



City of Petersburg

Economic Development Authority

Regular Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

April 15, 2021

5:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

1. Call to order – Mr. Samuel Rhue, Chairman
2. Roll call of members: Cynthia Boone, Economic Development Administrative Assistant

The following Board Members were present:

Chairman S. Samuel Rhue

Vice Chair Mike Packer

Robert Taylor

Dr. Ahkinyala Abdullah

Winston Sanders

Dr. Lafayette Jefferson

City of Petersburg Staff

Lionel Lyons, Deputy City Manager for Development and Operations

Jeremy Tennant, Assistant to the City Manager

Cynthia Boone, Administrative Assistant for Economic Development

Clay Mansell, Economic Management Fellow

3. Determination of the Presence of a Quorum
4. Reports/responses to previous public information period
5. Moment of Silence
6. Approval of the Minutes- March 18, 2021

Mr. Rhue moved that the meeting minutes be approved.

7. Financial Report- Mr. Richard, Taylor Secretary /Treasurer

Mr. Taylor reported that the EDA current account balance is \$106,124.87. The checking balance is \$6,123.52 and the High Paying Interest-Bearing Account balance is \$100,000.85. They have only earned \$.85 in interest for the month. They are earning at a .01% interest rate. He will be checking with other banks to see if they can earn at a higher rate.

Motion: Mr. Taylor moved, second by Mr. Sanders to approve the financial report.

Upon vote by those present, the motion was unanimously carried.

8. Report from the Chairman- Mr. Samuel Rhue

Mr. Rhue congratulated Dr. Jefferson on receiving his Doctorate Degree in Theology from Virginia Union.

9. New Business-

- a. Crater Planning District Commission- Alec Brebner, AICP - Executive Director

Mr. Brebner provided an overview of the services that the Crater Planning District Commission provides to the City and local businesses. Some of the projects that they are currently involved in includes Transportation- Appomattox River Trail; Environmental- Hazard Mitigation; Tourism, Revolving Loan Fund, and they have a Small Business Development Center.

- b. City of Petersburg Website Training - Folakemi Osoba, Public Information Officer- City of Petersburg

Ms. Osaba discussed all the ways to stay updated on the news for the City of Petersburg (Facebook, website, Channel 15, Twitter, and Instagram). She provided an overview of the City of Petersburg Website and all the features and services that are located on the website to include:

- i. Search bar and keywords
 - ii. Quick find buttons
 - iii. Petersburg news/announcements
 - iv. What's Happening
 - v. Emergency Alerts
 - vi. Pages under Government tab
 - vii. Community Calendar
 - viii. Staff Directory
- c. Background on 130 Pocahontas St- Jeremy Tennant, Assistant to the City Manager

Mr. Tennant provided the EDA with a packet that outline the acreage, zoning and background of the property.

10. Old Business-

- a. Pocahontas ROW Due Diligence Request by South Central Wastewater Authority (SCWWA)- Robert Wilson, Robert Wilson, Executive Director ARWA/SCWWA.

Mr. Wilson requested permission for the SCWWA to access 130 Pocahontas Rd (Roper Site) to complete surveying of the property and due diligence. The surveying will include the researching of an African American and Civil War burial ground. He stated that there will be no excavation of graves. If graves are found then they will contact the Department of Historical Resources. Mr. Wilson is requesting Mr. Rhue signature on the Permit Application.

Motion: Mr. Packer moved, second by Dr. Lafayette to approve Mr. Rhue to sign the Permit Application for SCWWA. **Upon vote by those present, the motion was unanimously carried.**

b. Economic Development Report: Jeremy Tennant, Assistant to the City Manager

Mr. Tennant discussed current projects for the City of Petersburg to include:

- i. SCWWA due diligence was approved by the City Council on April 6, 2021
- ii. There are currently five proposals for 130 Pocahontas St.
- iii. EDA Board Member is currently pending approval by the City Council.
- iv. EDA Attorney RFI deadline is April 16, 2021 at 5:00pm. Currently there is only one applicant.
- v. Interviews for the Director of Economic Development are scheduled.
- vi. 39 new businesses licenses were received for March 2021.
- vii. India Adams accepted in position in Colonial Beach.
- viii. The City loss of staff member Mr. Frank Poulin

11. Business or reports from the Vice Chairman or other members of the EDA Board

Mr. Rhue requested the City of Petersburg updated property list.

12. Public Comments - none

13. Announcements-

- a. Next meeting date- April 22, 2021 at 5:00pm (Executive Session)
- b. May Meeting date – May 20, 2011 at 5:00pm

14. Adjournment