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AMHERST COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board of Supervisors

Tom Martin, Chair
District 1
Drew Wade, Vice-Chair
District 5
Claudia Tucker, Supervisor
District 2
David W. Pugh, Jr., Supervisor
District 4

MINUTES

November 21, 2023
Administration Building - 153 Washington
Street - Public Meeting Room
Amherst, Virginia 24521
Meeting Convened - 7:00 PM

County Administrator
Jeremy Bryant

County Attorney
Mark Popovich

I. Call to Order

At a regular meeting of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors held on November 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., the following members were present:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:
Tom Martin, Chairman
Drew Wade, Vice-Chair
Claudia D. Tucker, Supervisor

ABSENT: David W. Pugh, Jr., Supervisor

STAFF:
Stacey McBride, Deputy County Administrator/Finance Director
Mark Popovich, County Attorney
Kristen Freeman, Clerk

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

NOTE: All Board of Supervisors' meetings are now being streamed live on Facebook and on YouTube.

II. Approval of Agenda

By motion of Vice-Chair Wade and with the following vote, the Board approved the agenda with the amendment of adding Item B. Commemorative Resolution 2023-5-CR under Section VII. Special Presentation.

A YE: Mr. Martin, Mr. Wade, and Mrs. Tucker
NAY: None
ABSENT: Mr. Pugh

III. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chair Wade led the Invocation and Chair Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Citizen Comment

Before opening Citizen Comment, Chair Martin made a statement on behalf of the Board regarding the Courthouse monument. He stated that the Board does not desire to alter, move or relocate the monument. Mr. Martin stated that the Board does direct the County Administrator to form a committee to develop an interpretive sign concerning the monument that will consider multiple viewpoints and perspectives and further directed the County Administrator to have the committee present a recommendation on that signage within six months.

Mr. Ronnie Emmerson addressed the Board, stating he is with the Virginia Employee Support of Guard Reserve. Mr. Emmerson stated he handles the area from Danville to Lynchburg and Nelson County, Bedford, Roanoke, and Staunton. He said that he educates employers and employees about the Guard and Reserve and what their rights are. Mr. Emmerson said individuals in the Guard and Reserve nominate individuals for the Patriot Award, and that is his reasoning for being at the meeting tonight. Captain Jordan Seay is a member of the Army Reserve who works with Supervisor Tucker, and he nominated her to receive the Patriot Award. Mr. Emmerson and Captain Jordan Seay presented the award to Mrs. Tucker.

V. Public Hearing

A. Rezoning 2023-478 Shirley Marie Tomlin Bryant

Request by Shirley Bryant for a rezoning request of approximately 1.09 acres from the R-1, Limited Residential District, and P-1, Public Lands District to the R-2, General Residential District. The purpose of the rezoning is to allow for a manufactured home (double-wide) to be placed on the property. The property is identified as tax map number(s) 139-A-42D, E.

The request includes an amendment to the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) of the Amherst County Comprehensive Plan from low-density residential to medium-density residential in the area identified on the proposed rezoning map.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of rezoning request 2023-478 for Shirley Marie Tomlin Bryant as well as amending the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) of the Amherst County Comprehensive Plan.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Proponents: None
Opponents: None

The Public Hearing was closed.

By motion of Vice-Chair Wade and with the following vote, the Board approved rezoning request 2023-478 and approves the amendment to the future land use map from low-density residential to medium-density residential.

AYE: Mr. Martin, Mr. Wade, and Mrs. Tucker
NAY: None
ABSENT: Mr. Pugh

VI. Consent Agenda

By motion of Supervisor Tucker and with the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda for November 21, 2023.

AYE: Mr. Martin, Mr. Wade, and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None
ABSENT: Mr. Pugh

A. Minutes - October 17, 2023

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of October 17, 2023.

B. Public Safety Carryforward for 2024

It was moved that the Board carry forward \$420,678.25 into the Public Safety FY 2024 operating budget and appropriate those funds from the Unobligated General Fund Balance to cover expenditures for training and equipment.

C. Maintenance and Purchasing Carryforwards FY 2024

It was moved that the Board appropriate funds from the Unobligated General Fund Balance into the FY 24 operating budgets of maintenance, purchasing, and circuit court as described in the attachment.

D. Emergency Services Council - Use of funds

It was moved that the Board approve the payment of \$2,000.00 from the Emergency Services Council Capital Expense Funds.

E. Appropriation for School Renovation Permit Fee

It was moved that the Board appropriate \$18,308.61 from the Unobligated General Fund Balance for the School Renovation Project permit fee.

VII. Special Presentation

A. Parks Passport - Caitlyn Baxter

Caitlyn Baxter addressed the Board and provided them with information on the Parks Passport program she developed. (SEE ATTACHMENT 1)

B. Commemorative Resolution 2023-5-CR (Added by Agenda Amendment)

By motion of Chairman Martin and with the following vote, the Board approved Commemorative Resolution 2023-5-CR as presented.

AYE: Mr. Martin, Mr. Wade, and Mrs. Tucker
NAY: None
ABSENT: Mr. Pugh

VIII. New Business

A. Appropriation of Funds - PEAK Ambulance Schedule - Public Safety

By motion of Vice-Chair Wade and with the following vote, the Board approved continuing the implementation of the PEAK Ambulance Schedule and appropriated \$153,193.40 of LATCF funds to be used for this purpose.

AYE: Mr. Martin, Mr. Wade, and Mrs. Tucker
NAY: None
ABSENT: Mr. Pugh

IX. County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had no matter to discuss.

X. Liaison and Committee Reports

A. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Development Board- Tom Martin

Chair Martin reported that Parks and Recreation is doing great things. He stated that pickleball is exploding and they partnering with Sweet Briar to add more courts. He stated that the senior socials are also well-received and well-attended. Mr. Martin also stated that there are two exciting projects near completion or completed, the sidewalk down to the Coolwell Recreation fields from the parking lot is completed which better improves access to those fields and games. There has also been some additional parking added at the Parks and Recreation building.

B. Agriculture Committee - Claudia Tucker

Supervisor Tucker reported that the County Fair went great and was very successful and that there will be a follow-up meeting for the Fair on December 11, 2023. She also stated there was a closed session held earlier in the evening by the Board of Supervisors and the Agriculture Committee with nothing to report.

XI. Departmental Reports

A. Agriculture Committee-Annual Report

Tyler Price, Agriculture Committee Chair, addressed the Board regarding topics and issues the Agriculture Committee has been working on throughout the year, including the Fair.

XII. Citizen Comment

There was no public comment.

XIII. Matters from Members of the Board of Supervisors

Chair Martin had no matter to discuss.

Vice-Chair Wade wanted to thank county staff for assisting with the bridge dedication for Earl Nicholson on November 2, 2023.

Supervisor Tucker had no matter to discuss.

XIV. Adjournment

By motion of Vice-Chair Wade and with the following vote, the Board adjourned at 7:30 pm.

AYE: Mr. Martin, Mr. Wade, and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pugh



Tom Martin, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors



Jeremy Bryant, County Administrator

Attachment 1

Amherst County Parks Passport and Patch Program

A Girl Scout Silver Award Project by Caitlyn Baxter

November 21, 2023
Presentation to the Amherst County Board of Supervisors

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Introduction

I am Caitlyn Baxter. I have recently earned my Girl Scout Silver Award which is the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout can achieve. Girl Scouting has three levels of highest awards: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Bronze Award is earned by younger scouts, and Gold is earned by older scouts. The goal of a Silver Award project is to partner with a community organization to provide a sustainable solution to a community need.



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For my Silver Award Project, I established the Amherst County Parks Passport. I surveyed twenty of my peers and found that 45% had never been to an Amherst County Park, and none had been to more than two Amherst County Parks. I addressed the community need of people not utilizing all six Amherst County Parks.

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How the Passport Program Works

Step 1

Pick up your Amherst County Parks Passport from the Amherst County Recreation and Tourism Office. Or download and print at home from the Recreation and Tourism website.

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Step 2

Bring your passport to each of the 6 County Parks. Look for the Parks Passport sign, and take a rubbing of the engraved plaque at each location.

Step 3

Bring your passport with all 6 validations to the Recreation & Tourism office to receive your FREE patch



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Summary of the Project

- Created 10-page Parks Passport booklet
- Created a Parks Passport Patch
- Hosted six events to promote the Parks Passport Program, and created educational activity guides
- Installed signage at all Amherst County Parks to correspond with the passport
- Advertised Parks Passport Program on Amherst County Parks and Recreation's website and social media

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Events – 1 per park location

- Leave No Trace at Mill Creek Lake
- Survival Bracelet Craft at Thrashers Lake
- Learn About Citizen Science at Riveredge
- Home-Made Hiking Snacks at Monacan
- Watercolor painting Stonehouse Lake
- Hiking safety and First Aid at Coolwell

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Impact

- I distributed 35 Amherst County Parks Passports at 6 Amherst County Parks
- A total 54 people attended the community events
- 100% of people said they had fun
- I handed out 42 Leave No Trace bag tags to people at Mill Creek Park when I hosted a trash clean-up activity there
- I provided additional 65 passports and 100 patches to the Amherst County Recreation and Tourism department to distribute to people who visit and want to participate in the program in the future

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Acknowledgements

Mr. Randy Nixon, Project Advisor, Director of Recreation & Tourism Department

Recreation & Tourism Department Advisory Board Members

Mr. Phillip Wilkerson, Maintenance Supervisor

Rebecca Duncan, Lynchburg/Campbell Girl Scout Service Unit Team Leader

Girl Scout Troop 1315, Leaders and Members

Amherst Community – Thank you for buying Girl Scout Cookies! Your support funds community projects like this

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Conclusion

Thank you for your time. I am super excited to have completed my Parks Passport Program and I hope it will be successful!

Questions?

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