

Town Meeting Recap

JUNE 2019 - GREAT BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

The following is a recap of major topics discussed and questions answered during the City Council's second Town Meeting for 2019, held on Tuesday, June 4, at Great Bridge High School. For additional details, visit CityOfChesapeake.net.

Chesapeake Police Department

Police Chief Kelvin Wright and members of his staff spoke with several citizens regarding speeding concerns at specific points in the City. Those locations have been targeted for monitoring and have been added to the department's "Opportunities for Impact" list so that officers can add proactive patrols to their daily plans. The Chief also discussed School Resource Officers with a citizen.

Chesapeake Fire Department

Fire Chief Ed Elliott, along with the Deputy Fire Chief and the Chief Fire Marshal, discussed smoke alarms with several residents and provided information about the City's new Mobile Integrated Healthcare program. They also interacted with a member of the Boy Scouts and assisted in his pursuit of the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge. Chief Elliott provided details to a resident on the forthcoming Fire Station 7 replacement.

Parks, Recreation & Tourism

More than 40 people interacted with department representatives, with many being newcomers to the City seeking information on programs and services available. There were a number of requests related to the addition of a Community Center in the Southern Chesapeake/Hickory area. While this is not currently funded, the department has expanded their partnership with Chesapeake Schools, making additional program and activity facilities available in these areas. Similar discussions were held at the Town Meeting related to the Great Bridge Community Center.

There were also several questions about the potential for a Dog Park in Southern Chesapeake. Staff responded that options are being evaluated as part of the renovation of Northwest River Park over the next several years.

Planning Department

Lengthy discussions with several citizens centered around growth and development potentials in the City, along with the need for additional sidewalks, roadways, and infrastructure. Staff addressed concerns about development in Southern Chesapeake, with reference to the City's Comprehensive, Master Transportation, and other plans.

Many of the topics discussed crossed over into the realms of Public Works and Development & Permits, so staff assisted in getting citizens to the proper personnel to address their concerns and issues.

Public Works Department

Public Works staff received the bulk of the questions during this Town Meeting, with the vast majority centering around the forthcoming closure of the Centerville Bridge. Staff explained the reasons behind the complete closure, which begins July 28, and the need to take the bridge fully out of service for up to six months.

Using maps and diagrams, staff explained the planned detour routes during the bridge closure. They also discussed plans the City is making to help mitigate the traffic as much as possible, although everyone agreed that the closure and detours are going to create a large amount of congestion throughout the area.

Additional information on the closure, along with detour routes, can be found at www.CityOfChesapeake.net/Centerville.

Department staff also spoke with residents about a number of stormwater and roadway topics, with specific responses based on the individual situations.

Public Utilities Department

The Battlewood Meadows project, scheduled for completion in June of 2020, was a main topic of discussion for department staff. Questions included when will Hillwell Road be reopened (as early as February 2020), and what will be the sewer connection fee (\$3,519, payable in quarterly installments).

There was also discussion regarding the water main being installed on Centerville Turnpike, coincident with the Centerville Bridge replacement. This main will establish a looped supply for a large neighborhood in the area and provide a redundant water supply for the Greenbrier East area, both of which enhance the reliability of water service delivery.



**NEXT TOWN
MEETING**

**TUESDAY
DECEMBER 3**

**INDIAN RIVER
HIGH SCHOOL**