

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AGENDA
July 11th, 2016
5:00 P.M.**

- I. Agenda Changes
- II. Adoption of Minutes
1 May 9th 2016
- III. Citizen Comments
- IV. Youth Sports
- V. Authorization to Advertise SUP2016-02
- VI. General Information
- VII. Town Council Agenda
- VIII. Next Meeting: August 8th, 2016
- IX. Adjournment

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
July 11th, 2016**

The Honorable Jim Hudson called the meeting to order at 5:05 P.M. Committee members present included Deborah Ball.

Also present: Jim Hudson, Mayor; Tina Gulley, Wayne Healy, Bub Shreaves, Chris Vincent, Town Council Members; John Edwards, Town Manager; Karen Barrow, Town Clerk and Tim Sawyer, Building Inspector.

I Agenda Changes

There were no changes made to the agenda.

II. Adoption of Minutes

May 9th 2016

Mr. Chris Vincent made a motion to adopt the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Deborah Ball. Upon a unanimous vote the motion was approved.

III. Citizen Comments

Mr. Edwards advised that Joe Sanders would like to present some ideas that he has to the Committee for consideration.

Joe Sanders, 315 East Magnolia Ave, West Point, Virginia advised that he has some ideas regarding economic development and trying to identify the Town. People wonder why the real estate value is what it is and we have the best schools in the State but we can't seem to attract businesses that we should be attracting. As a community, there are some things we can do to make West Point more attractive for people and businesses. Mr. Sanders presented a picture of a sign that the City of Richmond has located on I95 at the I64 ramp. (See attached picture.) If the Town had a sign coming in from New Kent and King and Queen that stands out to identify the Town, people might stop when travelling through Town.

Mrs. Ball advised that her daughter is now serving on the Chamber of Commerce and one of the items they are discussing is signage.

Mr. Sanders advised that he is also serving on the Chamber and that there has been a lot of discussion regarding signage. The current signs are nice but only 4 X 6 and small compared to what we should have that would stand out. Mr. Sanders also stated that both bridges stay littered with sticks and debris from the Mill trucks. The Mill needs to step up and clean the bridges and one thing they can do is provide an area where the trucks can blow debris off with an air hose after they have made a delivery. It would prevent surplus debris from the landing in our

community and on the bridges. When the bridges have been cleaned off it only takes two weeks for the debris to acclimate again.

Mr. Hudson advised that the Town has regular quarterly meetings with the Mill and that the next meeting will in August. The Town has discussed the issue of debris in the past and we can discuss it again.

Mr. Edwards advised that VDOT last cleaned the Eltham Bridge for the Chesty Puller Run and that the bridge had to be swept by hand because of a birds nest under the bridge, VDOT are not allowed to sweep the bridge with the sweeper while the bird is nesting. Any suggestion we can give to help the Mill keep the debris on their property the better it would be for the Community.

Mr. Sanders advised that his thought is not to treat the symptom but to treat the cause. I don't know what it would take for the truckers to use an air hose to blow the debris off after a delivery, but its part of their job as a trucker and it might need to be enforced by law enforcement.

Mr. Hudson asked Mr. Sanders if the Chamber wants to participate in some of the discussion on these issues.

Mr. Sanders advised that the Chamber voted to put some concepts and ideas together.

Mr. Sanders advised that the Mill has done a lot for our community and that it is not his intention to pick on the Mill but there is another issue with the wood fencing along King William Avenue. The issue with truck traffic at 24th Street is an internal problem that needs to be addressed. The current fencing is over twenty years old and in need of repairs. Mr. Sanders presented pictures of new fencing as part of renovations at Deer Run golf course that includes sound barriers. There are some things the Mill can do to improve the appearance of the Town, they can also place some landscaping between the fence and sidewalk.

Mr. Hudson advised that dealing with the current management at the Mill has been a pleasure compared to past experiences and they are a lot more receptive to ideas. Mr. Hudson stated that Mr. Sanders has some are good ideas that we will present to the Mill at the next meeting.

IV. Youth Sports

Mr. Edwards advised that the Town received a budget request from Tri-Rivers Sports Association for \$10,000. In years past Tri-Rivers provided Football, Cheerleading, Baseball and Softball programs, apparently that is no longer the case. Tri-Rivers came to Town Council last Spring and said they could not do all the programs, they asked if the Town would allow them to work with New Kent on the Baseball. New Kent done a good job with the program and the games were held in West Point. The New Kent Baseball program is different from the Softball program. The Softball League was in New Kent but the games were held in West Point. The funds given last year by the Town to the Tri-Rivers Sports Association of \$7,500 was used for the football program. The \$10,000 budgeted by the Town this year was placed in a line item titled Youth Sports. The football program of Tri-Rivers are asking for \$5,500 to replace football helmets.

That will leave \$4,500 for use towards other programs.

Mrs. Gulley advised that her experience has been that when a sports program is cut, it is always a women's program that gets cut first and then it is never replaced.

Mr. Vincent advised that there are strict regulations regarding football helmets, they are required to replace them every four years

Mr. Hudson stated that last year, Town Council thought the funds were going towards all sports and it never did.

Mr. Shreaves suggested that Tri-Rivers pay the bill and provide the Town with a paid receipt then the Town reimburses them up to \$5,500.

The consensus of those Town Council members present is that Tri-Rivers pay the bill and the Town reimburses them up to \$5,500 for the helmets.

V. Authorization to Advertise SUP2016-02

Mr. Edwards advised that Planning Commission reviewed the application and held a public hearing. The Planning Commission is recommending Town Council approval from September through May for 25 pre-school children from the ages of 3 through 4.

Chris Vincent made a motion to approve SUP2016-02 for advertisement of a public hearing at the August Town Council meeting. Seconded by Deborah Ball, upon a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

VI. General information

1. Truck Traffic on 15th Street

Mrs. Gulley advised that recently while at Rite Aid, Mrs. Gulley tried to drive down the alley out onto 15th Street and that there were six tractor trailers parked on 15th Street. Mrs. Gulley could not drive down 15th Street and had to back up back into the alley. Mrs. Gulley advised that she thought there was no parking on portion of 15th Street.

Mr. Edwards advised what VDOT did was make it no entry from Kirby Street onto 15th Street and that there is a section of 15th Street near Valero that is posted with no parking. Mr. Edwards advised that he would ask the police department to monitor 15th Street.

2. July 4th Police Patrolling at the Boat Landing

Mr. Healy asked why there were two police officers patrolling the Boat Landing on the 4th of July. There are other problems in Town and the officers should be working with those problems. The Town police are not responsible for enforcing the Game

Department. Jason Harlow and David Taylor were both at the boat landing for a long time.

Mr. Edwards advised that he would check with the Chief of police and get back with Council.

VII. Town Council Agenda

Mr. Edwards advised that there was nothing for the agenda.

VIII. Next Meeting Date: August 8th 2016.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M.



Jack Lawson
Chairman



Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk