

CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VIRGINIA
Special Meeting of City Council
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

1. Call to Order.

The Special Meeting of City Council was called to order by Mayor Kochuba at 6:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Councilman Michael A. Cherry
Councilman John E. Piotrowski
Councilwoman Dr. Laura F. Poe
Councilman Robert W. Wade
Councilman John T. Wood
Vice Mayor Elizabeth G. Luck
Mayor T. Gregory Kochuba

Absent: None

Also Present: Mr. Douglas E. Smith, City Manager
Mr. Hugh P. Fisher, III, City Attorney
Mrs. Pamela B. Wallace, City Clerk

The Clerk announced the purpose of the meeting.

3. Closed meeting pursuant to the Code of Virginia in accordance with the following provision:

- **Paragraph A.8 of Section 2.2-3711, to consult with legal counsel employed by a public body regarding a specific legal matter – i.e., City Charter provisions relating to staff’s authority to make certain payments and incur certain obligations – requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.**

A motion to convene in closed meeting was made by Mayor Kochuba, seconded by Mr. Piotrowski, at 6:05 P.M.

<u>Vote:</u>	7-0
Yes:	Cherry
	Piotrowski
	Poe
	Wade
	Wood
	Luck
	Kochuba
No:	None
Absent:	None
Abstained:	None

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Motion UNANIMOUS PASS

4. Voice Vote – Come back into Open Session.

A motion to reconvene in open session was made by Mayor Kochuba, seconded by Mr. Wade, and carried unanimously on roll call vote at 6:10 P.M.

<u>Vote:</u>	7-0
Yes:	Cherry
	Piotrowski
	Poe
	Wade
	Wood
	Luck
	Kochuba
No:	None
Absent:	None
Abstained:	None

Motion UNANIMOUS PASS

As stated by the Clerk, Council was in a closed meeting pursuant to the Code of Virginia in accordance with the following provision:

- Paragraph A.8 of Section 2.2-3711, to consult with legal counsel employed by a public body regarding a specific legal matter – i.e., City Charter provisions relating to staff’s authority to make certain payments and incur certain obligations – requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.**

Consideration of the following certification:

Each member will now certify that to the best of the member’s knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements of the act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the public body. Any member who believes there was a departure from the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii), shall so state prior to the vote, indicating the substance of the departure that, in his judgment, has taken place.

Council members approved this certification, without any stating departure from the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii), by the following roll call vote:

<u>Vote:</u>	7-0
Yes:	Cherry
	Piotrowski

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	Poe
	Wade
	Wood
	Luck
	Kochuba
No:	None
Absent:	None
Abstained:	None

Motion UNANIMOUS PASS

Motions: None

5. Consideration of a Resolution Concerning the City Charter

A RESOLUTION NO 21-14

Authorizing the City staff to make certain expenditures and contracts for the expenditure of funds not appropriated; and indemnifying, holding harmless, and defending any City officer or employee who acted in good faith to perform his official duties.

A motion was made by Mr. Piotrowski, seconded by Mrs. Luck, to adopt Resolution No. 21-14.

<u>Vote:</u>	7-0
Yes:	Cherry
	Piotrowski
	Poe
	Wade
	Wood
	Luck
	Kochuba
No:	None
Absent:	None
Abstained:	None

Motion UNANIMOUS PASS

6. Declarations of Personal Interest

Declarations were read by Mrs. Luck and Mr. Piotrowski, and filed with the Clerk.

7. Advertised Public Hearing

AN ORDINANCE NO 21-2

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(First Reading) To change the zoning classification of parcel identification number 69010700002, containing approximately 1.02 acre, known as Lot 2, Sadler Bros. Subdivision, with a street address of 401 Southpark Boulevard, from I – Industrial to GB – General Business; and to amend the Zoning Map accordingly.

A motion was made by Mrs. Luck, seconded by Mr. Piotrowski, to adopt Ordinance No. 21-2.

Ms. Hall provided background information on the proposed zoning location; specifically noting that due to the length of time the location remained vacant, the property could not be used as a fast food location. Ms. Hall also noted this was not a unique zoning request and staff recommended approval based upon the precedence of the surrounding businesses.

Addressing Mayor Kochuba’s question relative to a previous traffic study, Ms. Hall stated there had never been a traffic study conducted.

Representing the Client, Mr. Mark Specter of Specter Properties, requested that the zoning be returned to the initial zoning of GB.

Mr. Fisher stated that historically, the City had not necessarily accepted proffers; however, suggested staff may consider such in the future.

Council comments: There were no additional comments from Council.

Public Comment: There were none.

<u>Vote:</u>	7-0
Yes:	Cherry
	Piotrowski
	Poe
	Wade
	Wood
	Luck
	Kochuba
No:	None
Absent:	None
Abstained:	None

Motion UNANIMOUS PASS

8. Work Session on the following items:

A. Presentation of the Quarterly Financial Report for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

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Before the presentation, Mrs. Minor advised that much of the information was presented to Council at their previous meeting on April 13; however, continued by presenting the following:

- Revenue collections were up due to the increase in the City's BPOL Tax.
- The Intergovernmental Revenue, which was the EDA Fund, had not been used due to COVID.
- Staff expected the second half of the top six revenue sources, including the cigarette tax, to come in strong.
- March numbers for investments were usually low; however, the numbers were looking good at the end of the month.

Mrs. Minor addressed questions from both Messrs. Wade and Piotrowski relative to delinquent utility bills and how staff was addressing the matter.

B. Council Review and Discussion of the City of Colonial Heights FY2021-2022 Proposed Annual Operating Budget.

Before Council's review of the proposed budget, Mr. Smith thanked Mrs. Minor and department staff for their effort in compiling the annual budget.

Mayor Kochuba also thanked staff, stating that he appreciated their effort and felt this was a clean budget.

Council reviewed the budget by department with no major changes. Major discussion items are as follows:

- **Police Department:** Dr. Poe recalled her request that compression issues within Public Safety be addressed and Council's discussion to address the issue. Mayor Kochuba advised that \$110,000 was set aside to address compression.

Chief Faries and Capt. Anspach addressed Council's questions and provided specific information which contributed to the compression problem. Both Mr. Cherry and Dr. Poe felt addressing the problem needed to be a priority in order to maintain experienced and well-trained officers in an effort to combat crime in the current climate.

- **Planning and Community Development:** Ms. Hall addressed questions clarifying the need for a full-time Permit Technician. In her presentation, Ms. Hall provided detailed information justifying the need for the full-time position instead of a shared position with Economic Development.

At the end of the budget discussion, Mayor Kochuba noted the upcoming Budget Public Hearing to be held at the April 27, 2021 Special Meeting.

C. A RESOLUTION NO 21-13

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In support of the submission of a Regional Public Safety Training Facility application for federal funding.

A motion was made by Mayor Kochuba, seconded by Mrs. Luck, to approve Resolution No. 21-13.

Chief Hoover provided background information on the Regional Public Safety Training program initially implemented by Ft. Lee. Continuing, Chief Hoover stated the proposal was an effort to bring together localities to form a regional Fire Training center where skills could be enhanced by surrounding fire departments. Chief Hoover stated the City would not be able to do this on its own, and as a regional project, it provides a great opportunity to work with the City's mutual aid partners.

Addressing Mr. Cherry's questions, Chief Hoover stated Ft. Lee would be the overseer of the program.

Vote:	7-0
Yes:	Cherry
	Piotrowski
	Poe
	Wade
	Wood
	Luck
	Kochuba
No:	None
Absent:	None
Abstained:	None

Motion UNANIMOUS PASS

9. Adjournment.

A motion to adjourn the Special Meeting was made by Mayor Kochuba, seconded by Mrs. Luck, and carried unanimously on voice vote at 8:42 P.M.

APPROVED:

T. Gregory Kochuba, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela B. Wallace, City Clerk