

# **LAKE SHORES CIVIC LEAGUE GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: January 20, 2026, 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of Shelton Park Elementary School. Twenty-four neighbors were present. Date of our next General Meeting is March 17, 2026 on the third Tuesday of the month unless a conflict with Shelton Park Elementary School (SPES).

## **Our Purpose**

The purpose of this organization shall be to bring together for mutual benefit, those persons who are interested in civic betterment of any kind. It shall be operated along democratic lines, having no political affiliation, and being non-sectarian in the matter of religion

## **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, & Welcome**

President Diane called to order, welcomed all, & invited us to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Guest Speakers**

Our guest speakers were Brantley Bissette and Jill Morrison from the Hampton Roads Sanitation District, and Meredith Kellam from Virginia Beach Public Utilities. Mr. Bissette and Ms. Kellam had provided handouts with QR codes for more information about their respective organizations. The big news that many attendees were not aware of was the treatment plant across Shore Drive adjacent to Gate 3 of Little Creek NAB was decommissioned several years ago, which is why we haven't had odors in the north part of the neighborhood. Other highlights on the discussion were:

- HRSD is the 14<sup>th</sup> largest waste water treatment utility in the nation with 1.9 million customers in Virginia, and 100 waste water plants and 14 treatment plants
- It covers 5,000 square miles, so geography is its biggest challenge (the area is all of Hampton Roads and the Peninsula, the Eastern Shore, and Middle Neck)
- HRSD has a capacity of 225 million gallons a day but is normally 100 million a day
- Waste water and storm water are separate (a good thing), with storm water largely untreated
- The Sustainable Water Initiative for Tomorrow is HRSD's newest water treatment innovation, taking highly treated water that would otherwise be discharged into the Elizabeth, James or York rivers and putting it through additional rounds of advanced water treatment to meet drinking water quality standards to replenish the Potomac Aquifer, the primary source of groundwater for the region (for more information, go to <https://www.hrsd.com/swift>)
- The most innovative focus for HRSD is bringing costs down
- HRSD is world renowned for it's operations (the "Silicon Valley" of the Water Sector) with representatives visiting its infrastructure from Australia, South Korea, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Jefferson Laboratories, Morgan AI, etc.

There were questions and more discussions that dealt with how bills are calculated (one CCF is 748 gallons, and HRSD wastewater amounts are estimated based on the property city water usage), the amount and size of pipes, water pressure in the neighborhood, and billing cycles (HRSD is trying very hard to standardize days in billing periods).

For more information on HRSD, go to their website at: <https://www.hrsd.com/>

## **Secretary Report**

Our current Secretary Jeanne Marie was not able to attend the meeting, so since the minutes are posted on the civic league website, the President moved to accept that minutes which were approved and accepted by the voting members present.

## **Treasury Report**

Treasurer Dodie read the Treasurer's Report.

Account balance on 11/18/2025 was \$2103.50.

\$40.00 in donations were made towards our new signs!

\$200 in dues were collected at our November meeting.

Current total balance is \$2343.50 of which \$420.00 is for our new signs.

\$2343.50

- 420.00 – sign fund

\$1923.50 – remaining balance

Please remember we are in a new fiscal year, so please pay your dues at your earliest convenience.

Diane moved to accept the report.

As no additions or corrections, the report was approved.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO)**

Second VP Dave and VBCCO Rep:

- VBCCO meets monthly on Wednesday nights as a liaison to City Council.
- Residents of Lake Shores can go to VBCCO then to City Council.
- VBCCO is a central organization to work with City Council.

### **Citizen Advisory Committees (CAC) – Third Precinct**

CAC Rep Rick:

MPO Ziegler briefed VB's Crisis Intervention Team:

- Teaming a social worker with police for instances of mental or health crisis vice a criminal matter
- Dial #988 for the CIT
- Call (757) 385-0888 for more information

Other items from the CAC:

- Overall crime in the city is down 20-29% for most crimes
- Vehicle larcenies are down 51%
- However commercial break ins are up
- If residents have unhoused persons on their property, report it to (757) 385-5000

## **Adopt a Street**

Coordinator Jack:

We will meet on January 31 at 9:00 a.m. at the Pump House on Jack Frost Road.

Wear long sleeves & gloves.

Jack has grabbers, bags, safety vests

In case of rain, Jack will be at the pump house to let volunteers know to return home.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Our neighborhood signs are now 12 to 14 years old, the plywood is coming apart. Rick briefed two letters sent by our City Councilman Joash Schulmann supporting our grant request with helpful information on how best to prepare the form. See those letters at the end of these minutes.

The neighbor informed us of the nine-year-old girl who was attacked by dogs in Lake Shores at our last meeting said the dog problem is still present and has called Animal Control which seems unable or unwilling to intercede at this time.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The membership voted to reimburse Rick \$50 that he fronted as a donation to the Schools Trunk or Treat night to defray the cost of candy (which has gotten really expensive). He donated the money to the sign fund

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Diane:

Our next meeting is on March 17, 2026. Our speakers will be from the HRBT Expansion Project. Diane asked for questions, invited us to suggest speakers for future meetings, then moved that the meeting be adjourned.

The motion to adjourn was seconded.

All agreed & the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Craig Corey*





JOASHUA F. "JOASH" SCHULMAN  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
DISTRICT 9

## City of Virginia Beach

**VBgov.com**

CELL: (757) 840-1291  
EMAIL: [jschulman@vbgov.com](mailto:jschulman@vbgov.com)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to offer my strong support for the Lake Shores Civic League's application to the Creative Neighborhood Grant Program.

Lake Shores is a well-established single-family neighborhood of approximately 640 homes that reflects the best of Virginia Beach's civic culture: an engaged civic league, an active Neighborhood Watch, strong volunteer participation, and meaningful collaboration with city and community partners. The neighborhood includes a diverse mix of retired military residents and young families, and it benefits from a shared commitment to safety, stewardship, and neighborhood pride.

The proposed project—to replace aging neighborhood entry signage and to host a community-building event—directly aligns with the intent of the Creative Neighborhood Grant Program. These efforts are not merely cosmetic. Well-maintained neighborhood entrances help reinforce a sense of identity and welcome, while community events foster connection, volunteerism, and long-term resident engagement. Together, these investments strengthen social cohesion and encourage residents to take shared ownership of their neighborhood.

Like many civic leagues, Lake Shores operates with limited financial resources, relying heavily on volunteers and modest dues to support neighborhood initiatives. A Creative Neighborhood Grant would provide meaningful support for improvements that are otherwise difficult to fund, while yielding outsized benefits in terms of community involvement and neighborhood vitality.

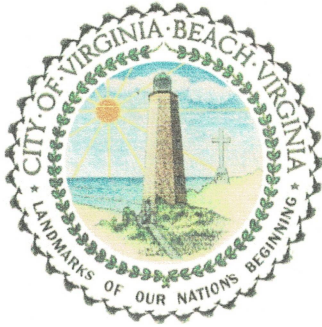
I commend the Lake Shores Civic League for continuing to pursue opportunities to improve their neighborhood and for their willingness to learn from past applications in order to strengthen this proposal. Their leadership and volunteers consistently demonstrate a commitment to keeping Lake Shores a safe, attractive, and welcoming place to live.

Thank you for your consideration of their application. Please do not hesitate to contact me if additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Joashua F. "Joash" Schulman  
Virginia Beach City Council  
District 9 Representative





JOASHUA F. "JOASH" SCHULMAN  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
DISTRICT 9

# City of Virginia Beach

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Fall 2025

Dear Neighbors and Fellow District 9 Residents,

It's been nearly three years since I was entrusted with the responsibility and the privilege of representing you on the Virginia Beach City Council. When I asked for the job, I made you a promise that I would fight for funding to improve our roads, to rebuild our schools, to strengthen our defenses against recurrent flooding and sea level rise, and to deliver long overdue pedestrian and cyclist safety and connectivity improvements. I also promised to advocate for policies that safeguard and enhance our coastal environment, and to support neighborhoods by helping to ensure that new developments are appropriately scaled and consistent with community character.

I am pleased to report that we've made historic progress in just three short years. Below are highlights of the accomplishments we can be most proud of:

## **Investing in Roads & Infrastructure**

- Secured \$15M+ for long-delayed road projects on Shore Drive and Pleasure House Road.
- Secured funding for long-requested updates to the Shore Drive Corridor Plan and Design Guidelines.
- Restored 30-minute bus service on HRT Route 35.
- Approved funding for neighborhood safety and connectivity projects, including:
  - A temporary sidewalk project along Shore Drive in Ocean Park
  - A sidewalk project on Lookout Road in Chesapeake Beach
  - A mixed-use path connecting Lakeview to Lake Smith Terrace
  - 5 new crosswalks and pedestrian refuges along Independence Boulevard between Virginia Beach Boulevard and Pleasure House Road.
- Led an effort resulting in modifications to the intersection of Jeanne Street and Constitution Drive to improve sight lines, widen travel lanes, and to make it safer to navigate the intersection.

## **Supporting Our Schools & Students**

- Secured \$15.4M to kickstart design work for Princess Anne High School, Bayside High School, and Bettie F. Williams Elementary/Bayside 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus.

- Expanded opportunities for students to serve on city boards and partnered them with environmental projects that saved over 700 Live Oak trees from destruction.
- Approved historic new funding for community arts initiatives and connected Princess Anne High School Students to a \$10,000 Creative Neighborhood Grant they successfully obtained from the City's Cultural Affairs Department for a mural project in partnership with the Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad.

#### **Protecting Our Neighborhoods**

- Installed security cameras, speed bumps, and added a nighttime security guard at the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp and Beach Facility to address public safety and neighborhood traffic concerns.
- Supported critical pay raises for police, firefighters, EMS personnel, teachers, and city employees.
- Tackled homelessness and encampments through coordinated public safety and human services efforts.
- Prevented an illegal nightclub from gaining approval to operate near Pembroke Meadows and Aragona Village.

#### **Safeguarding Our Coastal Environment**

- Fought offshore drilling to protect our coastal environment and tourism economy.
- Organized a community-led cleanup of Lake Bradford in Chesapeake Beach.
- Secured funding and approvals to conserve property for open space/park purposes in Ocean Park and Aragona Village.
- Advocated for and created policies to encourage sustainable redevelopment in areas of our city that do not present environmental/flooding challenges or disruptions to established suburban neighborhoods.
- Secured funding for season-long restrooms for beachgoers at Chesapeake Beach.

#### **Smart Growth & Responsible Development**

- Successfully advocated for neighborhoods during the development process to help scale down overdevelopment, ensuring projects preserve community character.
- Worked with our City's Legislative Affairs office and Council colleagues to clearly communicate to the General Assembly our opposition to the relocation (or redevelopment) of the Virginia Tech Agricultural Research and Extension Center.
- Approved historic grant funding for the Virginia Beach Trail Project and championed reinvestment in public facilities in Pembroke and Town Center.

#### **Fighting for Taxpayers**

- Voted to cut the real estate tax rate in 2024 and opposed hikes in 2023 & 2025.
- Approved a new 5-day grace period before late fees begin to accrue on tax bills.
- Successfully championed the redirection of \$450,000 in unspent federal COVID-19 relief funds to support the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia.

- Secured approval for legislation that protects elderly/disabled real estate tax relief when recipients purchase a new primary residence.

**Commitment to Communication & Transparency**

- Hosted nearly a dozen District 9 Town Halls and Community Information Meetings covering city-wide and District 9 projects and initiatives.
- Regularly attended District 9 civic league meetings and neighborhood events.
- Responded to hundreds of citizen requests covering issues such as potholes, trash/recycling collection, roadway and lighting conditions, homeless encampments and derelict properties, speeding and dirt bikes in neighborhoods, and late-night gatherings and disruptions.

While this progress, which we've built together, is a testament to the value of teamwork, I'm also acutely aware that the work has only just begun. My commitment to you and your family remains as steadfast and resolute as ever. I pledge to continue advocating tirelessly on your behalf, bringing your voices to the forefront, and working collaboratively to deliver safer neighborhoods, smarter growth, and a stronger community.

I value the relationships we've built and the confidence you've placed in me, and I promise to approach the challenges and opportunities of the coming year with the same passion and dedication that has guided my work thus far. Please know that if I can ever be of assistance to you, do not hesitate to email me at [jschulman@vbgov.com](mailto:jschulman@vbgov.com), or you can call me at (757) 840-1291.

Yours in gratitude and service,



Joash Schulman  
Virginia Beach City Council  
District 9 Representative.

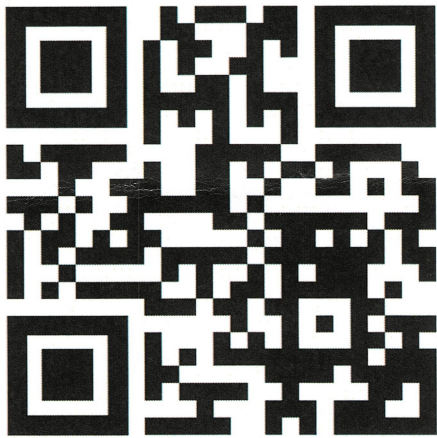




# HRSD

Sustainable, Innovative Wastewater Treatment

At HRSD, we promise to treat wastewater and recover natural resources to protect public health and the environment. Learn more here:



**ANNUAL REPORT**



**HAMPTON ROADS  
CLEAN WATER CYCLE  
VIDEO**

