



Mathews County Planning Commission

Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF MATHEWS COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD IN THE MATHEWS COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE ON June 15, 2021 AT 7:00 PM.

Planning Commission

Members Present:

David Rollins, Vice-Chair
Danette Machen
Doug Wilton
Billy Cook
Brian Russell
Paul Hudgins, Ex-officio

Members Absent:

James Robinson
Tim Hill, Chair

Also Present:

Thomas D. Jenkins, Director of Planning & Zoning
James Knighton, Planner/Marine Project Coordinator
Heather Thomas, Planning, Zoning & Wetlands

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION, FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. INVOCATION

Rev. Dede Parrish, St. Paul United Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

4. ROLL CALL OF PLANNING COMMISSION

Mrs. Thomas called the roll and established that a quorum was present.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.A. May 18, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Mr. Rollins asked for any corrections or addition to the previous meeting minutes. Mr. Wilton moved to approve the minutes. Mrs. Machen seconded the motion. All in favor. The vote was 5-0

as follows: Mr. Rollins – aye; Mrs. Machen – aye; Mr. Cook – aye; Mr. Wilton – aye; and Mr. Russell - aye

6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.A. Public Water Access Guide

Mr. Jenkins reviewed updates to the Public Water Access Guide. He stated that Mathews Land Conservancy asked that Williams Wharf be a part of this as they have a public access spot. Mr. Rollins asked if this would also be a fundraiser for the Mathews County Visitors Center. Mr. Jenkins has previously discussed this with the director there and they may charge a fee for printed versions to cover material cost. Mr. Jenkins asked if there were any questions about Auburn Landing and the documents sent out. Mr. Wilton asked why this was being discussed. Mr. Jenkins stated that it was to decide if it should be listed as a public access site in the guide. The ownership, uses and issues were discussed about Auburn Landing. Mr. Russell made a motion to exclude Auburn Landing from the Public Water Access Guide. Mrs. Machen seconded this motion. All in favor. The vote was 5-0 as follows: Mr. Rollins – aye; Mrs. Machen – aye; Mr. Cook – aye; Mr. Wilton – aye; and Mr. Russell - aye

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.A. Setback from right-of-way discussion

Mr. Jenkins went over the current setbacks from a right-of-way then discussed the various situations this setback would benefit with a minor and major use ordinance. Mr. Hudgins asked if this could be a case by case basis. Mr. Jenkins stated that they could apply for a variance but added whether it would be more practical to amend the ordinance. Mr. Cook asked if setbacks for Middlesex were less than Mathews. Mr. Jenkins answered that Middlesex had large setbacks from the main road but reduced their setbacks on minor roads. He also added that they do recognize the minor use roads with a smaller setback. Mr. Cook asked to form and participate in a committee to review the current setbacks. Mr. Russell stated he would help as well.

9.B. Use of cargo & shipping containers as buildings

Mr. Jenkins addressed the use of cargo and shipping containers as buildings in relation to the zoning ordinance. Mr. Cook asked if it was pertaining to the esthetic. Mr. Jenkins confirmed the esthetic is an issue as well as them being used as an accessory structure. Mr. Cook made a motion to lay this topic over for 30 to review. Mr. Wilton seconded this motion. All in Favor. The vote was 5-0 as follows: Mr. Rollins – aye; Mrs. Machen – aye; Mr. Cook – aye; Mr. Wilton – aye; and Mr. Russell - aye

10. OTHER MATTERS

10.A. Update on FY22 Capital Improvement Program Items

Mr. Jenkins announced that the county was awarded a \$1.5 million grant by the Virginia Port Authority, to dredge the Hole in The Wall channel, place the spoils on Haven Beach and stabilize this with offshore breakwaters. Mr. Rollins asked if this amount would be enough to cover the cost of the project. Mr. Jenkins stated they asked for a specific amount based on a consultant from

VIMS. He also added there was \$40,000 set aside for beach nourishment plan that is now part of the grant. He is requesting that the \$40,000 be set aside for parking improvements. The fire department has added a late request for a payment of \$50,000 for the Bohannon station and should be the last payment. Mr. Russell thanked Mr. Jenkins for his work on the project and being able to complete two projects at once. Mr. Jenkins added that VDOT has offered help as well to speed up the process because it benefits them as well.

11. REVIEW OF BOARD OF SUPERVISOR ACTIONS

11.A. Update on 4-CUP-20; Private Use Helipad

Mr. Jenkins let the members know that the Board of Supervisors did table the decision on the helipad so they could do more research. He stated the board also asked him to find data on how much the EMS used and needed a helipad on Gwynn's Island. Mr. Cook asked for clarification on the exact request that was made. Mr. Jenkins said he had spoke with the board member for that same purpose and had looked into the number of times a helicopter has been needed over the last several years. Mr. Hudgins added that the run sheets used by Fire and EMS could be reviewed as well for that information.

12. NOTICE OF VARIANCE AND APPEAL

There were no notices of variance and appeals.

13. ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, ON A MOTION BY MR. WILTON AND SECONDED BY MRS. MACHEN, THIS MEETING WAS DECLARED ADJOURNED.