

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2015

At a meeting of the Economic Development Authority held on the 13th day January 2015, in the Accomack County Airport Conference Room, in Melfa, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT

Economic Development Authority Members Present:

Mr. John LeCato, Chairman

Mr. Calvert Seybolt

Mr. Wesley Edwards

Ms. Shirley Zamora

Ms. Ira Ashby-Hope

Economic Development Authority Members Absent:

Mr. Robert Bloxom, Vice Chairman

Others Present:

Mr. Rich Morrison, Director of Planning and Community Development

Ms. Kristen Tremblay, Assistant Planner

B. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The floor was opened for the public comment period. No one signed up or requested to speak.

3. MINUTES

A. December 9, 2014

On a motion made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Ms. Ashby-Hope, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the minutes of December 9, 2014 as presented.

4. INFORMATIONAL REPORT: ANDY MASON

Mr. Mason attended the meeting to discuss the EDA's approval of the Accomack County Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). He asked the EDA to consider if the approval of the WWTP is in keeping with the mission of the EDA. Mr. Mason informed the EDA of some comparisons between a County operated WWTP and the existing WWTP located in Onancock.

Mr. Hayden Rochester stated that he was concerned about the attractiveness of the industrial park if the WWTP was built in regards to food processing.

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Mr. Alan Silverman stated that the granting of the County owned WWTP would be contrary to the enabling legislation that created the EDA in the first place and would not be to the benefit to the inhabitants of the County.

Chairman LeCato informed the Accomack County Concerned Citizens that the EDA was in favor of allowing the placement of the WWTP in the industrial park if it was deemed to be necessary for the County to build a WWTP and that the industrial park was designated for industrial uses. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Jay Davenport asked if there would be public meetings before a decision was made. Rich Morrison stated that a Conditional Use Permit would be required and have at least two (2) public hearings.

Mr. Bob Muhly asked if the Board of Supervisors had come to an agreement with the Town of Onancock. Rich Morrison responded that there is movement in the negotiations.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Edwards reported that as of January 13, 2015 there is \$35,346 in the Economic Development Authority Fund. He also reports that all bills are paid to date.

On a motion made by Mr. Seybolt and seconded by Ms. Zamora, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the Treasurers report as presented.

6. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

A. Ms. Zamora

Ms. Zamora has nothing to report at this time.

B. Mr. Edwards

Mr. Edwards informed the EDA that he heard that the building adjacent to the airport is going to tax sale in several days. He believes that the EDA should be concerned about the appearance and upkeep of the building.

Mr. Edwards also mentioned that the size of the airplane shown on the EDA marketing materials was not representative of the larger size it could be.

He also reminded the EDA of the letter written to the Board of Supervisors regarding the tax rates on large planes. He believes the County will be discussing this shortly. If tax rate changes are made, they could be included in the marketing materials as an insert.

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Mr. Edwards mentioned that Eastern Shore Solar LLC would be contributing money as a proffer to go into a fund for derelict building removal.

C. Mr. Seybolt

Mr. Seybolt has nothing to report at this time.

D. Ms. Ashby-Hope

Ms. Ashby-Hope has nothing to report at this time.

7. MARKETING STRATEGIES

Nothing to report at this time.

8. STAFF REPORT

Rich Morrison stated that the economic activity this last holiday season was considered slow.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Chairman LeCato read a proposed motion to go into closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.5 of the Code of Virginia. Mr. Edwards moved the motion and Ms. Ashby-Hope seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the closed session, the door was opened and Chairman LeCato asked for a roll call vote to go back into public session. All Ayes.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Accomack County Airport Conference room.

11. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Zamora, and seconded by Ms. Ashby-Hope, the Economic Development Authority voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Mr. John LeCato, Chairman