

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

April 25, 2023 – 3:00 P.M.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on April 25, 2023 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; Joe Bryant, Vice-Chairman; Debra Buchanan, Garrett Dillard, Tommy Slaughter, and Ryan Zehr. Debra Buchanan was not present for the 6:00 p.m. meeting.

Staff members present were Dale Wagoner, County Administrator; JR Powell, Deputy County Administrator; Darrell Jones, Director of Finance; Michelle Via, Director of Human Resources; Brandon Martin, Public Information Officer; and Jennifer Gregory, Administrative Assistant.

Lt. Col. Eric Hairston, Major Wayne Davis, and Deputy Jeff Jones of the Sheriff's Office were present. Also present were Bill Wyatt of the Martinsville Bulletin and Taylor Boyd of the Henry County Enterprise.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Adams gave the invocation and Mr. Zehr 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 at 3:00 p.m. must contact the County Administrator's Office seven days before 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.

- March 28, 2023
- April 4, 2023 (Budget Presentation)
- April 6, 2023 (Budget Work Session)

Summary of Accounts Payable

Copy included in Board's File.

Resolution Declaring April 2023 as "Fair Housing Month"

Copy included in Board's File

Mr. Slaughter made a motion to approve the Items of Consent, and Mr. Zehr seconded it. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
NAYS: None.

REPORT ON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION EFFORTS

Mr. Grindstaff noted that 93.69% of 2022 real estate taxes and 87.74% of 2022 personal property taxes had been collected. Since January 1, 2023, TACS has collected approximately \$280,016.76. In addition, there were 13 VRW stops collected in March 2023, and 4 were collected in April 2023.

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 the Board's File).

ADOPTION OF THE FY 2023-2024 HENRY COUNTY BUDGET

Mr. Wagoner said the Board is scheduled to set the tax rates and adopt the budget today. The appropriation of the budget is scheduled for May 23, 2023.

Tax Rates

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board adopted the following tax rates for FY 2024:

- Real Estate - \$.555 per \$100 assessed value.
- Personal Property and Machinery and Tools - \$1.55 per \$100 of assessed value for personal property, including motor vehicles, and \$1.55 per \$100 of assessed value for machinery and tools/business equipment.
- Motor Vehicle License Fee: Cars - \$20.75, Motorcycles - \$12.00, and Trailers - \$12.00.

The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
NAYS: None.

School Budget

Mr. Bryant moved that the Board adopt the proposed budget for school expenditures for FY 2024 by category as summarized in Exhibits A and B, subject to the state, federal, and local funds becoming available as estimated. (Exhibits included in Board's File). The motion was seconded by Ms. Buchanan and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.
NAYS: None.

Total Budget

Mr. Zehr moved that the Board adopt the proposed FY 2024 Budget for fiscal planning purposes as summarized in Exhibits A and B. (Exhibits included in Board File). The motion was seconded by Mr. Slaughter and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

CONSIDER A PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 14-20, 2023 AS NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL WEEK IN HENRY COUNTY

Mr. Wagoner said each year on May 15th we pause across the nation to pay tribute to local, state, and federal law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice or been injured in the line of duty. This year, May 14-20 has been set aside to remember these fallen heroes. A local service has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 17, to be held at the Martinsville Municipal Building in Council Chambers at 11:00 a.m. Ms. Buchanan read aloud a proclamation declaring May 14-20, 2023 as National Peace Officers Memorial Week in Henry County.

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board approved the proclamation recognizing May 14-20, 2023, as National Peace Officers Memorial Week in Henry County by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

Major Wayne Davis was present to accept the proclamation.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BULLETPROOF VESTS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Mr. Wagoner said Sheriff Lane Perry is asking the Board to approve an additional appropriation of \$25,965 received from the U.S. Department of Justice Bulletproof Vests Partnership Program (BVP). The grant funds will help replace ballistic vests within the Sheriff's Office. The grant requires a 50% local match which Sheriff Perry indicates will be funded within the operating budget of the department.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the additional appropriation of \$25,965 received from the U.S. Department of Justice Bulletproof Vests Partnership as presented by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Mr. Wagoner said Sheriff Lane Perry is asking the Board to approve an additional appropriation of \$16,067 received from the U.S. Department of Justice State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) grant program. The grant funds are authorized for deputy overtime, workforce recruitment and retention, training and education for inmates and staff, and other purposes covered within the grant guidelines.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the additional appropriation of \$16,067 received from the U.S. Department of Justice State Criminal Alien Assistance Program as presented by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Mr. Wagoner said Sheriff Lane Perry is asking the Board to approve an additional appropriation of \$37,000 from the State Asset forfeiture Funds to purchase defensive tactics and fitness equipment which will be placed at the Adult Detention Center. Sheriff Perry explains the equipment will provide an opportunity for increased defensive tactics training, and assist deputies with their physical fitness and overall health.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved the additional appropriation of \$37,000 from the State Asset Forfeiture funds for the purchase of defensive tactics and fitness equipment by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

AWARD OF CONTRACT RE: ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR RESERVOIR ROAD

Mr. Wagoner said Tim Pace, Manager of Engineering and Mapping, is asking the Board to award a contract to Timmons Group in the amount of \$378,519 for engineering and design services as it relates to the reconstruction and upgrade to Reservoir Road (SR 689). Timmons Group was selected for this project following a competitive Request for Proposal (23-01053-A274) process overseen by the Henry County Purchasing Department. This project has been approved by the Virginia Department of Transportation.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board awarded a contract to Timmons Group for \$378,519 as presented by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: TRANSFER OF FY23 FUNDS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ITEMS

Mr. Wagoner said during the recent budget presentation, he recommended using current year funds, along with FY22 School carryover funds, totaling \$1,074,000 to purchase several needed capital improvement items, including the following:

- Electrical Upgrades Required for the Administration Building - \$800,000
- Server Replacement for Information Services - \$20,000
- Vehicle Replacement for Parks and Recreation - \$50,000
- Tennis Courts Resurfaced at Jaycee Park - \$30,000
- Vehicle Replacement for Public Safety - \$45,000
- Computer Replacement for Various Offices - \$30,000
- Front Deck Mower for Parks and Recreation - \$39,000
- Emergency Radio System Component Replacement - \$60,000

In order to move forward with the purchase of these capital items, the attached transfer appropriations must be approved

On a motion by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the additional appropriations totaling \$1,074,000 for the purchase of capital items as outlined above by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RE: S.E.E.D. BEAUTIFICATON PROGRAM – PLANNING, ZONING, AND INSPECTION DEPARTMENT

Mr. Wagoner said Lee Clark, Director of Planning, Zoning and Inspections is requesting the Board to appropriate \$25,000 received from the Harvest Foundation for the continued participation in the Strategic Economic Environmental Design (S.E.E.D.) Beautification Program. The funds will be used to maintain two sponsored gardens; “Harvest Garden #2”, located on Greensboro Road, and “Harvest Garden #3”, located on Irisburg Road.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Ms. Buchanan, the Board approved the appropriation of \$25,000 received from the Harvest Foundation for the S.E.E.D. program as requested by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Comments from the Board

Mr. Dillard said tomorrow was Administrative Professional Day and wanted to thank Julie Shelton and Jennifer Gregory for their work for Henry County.

Mr. Wagoner noted that your packet each month includes a report detailing the activities of our Parks & Recreation Department. In March, our Senior Services division offered 47 different programs with 914 seniors participating. We will continue to grow our activities and programs for our seniors because of the Recreation Center in Collinsville. A ribbon-cutting to mark the grand opening of the Henry County Recreation Center is scheduled for May 3 at noon at the facility located at 395 W John Redd Blvd. I hope you are able to attend.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Zehr moved that the Board go into a closed meeting at 3:25 p.m. to discuss the following:

- A) §2.2-3711(A)1 for Discussion of Appointees to the Blue Ridge Regional Library Board, Parks and Recreation Board, Community Policy and Management Team, Economic Development Corporation, Henry Martinsville Department of Social Services Board, Piedmont Regional Community Services Board, Southern Area Agency on Aging Board, and Southside Community Action Board.
- 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

Mr. Slaughter seconded the motion, and it passed by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

OPEN MEETING

The Board returned to open meeting at 4:41 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Ms. Buchanan, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

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

Board members voting in the affirmative were Mr. Zehr, Mr. Dillard, Ms. Buchanan, Ms. Buchanan, Mr. Slaughter, and Mr. Adams.

Southern Area Agency on Aging – On a motion by Mr. Bryant and second by Ms. Buchanan, the Board unanimously re-appointed Donna Stone to a term ending June 1, 2026.

Siting Agreement Between Henry County and Axton Solar, LLC - Mr. Dillard made a motion to approve the Axton Solar Siting Agreement (copy in Board file) and seconded by Mr. Zehr. During discussion, Mr. Bryant shared his concern related to the proposed siting agreement not following the requirements explained within the existing Henry County solar ordinance, which states 2.5% of acreage in a 5-mile radius. The Axton solar Siting Agreement would be 2.6% or approximately 93 acres above the current ordinance. The Board denied the Axton Solar Siting Agreement by the following vote:

AYES: Dillard, and Zehr.

NAYS: Adams, Bryant, Buchanan, and Slaughter.

Mr. Adams recessed the meeting at 5:07 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

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

PUBLIC HEARING – SIX-YEAR SECONDARY ROAD PLAN, OPEN FORMAT, 6:00 p.m. TO 6:30 p.m. (MEETING ROOM #1 – RIGHT SIDE)

Mr. Adams said the joint public hearing by VDOT and the Board of Supervisors is being held in an open format from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in meeting room #1 (right side). VDOT advertised the public hearing. Citizens will have the opportunity to come in during the public hearing to review and discuss the Six-year Secondary Road Plan with VDOT officials. Lisa Hughes will prepare the minutes of the hearing, make any recommended changes to the list of projects, and submit the revised document to the Board for approval at its May 23 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-23-07-THIRTY SIX FIFTY ONE, LLC/JOHN RENO

Mr. Clark said the property is located on the south side of Fontaine Dr., and the south west corner of Fontaine Dr. and Textile Dr., in the Ridgeway District. The Tax Map numbers are 52.4(54)/13-18. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of approximately 2.1-acres from Commercial District B-1 to Limited Industrial District I-2. The applicant wishes to construct four warehouse units, approximately 4,000 square foot each.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:03 p.m. John Reno addressed the Board with a brief description of his plans for the property. Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Zehr and seconded by Mr. Bryant, the Board approved the rezoning request as presented by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING APPLICATION R-23-08- CYANA BULGIN

Mr. Clark said the property is located on the east side of Meadowood Trail, just south of its intersection with Hodges Farm Rd., in the Horsepasture District. The Tax Map number is 39.6(39)B/9. The applicant is requesting the rezoning of one lot from Suburban Residential District S-R to Mixed Residential District M-R. The applicant wishes to place a double wide manufactured home on the property.

Mr. Adams opened the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. Cyana Bulgin addressed the Board with a brief description of her plans for the property. Mr. Adams closed the public hearing at 6:07 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Zehr, the Board approved the rezoning request as presented by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Dillard, Slaughter and Zehr.

NAYS: None.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

There was no one present who wished to speak.

GENERAL HIGHWAY MATTERS

Lisa Hughes, Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, updated the Board on general highway matters. The Commonwealth Transportation Board Spring Public Hearing will be in Roanoke on May 16, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Salem Civic Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Slaughter moved to adjourn at 6:10 p.m. Mr. Zehr seconded the motion, and it carried by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Bryant, Dillard, Slaughter, and Zehr.

NAYS: None.