

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

October 23, 2018 – 3:00 p.m.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on October 23, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in the Summerlin Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia. The following Board members were present: Jim Adams, Chairman, Debra Buchanan, Vice-Chairman, Joe Bryant, David Martin, Tommy Slaughter, and Ryan Zehr.

Staff members present were Tim Hall, County Administrator; Dale Wagoner, Deputy County Administrator; Darrell Jones, Director of Finance; Richard Stanfield, Deputy Director of Finance; Michelle Via, Director of Human Resources/Public Information Officer; Scott Grindstaff, Treasurer; and Jennifer Gregory, Administrative Assistant.

Sheriff Lane Perry, Deputy Matt Duffy, and Lt. Steve Raines of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present was Ben Williams of the Martinsville Bulletin.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Adams gave the invocation and Mr. Slaughter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. He stated that anyone who wishes to be on the agenda for the Board's regular business meeting held at 3:00 p.m. must contact the County Administrator's Office seven days prior to a scheduled meeting. Those wishing to speak at the Board's public meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. may do so under Agenda Item - Matters Presented by the Public without contacting the County Administrator's Office.

ITEMS OF CONSENT:

Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings

Copy included in Board's File.

- September 19, 2018
- September 25, 2018

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File. Mr. Slaughter moved the Items of Consent be adopted, seconded by Ms. Buchanan. The motion carried 6 to 0.

DESIGNATION OF VOTING REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE 2018 VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (VACo) ANNUAL MEETING

Mr. Hall said the 2018 VACo Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 11-13, 2018. Each County is asked to designate a member of its elected Board and an alternate to vote on the County's behalf on any issues that may arise. If no

members of the Board are attending, the Board may designate a non-elected official to serve as the voting representative. Supervisor Tommy Slaughter, Supervisor Dr. David Martin, and County Administrator Tim Hall are scheduled to attend the annual meeting.

Dr. Martin moved the Board designate Mr. Slaughter as its voting representative at the annual VACo conference and himself as an alternate, seconded by Mr. Zehr and unanimously carried.

CONSIDERATION OF 2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. Hall said each year staff and the Board of Supervisors construct a legislative agenda of items we would like for the General Assembly to consider. It is up to the Board of Supervisors to approve the final list for submission to our General Assembly delegates. In the past we have sent the Legislative Agenda via email to our state representatives, or presented it in person during a roundtable discussion of the issues. Staff requests the Board give some consideration as to how it wants to distribute the Agenda list this year.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the 2019 Legislative Agenda and recommended that it be forwarded to our representatives in the Virginia General Assembly. (Copy included in Board's File).

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 93.91% of 2017 personal property taxes and 93.62% of 2017 real estate taxes have been collected. Since January 1, TACS has collected approximately \$406,357.28. There were 3 VRW stops collected in September.

UPDATE FROM THE CHAMBER'S PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH (CPEG)

Lisa Fultz, Executive Director of the Chamber's Partnership for Economic Growth (CPEG), provided an update to the Board on small business and retail development efforts.

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Ms. Sarah Hodges, Director of Tourism for the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation, was present to make the monthly update to the Board. Ms. Hodges reviewed a summary of activities by division (Copy included in Board's File).

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: FIRE PROGRAMS AID TO LOCALITIES – PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Hall said Public Safety Director Matt Tatum is asking the Board to appropriate \$184,864 from the Virginia Department of Fire Programs Aid to Localities Fund to help fund the purchase of a fire truck. In the past, the funds

were distributed equally between the eight volunteer fire departments. However, as part of the current year budget and at the request of the Emergency Services Advisory Council (ESAC) and the Henry County Firefighters' Association, staff recommended that the funds be allocated to a single fire department to purchase a new fire truck. The budget called for funds to be allocated to Collinsville Fire Volunteer Department. However, Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department has indicated it will not use the funds this year. As a result, the volunteer fire chiefs and ESAC are requesting the funds be allocated to Dyers Store Volunteer Fire Department.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved the additional appropriation in the amount of \$184,864 and to allocate it to Dyers Store Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of a new pumper truck.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: JUSTICE DEPARTMENT BULLETPROOF VEST PROGRAM GRANTS – SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Mr. Hall said Sheriff Lane Perry is asking the Board to appropriate a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Bulletproof Vests Partnership Program (BVP) in the amount of \$21,561.84. Sheriff Perry indicates that a required 50% local match would come from his current budget.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the additional appropriation of the BVP grant in the amount of \$21,561.84.

AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: TELEPHONE SERVICES – INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Mr. Hall said Christian Youngblood, Director of the Information Services Department, is asking the Board to award a contract to MiNet of Martinsville for dial-tone telephone services for County facilities. MiNet will provide equipment and service for delivery of all incoming and outgoing telephone calls at County offices. Staff is recommending MiNet of Martinsville after the careful and thorough evaluation of proposals from five vendors. The service will be billed monthly at an approximate cost of \$2,500. The new three-year contract will reduce the County's cost for phone services by approximately 50% each month.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and second by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously approved awarding the contract for dial-tone telephone services to MiNet of Martinsville.

CONSIDERATION OF EMPLOYEE PURCHASE PLAN FOR I-PADS AND LAPTOP COMPUTERS

Mr. Hall said for the past several years the Board has authorized an employee program, in cooperation with the Henry County School System, to purchase laptops, I-Pads and other items through a payroll deduction plan. As has been done in the past, employees who participate would have a monthly payment deducted from their paychecks for six months beginning in January 2019. The size of that monthly payment would be based on the cost of the item purchased, with

no interest charged on the transaction. Each participating employee would sign a contract for the transaction and would be obligated to pay the amount even if they leave employment during the six-month period.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter and second by Dr. Martin, the Board unanimously approved the purchase plan option for employees.

DISCUSSION OF A PROPOSED ORDINANCE EXEMPTING REAL PROPERTY TAX OF THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF FIRST RESPONDERS WHOSE DEATH QUALIFIES AS A DEATH IN THE LINE OF DUTY – COUNTY ATTORNEY

Mr. Hall said Virginia law permits a locality to exempt certain real property of the surviving spouse of first responders whose death qualifies as a death in the line of duty. The General Assembly enacted specific language empowering counties to adopt such exemptions with certain parameters and limitations. County Attorney George Lyle has provided additional information in a memorandum to the Board. Should the Board wish to consider adopting the ordinance, a public hearing will need to be advertised and held. On a motion by Mr. Slaughter and second by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved setting a public hearing on this matter for 6:00 p.m. on November 27, 2018.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Ms. Buchanan said the Coat Drive for Kids deadline is November 30th with drop-off locations at Hollywood Cinema and One-Hour Martinizing on Rives Road.

Mr. Slaughter said the Vietnam Veterans Day Service will be November 11th @ 2:00 p.m. at HJDB Event Center in Bassett. A guest speaker will be present. Afterwards the service will conclude at the Bassett Historical Center across the street for the dedication of a new Veterans Memorial.

Mr. Adams wanted to thank Public Safety and the Sheriff's Department for their weather related responses over the last several weeks.

Mr. Hall noted the upcoming race weekend October 26th-28th, Election Day on November 6th, and the Veterans Day Service on November 11th. He reminded the Board that the Administration Building will be closed for Veterans Day on November 12th. Bonds for financing the construction of the new jail will be sold publicly on November 24th.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Slaughter moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:35 p.m., seconded by Mr. Zehr and unanimously carried to discuss the following.

- 1) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Southern Area Agency on Aging, Anchor Commission, and Ninth District Development Financing Committee.
- 2) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Personnel Matters.

- 3) §2.2-3711(A)7 for Discussion of Pending Legal Matters.
- 4) §2.2-3711(A)3 for Discussion of the Acquisition/Disposal of Real Estate.
- 5) §2.2-3711(A)5 for Discussion of As-Yet Unannounced Industries.
- 6) §2.2-3711(A)10 for Discussion of Special Awards.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to an open meeting at 5:14 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Slaughter and unanimously carried.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Wagoner read the Certification of the Closed Meeting and took a roll call vote.

Board members voting in the affirmative were Mr. Bryant, Mr. Adams, Ms. Buchanan, Dr. Martin, Ryan Zehr, and Tommy Slaughter.

Southern Area Agency on Aging Board – On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Rachel Crews to a three-year term ending November 1, 2021.

Employment Agreement between the Henry County Board of Supervisors and Timothy A. Hall – On a motion by Dr. Martin and second by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the County Administrator contract beginning September 1, 2018 for a period of 48 months. (Copy included in Board's File).

Mr. Adams recessed at 5:16 p.m. until the 6:00 p.m. evening meeting.

Mr. Adams welcomed everyone to the 6:00 p.m. meeting.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

David Kiser, Assistant Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, updated the Board on general highway matters.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

There was no one present who wished to speak.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:06 p.m., seconded by Mr. Zehr and unanimously carried.