

**Minutes
Windsor Town Council Intergovernmental Meeting
Town Hall
July 20, 2018**

The Windsor Town Council met in an Intergovernmental meeting on July 20, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Windsor Ruritan Building, 14 Community Drive, Windsor, Virginia. Terry Whitehead, Town Clerk, recorded the minutes for the Town of Windsor, Carey Mills Storm, Clerk of the Board, recorded the minutes for Isle of Wight County, Kristi Sutphin, Economic Development Coordinator, recorded the minutes for the Isle of Wight County Economic Development Authority (EDA).

Present for Windsor: Mayor Carita J. Richardson
Vice Mayor Durwood V. Scott
Councilman N. Macon Edwards, III
Councilman Greg Willis
Councilwoman Flemming
Councilman Tony Ambrose
Chief Riddle

Present for Isle of Wight: Rudolph Jefferson, Board of Supervisor, Chairman
William M. McCarty, Board of Supervisor, Vice Chairman
Don Rosie, Board of Supervisor
Richard Grice, Board of Supervisor
Joel C. Acree, Board of Supervisor
Randy Keaton, County Administrator
Don Robertson, Assistant County Administrator
Chris Morello, Interim Director of Economic Development

Present for EDA: Ronald H. Pack, Chairman
Carroll Keen, Jr., Vice Chairman
Len Alphin
Richard J. (Dick) Holland, Jr.

Chairman Jefferson opened the meeting for the Isle of Wight County Board of Supervisors, Mayor Richardson opened the meeting for the Windsor Town Council, and Chairman Pack opened the meeting for the Isle of Wight County Economic Development Authority (EDA).

Youth Development Center

Randy Keaton, Isle of Wight County Administrator, reviewed the timeline for the Youth Development Center project. He reported that back in December, 2017, the county was advised that the state was in the process of developing a Youth Development Center in the City of Chesapeake, but that project fell through. He said they needed a super majority vote to transfer the property from the city to the state, and they fell one vote short.

Andrew Block, Director of the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), presented a PowerPoint presentation and briefed the town and county officials on details regarding the facility and its operations. He stated that the proposed 60 bed residential facility in Isle of Wight County will house youth ages 14-21 with the majority convicted of crimes such as assaults, burglaries, larcenies, and robberies. He said the state is looking to develop a new model for youth

detention that features a smaller facility closer to family and focuses on academic and vocational education and athletics, as well as treatment and counseling.

Mr. Block said it was the ability to provide easier access to family that led to Isle of Wight County becoming the desired location, as many of the youth in detention are from the Hampton Roads area. He said the facility is the first of its kind in the state. He stated that the proposed facility will have updated security infrastructure as well as a fence to keep the youth from escaping.

Councilman Ambrose asked who would be responsible for funding the transportation for the facility. Mr. Block said funding for transportation will come from the agency operating fund.

Councilwoman Flemming expressed concerns with the younger juveniles being integrated with the older juveniles. Mr. Block explained that the younger juveniles will be put in alternative settings. He said they will be in their own cottages and also in their own education programs.

Councilman Edwards said the initial discussion indicated that the facility would be located along Route 258 which has an easier access to the proposed facility. He expressed his concerns with the increased traffic at the six-way intersection and on Buckhorn Drive if this facility is located in the Buckhorn area. He asked if a traffic study will be conducted, and will improvements be made to the six-way intersection and on Buckhorn Drive due to the increased traffic.

Mr. Block indicated that the Department of General services would be responsible for making those decisions regarding a traffic study and improvements. He explained that traffic may marginally increase from visitation days on Wednesdays and Sundays, employee shift changes, and visits from parole officers and service providers. Mr. Block said with input from the local government, the state will be mindful regarding these issues when the location and design work begins.

Vice Chairman McCarty said the traffic impact at a 60 bed facility with 240 employees has no comparison to the 300 employees working multiple shifts and the hundreds of trucks entering and exiting at the Cost Plus World Market facility.

Councilman Edwards stated that the employees and trucks entering and exiting at the Cost Plus World Market facility are not entering and exiting at the six-way intersection located directly within the town and traveling down Buckhorn Drive which is a narrow road with sharp curves.

Vice Chairman McCarty also stated that he serves on the Western Tidewater Regional Jail Authority Board. He said this facility houses 1,070 beds, and Superintendent Smith, who lives in Windsor, said he has had no major safety issues during his tenure at the Western Tidewater Regional Jail. Vice Chairman McCarty said Superintendent Smith asked him to convey to the citizens and to the local government officials that he would be the first to speak against the Youth Development Center project if he had any concerns regarding major safety issues. He noted that safety is everyone's first priority.

Mayor Richardson stated that when Council first heard of this project in December, 2017, there were numerous positives presented including extending water and sewer service to Phase III of the intermodal park with the assistance of state funding. She said this could possibly bring in more industry and businesses to the area which would create a larger tax base for our citizens, the town and the county. She said now with the wetlands issue, she

doesn't believe there would be enough dry land approved by the Army Corp of Engineers available on the site to draw industry after the 20 acres are donated for the facility.

Mr. Block said if these sites are not workable, the state will pursue other sites in Isle of Wight County.

Mayor Richardson also expressed her concerns with the increased traffic at the six-way intersection within the town and with the narrow two-lane country road with hairpin curves if the Buckhorn location is approved. She said if this site is used, the state would need to spend a lot of money to make these roads safe and accessible due to the increased traffic that this facility will generate.

Mayor Richardson also noted that a particular study called the Marshall Project shows that the promise of local jobs is not always the case. She said the study shows that most employees working in professional positions at a detention center live in suburban areas and travel several miles to their jobs.

Mayor Richardson explained that when she was first approached with this idea, she told the county that she would keep an open mind until she received additional information. She said after receiving information regarding several concerns and issues such as the wetlands issue, the need for improvements to the six-way intersection and to Buckhorn Drive, the promise of 240 local jobs, transportation, and possible decreases in property values, she now feels that this may not be the right location for this facility. She said she feels that it would be better located somewhere near Route 10 in Isle of Wight County where the facility would be closer to Newport News, Hampton, Suffolk and Norfolk.

Mayor Richardson also clarified that the intent of the letter she sent on behalf of Town Council to Del. Emily Brewer in April 2018 was to support keeping funding for the facility in the state's 2018-19 budget. She said the letter was based on preliminary information.

Chairman Jefferson said there are nice residential neighborhoods within 100 yards of the Western Tidewater Regional Jail in Suffolk with beautiful homes. He also said that locating the facility in Windsor would provide employment opportunities for local college graduates and additional revenue for the town and the county.

Supervisor Rosie discussed how community programs and local churches can become involved with the facility.

Dick Holland, EDA, asked where the approval process regarding this facility is at this point assuming that one of the mentioned sites are suitable.

Mr. Keaton explained that the property is owned by the EDA and not by the county; therefore, approval is only needed by the EDA. He said the state budget has given authorization to build the facility in Isle of Wight County. He said the wetlands issue, the site location, and water and sewer availability stills needs to be worked out. He said the state is not subject to local zoning laws so that will not be a factor.

Councilman Willis asked if the facility will need to utilize any services from the county school system, and what will the state do to protect the public perception of our community.

Mr. Block said the facility will have its own teachers employed by the state. He said the DJJ is only interested in being good partners and good neighbors with the town and the county.

Chief Riddle expressed his concerns regarding the classification of the inmates and the impact the facility may have on his agency and its resources.

Mr. Block explained that this facility does not have classifications like an adult prison. He said the facility will need to use minimal resources from the town and county. He explained that the state police will handle most issues.

Len Alphin, EDA, questioned the retention percentages for a 5 year period for those inmates who have been released and will reenter the system again.

Mr. Block explained that past statistics have shown that approximately 70% of youths that have been released from a detention facility have been arrested again within 3 years. He said this new facility will hopefully decrease those numbers.

Mr. Alphin stated that it looks like the train has already left the station on this project. He asked if there will be another meeting prior to approval or after approval of this facility. He also asked if any other localities were being considered for this facility.

Mr. Block said no other localities are being considered for this facility, and he believes that the county will be holding public information meetings in the near future.

Mr. Holland asked if the state would have considered this site if they would have had to purchase it and if the \$500,000 was not offered for water and sewer.

Mr. Block said he believes the state would have considered this site regardless of how it was acquired because they were looking for something in Hampton Roads. He said but wanting to be responsible state officials, this was an attractive offer.

Mr. Robertson said a sheet is being passed around for contact information for those citizens who are interested in being contacted with further information regarding the facility.

Mr. Keaton explained that the legislation states that the facility will be built in Isle of Wight County, but no specific site has been picked yet. He said a public information meeting will be held at the Windsor High School where the public can ask questions and have their concerns addressed once the site has been selected.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry Whitehead
Town Clerk

TOWN OF WINDSOR
 RECORD OF
 COUNCIL VOTES

Council Meeting Date July 20, 2018 - Intergovt mtg.

| Motion # | Willis | Scott | Flemming | Edwards | Ambrose | Bernacki | C. Richardson |
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Jerry Whitehead, Clerk