

VIRGINIA:

At a recessed meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Northampton, Virginia, held in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia, on the 30th day of April, 2012, at 5:00 p.m.

Present:

Oliver H. Bennett, Chairman

Willie C. Randall, Vice Chairman

Richard L. Hubbard

Larry LeMond

Absent:

Laurence J. Trala

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

The Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Service Authority was also present and in session.

The purpose of the meeting was to hear a presentation from representatives of Webster Investors and the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development, with regard to regional water issues, specifically at the former Webster property near Cheriton, and the need for water and sewer capability in order to attract economic development to the County. Mr. Eyre Baldwin and Mrs. Rosemary Bosworth suggested that the Board partner with them to have a feasibility study conducted in order to take advantage of this very valuable asset. It was noted that the remaining work tasks to be completed to bring the Webster wells on-line would jeopardize the chances of enticing prospective firms to locate here. Work done to date resulted in findings of no salt-water intrusion and good pressure at the site. Available capacity is one million gallons per day.

Mr. Baldwin shared with the Board concept plans for a proposed "Cape Charles Yacht

Center' to be located at the Cape Charles Harbor. He noted that the current Cape Charles water system cannot provide the quantities of water needed for this project.

At the request of the DHCD officials, PSA Chairman Panek updated the group on the PSA's efforts to date and progress on the Northern Node, the Southern Node, and the PSA's priorities based on its bylaws. The Northern Node is deemed to be the PSA's top priority with an estimated project cost of \$11 million. The Southern Node, which is smaller in scale, is estimated to cost \$7-\$8 million. The PSA is currently looking to convene a meeting of the business interests along the Rt. 13/Rt. 184 corridor and would entail a cost of \$1.5-\$2 million for this targeted system.

When questioned by PSA member Carl Harris, Mr. Baldwin indicated that the Webster site had been cleared by EPA. PSA member Granville Hogg indicated that he was interested in the numbers quoted by Mr. Baldwin for County residents currently living without indoor plumbing. He also questioned any precedents set for collection of surface water vs. groundwater and suggested that perhaps this idea could be researched by the feasibility study. When questioned by Mr. Hogg, Ms. Bosworth and Mr. Baldwin noted that of the six wells on the site, four had been closed; two remain active.

Director Atkinson and Mr. Thompson stated that in order for economic development to thrive, companies need "shovel-ready" sites for location and/or expansion. DHCD's goal is to partner with communities to help "these dreams become reality". They noted that funding was available for feasibility studies and if the project qualifies, for construction as well.

PSA Vice Chairman Artie Miles questioned the need for two feasibility studies: one for water and one for wastewater—the discharged product. Mr. Panek agreed, indicating that this "was a package deal." The DHCD representatives said that this may be difficult and that they may look

to the County for a contribution.

Following a question from the Board, the PSA indicated that it was the consensus of that body to work with the County on an application for a feasibility study. It was noted that since part of the property is located within the incorporated limits of the Town of Cheriton, that the Town would have to partner in this regard.

The County Administrator suggested that it may be desirable to start a dialogue with Webster Investors at this time with regard to acquisition of the site, which figure may be needed for the feasibility study.

Motion was made by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, that the Board move forward with an application for a feasibility study and authorize the County Administrator to work with the Public Service Authority to determine the parameters of the study. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Trala and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Mr. LeMond, seconded by Mr. Randall, that the Board enter negotiations with Webster Investors regarding potential acquisition of the Webster property. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Trala and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

At the request of the Chairman, motion was made by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, that the Board's next regular meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2012, commencing at 4:00 p.m. (closed session), but started at 5:00 p.m. instead and that the following resolution be adopted therefor. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Trala and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed. Said resolution as adopted is set forth below:

**RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Board of Supervisors, this 30th day of April, 2012, that the regular meeting of the Board, scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at **4:00** p.m., in the Board Chambers of the County Administration Building, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia, be changed to Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at **5:00** p.m. in the Board Chambers of the County Administration Building, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia; and

BE IT RESOLVED that, following this meeting, the date, time and place of the regular meeting of the Northampton County Board of Supervisors shall revert to the second Tuesday of each month in the Board Chambers, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia, at 4:00 p.m..

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Recess:

Motion was made by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. LeMond, that the meeting be recessed until 5:45 p.m., Thursday, May 3, 2012 in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia, to conduct a budget work session. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Trala and Mr. Hubbard and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

The meeting was recessed.

\_\_\_\_\_CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR