

**JOINT MEETING OF THE
FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL AND THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY**

A joint meeting of the Farmville Town Council and the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County was held on Thursday, August 21, 2014 at Charley's Waterfront Café located at 201-B Mill Street, Farmville.

Present for the Farmville Town Council were Mayor D.E. Whitus, presiding and Council members D.E. Dwyer; D.L. Hunter; S.B. Thompson; T.M. Pairet; J.J. Davis and G.C. Cole, Council member A.D. Reid was absent. Also in attendance were the Town Manager, Gerald Spates and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Present for the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County were H.F. Simpson, Chairman; C.W. McKay; C.R. Timmons, Jr.; C.L. Gray; J. Wilck and P. Cooper-Jones. Supervisors R.M. Jones and J.R. Townsend were absent. Also in attendance were County Administrator, W. Wade Bartlett and Assistant County Administrator, Sarah Puckett. Chairman Simpson called the Board of Supervisors to order at 11:30 pm.

Members of Town Council and the Board of Supervisors viewed a joint tourism presentation and the unveiling of the LOVE artwork presented by staff of "The Heart of Your Adventure" (THOYA). THOYA is a joint committee created to promote tourism in the area; members are the Town of Farmville, Cindy Morris; Prince Edward County, Maggie Van Epps; Farmville Downtown Partnership, Helen Person and the Farmville Area Chamber of Commerce, Lisa Tharpe.

Mrs. Morris highlighted various projects the partnership had undertaken. Mentioned was the Sesquicentennial 150th Anniversary of the American Civil War and the commemorative events planned throughout the locality. In addition, she spoke of THOYA receiving grant funds to create a logo for "The Heart of Your Adventure", tourism fulfillment bags, and a brochure map. Included in the grant were funds for a LOVE artwork sculpture in Farmville.

Mr. Spates said Farmville/Prince Edward County's LOVE artwork will be located at the corner of Depot Street. A \$5,000 grant has been awarded from Governor McDonald and Mr. Al Buczek has been selected to build the sculpture. Mr. Buczek unveiled a replica of the LOVE artwork and spoke of 8' x 17' design. Mr. Buczek said it is an honor to have been selected as the artist to design/build the LOVE.

Mrs. Van Epps shared two marketing videos created by Longwood University interns from the University's Communications and Media Department. The videos are of community events and activities to promote Farmville and the surrounding areas. Mrs. Van Epps said the videos can be added to websites and viewed on YouTube.

Mayor Whitus called the reconvened meeting of the Farmville Town Council to order at 12:05 pm and welcomed newly elected At-large representative Daniel E. Dwyer.

Supervisor Calvin Gray returned thanks and lunch was provided.

VOLUNTARY BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT REQUEST ON BEHALF OF PIEDMONT REGIONAL JAIL

County Administrator, Wade Bartlett spoke of the Board of Piedmont Regional Jail's request to the Town of Farmville and the County of Prince Edward, to adopt a voluntary boundary adjustment which would place the Regional Jail within the borders of the Town of Farmville, in an effort to reduce costs to operate the facility. This action would allow the Jail to receive in-town water and sewer rates, thusly saving the Jail approximately \$90,000 to \$100,000, each year.

Both governing bodies appointed committees. The committees met jointly and discussed the request. The Town Manager and County Administrator were directed to draft the proposed map and its financial impact on both entities.

Mr. Bartlett said the area under consideration is as follows "Town's proposed future western boundary would parallel Germantown Road. This action would extend the Town's boundary down Germantown Road stopping at the U.S. 460 Bypass. The Bypass would serve as the Town's southern boundary until it intersected with Third Street. All the land between Germantown Road and Third Street and bounded by the U.S. 460 Bypass would become part of the Town. The boundary would then proceed down Third Street as it exists but is proposed to be adjusted to include all properties east of Third Street that are contained on Tax Map 38. This would only add four properties to the Town. All the land bordered on the East by the Appomattox River, and on the West by Route 676 (Industrial Park road) and the South by the existing Town Corporate Limits would be located within the Town."

Mr. Bartlett spoke of the financial impact the proposed adjustment would have on the Town and the County. 334 of the 396 parcels would be taxable. The assessed value of taxable real estate would be \$74,920,400. At the Town's current real estate rate of .12 this would provide an additional \$89,904.48 in real estate tax levy for the Town. The real estate tax levy would have no financial impact on the County. However, the consumer utility tax and the motor vehicle tax would shift from the County to the Town, creating a loss of approximately \$35,412 in revenue for Prince Edward County. The Town would see an increase in revenue levies of about \$125,316 while the County would see a decrease of \$35,412.

Mr. Bartlett said he does not support the voluntary boundary adjustment. He said to approve the voluntary boundary adjustment that would bring the regional jail into the Town of Farmville will cause the Town's water and sewer revenue to be reduced by the same amount as the savings to the jail. The Town of Farmville would need to replace these funds, or absorb the loss in revenue. Mr. Bartlett said it would be unfair to the citizens of Prince Edward County to shoulder the entire economic impact when inmates convicted in Prince Edward County account for approximately 40% of inmate population. Furthermore, Mr. Bartlett said the controversy and opposition caused by such a large boundary adjustment is not worth what is essentially a breakeven proposition. In conclusion, Mr. Bartlett said from conversations with the Town Manager, he believes Mr. Spates is in agreement with his recommendation.

Mr. Bartlett informed the Board of Supervisors that the Town has received requests from two property owners asking that their properties be brought into the town limits. One property is owned by Cedar Level, LLC and includes almost 49 acres. It is the large field located adjacent to Puckett Funeral Home and behind the Lutheran Church. The second is Blue Sky Development which owns approximately 238 acres located between Germantown Road and the Crestview

subdivision. Once the County receives official notification from Town Council this matter will be brought before the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Gray asked what the economic impact would be on Prince Edward County if the County approved the voluntary boundary adjustment. Mr. Spates said the County would not be losing any revenue, currently the two properties are undeveloped. He said, many investors consider access to water and sewer hook-up, before developing the property.

Mr. Spates addressed the Board of Supervisors. He said he is once again asking Prince Edward County to contribute towards the operation of the 911 Center. The Town's 2014-2015 budget for the Center is \$896,560.02. The Town Manager then provided an update on various commercial construction projects throughout the Town.

Chairman Simpson invited Town Council to participate in this year's Legislative Luncheon. The event will take place at Hampden Sydney College. The date has not yet been determined.

FIREMEN'S SPORTS ARENA

The Town Manager informed Council that the contractor doing the repairs to the roof at the Firemen's Sports Arena has given the Town a price on the exterior walls plus insulating the building. Mr. Spates asked Council to consider approving the replacement of the exterior walls and insulation of the building. He said the additional monies would come from the \$75,000 grant the town received from Centra. Members asked if the grant funds had been received. Mr. Spates said the funds have been requested.

A motion was made by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter to approve the repairs. Members supported the renovations but asked for a detailed breakdown of the costs for the roof, parking lot lights, canopy and ceiling tiles before moving forward with additional expenditures. Mrs. Thompson withdrew her motion.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

D.E. Whitus, Mayor

Lisa M. Hricko, MMC, Clerk