

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, January 12, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Government Center, Verona, VA.

PRESENT: Gerald Garber, Chairman
 Butch Wells, Vice-Chair
 Pam Carter
 Michael Shull
 Scott Seaton
 Jeffrey Slaven
 Timothy K. Fitzgerald, County Administrator
 Jennifer M. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator
 John Wilkinson, Director of Community Development
 Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

ABSENT: Steven Morelli
 James Benkahla, County Attorney

VIRGINIA: At a regular meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., at the Government Center, Verona, Virginia, and in the 246th year of the Commonwealth....

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Chairman Garber welcomed those present for the meeting.

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Mr. Slaven introduced the Augusta County 4-H Livestock Skill-A-Thon Team. The team represented Augusta County on a local and state level. They won the right at the state level to represent Virginia at the national competition in Louisville, KY. Mr. Slaven is proud to say the Ag Industry Board and local businesses in the area contributed to the team to show their support.

The following Augusta County 4-H Livestock Skill-A-Thon Team led the Pledge of Allegiance:

Blake Kiracofe attends Buffalo Gap High School. He gave a brief explanation of the team aspect of the competition and the steps that was taken to achievement their accomplishments.

Emily Cline attends Wilson Memorial High School. She gave a brief explanation of the individual portion of the contest.

Wyatt Marshall attends Fort Defiance High School. The team placed third in the Nation out of twenty teams. He thanked the Board for their support.

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Ms. Carter, Supervisor for the Pastures District, delivered the invocation.

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January 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

ABC ORDINANCE UPDATE

This being the day and time advertised to consider a revision to the Alcoholic Beverages License ordinance to be in accordance with Virginia Code 4.1-205, as amended, and 4.1-233.1. The ordinance would update Augusta County Code Section 12-81.

Jennifer Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator, stated that this is a public hearing to revise the Alcoholic Beverage License ordinance to be in accordance with Virginia Code 4.1-205, as amended, and 4.1-233.1. The ordinance would update Augusta County Code Section 12-81, and would be effective upon approval. This specific update leads to a change in one of the fees that is charged under 1281. It is item G for each retail on premises beer, license for a hotel, restaurant or club and for each retail off-premises beer license would increase to \$37.50 in accordance with state code.

The Chairman declared the public hearing open.

There being no speakers, the Chairman declared the public hearing closed.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Wells, that the Board approve the ordinance update as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Carter, Shull, Slaven
 And Seaton
 Nays: None
 Absent: Morelli

Motion carried.

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REVENUE RECOVERY RATE UPDATES

The Board considered a Revenue Recovery rate increase.

Misty Cook, Director of Finance, stated that in 2020, the Board requested a review of rates yearly and to provide a recommendation on the ambulance billing rates compared to Medicare allowable rates. Medicare releases the upcoming calendar year rates in December annually. Rates are effective on the first day of the calendar year. For 2022, there was a substantial increase when compared to prior years, 5.1%. Revenue Recovery rates are set at 125% of the Medicare allowable rate. Due to this increase in the allowable rate, it would be the recommendation of Finance that we increase the rate.

Ms. Carter asked if the rates had been approved on a national level.

Ms. Cook stated that Medicare issues the allowable schedule at the end of December and are in effect now.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Wells, that the Board approve the rate increase as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Carter, Shull, Slaven
 And Seaton
 Nays: None
 Absent: Morelli

Motion carried.

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COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS FOR 2021 APPOINTED BY THE BOARD

Chairman Garber presented the following recommendations for committee appointments:

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMISSION

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Appointed the new Fire Chief and Gerald Garber to the Local Emergency Planning Commission for a one-year period.

AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
Re-appointed Jeff Slaven and Michael L. Shull to the Agricultural and Forestal District Committee for a one-year period.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR
Re-appointed Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Gerald Garber, as Emergency Management Director.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CO-DIRECTOR

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CO-DIRECTOR
Re-appointed Timothy K. Fitzgerald, County Administrator, as Emergency Management Co-Director.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Appointed Patrick Lam, as Emergency Management Coordinator.

ASSISTANT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

ASSISTANT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:
Re-appointed Anthony Ramsey, EOC Director, as Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the committees appointed by the Board be approved.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Carter, Shull, Slaven
And Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Morelli

Motion carried.

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COMMITTEES FOR 2022 - APPOINTED BY THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Garber announced the following appointments:

Public Safety Committee: Michael Shull and Scott Seaton

Property Committee: Michael Shull and Steve Morelli

Parks and Recreation Liaison: Steve Morelli

Library Board Liaison: Pam Carter

Recycling Committee Liaison: Steve Morelli

Board & Commission Liaison: Butch Wells

General Assembly/VACo Liaison: Gerald Garber

Governmental Opportunities Committee with

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COMMITTEES FOR 2022 - APPOINTED BY THE CHAIRMAN (CONT'D)

Cities of Staunton and Waynesboro Liaisons:	Butch Wells
Rockingham/Augusta Liaisons:	Jeff Slaven and Gerald Garber
Rockbridge County Liaison	Michael Shull
Reassessment Liaisons	Scott Seaton and Butch Wells
Audit Committee:	Pam Carter and Steve Morelli
Ordinance Review Committee:	Pam Carter and Steve Morelli
Agriculture Industry Board Liaison:	Jeff Slaven
Community Action Program – Staunton/ Augusta/Waynesboro (CAP-SAW):	Pam Carter and Scott Seaton
School Liaisons:	Gerald Garber and Michael Shull
Economic Development Committee:	Butch Wells and Jeff Slaven
Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)	Scott Seaton and Pam Carter (Alt)
Courthouse Committee	Gerald Garber and Butch Wells
Broadband Committee:	Pam Carter
Shenandoah Workforce Development:	Butch Wells
Redistricting Committee	Pam Carter and Scott Seaton

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WAIVERS – NONE

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the Board approve the consent agenda as follows:

MINUTES

Consider minutes from the following meeting:

- Staff Briefing, Monday, November 22, 2021

CLAIMS

Consider claims paid since December 1, 2021

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CONSENT AGENDA (CONT'D)

Vote was as follows:

Yeas:	Garber, Wells, Carter, Shull, Slaven And Seaton
Nays:	None
Absent:	Morelli

Motion carried.

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(END OF CONSENT AGENDA)

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MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Ed Long, 140 New Hope and Crimora Road, Waynesboro, spoke on budget considerations. He would like to see the critical components of the budget.

Burl Bridge, 328 Lee Highway, Verona, is concerned about lights along the streets that need to be fixed.

Linda Blazer, 1595 Jefferson Highway, Fishersville, submitted the following statement:
Good evening,

My name is Linda Blazer and I have been a resident at Village Green at the Lake since 2009. VGATL is accessed from Goose Creek Road, not far from the intersection of Goose Creek and Route 250, Jefferson Highway.

I have significant concerns about the proposed plan to expand VGATL from the existing 70 home sites (and 68 homes) to 160 home sites under the proposed construction plan of the latest owner/developer: Roanoke Valley Holdings, LLC. Their plan is apparently open for comments by various departments or agencies through January 27, 2022.

This proposed expansion of Village Green would more than double the housing density of our existing community—90 additional homes.

It is suggested that to have any influence in this proposed development in 022 we would all have to have been around and speaking out in the year 2000 when the Village Green at the Lake Master Plan was approved as a PUD (or Planned Unit Development) by the Board of Supervisors. That is before the first home was built. How absurd is that?

We are 22 years later with major changes in State and County codes on residential developments and yet, the new developer's plan is being so-called "grandfathered" to enable changes to the VGATL Master Plan recorded in the year 2000.

Here are some of the my major concerns in the year 2022-which I think you will find shared by other residents in attendance this evening:

1. Increased traffic flow and safety issues BOTH within our community (which has no sidewalks) and driving in and out of Village Green through the one entrance at Goose Creek Road. It is already a safety issue pulling out onto Goose Creek Road with speeding vehicles using the road as a cut through (between Rte. 250 and Tinkling Springs Road near the hospital). According to the latest VDOT statistics, an average of 3,600 to 3,800 vehicles a day travel the section of Goose Creek Rd closest to our subdivision. Adding 90 more households with all of the associated traffic through that same single entrance is an increased safety concern – you could say an accident waiting to happen.

The developer projects that the extension of just one road within Village Green (Brighton Blvd) would increase the average traffic count on that road alone, to 1,240 vehicles (a day).

2. Since 2012, State and County laws require a minimum of two access roads for any

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subdivision with 100 or more homes. But the proposed expansion of Village Green to

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC (CONT'D)

160 homes does not include a second access road. Why not, if safety so dictates in current laws? Aero Drive could be that second access road. According to VDOT, Aero Drive averages 110-120 vehicles a day in that area. By comparison, Goose Creek Rd. averages 33 to 34 times as much traffic per day.

3. There is also concern about the impact of heavy construction equipment on the newly resurfaced roads at VG, if there is no second road access to the hilltop construction that is proposed.

4. The proposed development site has rock formations. Will blasting be necessary to build there? What guarantees would the developer offer about blasting? What protections for existing properties?

5. And then there is the question of the increased storm water runoff when you clear cut an elevated natural habitat, pave it over and build structures and put downslope stress on an existing storm management system that already has ongoing issues. Another resident will speak on the matter of storm water management systems.

6. Has the new developer changed the 2000 Master Plan PUD in minor ways or conceptual ways that would require Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors' approval at a public hearing? The changes I see on the proposed new plan are not minor.

All in all, I would like to see final approval of the Village Green at the Lake expansion plan put on hold and an opportunity granted for meetings with the appropriate parties in government or otherwise to clarify laws and to address in detail safety and other concerns that I and other residents of Village Green have about the proposed expansion of our community.

Thank you for your time and attention this evening and a special thank you to our representative dr. Scott Seaton who took his time and effort to meet with more than 25 concerned residents this past weekend.

Jim Osborne, PO Box 55, Fishersville, voiced concerns of the Village Green Subdivision.

Kenneth Hanula, 22 Jefferson Green, Waynesboro, voiced concerns of the Village Green Subdivision.

John Wilkinson, Director of Community Development, gave a brief update on the process that is taking place at the Village Green Subdivision.

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MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE BOARD

Ms. Carter stated that the Special Use Permit request that was brought before the Board of Zoning Appeals is not a Board of Supervisors issue; it is a Board of Zoning Appeals issue.

Mr. Slaven recognized the Agriculture Industry Board for being a contributor to allow the 4-H group to travel for their competition. He also stated that the blinking speed limit sign in Mt. Sidney has been installed.

Mr. Wells expressed the importance of communication with Board members. 2022 is going to be a busy year for the Board. Every member of the Board is involved in an important assignment and it will be critical to communicate with each other.

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MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE BOARD (CONT'D)

Mr. Shull is getting comments from citizens regarding the courthouse. He reiterated to the public that the buildings will not be given away unless Staunton signs the Memorandum of Understanding.

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MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY STAFF

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the following:

1) Leslie Tate, Senior Planner, gave an update on the redistricting process. The Office of the Attorney General did certify the request for a certificate of no objection on the magisterial district lines as approved. The state has finalized their lines and the County is moving forward to determine the Precinct boundaries and then any changes associated that may be needed in polling places with voting or the creation of new precincts. Every precinct has to have at least one hundred registered voters and cannot have more than 5,000 registered voters. Staff will be sending letters to inform voters if they are affected by a new voting precinct. The redistricting for voting precincts will be presented at the Board of Supervisors meeting on January 26, 2022 and Staff will ask the Board's approval to move forward with the public hearing.

2) The Planning District Commission is performing a Regional Housing Study and would like Augusta County to submit a letter of support. The Planning District Commission is planning to get a grant to do the Study. This would help Augusta County with questions such as what type of housing is needed. The letter of support is for the grant and it does not require a match from localities.

3) VACo Day in Richmond is February 3, 2022. In past years, the Board has chosen a different day that was more beneficial. Eldon James is working to get dates together and the Board can decide which day is suitable.

4) The County has an opportunity to participate in a community survey through ZenCity. ZenCity holds a social media monitoring platform and has conducted three surveys for the County to date. The community survey will provide an interactive dashboard with trending topics and live feedback. Data collected will be compared to other localities that participate in the survey. The survey will assist with guiding strategic planning goals for the County. Staff would like to pursue the survey to assist in a strategic planning process and are seeking feedback from the Board. There is a cost associated with the survey, which would be upwards of \$30,000.00, but staff has worked to negotiate a better cost. Two thoughts for consideration; is the community survey something the Board would like entertain and is there any interest in a more robust strategic planning process. If there is interest in starting the strategic plan process, the recommendation from staff would be that a request for proposal be put out for a facilitator that would come and manage the process.

The Board requests placing on the next Board Worksession agenda on January 24, 2022.

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January 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Shull, the Board went into closed session pursuant to:

- (1) the personnel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A) (1)
[discussion, consideration or interviews of (a) prospective candidates for employment, or (b) assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific employees]:

a. Augusta County Fire Chief

On motion of Ms. Carter, seconded by Dr. Seaton, the Board came out of Closed Session.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Carter, Shull, Slaven
And Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Morelli

Motion carried.

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The Chairman advised that each member is required to certify that to the best of their knowledge during the closed session only the following was discussed:

1. Public business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements, and
2. Only such public business matters identified in the motion to convene the executive session.

The Chairman asked if there is any Board member who cannot so certify.

Hearing none, the Chairman called upon the County Administrator/ Clerk of the Board to call the roll noting members of the Board who approve the certification shall answer AYE and those who cannot shall answer NAY.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Carter, Shull, Slaven
And Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Morelli

Motion carried.

The Chairman authorized the County Administrator/Clerk of the Board to record this certification in the minutes.

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January 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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There being no other business to come before the Board, Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Shull that the Board adjourn subject to call of the Chairman.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Carter, Shull, Slaven
And Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Morelli

Motion carried.

Gerald W. Gault
Chairman

M. H. Hargrave
County Administrator

h:1-12min.2022