

**WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION  
JANUARY 11, 2010**

The Williamsburg City Council held a work session on Monday, January 11, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Stryker Building, 412 N. Boundary Street, Williamsburg, Virginia.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jeanne Zeidler called the meeting to order.

**ATTENDANCE**

Present in addition to Ms. Zeidler were Vice-Mayor Clyde Haulman, Council members Ms. Judith Knudson and Messrs. Paul Freiling and Robert Braxton. Also present were City Manager Jack Tuttle, City Attorney Joseph Phillips and Council Clerk Donna Scott.

Staff Attending: Deputy City Attorney Christina Shelton, Economic Development Director Michele DeWitt, Communications Specialist Kate Hoving, Public Works & Utilities Director Dan Clayton, Human Services Director Peter Walentisch and Planning Director Reed Nester.

**ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2010**

**Public Comment**

Mayor Zeidler invited public comment on items on the agenda for Thursday's Council meeting. There were no comments.

**Council Preview**

Mayor Zeidler confirmed that Council members have all the information they need regarding items on the agenda for the regular Council meeting on Thursday.

**BACKGROUND PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

**Girl Scout Presentation, Troop #1239**

Peg Williams addressed Council noting that Girl Scouting started 96 years ago and she has been involved for 40 years. Currently she is Leader of Troop #1239 that meets at the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church on Richmond Road. Ms. Williams introduced Troop member, Caroline Slack, who told Council members about some of the projects the Troop has worked on during the past year and noted they are currently working on a Model Citizen Badge. Caroline concluded her comments by announcing that orders for Girl Scout cookies has begun and will continue through January 21 for February delivery. Members of the Troop distributed boxes of cookies to Council members.

Mayor Zeidler thanked Ms. Williams, Ms. Slack and members of Troop #1239 for being here today and for their achievements, especially the Model Citizen Badge. Mayor Zeidler said she was both a Brownie and a Girl Scout when she was growing up and encourages support of scouting. Mr. Freiling added that he is the father of two girls who are in the Girl

Scouts and also encourages support of scouting and the cookie fund-raising effort. Ms. Williams noted that the father of one of the girls in the Troop is being deployed to Afghanistan and as a Gift of Caring they are sending boxes of cookies with him to share with his troop during his deployment.

### **Community Action Plan on Aging**

Christine Jensen, Director, Community & Health Services Research, The Center for Excellence in Aging and Geriatric Health, presented “The Williamsburg Community Action Plan on Aging: 2010-2020” (CAPOA). The ten-year plan identifies goals, strategies and action steps that can be implemented by the Senior Services Coalition (SSC), the three jurisdictions, and the community to assure the Greater Williamsburg Area is a “more livable community for seniors.” It was initiated by the SSC in August 2008, funded by the Williamsburg Community Health Foundation and drafted and submitted by The Center for Excellence in Aging and Geriatric Health in May 2009. Ms. Jensen added that the Plan is very action-oriented and they hope it won’t just sit on a shelf.

Ms. Jensen reported that 22% of Williamsburg’s residents are 60 years of age and older and by 2020, this group is expected to be 30% of the population in Williamsburg; well ahead of the state level. She noted other communities and their planning efforts for senior citizens: *Charlottesville* “2020 Community Plan on Aging: Making our Community a Great Place to Age”; *Fairfax* “Anticipating the Future Fairfax 50+: Action Plan 2007”; *Rappahannock-Rapidan Region (Culpeper)* “Aging Together: Five Communities Creating Choices”; and *Newport News* “Task Force on Aging Action Plan.”

Ms. Jensen reported that perceived gaps in the continuum of long-term care in Williamsburg include Acute Inpatient Care, Extended Inpatient Care, Housing, Wellness, Outreach, Home Care and Ambulatory Care. Through the planning process they have gathered demographic data regarding aging trends, reviewed community needs assessment, identified model state and community plans, compiled a database of senior services, held four community forums, identified priority areas and incorporated recommendations from the community forums. The four priority areas identified by CAPOA are (1) Awareness of and Access to Resources, (2) Vulnerable Seniors, (3) Housing, and (4) Seniors as a Resource. An Implementation Committee is in place and residents are welcome to join in the area subcommittees.

Mayor Zeidler commended Ms. Jensen and her team for the report that contains good objectives and priorities. She added that we want to do all we can to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Williamsburg.

Mr. Haulman thanked Ms. Jensen for her presentation and noted the population figures quoted are a bit skewed because of the number of college students included; if they weren’t included the percentage of seniors would, of course, be even larger; the City is really going to need these services.

Ms. Knudson thanked Ms. Jensen adding that she had initially been part of the effort and knows the Plan represents hours and hours of work.

Mr. Braxton thanked Ms. Jensen for the presentation and particularly noted the transportation needs and the fact that the Williamsburg Area Transit is doing well toward providing needed transport.

Mr. Freiling also thanked Ms. Jensen noting that the CAPOA meshes well with the Comprehensive Plans of the three jurisdictions.

Mayor Zeidler again thanked Ms. Jensen for the good work and for being at the meeting today.

### **Residential Refuse Collection Update**

Public Works and Utilities Director, Dan Clayton presented a brief update on the change in the City's refuse collection. In July, 2009 the City changed companies from Waste Management to Waste Industries and cut back service from two-day pickup to one-day pickup per week, which will save the City about \$378,000 annually. He said it was slow at first with drivers learning where trash cans were placed on properties, but it is going well now. There have been few complaints or issues, a fact that Mr. Clayton attributed to the communication effort that was extended prior to the change. He noted that one of the concerns that had been expressed, that residents would need a larger container since pickup was only once a week, does not seem to be an issue after all.

On December 15, Mr. Clayton said that Holly Hills Carriage Homes opted to go to curbside service which is a service neighborhoods can voluntarily choose that would save the City even more money, about 14%. He added that this service is still available to neighborhoods by request. If a neighborhood would like to switch to the curbside service, a majority of the neighborhood homeowners is required to sign a petition which is then submitted to the Public Works and Utilities Department. He said that many neighborhoods are putting their containers curbside, but Holly Hills Carriage Homes is the only neighborhood to have formally signed up for the service.

Mr. Clayton pulled out one of the containers supplied, for a fee, to those neighborhoods who opt for the curbside service. Council members expressed appreciation for the nice looking, subdued color container. In response to Mr. Haulman's question whether an individual outside a neighborhood not on curbside service could purchase one of the nice looking containers, Mr. Clayton said an individual must be part of neighborhood on that service in order to purchase one of the containers.

Mayor Zeidler thanked Mr. Clayton for the update and the residents of the Holly Hills Carriage Homes for switching to curbside service.

Ms. Knudson asked about the figure for tons of refuse collected as reflected in the monthly report; she noted it is about half the amount of last year. Mr. Clayton explained that the refuse collection company previously used tended to pick up refuse from other places in addition to the City at no additional charge to the City; this figure was included in that statistic which reflects last year's skewed figure.

## **CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

### **Conversation on Arts District**

At the December Council meeting, Mayor Zeidler asked the City Manager to direct the Economic Development Director and Planning Director to look into the possibility of developing an Arts District and how it would impact the City. She noted that one of the goals stated in the City's "Goals, Initiatives and Outcomes for the 2009-10 Biennium" is to enhance the cultural life of the City of Williamsburg which would be a way to diversify the economy and create more tourism. Mayor Zeidler reported that Economic Development Director, Michele DeWitt, has formed a committee that has met three times thus far to develop strategies. She added that the 15-member committee is a strong group representing many different areas of the arts. The plan is to research arts districts elsewhere and see what the issues are that they are confronting. Community members are invited to contribute and there will be at least one public meeting. Mayor Zeidler said the level of enthusiasm has been great. Updates will be provided to Council and a final report from the committee is anticipated in late spring.

### **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS: JANUARY 2010**

Mayor Zeidler noted the City Calendar for the month of January which Council members received in their meeting packets. It was noted the Winter Council Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, January 16.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Mayor Zeidler opened the Open Forum portion of the meeting inviting comments on any topic.

There being no comment the Open Forum was closed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no additional business, at 4:45 p.m. Ms. Knudson moved for adjournment of the meeting. Mr. Braxton seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Approved: February 11, 2010

Jeanne Zeidler  
Mayor

Donna F. Scott  
City Council Clerk