

The Carroll County Economic Development Authority held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at the Carroll County Governmental Complex in Hillsville.

Members present: Chairman Larry Edwards, Marty Hall, Greg Hawks, Terry Russell, Kay Carter, Martin Slate, Mandi McCraw

Others: Michael Watson, Nathan Lyons, Sandy West

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Edwards called the meeting to order and lead in the pledge.

Mr. Slate led in invocation.

## **CITIZENS TIME**

Mr. Willie told he was the Assistant Chief of the Ivanhoe Fire Department. I am here about the Civic League portion of the horseshow grounds. For three years we have been trying to make a deal with the Ivanhoe Civic League regarding their part of the property. Our Chief has reached out on multiple occasions to the President of the Civic League to make a deal and none has been reached. Per an agreement that was signed in 2008 by both of the agencies that was a 10-year agreement. For the past 14 years our department has maintained all the property including utilities, lights, power, insurance. In return the department was given full control of their part including scheduling events and having our own events. This agreement was a 10 year period that ran out in 2018. The Chief at the time met with the Civic League President and a verbal agreement was made between them to continue this partnership and at that time it was disclosed to the Chief that the Civic League had lost their 501 C-3 and they were having to pay taxes on their part of the property but that the Civic League was working to redo it and paying the taxes themselves. Since that time both the Chief and President have passed away. Our current Chief was able to corner the new President to discuss an agreement and they asked with help on the taxes and our Chief asked how much they needed and was told whatever we were willing to give. Despite many attempts, the President refused to give an exact amount that they needed. Our Chief in March of this year reached out to a member of this board for guidance on how to proceed after he realized that a deal was not likely to be reached between the two agencies at which time our Chief was put in contact with the Chairman of this Board about how to get the property given to the department due to the Civic League not being able to maintain and unable to pay all the cost to maintain the property. Our Chief was advised that there was really nothing that could be done unless proof of this and was advised that we should cut off power, water, etc. and make them pick up the cost and to stop maintaining the Civic Leagues part of the property so this Board could prove they could not take care of the property. At that time events had already been scheduled and it was decided to hold off in hopes once again that an agreement could be made. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, the only two known members of the Civic League held a community

meeting to protest a music event that was scheduled due to their misbelief of what it was during this meeting. They harassed the Fire Department until we were forced to cancel the event and also another event on top of this which cost the department almost \$2400 worth of income. Also, one of the event holders had agreed to help the department with some repair and upgrades that we were wanting to make to their part. Then, on August 16<sup>th</sup> the department received a certified letter from the Civic League stating they were giving us a 60 day notice of termination of the original agreement that had expired in 2018 saying that we were not maintain the property and that conditions were dilapidated and stated that was the reason the two events were canceled , not that they had a meeting saying that they didn't like it and also stating that we had no insurance on the property and we don't use it to benefit the community. All of this is false, we have hosted multiple events this year alone for the community including an Easter egg hunt, mud bog for the Shriners, a festival for mental health awareness, just to name a few. Also, our Chief had told them we had plans to upgrade the lights, stage and stand at Jubilee. They only deal the Civic League wants is one where we pay all the bills including the taxes that shouldn't even exist, do all the maintenance and have a say in every event that we have. At this time, it is our intent that unless the property is given to the department that we will no longer be paying the bills and maintaining the property owned by the Civic League. It is not right for the fire department to eat the cost of everything, pay for everything and basically do all the work and they them have a say in everything. It is our deepest hope that if the Civic League fails to do what is required of them to keep their part of the property that you will give us the chance to own the property. We will continue to use and maintain our part as we always have.

Mr. Edwards told the Board will probably discuss in Closed Session so if you would like to remain in case we have any questions.

## **MINUTES**

Mr. Hawks made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCraw to approve the minutes.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

## **TREASURER REPORT / PAYMENT OF INVOICES**

Ms. McCraw asked if the grading is for Vanguard.

Ms. West replied yes.

Mr. Slate made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hawks to approve the Treasurers Report and payment of invoices.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711**

Mr. Russell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hall to enter Closed Session under Section 2.2-3711 A3

A (3) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

### **COME OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Ms. McCraw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Slate to come out of Closed Session.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Edwards certified the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Carroll County Economic Development Authority convened a Closed Session this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and on the motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3711(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Carroll County Economic Development Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and (II) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which this Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Roll call certification as follows:

AYES:	Larry Edwards	Kay Carter
	Marty Hall	Terry Russell
	Mandi McCraw	Martin Slate
	Greg Hawks	

Mr. Russell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hawks that Tax Map # 52-A-69 to be included in the sale of properties.

The motion carries with all present signifying aye.

Mr. Hawks made a motion, seconded by Ms. Carter to authorize the Chairman to sign on our behalf, the deed for the Ivanhoe property for this one instance.

The motion passed with all members present signifying aye.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. McCraw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hawks to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passes with all members present signifying aye.

