

A SPECIAL JOINT SESSION WAS HELD BY THE NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE NEW KENT COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ON THE 15TH DAY OF DECEMBER IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN AT 11861 NEW KENT HIGHWAY (COLONIAL KITCHEN AND MARKET), NEW KENT, VIRGINIA, AT 8:30 A.M.

IN RE: CALL TO ORDER – EDA

EDA Chairman William O’Keefe called the December 15, 2016 meeting of the EDA to order at 8:30 a.m.

IN RE: CALL TO ORDER – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman Ron Stiers called the Board of Supervisors Meeting, which had been continued from December 12, 2016, back into session at 8:31 a.m.

IN RE: ROLL CALL - EDA

W.O. Isgett, Sr.	Present
Lawrence E. Haislip, Jr.	Present
Eugene R. Williams	Present
William O’Keefe	Present
Charles M. Davis	Present
Paul Robinson	Present
Pat Bell	Present
Rodney A. Hathaway	Present

All members were present.

IN RE: ROLL CALL – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Thomas W. Evelyn	Present
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Present
James H. Burrell	Present
Ron Stiers	Present
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Present

All members were present.

IN RE: BRIEF RECESS

Both Chairmen called for a brief recess to allow members to get breakfast and return to their seats. Once all were seated, the EDA began moving forward with their agenda.

IN RE: WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman O’Keefe welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Supervisors for their attendance. Before moving forward with the business at hand, Mr. O’Keefe indicated he wished to speak in regard to a December 12, 2016 Richmond Times Dispatch article regarding the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VDEP). (This article was entitled “McAuliffe Proposes Stronger Oversight for Economic Development after Scathing Report” and had been written in response to a recent JLARC (Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission) report.) Mr. O’Keefe assured

everyone that the issues cited in the article were not a concern in New Kent County and stated, "your EDA is squeaky clean".

IN RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the November 17, 2016 EDA meeting minutes was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Robinson and passed unanimously.

IN RE: TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman O'Keefe turned the meeting over to Treasurer Paul Robinson. Mr. Robinson provided detailed information on various funds held by the EDA in several local banks. He reported a total available funds balance of \$290,968.47.

A motion to approve the December 15, 2016 Treasurer's Report was made by Ms. Bell, seconded by Mr. Davis and passed unanimously.

IN RE: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The meeting was turned over to Community Development Director Matthew Smolnik.

Mr. Smolnik thanked the EDA, the Board of Supervisors, support staff and County Administrator Rodney Hathaway for their support. He indicated he loved his job and the community and was thankful for each and every one present.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Mr. Smolnik indicated it had been a busy year. He noted the County was growing with population now reaching almost 21,000 and 214 permits having been issued. He suggested there had been many accomplishments over the year and mentioned:

- Increased Marketing Budget - attendance at an infrastructure conference with a session on airports - He indicated he was looking into getting community advertising into RIC (Richmond International Airport) to get the County's name out beyond the Richmond market.
- Business Incentive Grants - The incentive policy had been revised and refocused on assisting existing businesses.
- Car Shows and Wine Festivals Advertising - These events had been advertised in the I-64 rest stops where an estimated 1.4 million visitors stopped annually.
- Business Ready Site Program (BRSP) - New Kent had received two \$5,000 VDEP grants as a part of BSRP. EDA Consultant Mark Kilduff noted this program was focused on identifying large sites that were "business ready" along the I-64 corridor. He indicated the Shaia property on Rt. 106 and the Kinney tree farm property on Rt. 33 had been accepted into the program.
- County Business Directory - Developing an accurate, up-to-date business directory would be a big focus for 2017.
- Over 3,800 had visited the New Kent County Visitors and Commerce Center.

REVIEW OF 2016 PROJECTS

Mr. Smolnik reported there were a number of projects under construction.

- Solar Farm - 245 acres in the eastern end of the County

- FasMart® – New building in Bottoms Bridge – will replace existing facility
- Loves Travel Stop® – Site work underway on Rt. 106
- Maidstone Library – Former bank building purchased by the County was under renovation for use by the Heritage Public Library. He suggested once the library was open, foot traffic at courthouse area businesses should increase.

Mr. Smolnik also reported a number of projects with plans under review.

- WestRock® Log Yard – WestRock West Point mill was seeking to have a log yard at Parham Landing.
- Dunkin Doughnuts® – Proposal was to construct a building in the Bottoms Bridge area which would house Dunkin Doughnuts and several other stores.
- Hole Family Donuts and More – Considering relocation and expansion.
- Taco Bell® – Had met with staff and was proposing an opening by July 2017.
- Antebellum Venue - Board of Supervisors had recently approved a CUP for the Antebellum Assembly Hall/Venue to be built on Rt. 155.
- Other projects were in the works but could not be mentioned at the time.

Mr. Smolnik also reported on businesses which had opened in 2016.

- Waffle House®
- Aspen Burger Company
- Holbert Family Orthodontics
- Colonial Kitchen and Market

OVERVIEW OF EDA ACTIVITIES

- A business appreciation dinner had been held in the summer. This event had been very well attended and Rep. Rob Wittman had been the guest speaker.
- Broadband Advisory Committee – The next meeting would be held on January 4, 2017. The EDA had been working with this committee and it was expected that the addition of broadband would be a plus in attracting businesses to the area. The new County radio project was almost complete and it was also expected that existing radio towers could be utilized for broadband.
- The business incentive program had been revised. Mr. Smolnik thanked all who had been involved in this process. He reported New Kent Gymnastics had recently utilized an incentive grant to expand their business.
- The EDA had also been involved in the financing for the new fire station.
- The EDA had also been involved in the development of the Route 106 Arterial Management Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors earlier in the year.
- The Vintager Inn had been sold to the Dombroskis (owners of New Kent Winery). Mr. Smolnik suggested New Kent was becoming a tourist destination. The New Kent Winery was making plans for a half marathon this year and there were many events and activities to attract "day trippers".

Mr. Smolnik closed by thanking all again for their support. He noted he felt good progress had been made over the year and was looking forward to next year. Mr. O'Keefe thanked him for his report and the wonderful job he and staff had done.

IN RE: COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

IN RE: OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Smolnik reported that Waffle House® had been granted a \$40,000 EDA incentive grant and to date had received \$20,000. It was noted Waffle House® had erected a monument sign to the front of the building but this sign was not very visible even from a short distance. The building also had signage on the front of the building. Waffle House® would like to add additional signage on the side of the building. Mr. Smolnik noted other businesses in the area including the RiteAid® and Bojangles® had signage on two sides of their buildings. He indicated he had no problem with this request and noted Board approval was needed.

A motion to authorize the use of approved Waffle House® incentive grant funds for the installation of signage on the side of the building was made by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed unanimously.

IN RE: MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. O'Keefe noted the next meeting of the New Kent County Economic Development Authority would be held at 8:30 a.m. on January 19, 2017 at the New Kent County Visitors and Commerce Center, 7324 Vineyards Parkway, New Kent, VA 23124.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT - EDA

Mr. O'Keefe noted there was no other business to be addressed and adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

IN RE: APPOINTMENTS – BOS

Mr. Davis motioned to appoint Pat Bell as an at large member of the Economic Development Authority to serve a four-year term beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2020. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye

The motion carried. Mr. Stiers announced that Mr. O'Keefe and Mr. Robinson had also been reappointed to the EDA at the December 12, 2016 Board of Supervisor Meeting.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT – BOS

Mr. Davis motioned to adjourn the meeting. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye

The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.