



BOOK 39
Page 87-91



AMHERST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board of Supervisors

Drew Wade, Chair
District 5
Claudia Tucker, Vice-Chair
District 2
David W. Pugh, Jr., Supervisor
District 4
Tom Martin, Supervisor
District 1
Chris Adams, Supervisor
District 3

MINUTES

August 6, 2024
Administration Building - 153 Washington
Street - Public Meeting Room
Amherst, Virginia 24521
Meeting Convened - 3:00 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 August 6, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., the following members were present:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Drew Wade, Chair
Claudia D. Tucker, Vice-Chair
David W. Pugh, Jr., Supervisor
Tom Martin, Supervisor
Chris Adams, Supervisor

ABSENT: None

STAFF:

Jeremy S. Bryant, County Administrator
Stacey McBride, Deputy County Administrator/Finance Director
Mark Popovich, County Attorney
Kristen Freeman, Clerk

Chairman Wade called the meeting to order at 3:00 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 Chairman Wade and with the following vote, the Board approved the agenda with the amendment of removing Item C. School Construction Grant under Section VII. Special Presentation.

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

III. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

IV. Citizen Comment

There was no public comment.

V. Ordinance - First Read

A. Ordinance 2024-4 - Procurement

The Amherst County Board of Supervisors has made certain revisions to the Amherst County Purchasing Manual resulting in the title of Purchasing Director being changed to Procurement and Contracts Division Manager. In order to maintain consistency with the changes made in the Purchasing Manual, the Board of Supervisors is now making the same title change as set forth in its procurement ordinance provisions.

By motion of Chairman Wade and with the following vote, the Board directed staff to advertise Ordinance 2024-4 for a public hearing on August 20, 2024.

AYE: Mr. Wade, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Adams

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. Ordinance 2024-5 Confined Livestock Facilities

Amending and reenacting §§ 702 of Article VII – Use Requirements by Zoning Districts, of Appendix A – Zoning and Subdivisions Ordinance to the Code of the County of Amherst, Virginia. The purpose of this ordinance is to update the setback requirements and other regulations relating to confined livestock facilities.

By motion of Vice-Chair Tucker and with the following vote, the Board directed staff to advertise Ordinance 2024-5 for public hearing on August 20, 2024.

AYE: Mr. Wade, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams

NAY: Mr. Martin

ABSENT: None

VI. Consent Agenda

By motion of Vice-Chair Tucker and with the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda for August 6, 2024.

AYE: Mr. Wade, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Adams

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

A. Minutes - July 16, 2024

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of July 16, 2024.

B. Minutes - July 16, 2024 Site Visit

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of July 16, 2024 Site Visit.

C. Victim Witness Grant Revenue Appropriation

It was moved that the Board appropriate \$4,483.00 of additional Victim Witness grant revenue into the Transfer to General Fund balance line item.

D. FY 24 Appropriation of Revenue - Sheriff's Office

It was moved that the Board approve the appropriation of funds as described.

E. 2024 Personal Property Tax Relief Act

It was moved that the Board adopt Resolution 2024-9-R, implementing the Personal Property Tax Relief Rate of 26.85% for the tax year 2024.

F. Appropriation of CDBG Program Income

It was moved that the Board appropriate \$3,500.00 of CDBG Program income to be used for community events associated with the South Madison Heights CDBG Planning grant.

VII. Special Presentation

A. FY23 Audit

Each year the County has an audit performed by an outside CPA firm of the financial records for that year. The FY23 audit has been completed and Brown, Edwards, and Co PLLC. Hailey Fox presented the highlights.

By motion of Supervisor Pugh and with the following vote, the Board accepted the FY23 audit as presented.

AYE: Mr. Wade, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Adams

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. EDA Incentive Presentation

For the Board's information.

C. School Construction Grant

Removed by Agenda Amendment.

VIII. New Business

A. Tasers - Sheriff's Office

By motion of Supervisor Adams and with the following vote, the Board approved the use of Fine Revenue to purchase tasers for the Sheriff's Office.

AYE: Mr. Wade, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Adams

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. ARPA Subrecipient Agreement

By motion of Chairman Wade and with the following vote, the Board authorized the County Administrator to execute this agreement between the County and the Authority.

AYE: Mr. Wade, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Adams

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

C. Appropriation additional Compensation Board FY25 revenue

Item was tabled until August 20, 2024.

D. Lynchburg Regional Airport Authority Board Report

Item will be rescheduled at a later date due to the length of the meeting and the presenter needing to leave.

IX. County Administrator's Report

A. Project Status Report

For the Board's information.

X. County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had no matter to discuss.

5:08 pm - Supervisor Pugh had to dismiss from the meeting.

XI. Liaison and Committee Reports

A. Recreation, Parks, and Tourism- Annual Report

For the Board's information. (See Attachment 1)

XII. Citizen Comment

Sam Bryant addressed the Board regarding getting more community members to attend meetings. He also stated that he had reviewed the budget and was concerned that a department had overspent its allocated budget. He stated that he hopes the tools put in place will help with that. He thanked the Board for looking into the budget as well as approving Sheriff's Ayers request to purchase new tasers and have the proper working equipment needed.

XIII. Matters from Members of the Board of Supervisors

Chair Wade had no matter to discuss.

Vice-Chair Tucker had no matter to discuss.

Supervisor Martin stated that at a previous meeting he had asked staff to look at a truck stop Route 29 and its lack of compliance as well as the selling of motor vehicles on that site and asked Mr. Bryant for an update. Mr. Bryant stated that staff had looked into that and found that site to be out of compliance. Mr. Bryant stated the Board's options are to take the case to court or to go through the process of revoking the special use permit.

By motion of Supervisor Martin and with the following vote, the Board directed staff to start the proceedings to revoke Special Use Permit 2023-380.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pugh

Supervisor Adams stated that people are following the track of tropical storm Debbie and that Chief Beam is staying connected with VDEM, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, and asked that all citizens stay vigilant and safe and not take any unnecessary risks.

XIV. Adjournment

By motion of Vice- Chair Tucker and with the following vote, the Board adjourned at 5:20 pm.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Pugh



Drew Wade, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors



Jeremy Bryant, County Administrator

**2023-24 Year Annual Report
Amherst County
Recreation, Tourism and Cultural Development Department**

The Amherst County Recreation, Tourism and Cultural Development Department's goal is to offer the Citizens of Amherst County, from small children to senior adults, an array of services, classes, programs and special events. The department encourages citizens to stay involved and active in their community in a wide variety of ways.

SPORTS/ATHLETICS:

Total Participants- 3094

Revenue- \$56,816.00

Programs Offered:

Adaptive Soccer, Co-Ed Basketball, Girls Basketball, Summer Basketball League, Basketball Camp, Fall Soccer, Pick-up Soccer, Pickleball, Spring Soccer, Brazilian Soccer Camp

SENIOR ADULTS:

Total Participants- 5419

Revenue- \$1623.00

Programs Offered:

Amherst Senior Center, Bingo, Madison Heights Senior Center, Senior Socials

CLASSES:

Total Participants- 2277

Revenue- \$7,589.00

Programs Offered:

Aging Well Exercise, Amherst Art Society, Line Dancing, Round Dancing, Square Dancing, Water Coloring

OUTDOOR PROGRAMS:

Total Participants- 58

Revenue- \$9.00

Programs Offered:

Citizen Science, Snakes of Virginia, Hiking First Aid & Safety, Hiking Snacks, Leave No Trace, Survival Bracelets

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Total Participants- 1208

Revenue- \$0 (we do not charge for special events)

Programs Offered:

Halloween Spooktacular, Arts & More, Easter Eggstravaganza, Lion Club Wellness Fair, Lions Club Luncheons, Movies in the Field, Parks & Recreation Open house, Piney River Tri-Biathlon, Celebrate the James

Special Event Permits Issued- 15

TRIPS:

Total Participants- 184

Revenue- \$1248.00

Programs Offered:

Buckingham Farm Festival, Depot Grille, Green Valley Book Store, Hamricks, Lexington Tour, Monacan Museum, Parkway, Pedlar Mills, Stuarts Draft Tour, Natural Bridge, Taubman Museum, Waltons Mountain

LOCATION RENTALS:

Total Participants- 50

Revenue- \$8,880.00

Coolwell Park Community Center, Monroe Ballfield

The Monroe Community Center is used by many different groups and organizations such as the Lions Club, 4-H, Democrat Party, Voter Precinct, Public Safety Training Room, Amherst Art Society

The Coolwell Community Center is used by our Senior Sites, Dance Classes, Bingo

THEME PARK TICKET SALES:

Tickets Sold- 285

Revenue- \$15,027.00

Tickets Offered:

Kings Dominion, Busch Gardens

NIGHT FISHING PERMITS:

County 52

Revenue- \$520.00

Non-County 20

Revenue- \$300.00

Total Program Participants- 12,647

Total Revenue- \$91,492.00

PARKS:

Seminole Park:

The Recreation Department applied for and received a Land Water and Conservation Fund Matching Grant in the amount of \$165,375.00 through the Department of Conservation and Recreation for the Construction of Seminole Park. The Dog Park, Playground, Water Fountain and Pavilions have been constructed, the Park Signs have been installed, and the trees and bushes have been planted. The ADA Sidewalk, walking trail and final landscaping still needs to be finished before the park can be opened. The Department hopes to have the ribbon cutting sometime in August or September.

Mill Creek Lake Park:

County Staff has installed a maintenance shed onsite which will house a newly acquired Kubota ATV and supplies for our Park Attendants. This will allow them more visibility and an easier means to pick up trash and to complete the other duties in the park. A phone line has been installed to the shed and this will provide better contact for emergency services. County Staff is currently working to get electricity to the shed as well.

Coolwell Park:

The Park Maintenance Access Road has been paved to allow for more parking and easier access for participants to events and programs. A sidewalk was added from the parking lot down to the soccer fields. The Department has received a lot of positive feedback on these additions to the park.

The County applied for and received an AARP Grant for \$5500.00 to construct a Bocce Ball Court in the park and the plan is to have it bid out and constructed this fall.

Monroe Ballfield:

A new backstop was installed providing a much better experience for the teams using this field.

****County and Department Staff have worked using the Department's new infield grading machine to bring the Monroe, Coolwell Park, Amherst Dixie Softball and Monelison Middle School infields into better playing shape. We hope to have all of these fields in great playing shape over the next year.**

TOURISM:

The Department continues to work with the Chamber of Commerce to promote the County and its businesses, special events and wonderful natural amenities.

The visitor Center had 1,076 visitors.

Staff received approval for visitor center signs to be placed on the existing signs at the intersection of 29 Business and Route 60. These signs are supposed to be in place by December 2024.

A \$30,000 VTC Marketing Grant was acquired this past year which provided a 15 and 30 second promotional advertisement for TV and social media.

The TV ad was shown in the Charlottesville, Farmville, Roanoke and Danville viewing areas. It had 110,947 impressions and had 441 hours of views.

The video ad was placed on Facebook and Instagram and had 714,854 total views and the link was clicked on 11,962 times. An image ad received 114,250 total views and the link was clicked on 3941 times.

The grant also provided funds to upgrade the Tourism visitamherstcounty.org website and it had 24,445 visitors in FY22-23 and 53,799 visitors in FY23-24 showing a substantial increase in visitors to the County Tourism website of 29,354.

FUTURE PLANS:

The Department is currently working with Hill Studios to do a 5-10 year Parks and Recreation Masterplan. The future of the Amherst County Recreation, Tourism and Cultural Development Department is looking brighter and through this masterplan the hope is to create and provide quality programs, activities and parks for years to come.