

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2017

At a meeting of the Economic Development Authority held on the 13th day of June 2017, in the Accomack County Airport Conference Room, in Melfa, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT

Economic Development Authority Members Present:

Mr. John LeCato, Chairman
Mr. Calvert Seybolt, Vice Chairman
Mr. Wesley Edwards, Treasurer
Mr. Robert Bloxom
Ms. Stella Rohde

Members Absent:

Ms. Ira Ashby-Hope
Mr. C. Ray Davis

Others Present:

Ms. Kristen Tremblay, Assistant Planner
Mr. Paul Muhly, Board of Supervisors' Liaison, District 4

B. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman LeCato opened the floor for the public comment period. No one signed up or requested to speak.

3. MINUTES

A. May 9, 2017

On a motion made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Ms. Ashby-Hope, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the May 9, 2017 minutes.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Edwards reported that as of May 31, 2017, the balance of the EDA account is \$68,370.19.

The EDA discussed the payment of a bill for the purchase of new lawnmower blades. The EDA also discussed the adequacy of the funding provided by the County.

Chairman LeCato handed Mr. Edwards a bill from VA Risk Management in the amount of \$391.00 to be paid.

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On a motion made by Ms. Rohde and seconded by Mr. Seybolt, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the Treasurer's Report.

5. INFORMATIONAL REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

A. Ms. Rohde

Ms. Rohde stated that real estate is moving forward at a good pace. She also noted that she is beginning to see more interest in commercial properties.

Chairman LeCato asked if the EDA had the signed agreement between the EDA and Coastal Ag (Painter Holdings, LLC). A discussion about the status of the properties for Marshalls Tree Service and Coastal Ag ensued. The EDA discussed complications with Stormwater and requested that Mr. Chris Guvernator, Environmental Program Director, attend the EDA's next meeting so that the EDA can be made aware of Stormwater issues in the Industrial Park. Mr. Edwards noted that he wants someone from the EDA to attend all meetings between Marshalls and the County. The EDA then discussed Stormwater and wetlands in the Industrial Park.

B. Mr. Edwards

Mr. Edwards reported that the annual payment from the YMCA this year will be \$4,151, the following year it will be \$3,946 and then \$3,733 the year after that.

Mr. Muhly informed the EDA that the Library Finance Committee is looking for information on bonding and asked if the EDA would provide information. Chairman LeCato stated that the EDA's bonding agent would need to be contacted.

Mr. Edwards wanted to bring in someone from the Wallops Island Research Alliance (WIRA) to speak to the EDA and told the EDA that they said they would be happy to attend.

Mr. Edwards stated that he still needs new pictures for the website.

C. Mr. Bloxom

Mr. Bloxom reported that he took a tour of Luminary (in the old BaySys building). He also reported that he attended a Railroad meeting to discuss some obstacles. He reported that Dominion has talked with major users (of gas), and that he attended a Broadband meeting with all of the areas ISP's regarding full coverage.

Mr. Edwards asked about the traffic light at the Industrial Park. The EDA noted that Chris Isdell from VDOT attended a recent Board of Supervisors meeting and stated that the project is ranked #3 (of 4).

D. Mr. Seybolt

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Mr. Seybolt reported that rentals in Chincoteague are okay. He mentioned that the status of the rentals is approximately 600 are available; with 4-5 new hotels, he mentioned that the Island may have some long term issues with parking.

E. Chairman LeCato

Mr. LeCato reported that he had met with Rich Morrison and Mike Mason regarding sending Ms. Tremblay and Ms. Haxter to the National Business Aviation Association Regional Forum. Both Mr. Morrison and Mr. Mason stated that due to staffing concerns, they would be unable to release staff to attend. Mr. LeCato asked for EDA membership to volunteer. Mr. Edwards, Mr. Seybolt and Ms. Rohde stated that they were willing to go depending on the date of the forum.

Mr. LeCato also reported that Mike Mason had attempted to put funding into the County budget for the EDA to have their own staff/secretary. He informed the EDA that this funding was not approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. LeCato reported that he received a second estimate for surveying in the amount of \$32,500. The previous estimate by MSA was \$31,800. The EDA discussed Stormwater and decided that the issue needed to be cleared up before they would be willing to have a survey completed.

Mr. Edwards stated that he was still working with Cela Burge, County Attorney, on writing letters to bonding agents.

6. STAFF REPORT

Ms. Tremblay had nothing to report.

7. MARKETING STRATEGIES

This item was covered under 'Informational Report from Chairman and Members.'

8. NEXT MEETING

The next regular Economic Development Authority meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Accomack County Airport Conference Room, in Melfa, Virginia.

9. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Seybolt, the Economic Development Authority voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Mr. John LeCato, Chairman

Kristen M. Tremblay, Assistant Planner