

## Hydraulic Community Advisory Committee Minutes Monday, June 21, 2021 | 5:30pm-7:00pm

### VIRTUAL MEETING

*This meeting was held pursuant to and in compliance with Ordinance No. 20-A (8); An Ordinance to Ensure the Continuity of Government During Covid-19.*

**ATTENDEES:** Michaela Accardi, Julian Bivins, Vito Cetta, James Clemenko, Gabe Dayley, Jane Fogleman, Andrew Friedman (ACPD), Tripp Martin (ACPD), Diantha McKeel, Rosemary Miller, John Neal, Cynthia Neff, Bill Love, Major Sean Reeves (ACPD), Chris Rembold, Carolyn Shaffer, Yolanda Speed, Samantha Strong, Kim Swanson

**NOTE:** Before approval of the June minutes, Kim Swanson pointed out that the minutes made it appear that the water pipeline project will serve Scottsville. However, the new project will serve urban areas; Scottsville has a separate water source.

### AGENDA:

#### Albemarle County Crime Statistics

Andrew Friedman, Albemarle County Police Department (ACPD), Crime Analyst

- Background: Andrew shared statistics for 2021, through June 14. ACPD divides the county into areas/sections – this presentation was about the Hydraulic area (not exactly the same as the area covered by the Places-Hydraulic Community Advisory Committee).
- Violent crime was down 11%. Property crime was up 34%. (Property crime = burglaries, car thefts, larceny, etc.)
  - Shots Fired incidents were down 28% since 2020 (still up 5% in three years).
- Places 29-Hydraulic area in 2021:
  - 14 violent crimes – 4 rape, 10 aggravated assaults, 0 robberies, 0 homicides. All but 2 are cleared/solved.
  - 134 property crimes – this is a national issue of the moment – 8 burglaries, 9 vehicle thefts, remainder are larcenies (36 thefts from unlocked cars, 21 thefts of catalytic converters.
  - 30 shots fired calls – response protocol changed in 2021: all incidents investigated (not just ones where someone/something was struck); many turn out to be something *other than* shots fired.
- The ACPD is clearing issues at a higher rate than the national average. Of the 9 vehicles that were stolen, all but 1 were recovered/cleared.
- Focused on two areas: (1) BURGOYNE ROAD AREA – assigned to problem Oriented Policing Unit – more proactive approach, seeing progress! (2) PEYTON DRIVE AREA / COMMONWEALTH – 10 shots fired, 4 substantiated, 1 person struck. Extra attention from Police is being focused in this area.
- Kim Swanson asked about day/night crime. Andrew said he would investigate and send these details to the group.
- Bill Love asked about traffic stops i.e. tracking race, time of stop, etc.
- Tripp Martin (ACPD) explained Problem Oriented Policing (POP). POP Officers are being proactive, developing relationships with property managers at certain apartment neighborhoods, spending time in neighborhoods with higher rates of calls/crimes.
- Kim Swanson asked about high school kids and how they are seen by police. Example: Kim's son gets together and sits as a group outside with friends. Is this ok? ACPD Major Sean Reeves

responded that people sometimes call about suspicious activities, then officers follow up. Staffing is quite low right now; ACPD does not have time to approach kids without reason.

- James Clemenko asked about a possible increase in street racing. Sean Reeves confirmed that yes, there has been an uptick in street racing since COVID, with crashes and fatalities each year.

### **Albemarle County Growth Management Policy**

Michaela Accardi, Long Range Planning, Albemarle County Community Development

Gabe Dayley, Climate Protection Program Manager, Albemarle County

- Comprehensive Plan is the 20-year visionary document to develop policies, establish long-range guiding principles
  - Establishes 5% of County land as Development Areas. This will avoid sprawl, keep rural areas rural. Development areas have thriving business, transportation network, attractive neighborhoods, etc.
- Many examples of Cities with Growth Management Policies: Denver, Portland, Boulder, States of Oregon and Washington – all to prevent sprawl and concentrate urban areas.
- Median rent in Albemarle County = \$1278 with Median annual income = \$50,000. Housing is not affordable.

Gabe – Growth Management and Climate Change

- Transportation – 52% of greenhouse gases in Albemarle County are from transportation
- Buildings – size/density affect energy efficiency
- Urban Heat Islands – more paved surfaces = more intense heat islands
- The full report is coming soon! Climate Action Plan was adopted in October 2020
  - Plan includes greater density, which will lead to fewer emissions.
  - A holistic approach to land use including density and mixed use for new development, “complete streets” (something for everyone – transportation, green space, a place enjoyable for use by everyone in the community), green spaces, etc.
  - Equity in housing affordability and transportation.
- Michaela added that the Comprehensive Plan Update is beginning in the Fall of 2021 – Phase 1: Growth + Capacity (phased update). Right now, they are conducting capacity analysis. There will be opportunities for public engagement.
- Vito Cetta commented that he is in support of the Comprehensive Plan
- Chris Rembold commented that one purpose of the Comprehensive Plan is to keep rural areas rural, but urban residents should maintain access to rural areas as well.
  - Jane Fogleman commented that some neighborhoods have had to restrict non-residents because they did not have access to their own homes because of the walkers/joggers in the neighborhood.
  - Diantha commented that VDOT put up signs at Ridge Road because residents of the road weren’t able to get to their homes.
- Tom Oliver (member of the public): concerned with growth and climate action. Adding residents to Albemarle County increases greenhouse gases. We cannot achieve carbon neutrality if the County does not control growth.

### **Community Updates**

Samantha Strong, Stonefield

- Despite rumors, Stonefield is not getting a Tesla dealership :)
- Splendor’s is officially open

- The old Pier1 Imports space is being split into three spaces: Torchie's Tacos, a Har Studio, and Ramen & Sushi
- The movie theater is open!
- May 2021 was the best month ever for some businesses and we are optimistic for the rest of the year
- Live music this summer! Every Friday 5-7

Julian Bivins, Planning Commission

- Comprehensive Plan is how to manage growth. No soft borders between growth and rural areas is how we manage it moving forward, and how we maintain beauty surrounding the city.
- Question for the group: How many of your kids and grandkids can return here and live like people do now regarding real estate, jobs, living wages, etc. Something to think about!

Diantha McKeel, Board of Supervisors

- It is all a balance! We can't lose businesses to economic development.
- One issue: we have a cluster of 250 homes not hooked up to public sewer. This is a climate and public health issue.
- Diantha shared a positive quote from Sean Tubbs re: the Hydraulic CAC and commended the group for their work.
- VDOT is getting heat cameras to look at traffic for school zones. More updates to come!

There is no planned July meeting. Next meeting is Monday, August 16.