

# *You Spoke. We listened.*

*Let's partner to preserve our values!*

Name of Group: **East Hampton Neighborhood Association**

Date: **April 12, 2011**

# in Attendance: 15

## **Attendee comments:**

- How will the new Peninsula Town Center (PTC) impact revenues this year?
- What are the biggest budget challenges facing the city?
  - Diminishing revenues from the state
  - City's share of pension funding
  - Capital needs increasing (Infrastructure, drainage)
- We are no different to surrounding cities regarding the budget?
- Is trash pickup going to be impacted by this budget?
  - No changes in this year's budget are planned
  - Other cities that require residents to pay for each trash pick up, are less attractive
  - Cities that have good trash pickup look much better and cleaner
- Hope the schools are being well maintained – few cuts?
  - Minimal reduction based on city's formula
- Impact of HRT services (new buses, drivers)
  - Were we funding for the schools and public transportation?
  - Yes
  - HRT funding cutting back services, several routes only have 1-2 persons riding
- Cut back on bus services and other service rather than the schools
- Cost of meter parking at the PTC not much time
- Tax rate increase?
  - Rate information will be shared with City Council at tomorrow's work session
  - I am opposed to it
- Where will we hear about the Manager's budget?
  - In the paper, highlights online
- Been a while since we have had a tax rate increase
  - We have had several decreases
  - I will pay more if it keeps it level with what I pay out of pocket
- When you are on fixed incomes a small increase has a large impact
- How is the tax rate increase applied to those who have a 20% assessment decrease versus a 2% decrease?
  - It would be increased equally but the amount one paid would be based on the assessment
- What cause the large drops in assessments?
  - It is based on real estate market values comparable to the region
- Was told by insurance agent not to change value of the insurance on my home because it would cost that much to rebuild your home.
- Sister is looking to move to the area but noticed that property taxes were much higher than other areas (such as Ashland and nearer to Richmond). What other streams of funding do they have?
  - The number of great services (streets, curbs, gutter, schools, cultural arts)

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## **Questions for follow up:**

- Have they closed any schools in the past few years?
  - Yes – Mallory, Lee, Mary Peake, Wythe
  
- How much did it cost tax payers to put in the parking meters at the Town Center? Which Non-profit that receives the funding? Oversight cost for program? Considerable cost for meter enforcement? Why have the meters if they are being donated to charity and not covering the cost?

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