

**Minutes
Windsor Town Council Meeting
Town Hall
July 23, 2018**

The Windsor Town Council met in a Called Meeting on July 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Windsor Town Hall, Windsor, Virginia. Mayor Carita J. Richardson was present, and she called the meeting to order. She welcomed those who were present. She asked for anyone with cell phones to please turn them off. She asked the Clerk to call the roll. Terry Whitehead, Town Clerk, recorded the minutes. Michael Stallings, Town Manager, Chief Riddle, and Wallace W. Brittle, Jr., Town Attorney, (by electronic participation) were present.

Council members present: Durwood Scott
N. Macon Edwards, III
Greg Willis
Patty Flemming
Tony Ambrose
Walter Bernacki

Youth Development Center

Mayor Richardson stated that Isle of Wight County's Board of Supervisors have been in negotiations with the state to establish a 60 bed juvenile correctional center to be located in Phase III of the Shirley T. Holland Intermodal Park.

Mayor Richardson explained that when she called this meeting, it was previous to the July 20, 2018 Intergovernmental meeting. She said she planned to receive all the information needed from that meeting for Council to make a decision whether to support or not support the facility at this called meeting. Mayor Richardson stated that a location has not been determined due to wetland issues; therefore, Council does not have the information needed to make a decision at this meeting.

Mayor Richardson reviewed the timeline for the Youth Development Center. She reported that Mr. Stallings briefed Council of the project in closed session in December, 2017. Mr. Stallings briefed Council again at the February, 2018 Council meeting in closed session.

Mayor Richardson said many positives were discussed. She said it was a means to help troubled youth and bring 240 jobs to the area. She said it was also a way to have the state help pay for bringing water and sewer to Phase III of the intermodal park which would promote economic development. She said this would have increased the tax base and helped the citizens of the town and the county. She said Council agreed to keep an open mind until they had all the facts. She said Council did not receive any changes in the information until July 11, 2018 at an Intergovernmental meeting.

Mayor Richardson said that Don Robertson, Isle of Wight County Assistant Administrator, reported to Council at the July 11, 2018 Intergovernmental meeting that a recent preliminary environmental study of the land intended for the facility site at the intermodal park showed numerous areas of potential wetlands. She said Council was

informed at this meeting that the proposed alternative site for the facility may be near Buckhorn Drive.

Mayor Richardson said another Intergovernmental meeting was scheduled for July 20, 2018 to discuss the facility and address concerns.

Mayor Richardson said if the Buckhorn area is chosen, then part of the site for the facility may be located within the town. She said as a Town Council, we have to consider the impact on our town and our citizens.

Mayor Richardson said the first location for the facility was near Route 258, and that was a good location for the 240 employees, visitors, and service vehicles to access the facility. She said if they choose the Buckhorn area, then Buckhorn Drive is a very narrow country road with sharp curves. She said if they don't use Buckhorn Drive to access the facility, they will have to build a new road which would not be realistic with the wetlands involved. She said if the state would commit to making improvements to Buckhorn Drive and adding a center turn lane at the six-way intersection, it would make it a safer alternative.

Mayor Richardson stated that with all the mentioned issues, the intermodal park may not be the solution for the site for the Youth Development Center. She said the state may need to consider other locations in the County that have safer roads that already exist. She said they could use the money that was going to be used for sewer and water to purchase another piece of land this is more suitable for this project. She said another location closer to the Peninsula area and south side municipalities would save the state money as they transport families to the facility for visitation.

Mayor Richardson said that every measure must be taken to ensure that all citizens are safe and the detention center is secure. She said the state does not know at this time what the classification of the facility will be.

Councilman Ambrose said that while he is not 100 percent opposed to the facility being located in Isle of County, he is 100 percent opposed to the land not being deeded from the Economic Development Authority (EDA) to the county. He said this would allow a public hearing for the citizens to express their opinions and concerns. He said he does see some positives with this facility. He said it will create local jobs for some of the 240 positions that are promised. He said this will be a new concept, and it will be paramount that they run a safe, secure facility.

Councilwoman Flemming said that her son and daughter-in-law live near the Bon Air facility and have seen no problems as far as security is concerned. She said many citizens are in favor of this facility as a good opportunity for the community. She said they are opposed to Buckhorn Drive and the six-way intersection being used as the only route to the facility if it is located in the Buckhorn area. She said they feel that the 258 route is a much safer, suitable route.

Councilman Bernacki said he and constituents who have contacted him felt that the county has been less than transparent about its intentions. He said the land being considered was purchased with taxpayer money; therefore, they should have a voice in the matter. He said there should be a public hearing where the citizens can ask questions and express their concerns. He noted that Windsor has no public

transportation to support the concept of having families interact more often with the youth. He suggested that Smithfield or Carrollton may be a better option for the location of the detention center because they have HRT bus routes and infrastructure is being built at a rapid pace because of the growth in those areas. Councilman Bernacki also expressed his concerns with increased traffic and the facility's demand on the town's volunteer fire and EMS departments.

Councilman Willis said he feels that it is Council's duty to look out for the public perception of Windsor as a community. He said he feels extremely safe in this town, but that could change. He said the presence of the correctional facility could cause current and prospective town residents to feel unsafe, and it could also cause businesses to reconsider locating or investing in our town.

Vice Mayor Scott expressed concerns with the facility's demands on the town's volunteer fire department and rescue squad. He said he was concerned about the potential for a tax increase if the county found that it needed more paid fire and EMS positions to supplement Windsor's volunteers. He also expressed his concerns with the increase in commercial traffic on the narrow, country road if the Buckhorn area is chosen for the facility.

Vice Mayor Scott said the 900 acre site being considered for the facility has an enormous amount of wetlands, and he's not sure that investing \$500,000 to run water and sewer to this property, when maybe only 20 percent of the land is actually usable, is a good investment. He suggested that it may be a better idea to donate the 20 acres to a business that will be paying taxes and generating revenue for the town and the county. He also questioned whether town and county residents currently using well water would be required to connect to a new water main for the facility. He said this could create a financial burden on citizens who already have wells. Vice Mayor Scott agreed that this property should be deeded back to the county so that a public hearing can be held for citizens to give their input.

Councilman Edwards said that when the county first presented this information to Council regarding the correctional center, the intent had been to locate the facility off of Route 258 with the state and county extending water and sewer service to that area. He said this was property that could be developed as residential or commercial. He said he was in favor of the Route 258 proposal. He said he is not in favor of the proposed alternative site near Buckhorn Drive. He said he does not have a problem with the concept of the facility if it is located at the Route 258 area near a major highway instead of on a secondary road that is not designed for commercial traffic.

Mayor Richardson said the Board is not required to have a public hearing to receive public input, but she doesn't think that they are restricted from having one.

Mayor Richardson reiterated that Council will not be making a final decision whether to support the Youth Development Center until further information is received from the county regarding the site location and regarding the issues and concerns that have been previously discussed regarding the facility.

Route 460 Smart Scale Applications

Councilman Edwards made a motion to discuss the Route 460 Smart Scale Applications. Councilman Ambrose seconded, and Council unanimously passed the motion as recorded on the attached chart as motion #1.

Councilman Edwards said Jaimie Oliver, Isle of Wight County Transportation Manager, requested that Council make a decision regarding improvements to the six-way intersection by August 1, 2018 for the smart scale applications. She discussed at the July 11, 2018 Intergovernmental meeting turning the six-way intersection into a four-way intersection by eliminating the intersections at Bank Street and Church Street. Council discussed concerns regarding closing the Church Street intersection.

Councilman Edwards said if the Youth Development Center is located at the Buckhorn Drive area, closing the Bank Street intersection will cause major issues at the six-way intersection.

Vice Mayor Scott suggested that Council keep pushing forward for turn lanes at the six-way intersection.

Vice Mayor Scott made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Willis seconded, and Council unanimously passed the motion as recorded on the attached chart as motion #2.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Carita J. Richardson, Mayor

Terry Whitehead, Town Clerk

TOWN OF WINDSOR
 RECORD OF
 COUNCIL VOTES

Council Meeting Date July 23, 2018 Called Council Mtg

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