

**WEST POINT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINUTES
June 17th, 2014**

I. Call to Order

Jack Lawson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in Town Council Chambers located in Town Hall, 329 6th Street, West Point, Virginia.

Members Present: Debbie Brockwell
Carol Cunningham
Paul Kelley
Jack Lawson, Chairman
William B. Lee

Members Absent: Lisa Graham
Bub Shreaves

Also Present: John B. Edwards, Town Manager
Karen Barrow, Town Clerk
Holly McGowan, Director of Community Development

II. Review of Agenda

Mr. Lawson moved the HRSD Tower from item VII to item III of the agenda.

III. HRSD Communications Tower

Mr. Edwards advised that HRSD have submitted a request to construct a Communication Tower on their property at the Industrial Park. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and is recommending that Town Council approve the application with a Special Use Permit. The Covenants at the Industrial park require the approval of the EDA.

Chuck Bayer, representative for Edward Miller Consulting, advised that HRSD are constructing twelve new towers throughout Hampton Roads to assist with new technology for HRSD that would allow readings at all facilities.

Mr. Edwards advised that Town Council will authorize a public hearing at the next Council meeting for July 29th 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Carol Cunningham made a motion to approve construction of the tower at the Industrial Park in accordance with the Industrial Park Covenants. Seconded by Bernard Lee, upon roll call; Carol Cunningham, Debbie Brockwell, Paul Kelley, Jack Lawson and Bernard Lee all voted "Aye". The motion was approved.

IV. Adoption of Minutes

- A. September 17th 2013
March 18th 2014

Mr. Kelley made a motion to adopt the minutes of September 17th 2013 and March 18th 2014, seconded by Mr. Lee. Upon a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

V. Financial Report

- 1. CD's

Mr. Edwards advised that the EDA has two CD's, one is for the grant for the access road at the industrial park and the second CD has a balance of \$262,617 and is currently earning .35% interest rate. The EDA checking account is earning .68%. Mr. Edwards suggested the EDA move the \$262,617 CD to the EDA checking account to receive a better interest rate.

Debbie Brockwell made a motion to transfer the funds of \$262,617 from the CD to the EDA checking account, seconded by Carol Cunningham. Upon a unanimous vote the motion was approved.

- 2. FY 2014-15 Budget

Mr. Edwards presented the operating budget for FY 2014-15 and advised that the next year's budget is reduced to \$84,525.00 from \$119,125.00.

Bernard Lee made a motion to adopt the FY 2014-15 Budget, seconded by Paul Kelley. Upon a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

VI. Economic Development Update

Jack Lawson asked how the Downtown Business Center is doing.

Mr. Edwards advised that the Business Center is almost full, there are two vacant offices. Jeff Bateman has renovated an area upstairs as an apartment and is now living in the Business Center. Mr. Edwards also stated that Keith Hodges is trying to schedule and Economic Development Summit that might be located at the Airport.

Jack Lawson advised that he has listed the Watering Can for sale and Steve Palmer has listed the property he owns downtown. Neither owner wants 'For Sale' signs posted on their property, it will be difficult to sell the property without posting it.

Debbie Brockwell asked the current status of '4 on the Shore' and the Marina project.

Mr. Edwards advised that '4 on the Shore' have no plans to proceed with the Marina with the current economic status. They would sell the property if they found a buyer, but they are not actively pushing to sell the property.

Debbie Brockwell advised that Virginia Natural Gas have a public forum scheduled for this evening, Ms. Brockwell asked what the status is for Virginia Natural Gas.

Mr. Edwards advised that the Gas line is heading south on Main Street. The Virginia Natural Gas representatives are working with the businesses to see if anyone wants to convert from Propane to Natural Gas.

Jack Lawson advised that his business is willing to switch to Natural Gas but are unable to find a mechanic to do the work.

VII. Old Business

1. VPPSA

Mr. Edwards advised that VPPSA have not committed to locating at the Industrial Park. The Board of Directors has not made a decision to move ahead with the project.

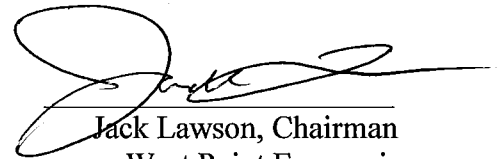
VIII. New Business

IX. Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 16th 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Lawson adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Approved 12/9/2014



Jack Lawson, Chairman
West Point Economic
Development Authority

Members Terms

Debbie Brockwell, Treasurer	843-2485	9/30/17
Carol Cunningham,	843-7399	9/30/17
Lisa Graham	843-3441	9/30/16
Paul Kelley, Vice Chairman	314-2120	9/30/18
Jack Lawson, Chairman	514-5150	9/30/16
W. Bernard Lee, Secretary	381-9868	9/30/18
Bub Shreaves	843-3080	9/30/16