

VIRGINIA: AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE POWHATAN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD IN THE POWHATAN VILLAGE BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM, 3910 OLD BUCKINGHAM ROAD IN POWHATAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA, ON FEBRUARY 11, 2020 AT 6:00 PM

Board of Supervisors Present: David T. Williams, District 1, Chairman
Larry J. Nordvig, District 2
Michael W. Byerly, District 3
Bill L. Cox, District 4
Karin M. Carmack, District 5, Vice Chairman

Board of Supervisors Absent: None

County Staff Present: Bret Schardein, Interim County Administrator

Guests Present: Mr. Ken Peterson of Good Government Ventures

1. Call to Order

Chairman David Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Carmack led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Invocation

Mr. Nordvig gave the invocation.

4. Requests to Postpone Agenda Items and Additions, Deletions or Changes in the Order of Presentation

None

5. Formal Approval of Agenda

Mr. Nordvig moved to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Bill Cox seconded the motion.

David T. Williams, Larry J. Nordvig, Michael W. Byerly, Bill L. Cox, Karin M. Carmack voted AYE

**VOTE 5-0
MOTION Passed**

6. **Public Comment (time limit 3 minutes per individual/5 minutes per group, 30 minutes total time limit that can be extended by the Board)**
7. Chairman Williams opened the Public Comment period.

Seeing there were no speakers, Chairman Williams closed the Public Comment period.

Strategic Planning workshop – facilitated by Good Government Ventures

Chairman Williams introduced the Strategic Meeting facilitator, Mr. Ken Peterson of Good Government Ventures.

Mr. Peterson greeted the Supervisors and began by noting that this meeting would be about. “Brainstorming with an open mind.” He posed the question, “Where do you want to be in fifteen years?” Mr. Peterson then stated the purposes of the meeting:

1. Engage in strategic thinking
2. Develop a shared vision
3. Become a team with general consensus
4. Create a strategic plan unique to Powhatan

Mr. Peterson then explained the framework of creating a plan. The Board should create a draft plan, review the plan, and finalize the plan.

He asked the Board why they should develop a plan. Responses included to focus and define success, to address top priorities, focus on allocation of resources, define the destination and the path to it, and to create a plan to make Powhatan, our home, what we want it to be.

Next Mr. Peterson invited the Board to list the characteristics which make Powhatan unique.

The responses were:

1. Location

2. Sense of community
3. Volunteerism and public service
4. History/village
5. Dark nights and open spaces
6. Nature/rivers
7. Excellent public-school system
8. Supplies workforce
9. No interstate, airport
10. Economic development pressure
11. High commercial to residential ratio 92/8
12. Attractive

Mr. Peterson inquired of the Board, “What do you think the current perceptions of Powhatan, its leadership and its economic development?” The board responded:

1. Prior Board issues
2. Leadership listens to citizens
3. Not business friendly
4. Good schools
5. Conservative leaning
6. Rural desirability
7. Development pressures
8. Traffic congestion
9. Fiscal responsibility questionable
10. The appearance of some development is not good due to age and lack of zoning compliance code enforcement in the past

Next, Mr. Peterson asked the Board members thoughts on a vision for the future. Individual board members stated the following:

1. Limited size developments
2. Dark skies and open spaces
3. Good development at Rt.288 and Rt. 711
4. Route 60 should be commercial development not residential
5. Keep traffic moving
6. Water and sewer infrastructure for the long term
7. Maintain quality County services- provide for future safety needs
8. Define the Courthouse area-create larger contiguous areas
9. Increase broadband coverage
10. Robust parks and recreation

Mr. Peterson led a discussion of the elements of a Vision Statement. Elements the Board brought forth were: Rural, Peaceful, Fiscally

Healthy, Safe, Balance, Economic Development, Lifestyle, and Open Space

Mr. Peterson started a discussion of creating a Mission Statement by asking, “What is the role of local government?” and. “What is the job of leadership?” Board members responded:

1. Provide quality services
2. Fiscal responsibility
3. Planning/zoning
4. Accountability to citizens
5. Efficiency
6. Effectiveness
7. Transparency
8. Protect rights of citizens

Mr. Peterson led a discussion of core values next. The values Board members listed were:

1. Honesty/integrity
2. Transparency
3. Service- customer satisfaction
4. Approachability
5. Accountability
6. Compassion

The Board discussed values at length.

The Board was guided to list Strengths, Challenges, and Opportunities.

Strengths:

1. Sense of community
2. Moderate sized population
3. Rural
4. Schools
5. Small government
6. Beautiful
7. Location
8. No BPOL
9. Selective excess transportation capacity
10. Heritage
11. People
12. Village
13. State parks
14. World class golf
15. Equestrian friendly
16. River access
17. Proximity to higher education opportunities

18. Hunting, fishing, outdoor activity

Challenges:

- 1. Transportation
- 2. Residential/commercial ratio of 92/8
- 3. Broadband
- 4. Debt
- 5. Water/sewer infrastructure
- 6. Limited supply of spec space
- 7. Economic development plan
- 8. Limited access to retail

Opportunities:

- 1. Relative attractiveness to commercial business on Rt. 60
- 2. Concentration of land ownership

A lengthy discussion on the necessity of rooftops for commercial development was held.

Mr. Peterson summarized the meeting by saying that the Board has created a foundation for the Strategic Plan.

Chairman Williams reconvened the regular meeting form.

8. Public Comment (time limit 3 minutes per individual/5 minutes per group, 30 minutes total time limit that can be extended by the Board)

Chairman Williams opened the Public Comment period.

Mr. Dan Jones, 3901 Old River Trail, Powhatan, VA stated that he is a representative of the Economic Development Authority and a resident of District 5. He noted that rooftops are not needed to attract businesses such as warehouses, distribution centers, light industrial call centers and manufacturing.

Seeing there were no further speakers, Chairman Williams closed the Public Comment period

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

These minutes were approved at the March 30, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors by a 5-0 vote.



4/29/2020

Bret Schardein, Interim Clerk

Date



4/29/2020

David T. Williams, Chairman

Date

Powhatan County Board of Supervisors

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