

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Alleghany County, Virginia held on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alleghany County Governmental Complex, Covington, Virginia, thereof:

PRESENT: G. Matt Garten, Chairman
Stephen A. Bennett, Vice-Chairman
Shannon P. Cox
James M. Griffith
Cletus W. Nicely
Richard Lee Shull
M. Joan Vannorsdall

and Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator
Suzanne T. Adcock, Director of Finance
Jim Guynn, County Attorney
Melissa A. Munsey, Deputy Clerk to the Board

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order. Mrs. Cox gave the invocation and the audience remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

Hearing no corrections or deletions, the Chairman declared the following minutes approved as submitted: (1) a regular meeting held on January 7, 2020.

PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL - WATER AND SEWER BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$779,606 (ROSEDALE SEWER):

Public Hearing to consider a proposed issuance of a bond by Alleghany County. The estimated maximum amount of the bond is \$779,606. The only proposed use of the bond proceeds is to pay the costs of improvements to the County's sewer system and costs of issuing the bond.

The Chairman announced that this public hearing was advertised in the Virginian Review on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 and Tuesday, January 28, 2020 in accordance with the Code of Virginia. He then called the public hearing to order.

Ms. Adcock stated that there have been discussions on the Rosedale sewer project and the project has been put out to bid a few times. She commented that the entire cost of the project (including bond issuance costs) is \$1,324,606 with \$545,000 in loan forgiveness leaving a bond issuance of \$779,606. She stated that payments on the bond would begin in May 2021 in the amount of \$19,490.15.

There being no one else who wished to speak, the Chairman declared the public hearing closed.

On motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Nicely, that the Board waive its policy of not acting on a public hearing on the same night.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

On motion of Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A WATER AND SEWER REVENUE BOND OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$779,606, AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, DETAILS AND PAYMENT OF THE BOND, AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS AND REPEALING A PRIOR RESOLUTION

Pursuant to the Public Finance Act of 1991 (Chapter 26, Title 15.2, Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended) (the "Act"), the Board of Supervisors of Alleghany County (the "Board of Supervisors") is authorized to issue bonds, notes or other obligations payable from a pledge of the revenues from the County's water and sewer system.

The Board of Supervisors has determined it necessary and expedient to improvements to the County's sewer facilities serving the Rosedale area of the County and to issue a water and sewer revenue bond of the County in the maximum principal amount of \$779,606 to finance costs of the improvements.

On February 4, 2020, the Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the proposed issuance of the bond, in accordance with Section 15.2-2606 of the Act.

The Board of Supervisors has previously adopted a resolution authorizing the bond to be issued in a maximum amount less than \$779,606 and desires to repeal that resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY, VIRGINIA:

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

Section 1.1. Definitions. Whenever used in this resolution, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

"Bond" means the County's bond as and when issued under this resolution.

"Fund" means the Virginia Water Facilities Revolving Fund, its successors and assigns.

"Project" means capital improvements to the County's sewer facilities serving the Rosedale area of the County.

"System" means all plants, systems, facilities, equipment or property owned, operated or maintained by the County and used in connection with the collection, storage, treatment or distribution of water or the collection or treatment of wastewater.

"VRA" means the Virginia Resources Authority, as Administrator of the Fund and in its own right.

ARTICLE II

AUTHORIZATION, FORM, EXECUTION, DELIVERY,
REGISTRATION AND REDEMPTION OF BOND

Section 2.1. Authorization of the Bond. It is determined to be advisable, necessary and expedient for the County to undertake the Project. Pursuant to the Act, there is authorized to be issued and delivered to the VRA a water and sewer revenue bond of the County in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$779,606, the proceeds of which will be used to pay costs of the Project.

Section 2.2. Details of the Bond.

(a) The Bond shall be issued as a fully registered bond without coupons, shall be dated the date of its issuance, shall bear no interest, and shall be payable as determined in accordance with (b) below.

(b) Each of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to determine and approve all of the other final details of the Bond, including, but not limited to, its designation, including a series designation, its original principal amount, the payment dates of principal, the amount of each payment of principal, and the provisions for prepayment or redemption; however, (a) the principal amount of the Bond shall not exceed \$779,606, and (b) the due date of the last installment of principal of the Bond shall not be later than 40 years after the date of the Bond. The execution and delivery of the Bond as described in Section 2.3 and Section 2.7 of this resolution shall conclusively evidence such details as having been so determined and approved as authorized by this Resolution. Principal of the Bond shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America.

Section 2.3. Execution of Bond. The Bond shall bear the manual signature of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and shall bear a manually impressed or imprinted facsimile of the seal of the County attested by the manual signature of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. In case any officer whose signature shall appear on the Bond shall cease to be such officer before the delivery of the Bond, such signature shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes the same as if he had remained in office until such delivery. The Bond may be signed by such persons as at the actual time of its execution shall be the proper officers to sign the Bond although at such time such persons may not have been such officers.

Section 2.4. Form of Bond. The Bond shall be in substantially the form attached as Exhibit A, with such variations, insertions and omissions as shall be consistent with this resolution, the execution and delivery of the Bond constituting conclusive evidence that any variations, insertions and omissions are consistent with this resolution. Upon request of the VRA, the County shall arrange to have prepared, executed, authenticated and delivered in exchange for the Bond as soon as

practicable bonds in printed form in an aggregate principal amount equal to the unpaid principal of the Bond in typewritten form to be exchanged, in denominations of \$5,000 and multiples thereof, except for one bond which may be issued in an odd denomination of not less than \$5,000, of the same form and maturity and registered in such names as requested by the VRA or its duly authorized attorney or legal representative. The typewritten bond surrendered in any such exchange shall be canceled.

Section 2.5. Bond Registrar. The County Administrator of the County is appointed Bond Registrar for the Bond.

Section 2.6. Registration, Transfer and Exchange. The County shall cause books for the registration and transfer of the Bond (and any printed bond or bonds issued in substitution for it in accordance with Section 2.4 above) to be kept at the office of the Bond Registrar, and the County hereby instructs the Bond Registrar to keep such books and to make such registrations and transfers under such reasonable regulations as the County or the Bond Registrar may prescribe. Transfer of the Bond or any printed bond issued in substitution for it may be registered upon books maintained for that purpose at the office of the Bond Registrar. Prior to due presentment for registration or transfer, the Bond Registrar shall treat the registered owner as the person exclusively entitled to payment of principal and the exercise of all other rights and powers of the owner.

Section 2.7. Preparation and Award of Bond. After consideration of the methods of sale of the Bond and the current state of the municipal bond market, the Board of Supervisors determines that it will be in the best interests of the County to deliver the Bond to the VRA in accordance with the Financing Agreement described in Section 2.8 of this resolution. Each of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized and directed to take all proper steps to have the Bond prepared and executed in accordance with its terms and to deliver the Bond to the VRA or its designee in accordance with the terms of the Financing Agreement.

Section 2.8. Authorization of Financing Agreement, Funding Agreement, and Other Matters. The Financing Agreement between the VRA and the County (the "Financing Agreement") and the Funding Agreement between the VRA and the County (collectively, the "Financing Documents"), the forms of which have been presented to the Board of Supervisors at this meeting and filed with the records of the Board of Supervisors, are approved. Each of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator is authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the County the Financing Documents in substantially the forms submitted to the Board of Supervisors, with such changes, insertions or omissions as may be approved by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or County Administrator, whose approval shall be evidenced conclusively by the execution and delivery of the Financing Documents. Nothing in this resolution, the Bond or the Financing Documents shall constitute a debt of the County within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory limitation or a pledge of the faith or credit or the taxing power of the County. Each of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or County Administrator and any other officer of the County is authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the County such other instruments, documents or certificates, and to do and perform such things and acts, as they shall deem necessary or appropriate to carry out the transactions authorized by this resolution or contemplated by the Bond or the Financing Documents, and all of the foregoing, previously done or performed by such officers of the County, are in all respects approved, ratified and confirmed.

Section 2.9. Moral Obligation. On the terms and conditions to be provided in the Financing Agreement, the Board of Supervisors will undertake a non-binding moral obligation to pay the sums due under the Bond and the Financing Agreement, subject to annual appropriation by the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors, although recognizing that it is not empowered to make any binding commitment to make such appropriations in future fiscal years, states its intent to make such appropriations in future fiscal years and recommends that future Boards of Supervisors do likewise.

Section 2.10 Election of Applicable Law. To the extent permitted by Section 15.2-2601 of the Act, the Board of Supervisors elects that the Bond will be issued under the provisions of the Act without regard to the requirements, restrictions or provisions contained in any charter or local or special act applicable to the County.

ARTICLE III

PARTICULAR COVENANTS

Section 3.1. Payment of the Bond. The County shall pay promptly the principal of the Bond as and when due. The Bond shall be payable exclusively from the "Revenues," as defined and pledged in the Financing Agreement, and nothing in this resolution or in the Bond shall be deemed to create or constitute a general obligation of or a pledge of the faith and credit of the Commonwealth of Virginia or any county, city, town or other political subdivision of the Commonwealth, including the County.

Section 3.2. Pledge of Revenues. To the extent provided in the Financing Agreement, the "Revenues" as defined in the Financing Agreement shall be pledged to the payment of the Bond.

ARTICLE IV

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 4.1. Authority of Officers and Agents. The officers and agents of the County shall do all acts and things required of them by this resolution and the Bond for the complete and punctual performance of all its terms, covenants and agreements. The appropriate officers of the County are further authorized and empowered to take such other action as they may consider necessary or desirable to carry out the intent and purpose of this resolution and the issuance of the Bond.

Section 4.2. Limitation of Liability of Officials of County. No covenant, condition or agreement contained herein shall be deemed to be a covenant, agreement or obligation of an officer, employee, member of the Board of Supervisors, or agent of the County in his or her individual capacity, and no officer of the County or member of the Board of Supervisors executing the Bond shall be liable personally on the Bond or be subject to any personal liability or accountability by reason of the issuance of the Bond. No officer, employee or agent of the County shall incur any personal liability with respect to any other action taken by him or her pursuant to this resolution, provided he or she acts in good faith.

Section 4.3. Conditions Precedent. Upon the issuance of the Bond, all acts, conditions and things required by the

Constitution and statutes of the Commonwealth of Virginia or this resolution to have happened, exist and to have been performed precedent to or in the issuance of the Bond shall have happened, exist and have been performed.

Section 4.4. Headings. Any headings in this resolution are solely for convenience of reference and shall not constitute a part of the resolution nor shall they affect its meaning, construction or effect.

Section 4.5. Severability. If any court of competent jurisdiction shall hold any provision of this resolution to be invalid and unenforceable, such holding shall not invalidate any other provision hereof.

Section 4.6. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Section 4.7. Filing of Resolution. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to see to the prompt filing of a certified copy of this resolution with the Circuit Court of Alleghany County, Virginia.

Section 4.8. Repealer. The Board of Supervisors repeals the resolution it adopted November 7, 2018, entitled "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A WATER AND SEWER REVENUE BOND OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$547,854, AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, DETAILS AND PAYMENT OF THE BOND, AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS."

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Shannon P. Cox		Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes	
Cletus W. Nicely		Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes	
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes	
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes	
G. Matt Garten	Yes	

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT):

Mr. Van Walker, 109 Dusty Road, commented that he lives in Clearview Estates and spoke in favor of the request to be made later in the agenda by Ms. Jill Shifflett-Ramsey regarding changes to the County's ordinances in relation to changing the definition of animals (household pet, companion, and agricultural) to allow pot-belly pigs and hens.

MS. SUSAN HAMMOND, VDOT RESIDENT ENGINEER - VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATE:

Ms. Susan Hammond, VDOT Resident Engineer, gave a report on the following VDOT activities:

Maintenance

- *Cleaning and opening pipes on Johnson's Creek, Ogles Creek, Valley Ridge Subdivision, Coles Mountain Road, Sulfur Springs Road, Hickory Hill, Jamison Mountain, Upper Rich Patch Road, and Big Ridge Road.*
- *Cutting brush on Douthat Road.*
- *Cold mix patching potholes County-wide.*
- *Filled potholes and graded Rumsey Road, Castile Road, and Hickory Hill.*
- *Cleared trees and debris County-wide from high winds.*

Construction

- *Increased stone costs are going to impact projects in the Secondary Six Year Plan by approximately 25%.*
- *Rt. 696 bridge replacement project - intermittent flagging operations will begin. Trailer has been removed and two sycamore trees will be removed. New road entrance to be cut in then timber bridge removed.*

Mr. Bennett asked if the new Rt. 696 bridge would be built and the other two left during construction or would one lane be left open. Ms. Hammond replied that at least one lane will be open with flaggers.

Mr. Garten commented regarding rocks and hanging trees on Rt. 220 near Honda Nissan potentially falling.

DISCUSS WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED WITH PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ANIMALS ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO NUISANCE CATS/COMPANION ANIMALS:

Mr. Lanford stated that, for clarification, this item is not related to the item to be discussed under new business (Ms. Jill Shifflett-Ramsey request). He commented that there was some discussion at the last Board meeting along with a red-lined copy of proposed changes to the ordinance. He mentioned that the Animal Control Officer has no flexibility with the current County Code on addressing nuisance cats that damage neighboring property. He stated that this is not for feral cats. He commented that another complaint was received yesterday on damage to property. He asked the Board if they would like to proceed with a public hearing at the March meeting.

Mr. Nicely stated he feels we should forget proceeding with the changes as no one will claim a cat and cats are not licensed.

Ms. Vannorsdall commented that there is no harm in holding a public hearing as it would be the Animal Control Officer's problem to check on the complaints.

The majority of the Board agreed by consensus to hold a public hearing at its March meeting.

MR. CORBIN STONE, ROBINSON FARMER COX ASSOCIATES - PRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2019:

Mr. Corbin Stone, Robinson Farmer Cox Associates, stated that the Board has a copy of the audit for year ending June 30, 2019. He mentioned that the audit went well with all departments and they did not have a problem getting information needed. He handed out to the Board a presentation which he reviewed and is a part of the records of this meeting. The presentation included: (1) a chart showing a comparison of the General Fund from 6/30/10 to 6/30/19 (shows annualized growth rates with total revenues having a 0.96% growth and expenditures a 1.86% growth) and a fund balance of \$11,288,097 which includes unspent bond proceeds of \$7,414,390 and \$3,007,999 at the 2019 year end; (2) a graph showing general fund revenues by fiscal year; (3) a graph showing general fund expenditures by fiscal year; (4) a chart showing a comparison of the School Operating Fund from 6/30/10 to 6/30/19 (shows annualized growth rates with total revenues having a 1.50% decrease and expenditures a 1.40% decrease) and a fund balance of \$5,934,542; (5) a graph showing school fund revenues by fiscal year; (6) a graph showing school fund expenditures by fiscal year; (7) a chart showing a summary of original tax assessments (total annualized growth rate of 0.68%); (8) a chart showing select financial data (general fund balance of \$8,280,098 and a debt per capita of \$3,541.45 with the State's debt per capita \$5,807.26); (9) letter on governance; (10) audit recommendations memo (due to turnovers at Social Services reconciliations are not up to date and 5 other recommendations); and (11) handout on GASB changes. He commented that he is impressed with the County having an adequate fund balance (recommend at least 10%) and low debt, as well as holding the line tight on expenditures, especially with the population decline since 2008.

There was some discussion regarding the last reassessment having a growth of only 0.06% and how population is projected to continue to trend downward (approximate 8% decrease by 2040).

Mr. Garten asked the Board to contact Mr. Stone if they have any questions after reviewing the full audit report.

MR. DARYN WARNER, CENSUS PARTNERSHIP SPECIALIST - CENSUS 2020 UPDATE:

Mr. Daryn Warner, Census Partnership Specialist, thanked Mr. Lanford, Mrs. Munsey, and local members of the 2020 Census Complete Count Committee. He commented that it is approximately 60 days until Census Day (April 1, 2020) and workers are in the process of advance contact with group quarters, shelters, dorms, etc. He mentioned that approximately 40-50 enumerators are being hired in the County to also follow-up with non-responders. He stated that the Board has several documents in its agenda packet which includes:

- A flyer on "How the 2020 Census Will Invite Everyone to Respond." A post card will be sent out in the mail or hand delivered to those with post office boxes. Individuals can then respond on-line or by phone. Three reminders will be sent out prior to an enumerator following up in person.
- A map showing non-response areas. The dark green area (Clifton Forge) has a non-response rate of 22%, the lighter green area is 16-20%, and the yellow area is 14%. Each person missed in the county is \$2,000 per person per year in Federal funding lost. Those at-risk of not being counted are children under 5, seniors, veterans, minority population, etc.
- A flyer on "The 2020 Census and Confidentiality." Some do not respond to the Census due to fear as they feel information given may be used against them. Census information is not allowed to be shared at any level.

He asked the Board to discuss with the community that information will be coming in the mail beginning March 12th, mobile access points can be created to make it easier for people to respond, the confidentiality of the Census, etc.

MR. JEFF STERN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MASONIC THEATRE - UPDATE ON ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY RESULTS:

Mr. Jeff Stern, Executive Director of the Masonic Theatre, handed out a packet of information which includes the "Economic Analysis of the Historic Masonic Theatre" prepared by the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission and a summary of the analysis. Both documents are a part of the records of this meeting. He reviewed the summary which is as follows:

An Update

- *Since opening in July 2016, the theatre and amphitheatre have hosted or presented more than 465 unique ticketed, community, and private events. We have welcomed more than 245,000 visitors into our facilities. Of the 465 events we have presented since we opened, 27% have been ticketed, 42% have been rental, and fully 31% (approx. 148*

events) have been community events, the vast majority offered free of charge and open to everyone. To date, we have welcomed more than 2,700 patrons to our paid events through our free and deeply discounted ticket initiative. 49% of our ticket-buying patrons live more than 45 miles away, 18% live outside the Commonwealth, and the percentages keep increasing. Our Movie Series is free of charge to encourage families to attend the films together. To date, through our outreach efforts, we have hosted 640 patrons with severe cognitive disabilities and more than 1,500 patrons with limited mobility or some level of hearing impairment. In 2019, we completed our Heart of the Community Campaign, exceeding our goal of one million dollars in cash and pledges.

The Bottom Line

- *The Historic Masonic Theatre is good for the local economy! Based on visitor spending alone, the Masonic Theatre supported \$2.3 million in economic impact in the Allegheny Highlands for 2018. Economic activity associated with the visitors help support over 35 jobs per year in the Allegheny Highlands for 2018. Based on the 2018 Masonic Theatre budget, the facility helps support 7 jobs in the region and accounts for \$709,659 in overall output in the regional economy.*

He then reviewed pages in the summary pertaining to Economic Impact of Visitor Spending, Economic Scale of the Masonic Theatre, chart with event breakdown percentages (performance events 27%, community events 31%, and rental events 42%), chart with pricing breakdown percentages (standard fee entry 61% and free/reduced entry 39%), and 2019 Operating Revenue (earned revenue 51%, unearned revenue 45%, Allegheny County 1%, and Town of Clifton Forge 3%). He asked that the Board consider additional funding in the upcoming budget.

MS. JILL SHIFFLETT-RAMSEY - DISCUSS REQUEST FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNTY'S ORDINANCES:

Ms. Jill Shifflett-Ramsey, 116 Dusty Road, read the following prepared statement which is a part of the records of this meeting:

Mr. Chairman (Matt Garten), Mr. Vice-Chairman (Steve Bennett) and County Supervisors:

My name is Jill Shifflett-Ramsey and my family and I live at 116 Dusty Rd., Covington.

As a brief summary, my husband and I received a letter of violation in May of 2019 due to "housing farm animals" and that "general farming" were taking place on our property, violating the County's Zoning Ordinance for properties zoned R-1. An appeal to the Board of Zoning Appeals was denied in August of 2019. Members of the board suggested a path forward to present information for review and discussion with the Planning Commission, requesting amendments to the current ordinances. The Planning Commission declined to consider any of the suggested changes regarding the County's restrictions on animals in residential areas in December of 2019. Although we have followed the proper processes and those which have been recommended by previous governing bodies of the County to appeal the zoning violation, my husband and I received criminal charges based on current language and our decision to keep our pets. The criminal case is currently on appeal to the Circuit Court of Allegheny County.

Our situation as previously stated, is unique and I would like to thank you for the opportunity for the discussion and consideration, as it was truly unforeseen that events would take place that has brought us here tonight.

We have 5 hens and 1 pot-bellied pig. Our hens originated from a focus on project-based learning, as the 2018-2019 academic year was 100% New Tech at the high school, and non-traditional techniques and methods of learning were utilized. Coalie, is a previously bullied and rescued pot-bellied pig, acquired through the opportunity of an internship with a veterinarian. These animals have been pets since they were brought home, in August and November of 2018, respectively.

The County's Comprehensive Plan that was renewed and adopted in April 2019 describes key goals and objectives which also compliments aspects of the ACPS 6-Year Comprehensive Plan. Included specifically are the New Tech Network project-based curriculum and an enhanced focus on preparing students for technical and career-ready applications, thus supporting the Commonwealth of Virginia's stance of Life Ready Individuals upon graduation.

The 5 C's of the Profile of a Virginia Graduate include: Critical Thinking, Creative Thinking, Collaboration, Communication, and Citizenship skills. Our school system, teachers, administrators, and our children experienced new methods of out-of-the-box thinking through this transition to a project-based learning. Various choices in electives and activities and clubs were offered to accompany core curriculum courses. My role as a parent is to be supportive in their education and to encourage them and other students, where applicable.

As a parent, I will support our children's education, particularly in our rural area where population and growth trends have declined. The traditional style of learning has transformed with modern-age techniques and technology, necessary to be competitive and successful in today's world.

Our pets are cared for by providing food, water, shelter, treats, toys, and companionship - to name a few. They want to be picked up, held and petted, played with, sat with, and welcome interaction. Coalie has a harness, collar and a leash, and is walked like a dog is walked and given treats. Her tail wags and short grunts are expressed when she sees us. If you happen to be talking to someone and you ignore her and don't talk to her, she'll get your attention with a grunt. She shares similarities as those of dogs, although she does not bark loudly like others that can be heard in our neighborhood. The hens also compare to cats as they will come to you and brush up against your ankles, wanting you to pick them up and hold them. Pot-bellied pigs became popular pets in the United States in 1985. Backyard birds and hens are in cities, towns and counties, and growing in popularity. Our pets are a part of our family. Our pets have never been thought of for raising for profit or as a commercial venture in any way.

As an adult, and for over 23 years, I have been to, through and lived in our neighborhood. For the last 14 years that I have lived in our neighborhood, not one time has the Zoning been brought to my personal attention until this past May. We have had our pets for approximately a year and a half, encouraged by the gift of a grant from a business partnering with local schools and an opportunity through an internship, of which were new, unchartered initiatives in our area and school system.

We are here tonight to ask for consideration of 3 definitions to be amended that are part of the Code of Alleghany County. The overall purpose of the request is to differentiate between pets versus agricultural use of animals.

She noted that the three definitions requested to be amended are Household Pet, Companion Animal, and Agricultural Animal and those proposed changes are included in the Board's agenda packet in the letter provided by her attorney, Mr. Jared Jenkins. She continued with her statement as follows:

These proposed changes are merely suggestions and a starting point for a discussion regarding the County's restrictions on animals in residential areas. As you may know, numerous municipalities in Virginia have been changing and updating their ordinances to allow the keeping of backyard chickens, specifically hens, and other non-traditional pets such as pot-bellied pigs. Various examples are available for review, including the neighboring Town of Iron Gate and the City of Lexington, which both have recently amended and passed ordinances allowing hens and pot bellied pigs.

She handed out packets of photos which shows a few examples of the project at school, their property, and pets. She continued with her statement:

We are regular people, we go to work to earn a paycheck, to provide for our family. Our property; including our house, garage, lawn, landscaping, etc. is kept and maintained due to our up-bringing and work ethic. We provide for ourselves, our children, our pets; and at times, others in our community that need a helping hand. Various concerns have been voiced including property value and the potential for risk of decline. What is at risk is the reality of losing families that could contribute to our community and our school system, to neighboring, more attractive localities. Our property value has actually increased, not decreased.

Neighboring and other close-by localities are thriving and growing with their population and economy. The residents of the Alleghany Highlands and the local governing bodies must be willing to adapt to the changing environment in which we live; such as technological advances and growth opportunities with industry that may be in our future. If we are not willing, our County and community will continue to suffer and decline in population, lose business opportunities, and continue with economic downturn.

Please consider the proposed amendments to the terms of Household Pet, Companion Animal, and Agricultural Animal. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. Bennett stated that he received a lot of phone calls and feels the Board should make a statement. He commented he lives on a dairy farm and his daughter has an animal rescue. He mentioned that the families bought their home in Clearview Estates as it is a Residential R-1 zone and would not like the rules changed mid-stream. He stated that his daughter rescues pigs, chickens, and even has a donkey. If approved where would it stop. He asked the Chairman to get a consensus from the Board on whether or not to go forward with a public hearing.

All of the Board agreed by consensus (except Ms Vannorsdall who abstained) not to proceed with a public hearing.

Mr. Jared Jenkins, attorney for Ms. Shifflett-Ramsey, commented regarding the Board receiving phone calls and should hold a public hearing to hear from others; 30 individuals spoke for the proposed amendments at the Planning Commission public hearing; other localities are changing their ordinances; limitations could be placed on the changes (i.e., size of lots, types of buildings, etc.); the Planning Commission not being sure of their role in the process; asked the Board to hold a public hearing or recommend to the Planning Commission to study the issue further; etc.

Mr. Garten asked about covenant restrictions for the subdivision. Mr. Jenkins replied that he is not sure what restrictions apply to her property. He commented that Ms. Shifflett-Ramsey is aware of the issue and could lose the pig and chickens that way, but if they were allowed under the zoning ordinance the community as a whole without those restrictions could benefit.

There was then further discussion.

Mr. Garten asked the Board again if they wished to proceed with a public hearing. The Board agreed by majority consensus to not proceed with a public hearing. Ms. Vannorsdall did want to proceed.

APPROVE CONTRACT AWARD TO HAMMOND-MITCHELL FOR THE ROSEDALE SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT:

Mr. Lanford stated that there is a memo in the agenda packet from Mr. Mike Hendrickson, Public Works Superintendent, as well as a bid tabulation summary and recommendation of award letter from the engineers (Sekiv Solutions). He reviewed the memo from Mr. Hendrickson regarding the Rosedale Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project, which is as follows:

The Department of Public Works has properly bid the above reference project to repair and/or replace the sewer lines in the Rosedale area in Covington. The low bidder for this project is Hammond Mitchell, Inc. in the amount of \$1,181,977.40. The County has completed previous projects with this contractor and looks forward to working with them again.

The Department respectfully requests that the Board authorize Mr. Jon Lanford, County Administrator, to award this contract as stated above. Please do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns you may have.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Griffith, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors approve a contract with Hammond Mitchell, Inc. in the amount of \$1,181,977.40 for the Rosedale Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorize Mr. Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator, to sign the abovementioned contract on behalf of the County.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

DISCUSS APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF BUILDING CODE APPEALS::

Mr. Garten stated that an appointment needs to be made to the Board of Building Code Appeals for a term to begin immediately and end January 20, 2025. This appointment can be from any district.

As there were no suggestions for the appointment, this item will be placed on the next regular meeting agenda.

REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. RICHARD ENGLEMAN AND APPOINTMENT OF MR. KEVIN COLE TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

Mr. Garten stated that the terms of Mr. Richard Engleman (Sharon District) and Mr. William Riley (Falling Spring District) on the Planning Commission expire March 1, 2020. Terms are for four years and both are eligible for reappointment.

Mr. Nicely commented that Mr. Engleman would like to be reappointed.

Mr. Garten mentioned that Mr. Riley does not want to be reappointed; however, Mr. Kevin Cole is interested in the position.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Griffith, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that Mr. Richard L. Engleman (Sharon District), 4115 Firehouse Circle, Clifton Forge, VA 24422 be reappointed to the Planning Commission for a term of four years beginning March 2, 2020 and ending March 1, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board that Mr. Kevin R. Cole (Falling Spring District), 300 Woodbrook Drive, Covington, VA 24426 be appointed to the Planning Commission for a term of four years beginning March 2, 2020 and ending March 1, 2024.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. GREG VESS AND MS. JEWELL MOORE TO THE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION:

Mr. Garten stated that the terms of Mr. Greg Vess (Sharon District) and Ms. Jewell Moore (Covington District) on the Water and Sewer Commission expire March 1, 2020. Terms are for four years and both are eligible for reappointment.

Mr. Griffith commented that Ms. Moore would like to be reappointed.

Mr. Nicely mentioned that Mr. Vess would also like to be reappointed.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that Mr. Gregory E. Vess (Sharon District), 201 Buck Horn Trail, Clifton Forge, VA 24422 be reappointed to the Water and Sewer Commission for a term of four years beginning March 2, 2020 and ending March 1, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board that Ms. Jewell K. Moore (Covington District), 4258 Callaghan Circle, Covington, VA 24426 be reappointed to the Water and Sewer Commission for a term of four years beginning March 2, 2020 and ending March 1, 2024.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

APPOINTMENT OF MR. ESTON BURGE TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD:

Mr. Garten stated that an appointment needs to be made to the Social Services Board due to the resignation of Mr. Kenneth Lane. The term would begin immediately and expire June 30, 2020. This appointment can be from any district.

Mrs. Cox commented that she serves on the Social Services Board and recommended Mr. Eston Burge for the appointment. She mentioned that he previously served on that Board, as well as helping out as Interim Director. She stated that he could not continue to serve on the Board at that time, but mentioned that he would like to come back and serve. She commented that Mr. Richard Turner has turned in a resume for the appointment and based on that information he would be a wonderful candidate; however, Mr. Burge has a lot of knowledge of the position.

On motion of Mrs. Cox, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that Mr. Eston E. Burge (Falling Spring District), P.O. Box 1061, Covington, VA 24426 be appointed to the Social Services Board to complete the term of Mr. Kenneth Lane beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2020.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Lanford gave a report on the following items:

Chamber of Commerce Flyer

There is a handout of the Chamber of Commerce flyer showing awards the community has received recently. The handout is a part of the records of this meeting.

FOCUS Program

There is a PowerPoint at each seat of the Giles County FOCUS program which is a part of the records of this meeting. He met with Ms. Dawn Riddle, Social Services Director, and Ms. Diane Garcia on the program which is a blend with the Bridges Out of Poverty program and the Bridges Gap program. In the Giles County program, 5% of the addresses utilized 55% of all reactive services (DSS, CSB, etc.) with a breakdown to specific neighborhoods. Giles County is willing to meet with staff to further discuss their program.

Joint Revenue Sharing Agreement

Staff and Covington representatives met with the Allegheny Foundation on partnering with them on the site development process and the AHEDC will be utilized to identify a site.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (INQUIRIES/REPORTS):

Miscellaneous

The Board thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Mr. Shull congratulated Mr. Burge on his appointment.

Mr. Nicely mentioned that it was nice to see the young folks in attendance tonight.

Mrs. Cox stated that she welcomes the opportunity for individuals to call her on issues as they sometimes can not make it to a meeting. She commented that she appreciates the interest of Mr. Turner and Mr. Burge in the appointment.

Ms. Vannorsdall stated that the Chamber flyer is impressive. She commented that the study presented by Mr. Stern and put together by the RV-ARC has solid numbers and she would like to see the County support the theatre with the energy it deserves.

Mr. Bennett suggested that Mr. Turner let the County know of any other Boards/Commissions he may be interested in being appointed to when a vacancy occurs.

Mr. Garten mentioned that he is going to be a father again at 40.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Ms. Vannorsdall, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried.

G. Matt Garten
Chairman