

**CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VIRGINIA**  
**Special Meeting of City Council**  
**Tuesday, September 21, 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

**3. Declarations of Personal Interest**

**Declarations were read by Dr. Poe and Messrs. Cherry and Wood and filed with the Clerk.**

**4. A Work Session on the following items:**

**A. Colonial Heights Public Schools Proposed High School Projects.**

**After brief comments by Dr. Sroufe, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Stephen Halsey of Moseley Architects provided an overview of proposed Capital Improvement Projects at the High School to include additions or improvements to Fine Arts, Administration/Guidance, Commons/Kitchen, and Auxiliary Gymnasium. Although the total project improvements totaled \$17,784,300, the updated CIP did not include improvements to the Auxiliary Gymnasium, which brought the total project cost down to \$13,226,909.**

**At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. Sroufe and Mr. Halsey addressed questions from Council relative to the projects. Many of the questions related to the financial responsibility of both the School Board and Council. Dr. Poe suggested additional information be provided by the School Board to quantify the request for changes. In response to Dr. Poe's comment, Dr. Sroufe encouraged Council to schedule a collective tour of the proposed areas.**

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**B. Discussion Regarding a Potentially New City Committee**

Mr. Wade addressed his concern relative to the lack of promotion of the City and encouraged the creation of a “Visionary Committee” to generate an in-depth view of short-term and long-term growth for the City. Mr. Wade suggested the members of the committee be the Finance Director, City Manager, Economic Development Director and Planning Commission.

Mr. Smith advised that his initial suggestion was this would be something for the Advisory Board to Council to consider; however, hearing Mr. Wade’s expectations, he would like to look further at Mr. Wade’s expectations and further consider the proposal.

After further discussion, it was decided Mr. Wade’s proposal should be a Retreat topic, which would allow Council to create specific, obtainable goals for the City.

5. 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 – namely, a department’s proposed agreement which relates to the department employees’ secondary employment – requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.
- Paragraph A.3 of Section 2.2-3711, to discuss or consider the disposition of publicly held real property at 550 Boulevard and 115 Dupuy Avenue, for development by a business, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.
- Paragraph A.5 of Section 2.2-3711, to discuss a prospective business providing housing at Southpark Mall, where no previous announcement has been made of the business’ interest in locating its facilities in the community.

A motion to convene in closed meeting was made by Mayor Kochuba, seconded by Mr. Wade, at 7:18 P.M.

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

**Absent: None  
Abstained: None**

**Motion UNANIMOUS PASS**

**Council retired to the City Manager’s Conference Room on the second floor of City Hall.**

**At the conclusion of the discussion of the closed session, Council reconvened in the Council Chambers of City Hall.**

**4. Voice Vote – Come back into Open Session.**

**A motion to reconvene in open session was made by Mayor Kochuba, seconded by Dr. Poe, and carried unanimously on roll call vote at 9:58 P.M.**

**Vote: 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 – namely, a department’s proposed agreement which relates to the department employees’ secondary employment – requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.**
- Paragraph A.3 of Section 2.2-3711, to discuss or consider the disposition of publicly held real property at 550 Boulevard and 115 Dupuy Avenue, for development by a business, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.**

- Paragraph A.5 of Section 2.2-3711, to discuss a prospective business providing housing at Southpark Mall, where no previous announcement has been made of the business' interest in locating its facilities in the community.

**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:

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

**Motion UNANIMOUS PASS**

**Motions: None**

**7. Adjournment.**

A motion to adjourn the Special Meeting was made by Mayor Kochuba, seconded by Mr. Piotrowski, and carried unanimously on voice vote at 10:01 P.M.

**APPROVED:**

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**T. Gregory Kochuba, Mayor**

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**ATTEST:**

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**Pamela B. Wallace, City Clerk**