

**Town of Amherst  
Industrial Development Authority  
November 7, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Town of Amherst Industrial Development Authority was called to order by Vice Chairman Lewis Addison on November 7, 2016 at 5:15 PM in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street. It was noted that a quorum was present as follows:

A Jacob Bailey	P Richard Wydner
P Gary Jennings	A Vernon Wood
P Lewis Addison	
P C. Manly Rucker, III	

Town Manager Jack Hobbs in his capacity as Secretary to the Authority, and Deputy Town Clerk Vicki Hunt were present.

The Secretary introduced Vicki Hunt and reported that she has been hired to provide support to various Town committees and boards such as the IDA. She will be responsible for organizing meetings, taking minutes, and maintaining records as well as performing other support duties for the IDA.

Election of Officers

Vice Chairman Addison opened the floor to nominations for Chairman. Mr. Rucker nominated Mr. Addison, seconded by Mr. Jennings. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Addison was elected Chairman by acclamation on a 4-0 vote. Messrs. Addison, Jennings, Rucker, and Wydner voted in favor of the action; Messrs. Bailey and Wood were absent.

Chairman Addison opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr. Rucker nominated Mr. Wydner, seconded by Mr. Jennings. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Wydner was elected Vice Chairman by acclamation on a 4-0 vote. Messrs. Addison, Jennings, Rucker, and Wydner voted in favor of the action; Messrs. Bailey and Wood were absent.

Chairman Addison opened the floor to nominations for Secretary. Mr. Addison nominated Mr. Hobbs, seconded by Mr. Rucker. There being no additional nominations, Mr. Hobbs was elected Secretary by acclamation on a 4-0 vote. Messrs. Addison, Jennings, Rucker, and Wydner voted in favor of the action; Messrs. Bailey and Wood were absent.

On a motion by Mr. Rucker, which was seconded by Mr. Wydner and carried 4-0, the minutes of the March 7, 2016 and May 31, 2016

meetings were approved. Messrs. Addison, Jennings, Rucker, and Wydner voted in favor of the motion. Messrs. Bailey and Wood were absent.

#### Central Virginia Regional Radio Board Request

Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Executive Director Gary Christie came forward on behalf of the Central Virginia Radio Board to request an extension of the draw schedule of that group's Loan Agreement with the Authority. After some discussion, on a motion by Mr. Rucker, which was seconded by Mr. Wydner, and carried 4-0, the IDA agreed to approve to extension of the draw schedule of the Loan and Acquisition Fund and Account Control Agreements dated May 1, 2012, to September 30, 2017. Messrs. Addison, Jennings, Rucker, and Wydner voted in favor of the motion.

#### Regional CEDS

Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council Executive Director Gary Christie presented an overview of goals and key initiatives of the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

#### Amherst County Economic Development Authority Work Plan

Lee Cobb came forward to brief the Authority on the Amherst County Economic Development Authority's "strategic plan implementation."

#### IDA/EDA Merger

Lee Cobb came forward to present information to be considered during the upcoming exploration of the proposed merger of the Town of Amherst Industrial Development with the Amherst County Economic Development Authority.

#### CVTC Legislative Liaison Funding

After some discussion, on motion of Mr. Rucker, seconded by Mr. Wydner, and carried 4-0, the IDA agreed to contribute \$500 to Amherst County toward the cost of the selected liaison representing the region to speak on reuse of the Central Virginia Training Center during the 2017 General Assembly session. Messrs. Addison, Jennings, Rucker, and Wydner voted in favor of the motion.

#### Status Reports

A series of oral reports on the following items were made:

- **Centra/Ambriar:** Progress on the construction of the Centra building behind Ambriar Shopping Center is nearing completion. A grand opening event toward the end of November is anticipated.
- **Hotel Recruitment:** There has been no activity on the hotel recruitment issue for several months.
- **Planning Studies:** A series of economic development studies by the County, Region 2000, and the Town have been completed. A

current Town initiative involves the downtown pedestrian safety and walkability study, with a public presentation to be held on November 9, 2016, in the Town Hall at 6:00 PM. Members of the IDA were invited to attend. A new Second Stage "Cultivate Amherst!" initiative would use art and food as a way to improve local economy.

- **Brockman Park:** Prospect activity at Brockman Park has been very light.
- **Hollingsworth Contract:** Due to building plans that were not "grandfathered" under less expensive construction standards, a decision not to renew its contract with the Town has been made by Hollingsworth. Hollingsworth group has agreed to participate if a good prospect for Brockman Park presents itself.
- **Economic Development Consultant:** Lee Cobb has been asked to be more involved in IDA/EDA merger activity.

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Rucker, seconded by Mr. Jennings, and carried 4-0, the meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM.

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Lewis Addison, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary