

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY POLICY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Building A Large Conference Room
101 Mounts Bay Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185
February 21, 2019
4:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jack Haldeman called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present:

Jack Haldeman, Chair

Julia Leverenz

Tim O'Connor

Staff:

Tammy Rosario, Principal Planner

Jose Ribeiro, Senior Planner

Tori Haynes, Planner

Terry Costello, Deputy Zoning Administrator

John Risinger, Community Development Assistant

Jeffrey Wiggins, Budget and Accounting Analyst

Ryan Ashe, Fire Chief

Tristan Aiken, Assistant Fire Chief

John Carnifax, Director of Parks and Recreation

Alister Perkinson, Parks Administrator

C. MINUTES

There were no minutes.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. **FY 2020-2024 Capital Improvements Program Review**

Mr. Jose Ribeiro stated that representatives from the Fire Department and the Parks and Recreation Department could answer questions from the Commissioners.

Mr. Haldeman invited Chief Ryan Ashe and Assistant Chief Tristan Aiken to address the questions about the Fire Station 6 application.

Mr. Ashe stated that the design costs for the Fire Station 6 application were estimated with help from the General Services department. He stated that the location of the proposed fire station was not known when estimating the design cost. He stated that they have since identified land near the Law Enforcement Center to be acquired for the fire station. He stated that costs associated with the site topography have not been determined.

Mr. Haldeman asked if there was any expectation for when a seventh and eighth fire station would be built.

Mr. Ashe stated that he did not know a timeline for when a seventh and eighth fire station would be built. He stated that Fire Station 3 and Fire Station 4 are the busiest fire stations in

the County. He stated that they decided to locate Fire Station 6 in an area that could reduce the number of calls going to Fire Station 3 and Fire Station 4, along with reducing the number of calls to the City of Williamsburg Fire Department. He stated that they considered locations for the station that helped achieve the 6-minute response time goal set by the County. He stated that they categorized calls based on response time. He stated that they found that the Ford's Colony and Lightfoot areas had over 600 calls in the slowest category and the Kingsmill area was approaching 350 calls in the slowest category. He stated that they weighed adding additional units to Fire Station 3 and Fire Station 4 against adding a new station. He stated that adding a new fire station would help address the volume of calls along with expanding the 6-minute response coverage area. He stated that building a fire station in Ford's Colony would improve the response times in that area but not be as helpful to surrounding fire stations. He stated that a study was conducted in 1993 which proposed a fire station near the County Government Center. He stated that this proposed station would improve the response times to the Kingsmill area; however, the Kingsmill area has not reached the threshold to initiate plans for a new fire station.

Mr. Ribeiro asked if there were any further questions for the Fire Department.

Mr. Haldeman stated that the application listed that there was no imminent threat to health, safety and general welfare of the County. He asked if the need for the station addressed only policy requirements.

Mr. Ashe stated that because calls in the Lightfoot area are being answered currently, they did not list it as an imminent threat to the health, safety and general welfare of the County.

Mr. Haldeman asked if slow response times could be an imminent threat to health and safety.

Mr. Ashe stated that the American Heart Association states permanent brain damage would occur if the brain is deprived of oxygen for four to six minutes. He stated that a fire can double in size every 30 seconds.

Ms. Leverenz stated that faster response times can save lives and property so it should be considered an immediate need for health and safety.

Mr. O'Connor asked how equipment would be allocated to the new fire station.

Mr. Ashe stated that equipment is located in stations that have the most need for that type of equipment. He stated that they do not plan on reallocating equipment from existing stations to the Fire Station 6.

Mr. O'Connor asked if the road access for Fire Station 6 would be through the Law Enforcement Center or onto Opportunity Way.

Mr. Ashe stated that Fire Station 6 would have road access onto Opportunity Way.

Ms. Tammy Rosario stated that a question from the previous meeting was if a standard building design could be used for greater efficiency in design costs.

Mr. Ashe stated that it would utilize a similar layout as the existing Fire Station 4. He stated that they would modify the living area to allow for expansion in the future.

Ms. Leverenz asked if utilizing similar designs was accounted for in the design cost.

Mr. Ashe confirmed. He stated that improving the safety of living conditions for the firefighters would result in changes from the past design.

Mr. Ribeiro asked if there were any further questions.

There were none.

Mr. Haldeman invited Mr. John Carnifax and Mr. Alister Perkinson to address the questions for their applications.

Mr. Carnifax stated that concerns of the safety of the James City County Marina were raised. He stated that safety concerns at the parks are addressed by closing off areas and repairing areas as needed. He stated that the bulkhead is at risk of failure in the case of a large storm.

Mr. Haldeman asked if it would be better to complete the work at the marina in one phase instead of two.

Mr. Carnifax stated that it would and there would be cost savings from completing the work at the same time. He stated that separating the improvements into two phases spreads out the required funding. He stated that the improvements listed in the Phase I application are immediate needs for the safety of citizens utilizing the marina.

Ms. Leverenz asked if the County was insured in the event of a storm damaging the parks.

Mr. Carnifax confirmed.

Mr. Haldeman stated that it is more expensive to replace a failed bulkhead than it is to replace a functional bulkhead.

Mr. Carnifax stated that most of the bulkhead would be replaced with a living shoreline.

Mr. Ribeiro stated that a question asked in the previous meeting was if any grants had been awarded to the project.

Mr. Carnifax stated that they have not received any grants. He stated that the Parks and Recreation Department continues to apply for grants for the marina project.

Mr. O'Connor asked if there were plans for a stormwater master plan for Chickahominy Riverfront Park.

Mr. Carnifax confirmed. He stated that more information would be presented to the Planning Commission in the future.

Mr. Haldeman asked how many phases are anticipated for Chickahominy Riverfront Park.

Mr. Carnifax stated that there are three phases currently but more may be added for activities including rowing and small boating. He stated that he would like to continue a relationship with the College of William and Mary Rowing Club and the Williamsburg Boat Club at the park.

Mr. Haldeman asked if a site had been selected for the proposed Lower County Park.

Mr. Carnifax stated that they have narrowed their search down to a few locations. He stated that the application for the Lower County Park is for the land acquisition. He stated that once land has been acquired, they would apply again for the design phase once the costs had been estimated.

Ms. Rosario asked if the grants they were applying to required matching funds from the

County.

Mr. Carnifax stated that they apply to a number of grants that have different requirements. He stated that matching funds could be acquired if the applications require it.

Mr. O'Connor asked if the Running Center plan was still being pursued.

Mr. Carnifax stated that the proposed location has changed to the Jamestown Beach Event Park and is still in the planning stage.

Mr. Haldeman asked if there were any further questions.

There were none.

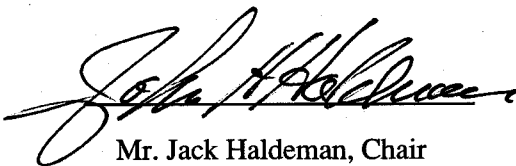
E. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

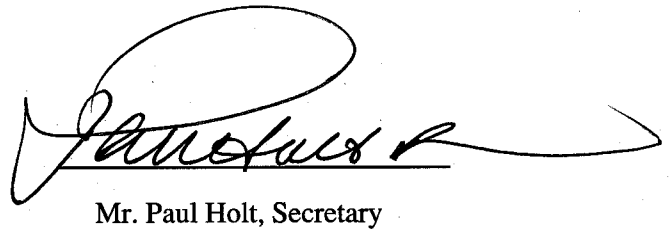
F. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Leverenz made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Haldeman adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:45 p.m.



Mr. Jack Haldeman, Chair



Mr. Paul Holt, Secretary