

March 26, 2015

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Farmville Emergency Operations Center, 116 North Main Street, Second Floor, Farmville, thereof, on Thursday, the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., there were present:

Pattie Cooper-Jones

Calvin L. Gray

Robert M. Jones

Charles W. McKay

Howard F. Simpson

C. Robert Timmons, Jr.

Jerry R. Townsend

Jim R. Wilck

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator; David Whitus, Mayor of Farmville; Gerald Spates, Farmville Town Manager; A. D. "Chuckie" Reid, Vice-Mayor; Thomas Pairet, Town Council Member; Daniel E. Dwyer, Town Council Member; Greg Cole, Town Council Member; Sally Thompson, Town Council Member; Donald Hunter, Town Council Member; and J. J. "Jamie" Davis, Town Council Member.

Chairman Simpson called the meeting to order as a reconvened meeting.

Mr. Gerald Spates, Farmville Town Manager, updated the Board of Supervisors on several projects the Town of Farmville has been working on.

- The new CVS is under construction and is scheduled to open Sunday, May 17, 2015, and have requested the Town Council and the Board of Supervisors hold a ribbon cutting on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. Two storefronts in the new out building now have leases, Springleaf Financial and Pizza Hut.
- Another project on Main Street and Milnwood Road will add two lanes, one southbound and one northbound, to add protected turn lanes to turn onto Milnwood Road and into the shops at Tractor Supply. It will probably be 12-18 months before that project comes to fruition.
- Town Council is working with a developer on the hotel/motel site at the Lutheran Church on South Main Street to get that project underway. A conditional use permit has been issued and the developers have proposals out for design, and are working with engineers and architects on that project.

- Greenfront is remodeling their original store downtown. They are also remodeling for a microbrewery and sandwich shop that will be going under Charlie's [Waterfront Café]; this will take place next year.
- Southern States building will be converted into apartments; they have also purchased the W.C. Newman Company and Buffalo Shook properties. Plans are to lease the W.C. Newman Company in the interim to them and to tear down Buffalo Shook.
- It was announced in the newspaper there will be a reduction in water and sewer connection fees for residents and businesses in town for 18 months.
- It will be a busy weekend in Farmville: the Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the County Schools; the Sesquicentennial will be held in the Town of Farmville Saturday, March 28 and Sunday, March 29.
- A tour is scheduled of the 911 Center after the meeting.
- Grading has begun at the Burn Building site, water and sewer is hooked up at the site, and it will be available for all the fire departments in the County for training by August 2015.
- Work has continued on the Boundary Adjustment request.
- The Town and County have been working together to get storm preparations in order and a joint LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee).

Mr. Spates then turned the meeting over to Mr. Wade Bartlett, County Administrator.

Mr. Bartlett stated a new business is coming to the County and is anticipated to hire approximately 20 employees; more information will be announced in the near future. There is an Energy Performance Contract being done by Honeywell at the Prince Edward County Schools; projects there include roof replacement, HVAC, other energy efficiency work is proposed. He said the County is working on the budget; the new equalized tax value that he proposed, which has not yet been adopted by the Board of Supervisors, is \$0.51. The assessed values of all real estate went down at approximately 8%. He said the analysis shows that 62.1% of residential tax parcels will actually see a tax decrease based on the \$0.51 tax rate and further explained the reasoning for the proposed rate.

Sally Thompson, Town Council, proposed the Town and the County join together to have a Community Christmas Tree, to be placed in front of the Courthouse; she proposed ornaments would be sold to honor people, and a Community Lighting Service would be held with choirs. Discussion followed. Mayor Whitus suggested the Board form a committee to work with the Town's committee on the details.

Chairman Simpson appointed Supervisor Cooper-Jones, Supervisor Gray, and Supervisor Wilck to the Community Christmas Tree Committee.

Chairman Simpson stated the Boundary Adjustment Committee needs to meet with the Town's Committee.

Supervisor Gray stated he looks forward to working with the Town of Farmville for the betterment of the County and community as a whole; he said he feels great things can be accomplished.

Supervisor Townsend stated all present are citizens of Prince Edward County and it is important to create that “one-ness” to move the County forward. He stated more collaboration is necessary to move forward.

Council member Thomas Pairet stated the collaboration between the committees of both the Town and County for more in-depth conversations to benefit the County and the Town of Farmville. He added resources may be able to be combined to save the taxpayers money and to help spur more economic growth within the community.

Mr. Spates stated the Town Emergency Operations Center is available to the County whenever there is a need; for example, there are showers in the back in the event a long stay is required. The 911 Center is across the hall.

Mrs. Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator, reported on several opportunities for the County and the Town to work together:

- The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) – The Town and the County each have a LEPC and primarily revolve around how to track and provide information to its citizens about chemical hazards. Opportunities exist to expand the program to include all hazards. With exception of the law enforcement officers, the majority of emergency responders in Prince Edward County are volunteers; the creation of a joint Farmville/Prince Edward LEPC will improve the coordination, communication, planning and response for the citizens of Prince Edward County and the Town of Farmville in the event of an incident. Over the winter, the County and the Town have begun to coordinate to let citizens know when there is inclement weather and how they should respond, where water can be obtained and what to do during power outages. Both of the bodies were created by their governing bodies; it would take action of the Board of Supervisors and Town Council to create a joint LEPC.
- A program has been created through the National Weather Service called Storm Ready; nearly 90% of all presidentially declared natural disasters in the United States are weather related events. It is a free program and packages the resources that are currently being used in our community in a way that better coordinates these resources. The only requirement is that there are weather band radios in certain facilities (Courthouse, 911 Center, schools). Longwood University and Hampden-Sydney College are interested in partnering with the County and the Town in this program. There are legal requirements that must be met once the joint committee is formed; there is no deadline for filing an application. Discussion followed on the steps required.

Town Council adjourned their meeting.

On motion of Supervisor Cooper-Jones, seconded by Supervisor Wilck, and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones	Nay: None
	Calvin L. Gray	
	Robert M. Jones	
	Charles W. McKay	
	Howard F. Simpson	
	C. Robert Timmons, Jr.	
	Jerry R. Townsend	
	Jim R. Wilck	

the meeting was recessed at 5:55 p.m. until Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. for the presentation of the School Budget, to be held in the Board of Supervisors Room of the Courthouse, 111 South Street, Third Floor, Farmville, Virginia.