

SPECIAL SESSION

State of West Virginia, County of Jefferson, to-wit:

At a Special Session of the County Commission of said County and State continued and held in the County Commission meeting room of the Old Charles Town Library, 200 E. Washington Street, Charles Town, West Virginia on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, beginning at 9:30 o'clock a.m.

PRESENT: Peter Onoszko, President
Jane Tabb, Vice President
Josh Compton, Commissioner
Caleb Hudson, Commissioner
Patricia Noland, Commissioner
Stephanie Grove, County Administrator
Nathan Cochran, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
William Rohrbaugh, Attorney
Alexandra Beaulieu, Zoning Administrator
Jessica Carroll, Administrative Assistant

In re: Discussion of issues concerning the Jefferson County Public Service District and receive legal advice from counsel about the Commission interaction with the District, Charles Town, Ranson, and the Public Service Commission regarding sewer services and potential comments in Case No. 16-0616-PSD-PC-CN before the Public Service Commission, including the public comment hearing on January 19, 2017.

Discussion of changes requested by the County Commission to the proposed Zoning Ordinance text amendment (ZTA16-01)

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Onoszko.

Commissioner Compton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Onoszko asked for unanimous consent to allow the members in the audience to address the Commission. The Commission agreed. Comments were made by the following:

- Wayne Morgan, Thrasher Engineering and Sue Lawton, General Manager of the Jefferson County Public Service District – provided an explanation of the sewer systems improvement project, including a cost breakdown totaling \$6.5 million dollars and a two year building period. Both parties noted that the Public Service District is currently at or beyond the peak flow limit, and if the project is not approved, there may be overflows in customers' homes.
- Peggy Smith, Mayor of Charles Town – Ms. Smith stated that although she wishes to continue dialogue with Ranson and the County Commission regarding the total acquisition of the JCPSD assets, the approval of the sewer systems improvement project could jeopardize consolidation as acquiring the added debt would complicate the City's ability to keep District rates under control and equal with current Charles Town rates.
- Duke Pierson, Mayor of Ranson, and Andy Blake, City Manager of Ranson – stated they were not prepared to make a statement at this time as they were still awaiting more direction from the Commission regarding the possibility of total utility consolidation.

- John Reisenweber, Director, Jefferson County Development Authority – spoke in favor of a sewer improvement project as it would be helpful to future residents and businesses.
- Jacqueline Milliron, resident – spoke against the sewer improvement project as the current water and sewer rates for District customers are very high, and with no potential new customers, current customers would have to bear the burden of the cost of the improvement project.
- **There being no further comment, motion by Ms. Tabb to enter into Executive Session. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.**
- **Motion by Ms. Noland to come out of Executive Session. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.**
- **Motion by Mr. Onoszko to send a letter to the West Virginia Public Service Commission expressing opposition to the JCPSD sewer improvement project. Motion seconded and passes on a vote of 3-2 with Ms. Noland and Ms. Tabb opposing.**

Ms. Noland noted she would send her own letter to the West Virginia Public Service Commission providing her personal opinion regarding the sewer improvement project. Mr. Onoszko requested Commissioner Compton work with Ms. Grove and Mr. Cochran to draft the letter of opposition. Mr. Onoszko also requested all letters from County Commissioners regarding the sewer systems improvement project be compiled and sent to the Public Service Commission by January 31, 2017.

The Commission also discussed amendments to the Jefferson County Zoning and Land Development Ordinance (ZTA16-01). It was the consensus of the body to request Ms. Beaulieu change all Commercial Uses in the Residential and Rural Zoning Districts from Not Permitted to Conditional and develop additional criteria for the Commercial Uses under the Conditional Use Permitting Process to be presented at a later meeting.

- **There being no further business, motion by Mr. Onoszko to adjourn at 12:33 pm. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.**

PETER ONOSZKO, PRESIDENT

Respectively Submitted:
 Jessica D. Carroll
 Administrative Assistant