

REGION 2000 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

January 18, 2007

Local Government Council Office

5:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Rudy Burgess.....Altavista
 Waverly Coggsdale.....Altavista
 Aileen Ferguson (John Spencer).....Appomattox County
 Mayor Joan Foster.....Lynchburg
 Eddie Gunter, Jr.....Campbell County
 Jack Hobbs.....Amherst Town
 David Laurell.....Campbell County
 Harold M. Swisher.....Town of Amherst
 Rodney Taylor.....Amherst County

ABSENT:

Mayor Phyllis Campbell..... Brookneal
 Samuel Carter.....Appomattox County
 Delegate Ben Cline.....House of Delegates
 Lee Cobb.....Economic Development Council
 David Garrett.....Appomattox Town
 Kathleen Guzi.....Bedford County
 Charles Kolakowski.....Bedford City
 Mayor Tom Messier.....Bedford City
 Kim Payne.....Lynchburg
 John Sharp.....Bedford County
 Ray Vandall.....Amherst County
 John Wilson.....Town of Appomattox

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gary Christie.....Local Government Council
 Marjorie Gilley.....Local Government Council
 Rosalie Hurley.....Local Government Council
 Bob White.....Local Government Council

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman Eddie Gunter, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm. Mr. Gunter recognized the future addition of Skip Tharp as a new Council member. Additionally, Mr. Gunter announced that John Spencer would be sitting in for Aileen Ferguson at today's Council meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 16, 2006 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL MEETING

The November 16, 2006 Local Government Council meeting minutes upon a motion by David Laurell, seconded by Jack Hobbs were unanimously approved as presented.

3. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORT ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2006

Rosalie Hurley presented the financial report through December 31, 2006 and indicated that there were no unusual transactions for the Council. On a motion by Jack Hobbs, seconded by Rodney Taylor, the following Supplemental Appropriations and Budget Amendments were unanimously approved by the council:

American Battlefield Protection Grant 07-006

Raise the estimated revenue for American Battlefield Protection by \$1,934.

4. CHARGES FOR SERVICES

Mr. Gary Christie presented an informational list with some of the services and charges provided by the Local Government Council with the dues paid by the localities. Mr. David Laurrell suggested that Mr. Christie develop an all inclusive list of all the services provided to the entire region along with the charges provided by the Local Government Council.

5. OFFICE SPACE REPORT

- a. Mr. Gary Christie stated that the Bank of the James 12th Floor lease is signed through March 2012. A move is expected in April after renovations are complete.
- b. The Council is interested in exploring joint office space with the Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce when the lease runs out at the Bank of the James. The Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce is starting a fund raising effort to build new quarters by 2012.
- c. Mr. Christie also reported that the CAER facility may be another option for office space. Council discussed how the site was to be selected and Mr. Christie will be meeting with Mr. Cobb soon to discuss his ideas on site selection.

6. UPDATE ON SOLID WASTE

Bob White gave an update on the regional solid waste program underway with Lynchburg and Bedford Cities and Amherst, Nelson, and Campbell Counties. They are moving forward to form an organization, perhaps an authority, with the Local Government Council providing administrative services. Mr. White stated that it is likely that the authority will be operational by July 2008. The recruitment process for an Executive Director and staff will begin this spring.

7. ROUNDTABLE OF ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES FACING LOCALITIES IN REGION 2000

In the roundtable portion biosolids and eminent domain were discussed. Mayor Foster is concerned that a variety of eminent domain bills are

under consideration in the General Assembly that would restrict Local Government's ability to obtain land for appropriate purposes.

8. REGIONAL VISITATION

The Council continues to be interested in a regional visitation. Mr. Christie told them that it was important for the Chambers of Commerce to be partners in this endeavor. He also suggested that Council focus their research on a community that had successfully made improvements in workforce development. The Council members suggested that improvements in retaining young professionals, in developing vocational programs, in increasing the number of workers and in helping current employees advance in careers and job skills be included as parameters of the search.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

In the Executive director's report Mr. Christie reminded members to include funding for the Source Water Planning Phase II and our membership dues increase in the budget process. He also mentioned that we would be seeking appointments to a Greenways education group who would spin off a fund raising arm for Greenways development.

Mr. Christie encouraged the group to attend the VLGMA Conference.

10. APPROVAL OF A MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2008

The meeting schedule was approved as presented with the March 15 meeting of the Executive Committee next, to discuss FY 08 budget and work plan.

Mr. Christie also requested feedback from Council members in reference to the frequency of speakers at the Council meetings. The Council agreed that speakers were only needed at the annual Spring and Fall dinners.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Eddie Gunter, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.