

**CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**January 6, 2016 .....9:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Chairman J. Matthew Rivers, Vice-Chair Lenora V. Powe, Council Members: Kenneth A. Johnson, Bruce E. Rivers, Robert G. Cole, Gerald L. Miller, Mary Anderson, Douglas Curtis and G. Franklin Plyler.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Denise Douglass – Administrator; Tim Eubanks – Assistant Administrator/Public Works Director; Betty M. Boswell – Clerk to Council; Michelle Stanley – Finance Director; Kim Burch – Chesterfield County Economic Development Director; Cherry McCoy – Chesterfield County Economic Development Senior Project Manager & Existing Industry Coordinator; Jim McGonigal – Animal Services Director; Honorable Gail Ingram – Probate Judge; Honorable Jack Rivers – Auditor; Rose Gainey – Public Works; Honorable Jay Brooks – Sheriff; Rob Lee – Undersheriff ; Honorable Faye Sellers – Clerk of Court; C. Heath Ruffner – County Attorney; Robert Monnie – The Link; Arthur Bays, Jr.; Christian Barnes-Young – Tri-County Mental Health; Andrew Frick – Sandblast Rally; Jill Rivers and Susan Nessel. There were others attending the meeting who did not sign the sign-in-sheet.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER**

Chairman J. Matthew Rivers welcomed everyone and Council Member Bruce E. Rivers opened the meeting with prayer.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

**a. Employee Length-of-Service Recognition**

Staff has implemented a Service Recognition Program that is designed to honor the County’s Employees. The program will recognize years of service beginning at five years and following in five year increments. The following employees were recognized and presented with their Certificates:

<b><u>Employee</u></b>	<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Years</u></b>
Billie (Jean) Albright)	Assessor	5 Years
Tracie Lamere	Auditor	5 Years
Brenda Thurman	Treasurer	15 Years
Charles Smith	Convenience Center	30 Years

**ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

**Chairman J. Matthew Rivers:**

Advised that he had been on Council for sixteen (16) years and out of those sixteen years, he had served as Chairman for nine (9) years. He advised that when he became Chairman nine years ago, he had three goals. The first goal was to make the meetings more efficient. He advised when he started, the meetings would go until lunch and he sometimes thought they would go until supper and he didn’t see a whole lot get accomplished and things were tabled and

he personally didn't like that, so, the meetings have gone to what they are today. He stated that was his goal, to go from all day meetings to what they are now and that the record time for a meeting is 6-9 minutes. He stated he was proud of this accomplishment and hopefully they will continue in the future, that it's not up to him, it's up to Council but he thought they do more now with shorter meetings.

The second goal was to see less micro-management regarding the staff. He stated that he came from a world educationally and otherwise, where you let professionals be professionals. He stated that when he got on Council he thought the politicians were playing the Administrator, Treasurer, Clerk of Court, Probate Judge, etc. and he didn't like that system, that it was not very efficient and he didn't think it was very smart. He stated they were out of micro-managing and he hoped this Council never goes back to it. That is why the County has staff, and to let staff be staff and that is why they have become staff, they run Council, that Council is part-time and that's the way it should be.

The third goal was to see buildings built, not just drawings that lined the hallway of the Council office. He said that was a goal of his to no longer have drawings of buildings and now he was sitting in a building that has just been built. He stated this was his last goal and he pushed having the meeting in the new building today because he would like to have his last meeting held in the new building and that he felt he was fairly instrumental in making sure this building got completed, financially and otherwise. Chairman Rivers said it was a really happy day for him because when you are a politician you want to judge your own time and that he had actually told Mr. Johnson years ago that he was going to leave on his own terms. He stated that he was doing what most politicians don't do, the acquiring of power or ability has been fun and he has played a hard role doing that but that the giving away of it was just as fun, that he is giving it away, nobody is taking it away from him and nobody is running him off. Chairman Rivers stated that he has a lot of changes going on in his life, all of them very good, career wise, etc., all very good and because of that, he clearly thinks it's time for him to move on. He stated again that it is full circle for him, in that nine years ago he told Mr. Johnson that he would vote for him but he thought he would do a better job and that he thought now Mr. Johnson would do a better job than him. He said he felt it was Mr. Johnson's time, that everybody should have a time and he feels it is now Mr. Johnson's and that he deserves it. He advised that he had one project he wanted to work on this last year and that's the Courthouse and that he planned to work on that hard and he felt he could do a good job.

Chairman Rivers then made a motion to open the floor for nominations and stated he would like to make his motion to nominate Councilman Al Johnson for Chairman for a two year term and that he wanted to join that with a motion for Vice-Chair by nominating Councilwoman Lenora Powe for a two year term. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**Chairman Johnson:** Stated that would be a pretty good speech to try to follow and that he would like to thank Council for putting their confidence in him and that he would do the very best that he could in representing the rest of Council and the citizens of Chesterfield County. He

stated he would also like to thank Councilman Matt Rivers for the job he has done for the last nine years.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Council Member Miller made a motion to adopt the January 6, 2016 meeting agenda. Vice-Chair Powe seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a. December 2, 2015 – Regular Meeting**

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to approve the December 2, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**b. December 16, 2015 – Special Meeting**

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to approve the December 16, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was Council Members Rivers, Anderson, Bruce E. Rivers, Miller, Cole, Plyler, Chairman Johnson and Vice-Chair Powe. Council Member Curtis did not vote as he was not present at the December 16, 2015 Special Meeting. Motion passed.

**SIGNING OF BONDS, PAYROLL, AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

None

**APPOINTMENTS**

**a. Christian Barnes-Young, Executive Director – Tri-County Community Mental Health**

Appeared before Council to give them a brief overview of the services provided by the Tri-County Community Mental Health Chesterfield Clinic. A handout was presented to Council regarding the services provided by Tri-County Community Mental Health.

**b. Andrew Frick – 2016 Sandblast Rally**

Andrew Frick appeared before Council seeking the approval of Council to run the annual 2016 Sandblast Rally on March 5, 2016. This event is run each year in Chesterfield County with the approval of Council to use certain County Roads.

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to approve the use of the specified roads to run the annual 2016 Sandblast Rally. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**c. Arthur Bays, Jr. – County Fire Departments**

Wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated Mr. Johnson on being the Chairman. He also thanked Council Member Matt Rivers for what he has done for the County for the past 16 years. Mr. Bays appeared before Council and advised that the fire service in our County is struggling with man power issues and that the majority of fire personnel in our county

are volunteers. Mr. Bays advised that he would like to see a full time fireman placed at every fire department with coverage from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday-Friday. He stated that he would also like for the County to hire a County Fire Marshall.

There was some discussion regarding this matter. Chairman Johnson advised Mr. Bays that this was an issue to be reviewed at such time as the Council begins work on the fiscal year 2016-2017 budget.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**ORDINANCE READINGS AND RESOLUTION**

**a. Resolution to Approve Master MCP Agreement Amendment (Lancaster County)**

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to adopt the Resolution to Approve Master MCP Agreement Amendment (Lancaster County) to add the Lineberger property located in Lancaster County. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**ITEMS SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL**

**a. State of the County - Chair**

Chairman Johnson asked Administrator Douglass to report the year end closing State of the County Summary. See attached State of the County for calendar year 2015.

**ITEMS SUBMITTED BY STAFF**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Chairman Johnson:**

Advised that before the announcements he wanted Administrator Douglass to tell everyone about the furniture.

**Denise Douglass, Administrator:**

Advised that all the furniture everyone saw in Council Chambers was built by our building crew. We got quotes for some of the furniture, the quotes were as follows: 1) Over \$52,000; 2) \$49,000 and 3) \$32,000. She advised that as the cost decreased, the desk became smaller, the type of wood changed and the overall quality decreased; so Tim decided his crew could do this and he went to Eugene, and they drew it out and they did all the rails and platform. The platform was added, it was not included in any of the quotes we received. She said she was very proud of it and hoped everyone else was too because it looks really, really good, and was a small fraction of the cost of the quotes obtained.

**Chairman Johnson:**

Stated he would like to echo that and it looked excellent to him and he didn't think it could look any better.

**Council Member Bruce E. Rivers:**

Stated he thought the County had very talented employees and they have done far above and beyond what their job description calls for. He said they were very fortunate to have the employees they have and that sometimes they don't show their appreciation to them the way they should, but they had some wonderful employees and the employees should be recognized more often.

**Council Member Curtis:**

The skill level and craftsmanship that went into this and they actually completed this for a fifth of what that first quote was, this tells you the savings and they should be commended.

**Council Member Matt Rivers:**

Mr. Chairman, I would just remind Council that the true appreciation is to make sure that these gentlemen have jobs in the future when these other jobs run out. Conservative Americans tend to have a tendency to when you don't need them, that maybe you move on and I hope we don't do that in the future. Maybe these gentlemen can be cross trained in other specialties in the future.

**Chairman Johnson:**

I certainly hope that we can put our heads together and use these gentlemen as much as we can on our new remodeling of the Courthouse and I hope all of you would agree with that.

**Council Member J. Matthew Rivers**

Advised that he would like to recognize that his wife was at the meeting and he was glad to have her there. He stated that he looked forward to a good year and that he wanted to also recognize the employees for the great job they did on the Council Chambers furniture. He advised that Beverly Suhy recently passed away and that she was one of the animal activist and had attended council meetings in the past regarding the animals.

**Council Member Cole**

Stated that it had been nice working with Council Member Matt Rivers and he looked forward to working with Chairman Johnson.

**Council Member Bruce E. Rivers**

Recognized Representative Yow for being present at the meeting and that he appreciated all the work he does. Stated that FirstHealth was no longer going to be with us and that they needed to move on this.

**Chairman Johnson:**

Advised that a Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday to interview the two ambulance services with the lowest bids and that the process has been started.

**Council Member Plyler**

A lot of dedicated people worked on the Animal Shelter that love to help with the animals. He advised he thought everyone should go by the Animal Shelter and look at it and that this County has really progressed in the last few years. He thanked everyone that worked on the Animal Shelter.

**Council Member Curtis**

None

**Council Member Anderson**

None

**Council Member Miller**

None

**Council Vice-Chair Powe**

Advised that the Teal's Mill bridge and dam are being worked on and would be closed for about two weeks. Stated that she was happy to be working with Chairman Johnson.

**Council Chair Kenneth A. Johnson**

Stated that he was going to be making some changes in the Standing Committees and would advise Council of changes at a later date.

**Administrator Denise Douglass**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council did not enter Executive Session.

**ADJOURN**

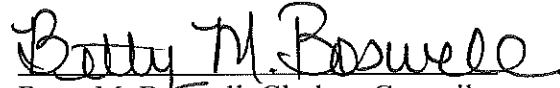
Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**APPROVED:**



Al Johnson, Chairman  
Date: February 3, 2016

**ATTEST:**

  
Betty M. Boswell, Clerk to Council