

Regular Meeting of the Suffolk City Council was held in the City Council Chamber, 442 West Washington Street, on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Council Members -

Linda T. Johnson, Mayor, presiding

Leroy Bennett, Vice Mayor

Michael D. Duman

Roger W. Fawcett

Timothy J. Johnson

Curtis R. Milteer, Sr.

Lue R. Ward, Jr.

Patrick G. Roberts, City Manager

Helivi L. Holland, City Attorney

Erika S. Dawley, City Clerk

**ABSENT**

Donald Z. Goldberg (excused)

**CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order and advised that Council Member Goldberg would be excused for tonight’s proceedings. Council Member Milteer offered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION CERTIFICATION**

City Clerk Dawley presented a resolution certifying the Closed Meeting of March 4, 2020, pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

Council Member Fawcett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Milteer, moved to approve the resolution, as presented, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

**A RESOLUTION OF CERTIFICATION OF THE CLOSED MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2020, PURSUANT TO SECTION 2.2-3712 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA (1950), AS AMENDED**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Council Member Johnson, on a motion seconded by Vice Mayor Bennett, moved to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2019, Work Session and Regular Meeting, as presented, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	6
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0
ABTAIN:	Council Member Duman	1

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

There were no items under this portion of the agenda.

**REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Johnson advised that a motion was in order at this time to adopt the agenda.

Vice Mayor Bennett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Fawcett, to remove adopt the agenda, as presented, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

**AGENDA SPEAKERS**

There were no speakers under this portion of the agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

City Clerk Dawley presented the following Consent Agenda item:

**Consent Agenda Item #7** - An ordinance to accept and appropriate funds from the City of Hampton for reimbursement of the Suffolk Police Department for staff time provided to the Hampton Roads Criminal Justice Training Academy

Referring to Consent Agenda Item #7, City Manager Roberts submitted a review of the background information as printed in the official agenda.

Council Member Fawcett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Duman, moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Public Hearing** – An ordinance authorizing the acquisition of right of way and/or permanent and temporary easements, and real property, either by agreement or condemnation, for the Pruden Boulevard/Prudence Road Intersection Improvements Project

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Public Works Director Louis Hansen provided a report on the background information as printed in the official agenda.

Michael Saunders, 407 Great Oak Court, representing self, opined about the City’s response to COVID-19. Mayor Johnson advised him that he was out of order as this portion of the meeting was reserved for comments regarding the proposed ordinance.

Hearing no additional speakers, the public hearing was closed

Council Member Duman, on a motion seconded by Council Member Ward, moved to approve the ordinance, as presented, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

**ORDINANCES**

There were no items under this portion of the agenda.

**RESOLUTIONS**

There were no items under this portion of the agenda.

**STAFF REPORTS**

There were no items under this portion of the agenda.

**MOTIONS**

**Motion** – A motion to schedule a City Council Work Session for Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at 4:00 p.m., unless cancelled

Council Member Fawcett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Johnson, moved to schedule a Work Session for Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at 4:00 p.m., unless cancelled, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

**Motion** – A motion to schedule a public hearing for the March 18, 2020, City Council meeting, regarding authorizing the issuance and sale of Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2020

Council Member Duman, on a motion seconded by Vice Mayor Bennett, moved to schedule a public hearing for the March 18, 2020, City Council meeting, regarding authorizing the issuance and sale of Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

**Motion** – A motion to schedule a public hearing for the March 18, 2020, City Council meeting to consider the adoption of an ordinance authorizing the acquisition of permanent and temporary easements within the 4100 through 4300 blocks of Pruden Boulevard, either by agreement or condemnation, for the United States Route 460 – Pruden Boulevard Water Transmission Main Project. This project is in conjunction with and being constructed as part of the Pruden Boulevard/Prudence Road Intersection Improvements Project

Council Member Fawcett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Milteer, moved to schedule a public hearing for the March 18, 2020, City Council meeting to consider the adoption of an ordinance authorizing the acquisition of permanent and temporary easements within the 4100 through 4300 blocks of Pruden Boulevard, either by agreement or condemnation, for the United States Route 460 – Pruden Boulevard Water Transmission Main Project. This project is in conjunction with and being constructed as part of the Pruden Boulevard/Prudence Road Intersection Improvements Project, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

**NON-AGENDA SPEAKERS**

Michael Saunders, 407 Great Oak Court, representing self, opined about the City’s response to COVID-19.

Kelly Hengler, 9345 Eclipse Drive, representing the Crittenden-Eclipse-Hobson Heritage Civic League, spoke about the mitigation of impacts to the villages of Crittenden and Eclipse.

Casey Ohmsen, 509 Oscar Babb Lane, representing self, opined about Second Amendment rights.

**NEW BUSINESS**

City Clerk Dawley presented the following board and commission nominations for City Council’s consideration: Agricultural Advisory Committee – Thomas Vandiver, (Direct Marketing Farming representative) and Monte Walden, Sr. (Farm Service Area Local Administrative Area – Holy Neck)

Council Member Fawcett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Johnson, moved to nominate and appoint the above referenced individuals to the aforementioned bodies, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS**

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Media and Community Relations Assistant Director Timothy Kelley reported on the following: ribbon cuttings for Enhanced Nutrition and Energy and the expansion of Tidewater Staffing; the upcoming Suffolk Police Department’s Promotional Ceremony; the upcoming Suffolk Police Department’s Badge Pinning Ceremony; the start of the application process for the Suffolk Police Department’s Explorer Program; the upcoming Suffolk Restaurant Week; the upcoming Public Works Department’s Saint Patrick’s Day Community Clean Up; the start of Daylights Savings Time and Suffolk Mass Notification System online.

Council Member Fawcett opined about the need to change batteries in smoke detectors.

Council Member Fawcett acknowledged the City’s acquisition of the property from the United States National Guard for the new recreation center in the northern part of the City.

Council Member Fawcett opined about COVID-19.

Council Member Milteer opined about the information presented at today’s Work Session regarding the issuance of the 2020 Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds.

Council Member Duman opined about the launch of the Suffolk Police Department’s Explorer Program.

Council Member Duman announced he attended the following: the Mothers Against Violence Luncheon; the Little Bethel Baptist Church Black History event and King’s Fork Middle School’s Career Day.

Council Member Duman opined about sharing information with the public about the Comprehensive Plan process,

Council Member Ward reported he attended the following: the Little Bethel Baptist Black History event and Temple Beth El Black History Month Fashion Show.

Council Member Ward acknowledged Mr. Saunders.

Council Member Johnson acknowledged the *Suffolk News Herald’s* coverage of the City.

Council Member Johnson opined about recent tornados in Tennessee.

Vice Mayor Bennett extended his appreciation to the Public Works Department’s efforts for snow removal.

Vice Mayor Bennett opined about the Suffolk Police Department’s Explorer Program.

Mayor Johnson opined about an upcoming economic development announcement.

Mayor Johnson opined about the upcoming Suffolk Police Department’s Promotional Ceremony and Suffolk Police Department’s Badge Pinning Ceremony.

Mayor Johnson advised she was attending a ribbon cutting for Sugar Momma’s Bakery.

Mayor Johnson opined about the presentation made by Kevin Page, Executive Director, Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, at today’s Work Session regarding regional transportation and transit funding.

City Manager Roberts provided a report on the City’s efforts as it relates to COVID-19.

Deputy City Manager D. Scott Mills gave a summary of the upcoming City’s Comprehensive Plan process.

Council Member Fawcett queried about any communication between the City and Sentara Healthcare regarding COVID-19. City Manager Roberts said that the City’s Emergency Management Services Division contact with Sentara Healthcare via Virginia Department Emergency Management.

Council Member Fawcett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Johnson, moved to adjourn, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	7
NAYS:	None (Council Member Goldberg was excused.)	0

There being no further business to come before City Council, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Teste: \_\_\_\_\_  
Erika S. Dawley, MMC, City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Linda T. Johnson, Mayor

APPROVED: JUNE 17, 2020