

VIRGINIA: AT THE RECESSED MEETING OF THE TAZEVELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD FEBRUARY 23, 2021 AT FOUR O'CLOCK P.M. IN THE TAZEVELL COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 197 MAIN STREET, TAZEVELL VIRGINIA 24651

PRESENT: TOM A. LESTER, JR., CHAIRMAN
D. MICHAEL HYMES, VICE CHAIRMAN
CHARLES A. STACY, MEMBER
MARGARET ASBURY, MEMBER (PRESENT BY PHONE)
C. ERIC YOUNG, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
CHASE D. COLLINS, COUNTY ATTORNEY
WHITNEY PARSONS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
MEMBERS OF THE PRESS: JIM TALBERT, CLINCH VALLEY NEWS/RICHLANDS NEWS PRESS; WARREN HINKLE, THE VOICE NEWSPAPER

ABSENT: TRAVIS HACKWORTH, MEMBER

Chairman Lester called the recessed meeting to order and presided with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting.

Supervisor Hymes gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag led by Supervisor Stacy.

AGENDA APPROVED AS AMENDED

The County Attorney added an item to the consent calendar, "Ratification of the electronic poll authorizing the Chairman to execute Appendix 4A for \$800,000.00 DHCD Tazewell County Grant.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Stacy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the February 23, 2021 agenda as amended.

APPROVED SUPERVISOR ASBURY'S MEETING ATTENDANCE VIA PHONE

The County Attorney announced that Supervisor Asbury was in attendance by phone.

Upon motion of Supervisor Stacy, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes Supervisor Asbury's attendance by phone.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Stacy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the following items presented as "Consent Calendar". The matters requiring the issuance of warrants shall be issued by the County Administrator in accordance with this action and converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia:

- A. Ratified electronic poll amending the November 10, 2020 action such that the Board would fund the IDA at an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 per year for a period not to exceed 7 years from the sales tax proceeds from the Hardee's located at Pounding Mill (Project Biscuit)
- B. Authorized the amount of \$250.00 from the Southern District, payable to Tazewell Today for the Drive Thru Easter Egg Hunt. Said warrants shall be issued by the County Administrator in accordance with this action and converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia.
- C. Authorized the amounts of \$250.00 from the Western District and \$250.00 from the Northwestern District, for a total amount of \$500.00, payable to the Richlands Community Development Office for the Drive Thru Easter Egg Hunt. Said warrants shall be issued by the County Administrator in accordance with this action and converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia.
- D. Ratified electronic poll authorizing the Chairman to execute Appendix 4A for \$800,000.00 DHCD Tazewell County Grant. A copy can be found at the County Administration Building located on 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24630.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ORDINANCE RELOCATING THE POLLING PLACE FOR THE CEDAR BLUFF PRECINCT (301) FROM CEDAR BLUFF TOWN HALL TO THE TRINITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD TO PROVIDE MORE ADEQUATE VOTING FACILITIES

The Chairman called to order a public hearing that was duly advertised regarding AN ORDINANCE RELOCATING THE POLLING PLACE FOR THE CEDAR BLUFF PRECINCT (301) FROM CEDAR BLUFF TOWN HALL TO THE TRINITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD TO PROVIDE MORE ADEQUATE VOTING FACILITIES.

Mr. Collins discussed the Ordinance, recalling the Electoral Board's request made by the Registrar at the previous meeting to relocate the polling place for the Cedar Bluff precinct. The Electoral Board recommends moving the polling place from the Cedar Bluff Town Hall to the Trinity Assembly of God located at 503 Indian Creek Road, Cedar Bluff, VA 24609. The Electoral Board has made this request in the past but due to the timing of the presidential election

and the turnout that was expected the Board asked that the matter be tabled until a later date. Unfortunately, since then Senator Ben Chafin has passed away and there is a special election scheduled for March 23, 2021. Elections have caused inconveniences with the police department because they have to relocate their department for three days. Besides this, there are already known ADA compliance issues as well as traffic concerns at the present town hall. Mr. Collins mentioned speaking with the Attorney General's Office and the Virginia Board of Elections. The VA Board of Elections stated that this special election does not fall within the 60 day notification requirement as it does for general elections. For a special election there is a 15 day notification requirement. If passed, the Registrar would have one month to notify the VA Board of Elections as well as registered voters of Cedar Bluff precinct.

Now, the Chairman called for additional comments from the floor three times and there being none, he declared the meeting closed.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Stacy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts AN ORDINANCE RELOCATING THE POLLING PLACE FOR THE CEDAR BLUFF PRECINCT (301) FROM CEDAR BLUFF TOWN HALL TO THE TRINITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD TO PROVIDE MORE ADEQUATE VOTING FACILITIES. A copy of the Ordinance is on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, VA 24651.

COVID VACCINE ACCELERATION COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

Mr. Young mentioned UVA Wise attempting to raise funds for a mobile vaccination clinic. They are applying to Go Virginia. The clinic would take vaccinations to large employers that are considered essential employers. They requested a letter of Support from the county to support their application to GO Virginia. This would hopefully increase the number of people who will take the vaccine.

Upon motion of Supervisor Stacy, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes and directs the County Administrator to write a letter of Support in favor of the COVID Vaccine Acceleration Collaborative Project. A copy of the letter is on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

RICHLANDS FLOOD STUDY

Chairman Lester has been working with a group of individuals in Richlands to come up with a solution on the continuous flooding issues that have occurred over the last couple of years. He requested that the county Administrator and Attorney review the documentation provided by the US Army Corps of Engineers and decide whether they wanted to send in their letter of intent regarding flood risk management.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO APPROVE TAZEVELL COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ACCESS TO STATE FUNDING

The Chairman called to order a public hearing that was duly advertised regarding AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE TAZEVELL COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ACCESS TO STATE FUNDING.

Mr. Collins recalled Mr. Taylor, DSS Executive Director in December approaching the Board requesting them to adopt an ordinance that would allow them to seek a pool of State DSS funding that is set aside for a onetime COVID-19 bonus for employees. The language wasn't exact when he approached the Board on December 16, 2020 so in the meantime Mr. Taylor has spoken with the State DSS and obtained the language that would suffice for these purposes. Section 15.2-1508 of the Code of Virginia requires that the Board of Supervisors is to enact an Ordinance whenever the Board of Supervisors seeks to provide payment of monetary bonuses to its officers or employees. Mr. Collins assured that adopting the Ordinance would not cost the County any additional money.

Now, the Chairman called for additional comments from the floor three times and there being none, he declared the meeting closed.

Upon motion of Supervisor Stacy, seconded by Supervisor Asbury and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE TAZEVELL COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ACCESS TO STATE FUNDING. A copy of the Ordinance is on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, VA 24651.

EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING – 4:19PM

Upon motion of Supervisor Stacy, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby enters into an Executive/Closed meeting, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711:

- A(1) Personnel in Economic Development
- A(29) Project Biscuit – Amendment to Grant Agreement

RETURN/CERTIFICATION/REPORT OF ACTION – 5:02PM

CERTIFICATION OF
EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING
TAZEVELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors has convened an executive/closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative vote and in accordance with The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such executive/closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive/closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors. The Chairman called for a roll call vote with the following vote hereby recorded.

The Chair called for a roll call Vote on the Certification:

Ayes: Four (4)

Nays: None (0)

Absent: One (1)

Absent during vote: None (0)

Report of Action: One (1)

PROJECT BISCUIT GRANT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Stacy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby ratify the poll adopting the Amendment to Grant Agreement on Project Biscuit, authorizing the Chairman to execute the same on behalf of the Board. The amendment increased the compensation due to the developer such that the total amount he received increased to \$158,000.00 and that payments to him from the IDA would increase to accelerate the payment schedule. A copy of the agreement is hereby incorporated into the minutes and available on file at the County Administrator's Office.

BOARD CONCERNS

TOWN OF POCAHONTAS – ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

\$500.00 NORTHERN DISTRICT

Upon motion of Supervisor Asbury, seconded by Supervisor Stacy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the total amount of \$500.00 from the Northern District fund, payable to the Town of Pocahontas; attn.: Benjamin Gibson. Said warrants shall be issued by the

County Administrator in accordance with this action and converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia.

BLUEFIELD VIRGINIA LITTLE LEAGUE – EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

\$500.00 EASTERN DISTRICT

\$500.00 NORTHERN DISTRICT

Upon motion of Supervisor Asbury, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Hackworth absent from the meeting, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the amount of \$500.00 from the Eastern District Fund and \$500.00 from the Northern District Fund, for a total amount of \$1,000.00 payable to the Bluefield Virginia Little League, PO Box 662, Bluefield, VA 24605; attn.. Ron Holt. These monies go towards the purchase of equipment. Said warrants shall be issued by the County Administrator in accordance with this action and converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia.

ADJOURN

Now, there being no further business to be transacted the Board of Supervisors hereby adjourns this meeting to March 2, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Thomas A. Lester, Jr., Chair

By: WP

Adjourn time: 5:06 p.m.