rd</sup> Work Session.

Mr. Baker outlined existing CAT service issues, a near-term Service Plan (1-3 years), and routes 10/12 alignment change. A study showed routes 1A and 2A were the poorest performers. He also reviewed service changes proposed for FY 2012, a short-range service plan (2-4 years), a long-range service plan (through 2035). He reviewed TDP operating costs, outlined local and federal funding assumptions for operations,

capital cost requirements, and next steps, including Council submittal of the TDP to the Virginia Department of Rail and Transportation.

Mr. Huja said he supported the proposals, but the county should pay for routes that serve county growth. Mr. Watterson said they presume that the county would be responsible for a local match element for county residents. Mr. Huja said he is disappointed in service to the northern part of the City. Mr. Baker said this area was included in the study, but efficiency studies showed expanded service was not warranted. The City is well-covered in general.

Dr. Brown said he is interested in promoting more and better service in the county because helps keep cars off city roads.

Ms. Edwards asked how concerns over reduced services could be addressed. Mr. Watterson said Council could elect not to implement the portion of the plan that would impact existing service.

Mr. Norris said he is concerned with the impact on Park St., North Downtown, and the Woolen Mills area, especially with a growing number of elderly residents. He does not support eliminating routes in those areas.

Anything not implemented in August 2011 will be brought to Council as soon as possible. The deadline for getting information for inclusion in the route catalogue is the end of June. On motion by Dr. Brown, seconded by Ms. Edwards, the plan was approved as amended. (Ayes: Dr. Brown, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Norris; Noes: Mr. Huja; Absent: Ms. Szakos.)

### **REPORT: BICYCLE SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Ms. Jeanne Alexander reported to Council on communication of public information, enforcement, the 14 and Under Helmet ordinance, support for legislative items, and on-street improvements. She explained the proposal to add bike lanes on West Main St. was more controversial because it requires removal of some on-street parking spaces. New shared lane markings, called “sharrows”, are being tried out on Water St.

Mr. Norris thanked Ms. Alexander for her work with the Bike/Pedestrian Committee and congratulated her on her Bike Charlottesville Community Partner award.

Mr. Huja said the City should have sidewalks, then bike lanes, then parking to avoid opening car door issues. Ms. Alexander said staff has considered that solution, but it requires more street width than we have available. Dr. Brown said this has been a great process and is proud how well City staff has worked with the bicycle community.

On motion by Mr. Huja, seconded by Dr. Brown seconded, a motion to support the bicycle safety committee update carried unanimously. (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Dr. Brown, Mr. Norris, Ms. Edwards; Noes: None; Absent: Ms. Szakos.)

**REPORT:** 14 AND UNDER HELMET ORDINANCE (carried)

Ms. Alexander presented to Council. She clarified that this ordinance only applies to children ages 14 and under. Mr. Norris asked if there are exceptions, such as children riding in Azalea Park. Ms. Alexander said the ordinance does spell out specific locations. Mr. Brown clarified that the ordinance only applies to highways, sidewalks, et cetera.

Dr. Brown asked how the City can reach lower income communities with helmet give-away programs. Ms. Alexander said there will be a bike rodeo this weekend, with free helmets. Staff is looking for ways to make more free helmets available. Dr. Brown said we could tell kids to bring their citation to City Hall for a free helmet to have their fee waived. Ms. Edwards said helmets could be provided by nonprofit groups instead of the City because the goal is education. Mr. Norris said we should proactively support distribution of bike helmets.

On motion by Ms. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Huja, the motion carried to the next meeting. Staff will bring back information on providing free or reduced cost helmets.

**REPORT:** ATHLETIC FIELD ALLOCATION STUDY

Mr. Daly presented to Council. He reviewed the guiding principles for allocation and recommended priorities. He said the relation of the field study to McIntire Park will come before Council at the next meeting.

Mr. Huja asked if Mr. Daly has discussed priorities with field users. Mr. Daly confirmed that he has. Mr. Huja asked if staff has explored partnering with UVA. Mr. Daly said they have, but it is a difficult issue, which they may be able to revisit at a later date.

Dr. Brown asked what the timeline of study was. Mr. Daly said the first meetings with focus groups took place over two years ago. Dr. Brown asked if soccer teams can request practice space on baseball diamonds. Mr. Daly said they can.

Mr. Norris asked for other ideas for expanding field use. Mr. Daly said lighting fields, especially rectangular fields, and conversion of diamond fields into rectangular fields, especially if usage continues and patterns change locally as they have nationally.

Mr. Huja asked if school playgrounds were included. Mr. Daly said they were.

Mr. Norris thanked Mr. Daly for his work.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Edwards said the QCC walks leaves from Community Bikes this Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Huja asked for an update on the City Market. Mr. Jones said the task force is presenting recommendations to Council in June.

### **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**


Mr. Peter Kleeman, 407 Hedge St., said watched Henry Graff's reports on the trip to Winneba in the beginning of May. This is a great opportunity for Council to show leadership above what they are doing now in the Sister City program. The City should spend money and include the Winneba community as part of our community, as well as our other Sister City communities. Follow up on the initiative to build a strong, useable library in Winneba just as we would invest in our own community. Council should vote to contribute money to the Winneba library project.

Mr. Dominique Morris, City of Charlottesville, said it would be appropriate to have an activity fair like a job fair to introduce topics most teens do not know about.

### **COUNCIL RESPONSE**

Mr. Huja said he supported Mr. Kleeman's idea about contributing more to Sister Cities. Dr. Brown said it is a great idea to get involved with our Sister Cities. Bragging about not spending City money on our Sister City relationships sends the wrong message.

The meeting was adjourned.



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President



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Clerk