

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2016, 6:30 P.M.
WORK SESSION
Council Chambers**

PRESENT: The Honorable W. Eugene Hunt, Jr., Mayor
The Honorable Carey L. Freeman, Vice Mayor
The Honorable Traci-Dale Crawford
The Honorable Charles "Bud" M. Southall III
The Honorable Herbert R. Green, Jr.
The Honorable Raymond E. Vernall
The Honorable Henry W. Ayer III

J. Randall Wheeler, City Manager
Judy F. Wiggins, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk
D. Wayne Moore, City Attorney

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hunt at approximately 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Capital Improvements Plan for FY 2017 & Beyond FY 2021:

The City Manager, J. Randall Wheeler, explained that the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) is a planning and budgeting tool which addresses the repair/replacement of existing infrastructure and the construction or acquisition of new facilities and equipment to accommodate current and future demands for service. The proposed CIP, he stated, included FY 2017 projects within the following categories: Schools, miscellaneous, transportation/drainage (funded primarily by VDOT), Public Works, Solid Waste/Utilities (Enterprise Fund) and new facility & projects.

The City Manager explained that during the recent, recessionary years whenever the General Fund had excess funds they were used to address immediate, emergency needs, i.e. broken equipment, emergency building repairs, etc. With an expected increase in excess funds at the end of this fiscal year, he stated that the following four projects are being recommended for funding in the CIP for FY 2017: High School Track; Primary School HVAC Replacement; High School HVAC; and Messick Point Beach, at a total cost of approximately \$750,000. In addition, he stated that he was recommending construction of a Public Safety Building in FY 2021 with a preliminary needs assessment for the structure occurring in FY 2018. He pointed out that due to the projected decrease in school enrollment until FY 2020; the biggest issue facing the City is what should be done with the Middle School facility. He explained that the total maximum capacity for all four schools is 3,133; however, the current total enrollment is 2,083. In conclusion, Mr. Wheeler stated that City Department Heads were present and available to answer any questions regarding the recommended CIP projects.

Dr. Jennifer Parish, School Superintendent, explained that projected pupil enrollment statistics are provided by the Weldon Cooper Center which bases its projections on the

issuance of residential building permits. In response to a Council query, she stated that a comfortable enrollment for all schools would be approximately 2,500; however, more concise figures would be available at Council's upcoming joint work session with the School Board.

In response to a Council query, Robert Speechley, Utilities Superintendent, stated that the Sanitary Sewer Consent Repairs referred to in the CIP is the required maintenance on the City's sewer system mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The City Manager pointed out that the needs assessment that will occur prior to construction of a Public Safety Building to house the Police Department will determine if the Fire Administration and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) should also be included in this facility. In conclusion, he stated that should this occur, the current Police Station would become vacant and could possibly be utilized as the Community Recreation Building.

Mayor Hunt, on behalf of Council, thanked the City Manager and staff for the proposed CIP and stated that he looked forward to the upcoming budget year as there would be a little excess revenue that can be invested in much needed CIP projects.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

ADOPTED: _____

TESTE: _____
City Clerk