

At the Regular Meeting, of the Greensville County Board of Supervisors, held on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, with Closed Session being held at 6:00 P.M. and Regular Session being held at 7:00 P.M., in the Board Room of the Greensville County Government Building, 1781 Greensville County Circle, Emporia, Virginia.

Present: Belinda D. Astrop, Chairman
James R. Brown, Vice-Chairman
Tony M. Conwell
William B. Cain

Chairman Astrop called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

In Re: Closed Session

Mrs. Parson, County Administrator, stated that Staff recommended the Board go into Closed Session, Section 2.2-3711 (a) 1) Personnel, 3) Acquisition/Disposition of Real Property, 5) Business and/or Industry and 7) Legal Matters.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to go into Closed Session, as recommended by Staff. Voting aye: Supervisors Brown, Cain, Conwell and Chairman Astrop.

In Re: Regular Session

Chairman Astrop reconvened the meeting at which time she led the Pledge of Allegiance and Supervisor Cain gave the Invocation.

Mrs. Parson stated that Staff recommended the Board of Supervisors return to Regular Session.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to go into Regular Session. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop, aye.

In Re: Certification of Closed Meeting -- Resolution #20-77

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to adopt the following Resolution. A roll call vote was taken, as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop, aye.

**RESOLUTION #20-77
CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

WHEREAS, the Greensville County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Greensville County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Greensville County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the 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 Greensville County Board of Supervisors.

In Re: Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Parson stated that Staff recommended the Board of Supervisors approve the Agenda with no added items.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to approve the agenda as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop, aye.

In Re: Consent Agenda

Mrs. Parson stated that Staff recommended approval of the Consent Agenda consisting of the following: Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to approve the Consent Agenda. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop, aye.

Minutes of January 6, 2020.

Budgetary Matters consisting of the following: Fund #001 – Journal Voucher #37, in the amount of \$36,000-00, Budget Amendment Resolution #20-78, in the amount of \$194,906-00 and Budget Amendment Resolution #20-79, in the amount of \$250.86; Fund #013 – Budget Amendment Resolution #20-80, in the amount of \$162.90 and Fund #018 - Budget Amendment Resolution #20-81, in the amount of \$3,315-00, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Warrants:

Approval of Accounts Payable for January 21, 2020, in the amount of, \$368,758.11.

In Re: Mrs. Debra Brown, NAACP President

Mrs. Brown addressed the Board stating that she was the President of Greenville/Emporia NAACP and a National Board Member. She stated she was present in regards to being dissatisfied with the way the NAACP was treated in applying for the use of the Golden Leaf Commons Building. She also stated that five years ago, the NAACP had asked for the first Saturday in October of 2020 to celebrate the 80th anniversary. Mrs. Brown stated that she had received a call the first week of January asking her if the NAACP still wanted use of the facility. She stated that she responded yes. She also stated that she was instructed that they needed to pick up a package and return the information back to the Golden Leaf Commons. She further stated that she informed the caller that she would have Mr. Cornell Hines pick up the packet at the meeting on Wednesday night, which was last week. She then stated that Mr. Hines informed the organization that the room had been booked. Mrs. Brown stated that she was highly disappointed due to five years ago, they booked the building for that particular date and time. She stated that every year they received a call asking if they still wanted the first Saturday and they would respond. She also stated that this was the year they really wanted the building and had made the request five years in advance; so if there was a problem and the check or paperwork was needed immediately, the NAACP would have been glad to provide it. She further stated that she sent Mr. Hines immediately after she received the call. Mrs. Brown stated she would like to know why they were denied use of the building.

Mrs. Debbie Drummond, Facility Manager, addressed the Board stating that she had been the overseer of the Golden Leaf Commons since August 2013. She stated there was a use policy that had been in force since the Golden Leaf Commons was available for rental and the Board approved the policy. She also stated that the policy was a guideline of rules and regulations that had been put in place to follow when renting the facility. She further stated that the policy stated that the facility was a on a first come first serve basis. Mrs. Drummond also stated that the form

stated that the reservation form and a reservation fee of 50% of the rental cost was to be collected to insure the scheduling of the facility. She stated that the last time the NAACP rented the facility was October 3, 2015. She also stated that if there were someone already on the calendar when another renter was requesting the same date but had not secured their date with a reservation form and the reservation fee; the renter is contacted by the contact information provided, allowing the renter time to secure the date. If they did not, the date was forfeited and the date could then be offered to the next renter. Other rental dates by the NAACP were discussed. She further stated that the next contact she had with anyone from the NAACP was when she phoned and spoke with Mrs. Brown on December 19, 2019, at which time she was informed that they were on the calendar for October 2, 2021. Mrs. Drummond stated that she had another interested renters for those dates. She stated that she asked Mrs. Brown if the organization was still interested in having their event and Mrs. Brown stated yes and would have Mr. Hines get in contact with her. She also stated that Mr. Hines had seven days to respond and secure the date. She further stated that Mr. Hines came into the office on December 26, 2019, which was the seventh day and spoke with her assistant. She stated that Mr. Hines told her assistance it was supposed to be for October 3, 2020. Mrs. Drummond stated that her assistant informed Mr. Hines that another renter had already secured the date and it was not available. She stated that her assistant contacted her for assistance on the matter and she physically came into the office to go through any documentation to support an October 2020 request from the NAACP. She further stated that she was unable to find any documentation that a reservation form or reservation fee had been submitted from the organization securing the date that was requested. She then stated that she made multiple attempts to contact Mr. Hines on December 26, 2019 but was unable to leave any messages for the voice mail had not been set up. Mrs. Drummond stated that after the fourth attempt, she spoke and left a message with Shirley at Mr. Hines residence informing her that she was trying to contact Mr. Hines. She stated that Mr. Hines phoned the office on December 27, 2019 to discuss the matter. She also stated that when she returned to work on January 6, 2020, she initiated a call to Mr. Hines on Wednesday, January 8, 2020. Mrs. Drummond further stated that at that time Mr. Hines stated he had come into the office in 2016 and placed the NAACP on the calendar for 2020. She stated that she informed Mr. Hines that she had no documentation to support that information. She further stated that she offered Mr. Hines Friday, October 2, 2020 for the event.

Supervisor Cain stated that when the NAACP asked for the rental, 2015 or 2016, were there any documentation of that request. Mrs. Drummond stated there was no documentation on the calendar. Supervisor Cain then asked why she would take time out of her schedule to initiate a call. He also asked how she derived at the date of 2021. Mrs. Drummond stated that it was placed on the calendar in September of 2019.

Mrs. Brown stated that 2016, she called and asked if the building was available. She stated she spoke with the County Administrator at that time, Mr. David Whittington. She also stated that every year the organization would receive a call for rental of the building and she did not know where the date of 2021 came from. She further stated that it should have been documented somewhere after requesting that date five years ago regarding October 3, 2020.

Supervisor Cain reiterated what was bothering him was why was a call generated in 2016/2017. Mrs. Drummond stated that a call was not generated at that time because the

NAACP was not on their calendar. He then asked why were they called on December 2019. She stated because they were placed on the calendar for 2018 and 2019. Supervisor Cain then stated that he would like to see the documentation for the dates requested by the organization.

Chairman Astrop stated that she could not see Mrs. Brown stating that she was interested in the 2021 date if the date was supposed to have been 2020. She stated that during the phone conversation it should have been clearly stated. She also asked that Mrs. Drummond submit the documentation as soon as she could.

In Re: Citizens Comments

Mrs. Parson addressed the public stating that anyone wishing to address the Board of Supervisors to please come forward and state their name for the record.

Mr. Cornell Hines, 1537 Low Ground Road, addressed the Board stating that in reference to the previous conversation, the NAACP rented the building in 2015 and was interested in renting it the next year. He stated that the building had already been rented for the next year. He then stated that at the NAACP meeting, he asked if the organization wanted the building for October 2020 since it would be their 80th anniversary. It was stated yes. Mr. Hines stated that he went back to the Golden Leaf Commons before the end of 2015 and he did not know anything about the other dates mentioned. He stated that the only date he requested was for 2020.

In Re: Planning Commission Review of 2232-5-19 Brunswick Road PV I Fresh Air Energy Application

Mr. Lin Pope, Director of Planning, addressed the Board stating that on January 14th, the Greenville County Planning Commission heard the Fresh Air Energy 2232-5-19 Brunswick Road PV I request. He stated that the 2232 request was to determine if the proposed solar project was in substantial accord with the Greenville County Comprehensive Plan. He stated that at that meeting, there was an 8-0 vote with one abstention, the Planning Commission determined that the proposed solar project was in substantial accord with the local comprehensive plan. He also stated that Section 15.2-2232 Code of Virginia did not require the Board to take action on the applicant's 2232 application; however, the Board may overrule the action of the Planning Commission with a majority vote. Mr. Pope further stated that there was no time limit of when the Board could call the application up for review and action if they wished to overturn the Planning Commission's recommendation.

In Re: Agreement between the Board of Supervisors and the Treasurer to be a part of the County's Personnel Policy.

Mrs. Alice Whitby, Finance Director, addressed the Board stating that the agreement would be effective as of January 1, 2020 for four years in order for the Treasurer's Office to be a part of the County's Personnel Policy.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to approve the Agreement with the Treasurer. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop.

In Re: Agreement between the Board of Supervisors and the Commissioner of the Revenue to be a part of the County's Personnel Policy

Mrs. Whitby stated that this was the same agreement as just approved, but was between Greenville County and the Commissioner of the Revenue.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to approve the Agreement with the Commissioner of the Revenue. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop.

In Re: Resolution #20-82 – Tobacco Commission Funding of Engineering of Natural Gas

Mrs. Natalie Slate, Director of Economic Development, addressed the Board stating the lack of Natural Gas in Greenville County and many other southern Virginia communities had been cited as one of the primary concerns and reasons economic development clients had eliminated this area from consideration. She stated the County had an opportunity to engineer a natural gas line that would serve numerous sites in the Industrial Park and the Mid-Atlantic Advanced Manufacturing Park. She also stated the resolution was being brought forward needing three actions for approval. She then read the following resolution into record and requested approval.

**RESOLUTION #20-82
TOBACCO COMMISSION FUNDING OF ENGINEERING OF NATURAL GAS**

WHEREAS, economic development and the creation of new jobs is a priority to Greenville County; and

WHEREAS, multiple clients have listed the lack of natural gas as a primary reason for not locating in Greensville County; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Gas of Virginia is the natural gas distribution company for the county and has agreed to engineer a gas line extension that will serve MAMaC and the Greensville County Industrial Park sites; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Gas of Virginia has requested \$150,000 for the engineering services; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been awarded \$75,000 by the Virginia Tobacco Commission for the engineering of natural gas.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greensville County Board of Supervisors appropriate \$75,000 for the engineering of a natural gas line extension to serve multiple economic development sites in the County and enhance their marketability.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greensville County Administrator has authorization to sign the grant agreement with the Virginia Tobacco Commission.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greensville County Administrator has authorization to sign the engineering agreement with Columbia Gas of Virginia, not to exceed \$150,000.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to approve Resolution #20-82. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop, aye.

In Re: Otterdam Road, Phase II

Mr. Lin Pope stated November of 2019, construction bids were opened for the Otterdam Road, Phase II Project. He stated that Curtis Contracting submitted the low bid of \$2.2 million that brought the total project budget to \$3.28 million. He also stated that looking at the expenditures and expenses, total expenses included construction, right-of-way and preliminary engineering that amounted to \$3.28 million. He further stated that looking at the revenues; there were \$267 thousand in VDOT secured funds, \$1.2 million in VDOT Revenue Sharing Funds, \$902 thousand in Tobacco Commission Funds and \$543 thousand in Greensville County Funds that included budget appropriations made in the FY20 budgetary cycle. Mr. Pope then stated it left a deficit of \$357 thousand to complete the project. He stated that there were two Resolutions in front of the Board for approval. He also stated that if the Board wished to approve the project, Staff was requesting approval of Resolution #20-83 that funded the total project and committed an additional \$357 thousand to the project. He further stated that if the Board did not wish to

move forward, Staff was requesting approving of Resolution #20-84, basically putting the project on hold while Staff looked for other grant funds or sources of funding to complete the project.

Supervisor Cain asked if the County was waiting on some additional funds. Mr. Pope stated no and that Mrs. Slate had inquired about additional Tobacco Commission Funds but the funds were not awarded.

Supervisor Conwell stated that with the progress of the road at this time, he felt it would cause many traffic problems if the Board did not pursue completing the project.

Mrs. Parson stated that the project was included in the CIP Plan and in that Plan, there was \$542,317 obligated to the project as a local share. She stated it was before the project was advertised and bids received. She also stated that the project came in over that amount but the County also received additional six-year plan monies which helped defray the deficit of \$756,000. She further stated that the County only needed to obligate an additional \$357,000 to complete the local share.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to approve Resolution #20-83 in approval of the project. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop, aye.

In Re: Boards and Commissions Appointments

1. Board of Equalization – One appointment for Election District 1

Mrs. Parson opened the floor for nominations of an individual to serve on this Board for Election District 1.

Chairman Astrop stated that she had been in contact with a couple of people and needed to know when the Board met.

Mrs. Parson stated they would have to meet for training and schedule meetings with any of the residents who wished to discuss the assessment that had been made on their properties during the reassessment process. She also stated that at this point, she could not give a definite date until everyone was appointed and establish when the training would be held.

Chairman Astrop requested that this item be deferred until to the next meeting. There was a consensus among the Board to defer the item until the next meeting.

2. Virginia's Growth Alliance – Board of Supervisor's Representative

Mrs. Parson stated that Natalie Slate's term expired in October 2019 and she had agreed to serve another term. She stated that at the last meeting, there was a mix up during the nominations and the vote was overlooked regarding Mrs. Slate's position.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to appoint Mrs. Natalie Slate to serve on the Board. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop, aye.

3. Greenville/Emporia Airport Commission – One Supervisor to be appointed for a four-year term.

Chairman Astrop opened the floor for nominations of an individual to serve on this Board.

Supervisor Brown nominated himself. There was no other nominations and the floor was closed for any other nominations.

Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Cain, to appoint Supervisor Brown to the Greenville/Emporia Airport Commission. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Supervisor Brown, aye; Supervisor Cain, aye; Supervisor Conwell, aye and Chairman Astrop, aye.

Adjournment

With there being no further business to discuss, Supervisor Conwell moved, seconded by Supervisor Brown, to adjourn the meeting. Voting aye: Supervisors Brown, Cain, Conwell, and Chairman Astrop.

Belinda D. Astrop, Chairman

Brenda N. Parson, Clerk