

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

July 28, 2020 – 3:00 p.m.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on July 28, 2020, 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, Tommy Slaughter, David Martin, and Ryan Zehr.

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

Sheriff Lane Perry, Lt. Col. Steve Eanes, Major Eric Hairston, Captain Scott Barker, Lt. Brian Lawson, Deputy Nicole Dunn, and Deputy Jeff Jones of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present were Kim Meeks of the Martinsville Bulletin, Charles Roark of Star News, Luis Romero of BTW21, and Brandon Martin of Henry County Enterprise.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Slaughter gave the invocation, and Ms. Buchanan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. 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 the 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.

- June 23, 2020

Approval of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File.

Resolution

Consideration of Resolution Honoring the 70th Anniversary of the Ridgeway Ruritan Club

Dr. Martin moved the Items of Consent be approved, and Mr. Zehr seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 92.61% of 2019 personal property taxes and 94.18% of 2019 real estate taxes had been collected. Since January 1, 2020, TACS has collected approximately \$444,255.63. There were eighteen VRW stops collected in June 2020 and seven stops collected in July 2020.

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mr. Mark Heath, President/CEO of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation, was present to make the monthly update to the Board. Mr. Heath reviewed a summary of activities by division (Copy included in Board's File).

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: CARRYOVER OF EMERGENCY FUNDS – DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Mr. Hall said Amy Rice, Director of Henry-Martinsville Department of Social Services, is asking the Board to approve the carryover of FY'20 emergency funds in the amount of \$17,053.29 to the FY'21 budget. The funds are usually exhausted before the end of the year. Still, with utility companies not performing disconnects over the last few months because of the pandemic, some money remained in the account. The funds will be used to assist residents with emergency needs as utility companies resume the disconnecting of services.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the carryover in the amount of \$17,053.29.

AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: LANDSCAPING AND TURF MAINTENANCE – COMMONWEALTH CROSSING BUSINESS CENTRE

Mr. Hall staff is asking the Board to award a contract in the amount of \$32,904 to Prillaman Landscape Dimensions, Inc. for landscaping and turf maintenance at Commonwealth Crossing Business Centre during FY 2021. The pricing is based on an existing contract with Prillaman Landscape Dimensions. Funding for this maintenance is included in the FY 2021 operating budget.

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved awarding a contract in the amount of \$32,904 to Prillaman Landscape Dimensions, Inc. for landscaping and turf maintenance at CCBC.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE FUND GRANT – PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Hall said Public Safety Director Matt Tatum is asking the Board to approve an additional appropriation of \$3,530 received from the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services, Rescue Squad Assistance Fund grant program. The grant will be used to purchase EMS equipment. The required 50% match for this grant is included in the FY'21 operating budget.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the additional appropriation of grant funds in the amount of \$3,530.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SMART SCALE APPLICATION

Mr. Hall said the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) requires a resolution regarding the submission of projects for the Smart Scale program. In consultation with VDOT, staff is asking the Board to approve a resolution supporting three project submissions to the 2020 VDOT Smart Scale program. The first project proposes to relocate 2500 feet of the northbound lanes of U.S. 220, Virginia Avenue, north of Bassett Forks, to improve the vertical and horizontal alignments. The second project proposes to reconstruct the intersection of U.S. 220 South (Greensboro Rd), and SR 87 (Morehead Ave) using a "Continuous Green T" design to more efficiently and safely move traffic through this intersection. The third project proposes to widen SR930, Dogwood Drive, to accommodate both left and right turn lanes onto U.S. 58, A.L. Philpott Highway, to relieve congestion during certain periods of the day and to implement access management designs into the adjoining convenience store/gas station. The project applications cannot be submitted without a resolution of support by the Board of Supervisors.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the resolution (Copy included in Board's File).

CONSIDERATION OF CHANGE TO LOCAL ORDINANCE RE: COURTHOUSE SECURITY FEES

Mr. Lyle said the Virginia General Assembly recently passed legislation allowing localities to increase courthouse and courtroom security fees to \$20. Henry County currently has an ordinance authorizing a \$10 fee.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Dr. Martin, the Board unanimously approved setting a public hearing for the Board's August 25 meeting to consider changes to the courthouse and courtroom security fees.

DISCUSSION OF FUNDING FOR SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECTS

Mr. Hall said legislation passed at the most recent General Assembly session allows for the Board of Supervisors to call for a referendum to consider adopting a one percent retail sales and use tax that would be used to pay for school construction costs. If passed, the tax could last no longer than 20 years.

In order to have the matter placed on this November's ballot, the Board must pass a resolution requesting the referendum and petition the Henry County Circuit Court to order the matter to be put before the voters. If voters approve the referendum, the Board will then have to advertise and hold a public hearing, adopt an ordinance imposing the new tax and notify the Virginia Tax Commissioner.

On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved placing the matter on the November ballot (Copy included in Board's File).

DISCUSSION OF CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Mr. Lyle said in February, the Board held a public hearing to receive input regarding changes to the ordinance pertaining to the cable television franchise agreement. Following the public hearing, the Board asked for more time to study

te matter before taking a vote to approve the changes. Nathan Daugherty, Sr. Manager Comcast Government Affairs answered questions and concerns of the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the cable franchise agreement with Comcast (Copy included in Board's File).

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Mr. Hall asked Sheriff Perry to come forward and introduce Brian Lawson, who will be the new Lieutenant of SRO and Community Crime Prevention. Mr. Hall updated the Board on the CARES Act Applications. As of July 24, the County has received 64 applications, with 51 being approved for a combined total of \$126,000 in small business grants. The "Mask Up MHC" campaign has several online videos on the Harvest Foundation website and the County has free masks for the public. Mr. Hall said the County is in the process of getting the former John Redd Smith school building named as a historic building and hopefully transfer the building to a developer for future apartments. Online census responses for the 2020 Census have been around 63%.

CLOSED MEETING

Ms. Buchanan moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 4:03 p.m. Mr. Zehr seconded the motion and it unanimously carried to discuss the following:

- A) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Roanoke River Basin Association.
- B) §2.2-3711(A)7 for Discussion of Pending Legal Matters.
- C) §2.2-3711(A)3 for Discussion of Acquisition/Disposal of Real Estate
- D) §2.2-3711(A)5 for Discussion of As-Yet Unannounced Industries.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:00 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Ms. Buchanan 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. Adams, Mr. Bryant, Ms. Buchanan, Mr. Zehr, Dr. Martin, and Mr. Slaughter.

Roanoke River Basin Association - On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mike Ward to a one-year term ending August 31, 2021.

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

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-20-04-CHARLES D. HODGE

Mr. Clark said the property is located at 86 Friendship Dr. in the Blackberry District. The Tax Map number is 13.8/64. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 0.69-acres from Mixed Residential District M-R to Rural Residential District R-R. The applicant intends to replace the site-built home on the property with a single wide manufactured home.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. There being no one present who wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously approved the rezoning request.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FY '20-'21 SCHOOL AND TOTAL COUNTY BUDGET

Mr. Hall said the School Board had received \$2,098,231.94 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act – Elementary and Secondary School funds. The School Board has indicated it will use the funds to support essential instructional/maintenance supplies and personnel costs over the next two years.

The Board of Supervisors must hold a public hearing in order to amend the FY '20-'21 budget and appropriate these funds. Whenever a budget is altered by more than 1% of the total budget, a public hearing is required. Following the public hearing, staff will ask the Board to approve an appropriation of \$2,098,231.94 to the schools. The public hearing has been appropriately advertised and scheduled for the 6:00 p.m. portion of the meeting.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. no one present wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. On a motion by Dr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board unanimously approved the appropriation of \$2,098.231.94.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED CHANGES TO COUNTY PROCUREMENT ORDINANCE

Mr. Hall said at the Board's June 23 meeting he discussed the need to modify the County procurement ordinance to better align it with the Procurement Act of the Code of Virginia. Before the County ordinance can be changed, the Board must hold a public hearing on the topic. The public hearing has been properly advertised and is scheduled for this meeting.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:09 p.m. No one present wished to speak, Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:09 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved the

adoption of the proposed changes to the County ordinance regarding procurement (Copy included in Board's File).

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

No one present wished to speak.

**CONSIDERATION OF REQUIRED COMMENT PERIOD FOR 2020 JAG GRANT
– SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Mr. Hall said Sheriff Perry indicates that the Sheriff's Office has been designated to receive \$13,797 for the 2020 JAG grant for law enforcement needs. One requirement of this grant is that the governing body provides a public comment period of 30 days. Sheriff Perry is asking the Board to set the 30-day public comment period beginning today. The grant will be brought to the Board at the September 22, 2020 meeting for acceptance and appropriation.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board unanimously recommended establishing a 30-day comment period beginning today.

**PRESENTATION REGARDING IMPACTS ON HENRY COUNTY OF A
POSSIBLE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE REVERSION**

Mr. Hall said the City of Martinsville had declared its intent to pursue reversion to town status. If reversion occurs, it will have a negative financial impact on Henry County and its citizens. With that in mind, the Board of Supervisors hired the law firm of Gynn, Waddell, Carroll & Lockaby, P.C. of Salem, VA, to provide counsel for this process. Members of the firm presented their initial report (Copy included in Board's File).

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 7:34 p.m., seconded by Ms. Buchanan and unanimously carried.