

# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 26, 2019 6:00 P.M.

## WORK SESSION

### Council Chambers

**PRESENT:** The Honorable W. Eugene Hunt, Jr., Mayor  
The Honorable Carey L. Freeman, Vice Mayor  
The Honorable Herbert R. Green, Jr.  
The Honorable Thomas J. Cannella II  
The Honorable David A. Hux  
The Honorable Charles M. Southall III  
The Honorable Jana D. Andrews

J. Randall Wheeler, City Manager  
Evie Insley, City Clerk  
J. Anderson Mullins, Attorney

**ABSENT:** D. Wayne Moore, City Attorney

Mayor Hunt opened the work session at approximately 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

#### 1. VDOT – Wythe Creek Road Widening Project

VDOT personnel Ken McKenna, Kenny Wynne, Bruce Duval and consultant Ian Johnston of Clark Nexsen presented to Council a presentation to provide information on project status, budget issues and to answer any questions in regard to the Wythe Creek Road widening project.

The project is a VDOT managed joint effort with Hampton and Poquoson. The goal of the project is to widen the southern portion of Wythe Creek Road from its current two lanes to three lanes. The Center lane is intended to be a reversible lane during commuter hours. As part of this effort, the current bridge and causeway connecting the two cities will be replaced by an elevated bridge that will provide improved egress/ingress from Poquoson to Hampton during major tidal storm events.

Current project status and schedule:

- Utility relocation is underway – Scheduled for completion Spring 2020
- Project advertisement for bids – September 10, 2019 (possibly delayed a few months due to funding issues)
- Expected contractor notice to proceed – Late 2019/Early 2020
- Construction completion – Spring 2023

Project funding status:

- Current project estimate - \$53.25m
- Current project funding SYIP - \$49.6m
- Additional funds attained through MPO – \$1.38m
- Current funding shortfall - \$1.47m

A few ways to overcome the shortfall are as follows:

- Remove the right turn lane coming off of Cary's Chapel Road with a potential savings of \$0.7m.
- Eliminate corridor lighting along Wythe Creek Road with anticipated savings at approximately \$100k
- Possibly removing the reversible lane along Wythe Creek Road, this would leave a three way roadway with a turn lane in the middle.

During construction Cary's Chapel Road will be detoured due to allow for construction of improvements, including raising Cary's Chapel Road to new bridge elevation of 11ft, and water line relocation. The closure period is expected to be 90 days and will be shorter if the turn lane is not constructed. Final determination of length of closure will be further vetted by VDOT construction in coordination with selected contractor. City Manager Randy Wheeler advised Council of the plans to connect the Vector property parking lot with the Surfs-Up parking lot as it is owned by the same individual. This will insure access to Surfs-Up from the City side of the project and provide emergency access.

During the project construction traffic will continue to run on the existing road and will maintain two lanes of traffic, with occasional one lane closures during non-peak hours.

Once complete there will be a five foot bike and walk path using the existing bridge along the east side of Wythe Creek Road and will continue down to NASA. A traffic signal with a crosswalk will be installed at the intersection of Cary's Chapel and Wythe Creek that will allow for easier access to the path.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned at approximately 6:33 p.m.