

Jefferson County Commission

Thursday, August 5, 2010

A meeting of the Jefferson County Commission was held on Thursday, August 5, 2010 at the Old Charles Town Library meeting room located at 200 E. Washington Street, Charles Town, WV 25414. Present were Lyn Widmyer, President, Commissioners Patsy Noland, Frances Morgan, Jim Surkamp and Dale Manuel, Tim Boyde, County Administrator and Debbie Stellato. (An audio tape of the August 5, 2010 meeting is available through the Jefferson County Commission Office.)

The Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m. by Commissioner Widmyer. The Commission was notified that Ms. Noland would be arriving late.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jefferson County Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of July 22, 2010

Due to the absence of Commissioner Noland, it was unanimously decided that the meeting minutes of July 22, 2010 would be put to a vote later in the meeting after Ms. Noland's arrival. The regular meeting ran long and Ms. Noland left at 3:30 p.m. It was therefore unanimously decided that a vote would be taken on the July 22, 2010 minutes at the August 19, 2010 meeting.

Jefferson County Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of July 29, 2010:

MR. MANUEL moved that the Minutes of the July 29, 2010 meeting be approved as presented. Ms. Morgan seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS

MOTION BY Ms. Morgan to approve Purchase Orders in the amount of \$18,407.64, being purchase order numbers 47350, 48766, 48284, 48286, 48711, 48776, 48174, 48459, 48462, 48765, 48768, 48778, 48621, 48260, 48261, 48262, 48263, 48264, 48769. Mr. Manuel seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MOTION BY Ms. Morgan to approve \$146,468.43 in accounts payable. Mr. Manuel seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

JENNIFER SYRON voiced concerns about Chapel View Subdivision. In addition, she thanked the Commission for all of its hard work in dealing with the subdivision issues brought before them.

JACQUELINE MILRON voiced concerns about the Flowing Springs Wastewater Treatment project. Ms. Milron thanked the Commission for its intervention in the Jefferson Utilities matter.

KAY MOORE voiced concerns about public utilities on Blue Ridge Mountain.

HEIDI PARKER voiced her concerns about the PSD rate increases and its effect on middle class homeowners.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

County Administrator Tim Boyde:

- (1) Clarified that the Commission waived the permit fee for the handicapped ramp at the home of the wounded veteran, Eli Tice, but did not actually contribute monetarily.
- (2) Reported that he has been getting feedback from citizens regarding the lack of a live feed of the Commission meetings. He stated that he advises that at present the meetings are uploaded following adjournment and should normally be available for viewing by the end of the day. He further advised that the problem is being handled and to please be patient.
- (3) Met with Barbara Miller of Homeland Security regarding the matter of Region 9 and FEMA.
- (4) Regarding the 2010 Chesapeake Bay Community Grant (Urban Tree Canopy – Canopy Cover Grant), Jennifer Brockman, Director of Planning & Zoning is in the process of reviewing the criteria for obtaining grant funds.
- (5) Inquired if the Commission was inclined to “buy a brick for Ranson for \$25.00. The Commission stated that it would. Other “buy a brick” programs were mentioned as well and the Commission will look into and consider additional brick purchases.

COUNTY COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Noland:

- (1) Reported that the WAC sponsored Electronic and Hazardous Waste Disposal Event was very successful and that she had received communications from the citizens thanking the WAC for their handling of the program. Ms. Noland also gave credit to Sue Lawton , Director of the PSD and offered her congratulations for such a successful event.
- (2) Reported on the WVACo training for Commissioners that she attended at the Stonewall Jackson Resort, where she was elected to serve on the Legislative Commission.

Commissioner Manuel:

- (1) Reported that on July 29, 2010 he attended the Hospice reception at its new building. The theme of the event was "Building the Dream."
- (2) On July 30, 2010 he attended the Planning Commission Subcommittee meeting regarding the Old Standard Quarry application. Mr. Manuel stated that presently the Subcommittee's biggest concern was the FOIA request.
- (3) Attended the PATH dinner on July 31, 2010. Discussion centered on raising money to obtain an expert witness that would report on possible health factors associated with PATH.
- (4) From August 1 to August 3, 2010 he attended a training conference at the Stonewall Jackson Report along with other fellow Commissioners. Mr. Manuel reported that the training was very comprehensive and placed great emphasis on budgeting.
- (5) On August 4, 2010 he attended a Public Hearing for residents of the Blue Ridge Mountain regarding the Subdivision Regulations. He reported that there is a great deal of support for the 1,000 feet buffer from the waterways. In addition, ease of parent to child transfers was discussed, along with property rights in general.

Commissioner Morgan:

- (1) Reported on the Radox grand opening she attended.
- (2) Attended the Public Hearing on the Blue Ridge Mountain regarding Subdivision Regulations.
- (3) Reported on the Jefferson County Historical Society Picnic she attended.
- (4) Attended the PATH fundraiser.

Commissioner Surkamp:

- (1) Attended the Public Hearing on the Blue Ridge Mountain regarding Subdivision Regulations.
- (2) Attended the Jefferson County Historical Society Picnic.

Commissioner Widmyer:

- (1) Participated in the WAC Electronic and Hazardous Waste Disposal event by checking people in as they came with their unwanted items. Recommended that the Commission send its thanks to the WAC and the PSD for a project well done.

PRESENTATIONS

- (1) **JOE HANKINS of the Jefferson County Public Service District** presented an update on the Flowing Springs Wastewater Treatment Project and requested an expression of support from the Commission. Discussion and questions followed. A public meeting is scheduled in the near future and it was recommended by the Commission that Mike Johnson of the DEP be invited to attend a special session of the Commission to discuss concerns.

The Commission took a short break at 11:17 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 11:27 a.m.

- (2) **AL ALSDORF of the Harpers Ferry Historic Town Foundation**, requested that the Commission provide matching funds for the Federal Grant to the Harpers Ferry Historic Town Foundation and the Town of Harpers Ferry for the Preservation and Restoration of Historic Potomac Street in Lower Town Harpers Ferry.

Speaking in support of the request for funds were:

Al Alsdorf, Harpers Ferry Historic Town Foundation
Delegate John Doyle
Harpers Ferry Mayor Addy
Paul Rosa
Steve Peridy of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Motion by Mr. Surkamp to approve the request for matching funds to the Harpers Ferry Historic Town Foundation and the Town of Harpers Ferry for the Federal Grant for the Preservation and Restoration of Historic Potomac Street in Lower Town Harpers Ferry. Motion seconded by Ms. Morgan.

Discussion followed and it was suggested by the Commission members to carry over this item until the August 19, 2010 meeting when the Commission will review all unencumbered funds. Mr. Surkamp withdrew his motion to approve the request. Mr. Manuel made a motion to carry over the request for funds until the August 19, 2010 meeting. Ms. Morgan seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

(3) KELLIE BOLES, Agriculture Development Officer,

(a) Requested a waiver of building permit fees for the Bardane Market.

Motion by Ms. Noland to waive the building permit fees for the Bardane Market. Motion seconded by Mr. Manuel and unanimously approved.

(b) Requested that the Commission approve the drawdown of \$335,000 previously committed and to approve an additional \$200,000.00 to match funds allocated for Farmland protection Easement Acquisition.

Peter Fricke, President of the Farmland Protection Board and Joe Funkhauser, also on the Board, presented the request to draw down the \$335,000.00 previously committed by the Commission but never used by the Board, along with an additional \$200,000.00.

Motion by Mr. Manuel to carry over the vote until the August 19, 2010 meeting when all requests for funding can be reviewed at the same time. Motion seconded by Mr. Surkamp and unanimously approved.

(4) COUNTY CLERK'S REPORT

JENNIFER S. MAGHAN, County Clerk, reported on several changes in polling places for the August 28, 2010 special election. Ms. Maghan also reported that the canvass will be done on August 31, 2010.

(5) LEGAL UPDATE AND REPORT

STEPHANIC GROVE distributed her "To Do" list and presented the Commission with a brief legal update.

**The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:50 p.m.
Meeting reconvened at 1:40 p.m.**

(6) PUBLIC HEARING – SITE IMPROVEMENTS BONDING AND BOND SURETY POLICY

Commissioner Widmyer opened the public hearing. Roger Goodwin of the Engineering Department made a brief presentation before the public gave comments. A sign up sheet was provided for the citizens wanting to speak. Speakers were:

David Hartley, Eastern Panhandle Homebuilders Assn.

Jennifer Syron from Chapel View Subdivision

Carla Coffee – Arcadia Companies

Jim Dorsey – Dan Ryan Builders

Ed Wormald – Wormald Companies

At 2:00 p.m. Commissioner Widmyer closed the public hearing. She recommended to Mr. Goodwin that he obtain a list of citizens' concerns as presented in this hearing and respond to each and every one. Ms. Widmyer suggested that this then be scheduled for a work session on the 1st Thursday in September, 2010.

Mr. Goodwin ended the session with updates on West Ridge Hills, the water budget study project and Chapel View.

NEW BUSINESS:

(7) LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

No new legislative issues to report.

(8) HEALTH INSURANCE PRESENTATION AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Tim Boyde introduced **Ed Slonaker** and **Tracy Hendricks** and offered a brief overview of their presentation.

Ed Slonaker and Tracy Hendricks offered several options for the County and the employees with regard to employee health insurance. They explained each option in detail and it was left to the Commissioners to review before next week's County Commission meeting when it will again be discussed.

The Commission took a short break at 3:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 3:35 p.m.

(9) BROWNFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

JIM SURKAMP previously communicated his concerns regarding the Brownfield Economic Development District to his colleagues and does not want a discussion on the subject at this time. Mr. Surkamp would prefer to wait until after the open house on the afternoon of August 16, 2010 and the meeting with the legislators on August 19, 2010.

(10) SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

JENNIFER BROCKMAN, Planning Director, reported that the multi-stage zoning amendments are in the works now. Ms. Brockman proposed that it would be easier and more efficient to review the amendments in pieces – separately. She advised there are about eight sections that need work and, if reviewed separately, if one section is held up the other sections would not be affected.

There was some discussion but no decisions were made.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Upon rising the Commission recessed until Thursday morning next beginning at 9:30 o'clock a.m.

LYN WIDMYER, COMMISSION PRESIDENT