

Electronic Emergency Management Meeting of the Suffolk City Council on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. at the following locations:

PRESENT

Council Members -

- Linda T. Johnson, Mayor, presiding, Suffolk City Council Chamber, 442 West Washington Street
- Leroy Bennett, Vice Mayor, Fire Station Number 6, 300 Kings Fork Road
- Michael D. Duman, Fire Station Number 6, 300 Kings Fork Road
- Roger W. Fawcett, Fire Station Number 5, 3901 Bridge Road
- Donald Z. Goldberg, City Council Conference Room, 442 West Washington Street
- Timothy J. Johnson, Suffolk Executive Airport, 1200 Gene Bolton Drive
- Curtis R. Milteer, Sr., Suffolk Executive Airport, 1200 Gene Bolton Drive
- Lue R. Ward, Jr., Fire Station Number 5, 3901 Bridge Road

- Patrick G. Roberts, City Manager
- Helivi L. Holland, City Attorney
- Erika S. Dawley, City Clerk

ABSENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order.

Mayor Johnson provided the following announcement: on March 12, 2020, Governor Ralph S. Northam declared a State of Emergency for the Commonwealth of Virginia, due to the rapid spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Following that declaration, City Manager Patrick G. Roberts declared the City of Suffolk to be in a State of Emergency. Because of the catastrophic nature of the declared emergency, it is impractical and unsafe to assemble a quorum of City Council in a single location. In accordance with the code of Virginia and Suffolk City Code, this Emergency Meeting of Suffolk City Council will be held via video and video conference. The meeting will be broadcasted live on the City’s local cable channel (Spectrum Channel 190) and stream via the internet at http://suffolkva.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=2

City Clerk Dawley called the roll and all members of City Council were in attendance.

Resolution – A resolution to adopt the 2020 edition of the City of Suffolk’s Emergency Operations Plan, as amended

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Fire Chief Michael Barakey offered a summary of the background information as printed in the official agenda.

Vice Mayor Bennett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Duman, moved to approve the resolution, as presented, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, Goldberg, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	8
NAYS:	None	0

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2020 EDITION OF THE CITY OF SUFFOLK’S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN, AS AMENDED

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Spicer submitted a synopsis of the City’s ongoing efforts to address the Novel Coronavirus pandemic.

Staff Report – Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating and Capital Budget

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Finance Director Tealen Hansen gave a summation of the background information as printed in the official agenda.

Council Member Milteer opined about the real estate tax increases due an increase in assessed values and proposed increase in water and sewer rates.

Council Member Fawcett opined about State funding impacting local revenues, the proposed increase in water and sewer rates, the proposed increase in refuse rates and the proposed five new positions.

Council Member Duman opined about the Professional services line item, the Information Technology line item and other budgetary matters.

Mayor Johnson opined about the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget before and after the onset of the Novel Coronavirus pandemic.

Council Member Johnson opined about the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget as it relates to the feasibility of using the rainy day funds, proposed increase in water and sewer rates and the feasibility of a revised budgetary submission from Suffolk Public Schools.

Vice Mayor Bennett opined about the proposed increase in water, sewer and refuse rates.

Council Member Ward opined about the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget.

Council Member Goldberg opined about the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget.

MOTIONS

Motion – A motion to schedule a public hearing to be held on May 6, 2020, to receive public comment on the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating and Capital Budget

Council Member Milteer, on a motion seconded by Council Member Goldberg, moved to schedule a public hearing to be held on May 6, 2020, to receive public comment on the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating and Capital Budget, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, Goldberg, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	8
NAYS:	None	0

Motion – A motion to schedule a public hearing to be held on May 20, 2020, to receive public comment on the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Citywide effective real estate tax due to the assessment of 1.87%

Council Member Fawcett, on a motion seconded by Council Member Goldberg, moved to schedule a public hearing to be held on May 20, 2020, to receive public comment on the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Citywide effective real estate tax due to the assessment of 1.87%, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, Goldberg, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	8
NAYS:	None	0

Motion – A motion to schedule a public hearing to be held on May 6, 2020, to receive public comment on the proposed FY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan and the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan for the City of Suffolk’s Community Development Block Grant Program and the Western Tidewater Home Consortium HOME Investment Partnership Grant Program

Council Member Fawcett, on a motion seconded by Vice Mayor Bennett, moved to schedule a public hearing to be held on May 6, 2020, to receive public comment on the proposed FY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan and the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan for the City of Suffolk’s Community Development Block Grant Program and the Western Tidewater Home Consortium HOME Investment Partnership Grant Program, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, Goldberg, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	8
NAYS:	None	0

Mayor Johnson announced that the City Council will have an electronic or regular meeting on the regularly scheduled City Council meeting date of May 6, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., unless cancelled. The decision of the type of meeting will be governed by the state of the local emergency or any federal or state order. Notice of the meeting will be provided to the public as soon as practical. Instructions on how citizens may participate in scheduled public hearings for electronic meetings will be provided in the public notice of the electronic meeting

Council Member Duman, on a motion seconded by Council Member Ward, moved to adjourn, by the following vote:

AYES:	Mayor L. Johnson, Vice Mayor Bennett, and Council Members Duman, Fawcett, Goldberg, T. Johnson, Milteer and Ward	8
NAYS:	None	0

There being no further business to come before City Council, the regular meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Teste: _____
Erika S. Dawley, MMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____
Linda T. Johnson, Mayor

APPROVED: JULY 15, 2020