

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 26, 2016, 6:30 P.M.
WORK SESSION
Council Chambers, 500 City Hall Avenue**

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

Judy F. Wiggins, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk
D. Wayne Moore, City Attorney
Victoria H. Diggs, Deputy City Clerk

ABSENT: J. Randall Wheeler, City Manager

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

Colonial Behavioral Health (CBH):

Mr. David Coe, Colonial Behavioral Health Executive Director, provided a brief overview of the services available through CBH for the residents of Poquoson which included the following:

- That the CBH, formerly known as the Colonial Services Board, was founded in 1971 with the City of Poquoson joining the agency in 1972;
- That an average of 180 Poquoson residents are served annually by the agency with a variety of mental health services;
- That the majority (78%) of the services are provided to adults between 18 and 59 years of age;
- That the York/Poquoson facility in Grafton provides an array of services to include: emergency/crisis, outpatient, psychiatry, mental health skill-building, case management, intensive outpatient services, veterans and active duty military and prevention services; and
- That intellectual/developmental residential, day support, psychosocial rehabilitation and early intervention services are also available to Poquoson residents, but are not provided at the Grafton office.

Mr. Coe pointed out that a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) to train and assist police officers to identify and properly handle mentally ill/challenged patients was established

in 2012. He stated that the Poquoson Police Department was an original partner in the CIT and has had 9 officers complete the associated 40-hour training class. He stated that a CIT Assessment Center (CITAC), located at the Riverside Doctors' Hospital in Williamsburg, opened in 2015 providing officers a jail diversion for mentally impaired patients and because custody can be turned over to the Center, the officers can more quickly return to their other duties. He added that 14 Poquoson residents were served through this program in FY 2016.

In addition, Mr. Coe stated that the CBH is the main point of contact for all military referral sources and completes all initial screenings, coordinates services, and promotes advocacy and awareness for the military (veterans and active-duty) through participation in health fairs and other outreach events. To date, he stated that the agency has received over 100 direct military referrals and has employed a full-time military liaison. He explained that the CBH has and continues to train military personnel relative to identifying and assisting those with mental health issues; that a Wounded Warrior office is located in the clinic; that referrals come from Richmond and Hampton hospitals as well as unsolicited contacts from bases outside of the area; and that within the last 12 months child/adolescent referrals increased by 153%.

Mr. Coe pointed out the challenges currently facing the agency are that the state's recently implemented ID (Intellectually Disabled)/DD (Developmentally Disabled) Waiver Program has the CSBs assuming the greatest role in making the system work for families; that all CSBs as of July 1, 2016 have become the single point of entry for the Developmentally Disability Waiver and case management; and that the York-Poquoson CBH office has now run out of space.

In conclusion, Mr. Coe expressed appreciation for the ongoing opportunity to serve the residents of Poquoson.

Mayor Hunt expressed amazement at the number of services provided by the CBH as well as the number of the City's police officers that have already completed the CIT training. He also thanked the CBH for providing services to veterans and active-duty military.

In response to a Council query, Mr. Coe stated that providing services to military personnel is still somewhat complicated and protracted, but that they remain vigilant in trying to streamline the process. He also stated that it remains difficult to find beds for mental health patients although the law now requires state hospitals to take these patients if a bed cannot be found elsewhere.

In conclusion, on behalf of Council, Mayor Hunt thanked Mr. Coe for his presentation and stated that he would like for the CBH to provide similar, annual presentations in the future.

ADJOURNMENT:

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