

AT A WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF JAMES CITY, VIRGINIA, HELD ON THE 23RD DAY OF OCTOBER 2007, AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER BOARD ROOM, 101 MOUNTS BAY ROAD, JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

John J. McGlennon, Chairman, Jamestown District
James O. Icenhour, Jr., Vice Chairman, Powhatan District
Jay T. Harrison, Sr., Berkeley District
Bruce C. Goodson, Roberts District
M. Anderson Bradshaw, Stonehouse District

William C. Porter, Assistant County Administrator
Leo P. Rogers, County Attorney

C. BOARD DISCUSSIONS

1. Williamsburg Regional Library Board of Trustees

Mr. John Moorman, Library Director, recognized Williamsburg Regional Library Board of Trustees members and staff present, including Sue Mellen, Jean Van Tol, Genevieve Owens, Carrie Binsfeld, and Patrick Golden. He gave a presentation that highlighted activities, partnerships, programming, and achievements of the library as a precursor to the need for a third library facility.

The Board and staff discussed providing library outreach for lower-income children, wireless connections provided in the libraries, evaluating virtual library services, community use of library meeting rooms and resources, design of the third library based on technological needs, and a potential site of the new library.

Mr. McGlennon thanked Mr. Moorman and the members of the Library Board for the presentation.

2. Introduction to the Devolution of Secondary Roads

Mr. Steven Hicks, General Services Manager, gave an overview of the implications of the devolution of the secondary roads system in the County. Mr. Hicks informed the Board of cost analysis, incentives, and options and informed the Board of the responsibilities that were entailed in the devolution.

The Board and staff discussed the impact of devolution on the economy and the ability to look at benefit costs during maintenance and construction. Discussion was held regarding what other localities had experienced when in control of secondary roads and the level of service provided. Discussion was held about complications with Federal and State funds.

Discussion was held about the Board adoption of a resolution that declared the intention of the County to negotiate with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to take over maintenance and construction of secondary roads. Staff explained that a work session would be held on November 27, 2007, followed by an advertised public hearing during the regular meeting. The Board was not required to take action at that time, but acting on the resolution would not obligate the County to devolution as negotiations would be held with VDOT. The Board and staff discussed the ability to negotiate with VDOT and noted that other localities may not have initiated the option to take over secondary roads because since the option was made available, the service has been declining. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of taking over infrastructure that may not be well maintained or may have a maintenance backlog and negotiations that may need to be held regarding the maintenance of roads that may not already be scheduled.

Discussion was held about maintenance issues such as drainage and ditch problems that would need to be taken on by the County and how to handle these issues more clearly.

The Board and staff discussed VDOT standards in construction and local funding for projects through proffers from developers and through revenue sharing. Staff recommended that the County should not take over the operations side of secondary roads, which would require the County to make traffic study recommendations, trip generation studies, and other transportation-related statistical data required for development cases. Staff explained that if the County took over operations, then that responsibility could not be returned to the State. Staff also explained that if the County takes over maintenance, the County becomes a contractor for the State and it would not handle permitting. The VDOT standards would need to be met for maintenance and construction, but if the operations segment was taken over as well, then the County would be responsible for the entire process and the County would take over the responsibility of owning the land.

Mr. Hicks stated that he felt the County was already gradually taking on the responsibilities such as mowing, and other maintenance without the funding as well as construction projects through revenue sharing funds, so devolution would give the County the State and Federal funding required to maintain the roads at a higher level of service to the citizens.

Mr. Porter asked that the Board give input before the Board meeting on this issue.

Mr. McGlennon asked that the information be available to the public.

Mr. Hicks stated it was online and that a public hearing has been advertised.

3. Energy Conservation Initiatives

Ms. Jennifer Privette, Recycling Coordinator, gave a brief presentation on the energy conservation initiatives being administered by the Recycling office. She highlighted the use of fleet management, green building design, recycling, educating staff and public, energy accounting, and the alternative fuel fleet program. She explained efforts to achieve partnerships on this initiative, reduce energy use without incurring costs, implement sustainability into the Comprehensive Plan update, and encourage green building design. She stated being environmentally conscious worked in conjunction with being economically conscious.

Mr. Bradshaw requested figures that would show whether or not energy usage has gone down over the last two years rather than just the energy cost decrease.

The Board and staff discussed the cost benefit analysis when buying equipment such as an HVAC unit, and staff explained that cost and energy efficiency were a few of many factors that were involved in the decision to purchase equipment such as this.

Ms. Privette highlighted the Green Team, which is a group of County employees from all departments working toward energy efficiency.

Mr. McGlennon highlighted staff participation in energy conservation issues through conferences and training sessions.

At 5:53 p.m., the Board broke for dinner.

William C. Porter, Jr.
Deputy Clerk to the Board

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