

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
AGENDA  
November 14th, 2016  
5:00 P.M.**

- I. Agenda Changes
- II. Adoption of Minutes  
1 August 8<sup>th</sup> 2016
- III. West Point Signage
- IV. Property Maintenance
- V. Water Access & Activities
- VI. MPEDRO – Middle Peninsula Economic Development Resource Organization
- VII. General Information
- VIII. Town Council Agenda
- IX. Next Meeting: December 12th, 2016
- X. Adjournment

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Jack Lawson called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Committee members present included Jack Lawson and Paul Kelley.

Also present: Jim Hudson, Mayor; Wayne Healy and Bub Shreaves, Town Council Members; John Edwards, Town Manager; Karen Barrow, Town Clerk; Holly McGowan, Director of Community Development; Tim Sawyer, Building Official and other interested persons.

**I      Agenda Changes**

There were no changes made to the agenda.

**II.     Adoption of Minutes**

August 8<sup>th</sup> 2016

Mr. Shreaves made a motion to adopt the minutes, seconded by Mr. Healy. Upon a unanimous vote the motion was approved.

**III.    Signage**

Mr. Edwards advised that Joe Sanders is here to continue the discussion regarding signage, the Chamber of Commerce is interested in some new signage at the entrances to town along 14<sup>th</sup> Street.

Joe Sanders advised that he has reviewed the draft renderings and noticed that one of the signs would have a guardrail in front. Mr. Sanders suggested the sign be raised up and for some shrubs to be planted. One sign is forty feet in length, the other on Kirby Street is only sixteen feet. There is not enough room for a bigger sign at Kirby Street.

Mr. Edwards advised that the town met with VDOT, there is no site plan, we used the attached rendering provided by Joe Sanders. Based on the renderings, VDOT said we would need to make sure the signs meet the clear zone requirements and there is a set back off the road. There is no clear zone for the sign behind the guardrail.

Mr. Sanders advised that the cost for both signs is approximately \$35,000 to \$40,000 plus shrubs and the Chamber is willing to pay for fifty percent of the cost. The next step is to submit an application to VDOT for permits.

Mr. Edwards advised that the other members of Town Council need to review the project and review funding for the project.

Mr. Hudson suggested that signage be placed on the Town Council Work Session for Town Council to review.

#### **IV. Property Maintenance**

Mr. Edwards advised that Town Staff would like some guidance on Property Maintenance. If you ride around town you will see several properties in need of repairs. In the past town staff has addressed property maintenance when a complaint is received. Mr. Edwards asked how far Town Council wants staff to go with property maintenance.

Tim Sawyer, the Building Official stated that Town Council might receive more complaints from the public than what's reported to Town Hall.

Mr. Lawson stated that any Town Council member that receives a complaint should be advising the public to call Town Hall so that the appropriate procedure can be followed for complaints. If a complaint is filled, it's on record.

Mr. Edwards advised that if Town Staff sees a dangerous situation, then they will begin with a violation notice.

Mr. Shreaves and Mr. Kelley both stated that if a fridge is on a porch and the door has not been removed, that is a dangerous situation and it should be a violation.

Mr. Sawyer advised that property maintenance would not deal with an appliance. There would need to be an ordinance for that and yes it is unsafe, the door should be removed.

Mrs. McGowan advised that the Town cannot make a person clean up their personal belongings.

Mr. Lawson suggested that town staff not go out and look for violations, but if you know of a violation or you receive a complaint, then investigate it and send a violation.

The consensus of the Committee members present is that Town Staff should deal with unsafe violations and complaints.

#### **V. Water Access and Activities**

Mr. Edwards asked the Committee for direction regarding a marina and water access and suggested the Town consider a plan. The owners of the property on 7<sup>th</sup> Street are not going to build a Marina and there is a need for access to the water. Mr. Edwards gave some suggestions for options for a community pier.

Mr. Shreaves advised that it would require a business to operate a community pier, and if you do not know what you are doing it could be a big money loser. It would require a person to be on site at all times to provide the service needed for a community pier.

Mr. Edwards advised that he is not suggesting that the Town construct a Marina, if the Town has to lose a little bit of money to make it work, it would be worth doing it.

Mr. Kelley advised that there is a block by the owners of the property on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The owners purchased the property at the wrong time and paid too much for it, it will be hard for them to get their money back out of the property. They are not willing to sell the property so it can be developed, they are only interested in making money.

Mr. Edwards asked if the Town needs to look for another piece of property, the property on 7<sup>th</sup> Street is assessed at approximately \$250,000, the owners paid \$600,000 for it.

Mr. Hudson advised that the property on Kirby Street would have a wetlands issue, the railroad and it would have some development issues.

Mr. Kelley stated that Mr. Edwards is asking if the Town wants to wait for someone else to control the property on 7<sup>th</sup> Street or does the Town want to try and control their own destiny with development for water access.

Mr. Edwards advised while at the Boating Conference he met with the people from the Boating Infrastructure Grant, they advised that the Town should not apply for another grant unless the Town has signed an agreement with a developer. The Town received the BIG grant for the property on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street without a developer for the project.

Mr. Kelley suggested that the Town continue to explore what would be required to use the Kirby Street location for access to the water and review the possibility of a future grant.

#### **VI. Middle Peninsula Economic Development Resource Organization (MPEDRO)**

Mr. Kelley advised that he recently attended a meeting for MPEDRO at the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, the organization is working together with localities on the middle peninsula regional economic development. They have created a web site called "Virginia's River Realm". The web site is being used to market localities and events.

Mr. Edwards advised that the current web site content is for Lancaster County and Middlesex County, the cost of the web site is shared by both counties.

Mr. Kelley stated that MPEDRO is working on the same concept for the region that would include West Point.

#### **VII. General information**

Mr. Edwards advised that there was nothing to report.

**VIII. Town Council Agenda**

Mr. Lawson asked the Town Manager to place the West Point Signage on the Town Council Work Session.

**IX. Next Meeting Date:** December 12<sup>th</sup> 2016.

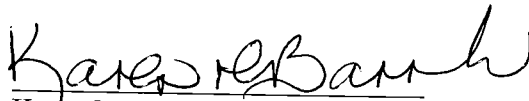
**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M.



Jack Lawson  
Chairman

ATTEST:



Karen M. Barrow  
Town Clerk