

VIRGINIA:

At a recessed meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Northampton, Virginia, held in the former circuit courtroom, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia, on the 3rd day of March, 2009, at 1:00 p.m.

Present:

Jeff Walker, Chairman

Richard Tankard, Vice Chairman

Dave Burden

H. Spencer Murray

Laurence J. Trala

Absent:

William A. Hughes

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

Closed Session

Motion was made by Mr. Tankard that the Board enter Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended:

(A) Paragraph 3: Discussion or consideration of the condition, acquisition, or use of real property for public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held property.

(B) Paragraph 29: Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

Webtide Proposal

All members were present with the exception of Mr. Hughes and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

After Closed Session, the Chairman reconvened the meeting and said that the Board had

entered the closed session for those purposes as set out in paragraphs 3 and 29 of Section 2.1-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Upon being polled individually, each Board member confirmed that these were the only matters of discussion during the closed session.

Mr. Murray made the following statement:

Sewer and Water Comments to the Board of Supervisors
March 3, 2009
H. Spencer Murray, Supervisor, District 4

Fellow Board members:

The issue of water and sewer utilities is now before us. It is timely, not just because there is potential funding from state and federal sources, but because some of our towns are wrestling with old system and regulatory mandates. In addition, the County's Comprehensive Plan calls for growth in and around the towns as well as clean creeks and abundant water supply. The issue will not go away nor become less complex. There are potentially many paths which should be explored and I do not pretend to know the best one. The only path I will not follow is one of passive avoidance of the issue.

Dealing with an issue this urgent and complex requires many things. If we are to be successful there is a need for concentrated expertise in financial, civil engineering, planning and project management. I believe the first requirement is to establish an ongoing structure to focus on this issue. There are options from which to choose, however, it is my belief that the BOS cannot and should not be this structure. Just as the county has a school board to manage schools, an authority to establish broadband capability, a planning commission to plan, a Board of Elections to conduct elections, the county must have a dedicated team to work with the incorporated towns to coordinate and establish water and sewer utilities.

I propose that the BOS reactivate the county Public Service Authority (PSA) with a new structure and new appointed membership. The structure should represent the interest of the incorporated towns as well as the remaining areas of the county. Its' mandate should not be the immediate provision of utilities county wide, but to address immediate needs where they exist and to establish a 5-10-15 year future vision. It is my hope that we can draw upon the many skilled individuals in our community to serve on the restructured PSA.

I respectfully submit this proposal to the BOS for further consideration and thought, after which, I am prepared to make a motion.

H. Spencer Murray

A flow chart illustrating potential organization structure to meet immediate and 5-10-15 year needs was also provided by Mr. Murray and is filed in the Office of the County Administrator.

Following this statement and comments from the Board members, it was the consensus of the Board that the County Administrator write to each of the incorporated towns to see if they have a need for services which could be provided by a PSA. Based on the responses from the towns, face-to-face meetings could be scheduled afterwards.

Mr. Tankard distributed the following excerpts from the Comprehensive Plan relative to central wastewater:

Comprehensive Plan: Excerpts on central wastewater

1.2.5 Comm. Character and Dev. Pattern

- Most community workshop participants favored directing new development to existing towns where public services are available.

1.3.1 County Vision Statement

- The County and the towns have worked cooperatively to address alternatives for sewer and water provisions and enhancement to address septic-system and drinking-water issues and to guide new growth to appropriate locations.

2.1.1 Land-Use Planning Guide

- Direct new residential development to areas within exist. Towns and villages and in designated areas adjacent to the existing towns where there is the greatest potential for development to occur on central utilities and with adequate public services.

2.2.2.3 Rural/Ag. Area Community Facilities and Utilities

- The County will not provide public sewer and water services to Rural/Ag. Areas

2.2.3.1 Rural Hamlet Land Uses

- (iv) connections to public or central utility systems are provided, and such connections are consistent with County utility policies and feasible from an engineering standpoint;

2.2.3.2 Rural Hamlet Comm. Facilities and Utilities

- Rural hamlets will not be served by public sewer and water facilities.

2.2.4.1 Rural Village Land Uses

- (iv) connections to public or central utility systems are provided, and such connections are consistent with County utility policies and feasible from an engineering standpoint;

2.2.4.2 Rural Village Community Facilities and Utilities

- a. Any new development in Rural Villages must be supported in the absence of public water and sewer, and so as not to exceed the capacities of existing resources and infrastructure systems.

2.2.5.1 Rural Waterfront Village Land Uses

- (iv) connections to public or central utility systems are provided, and such connections are consistent with County utility policies and feasible from an engineering standpoint;

2.2.5.2 Rural Waterfront Village Comm. Facilities and Utilities

- Any new development in Rural Waterfront Villages should be supported in the absence of public water and sewer,

2.2.6 Existing Rural Subdivision

- Existing R. Subdiv. are not served by public utilities and are not intended for such service

2.2.7.3 Exist. Cottage Comm. Facilities

- a. Public sewer and water service will not be extended to Existing Cottage Communities.

2.3.1 Development Area Settlement Types: Town

- The amount of new growth that can be accommodated within these Towns will vary substantially depending generally upon the availability of municipal sewer and water service. At this time, only Cape Charles and Exmore offer public sewer and water service. Therefore, they are expected to be the primary development areas within the County for the foreseeable future. The Towns of Belle Haven and Nassawadox are envisioned to remain secondary development areas, as is the Town of Cheriton, until such time as sewer and/or water service becomes available.

2.3.1.3 Town Community Facilities and Utilities

- Towns are, or may in the future be, served by public sewer and water service provided by the County or by the towns, by mutual agreement.

2.3.2 Town Edge

- Town Edges are natural future-expansion areas for the incorporated Towns and may potentially be served by future public sewer and water extensions from the Towns.

2.3.2.3 Town and TE Comm. Facilities and Util.

- a. TE Areas are, or will likely someday be, served by public sewer and water service provided by the County or by the towns, by mutual agreement.
- b. TE Areas should be the secondary focus for public-facility investments occurring in NHCO, secondary to the Town areas themselves.

2.4.1 U.S. 13 Corridor

- In particular, the functional capacity to carry through traffic around existing towns should be maintained by locating development along the business portions of Rte. 13 in the Towns, and away from the bypass portions.

Mr. Murray made the following statement:

Motion from H. Spencer Murray
Northampton County Board of Supervisors
March 3, 2009

Whereas the Northampton County Comprehensive Plan states in Section 2.3.1.3.a, “Towns are, or may in the future be, served by public sewer and water provided by the County or by the towns, by mutual agreement. The County will work jointly with the Towns to evaluate the desirability and feasibility of upgrading or establishing central sewer and water facilities”, and

Whereas the proposed revisions to the Northampton County Zoning Ordinance support the provision of water and sewer facilities, specifically to the proposed Town Edge District.

Therefore, I move that the existing Northampton County Public Service Authority (PSA) be reactivated.

Submitted by H. Spencer Murray, Vice-Chairman, Supervisor, District #4

All members were present with the exception of Mr. Hughes and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Mr. Murray that Mr. Tankard be authorized to purchase certain property being offered for sale at the March 5th public auction of delinquent real estate, for the purpose of constructing a solid waste collection center, for a purchase price not to exceed \$4,050.00. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Hughes and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

Recess:

Motion was made by Mr. Murray that the meeting be recessed until 9:00 a.m., Friday, March 6, 2009 in the former circuit courtroom, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia. All

members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Hughes and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

The meeting was recessed.

_____ CHAIRMAN

_____ COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR