

1 | **Economic Development Authority**
Town of Appomattox, Virginia
Wednesday, January 24, 2024

A meeting of the Economic Development Authority of the Town of Appomattox was held on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Appomattox Municipal Building, 210 Linden Street, Appomattox, Virginia.

Present: Dr. Jeffrey Garrett, Ms. Mary Lou Spiggle, Mr. Kenny Gobble, Mrs. Claudia G. Puckette, and Mr. Ron Coleman.

Others present: Terry McGhee; Town Manager, Christy Torrence; Interim Clerk of Council, Megan Graves, Jason Tibbs, Nathan Simpson, and Kaylee Simpson

Dr. Garrett called the meeting to order.

Christy Torrence, Office Manager, advised that Mr. Kenneth Gobble, Jr. was sworn in for the term January 1, 2024-December 31, 2027 and received his Oath of Office Certificate prior to the start of the meeting.

Election of Officers

Chairman-There was a nomination for Dr. Garrett to continue as Chairman.

On a motion by Ms. Spiggle, seconded by Mr. Gobble, the Town EDA voted Dr. Garrett as Chairman for the 2024 calendar year. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

Vice-Chairman-There was a nomination for Ms. Spiggle to continue as Vice-Chairman.

On a motion by Mrs. Puckette, seconded by Mr. Gobble, the Town EDA voted Ms. Spiggle as Vice-Chairman for the 2024 calendar year. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

Mrs. Torrence was requested to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Town Economic Development Authority for as long as she is Interim Clerk of Council.

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Garrett requested that New Business be moved to the first item on the agenda.. On a motion by Ms. Spiggle, seconded by Mrs. Puckette, the Town EDA voted to approve the agenda for January 24, 2024, with the change. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Spiggle, seconded by Mrs. Puckette, the Town EDA voted to approve the July 18, 2023, and September 20, 2023 meeting minutes. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 4-0.

Financial Report

The Town EDA accepted the Financial Report of \$21,440.62 as of December 31, 2023.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

1. Megan Graves and Jason Tibbs were present to discuss an internship program with Appomattox County High School. They are hoping to bring attention to a work-based learning program. The high school wants to add courses that may help local businesses. They would like to get a group of businesses together within the next thirty (30) days to discuss what they would like to see on resumes. Mr. McGhee will work on getting this set up.
2. Mr. McGhee spoke on behalf of a local entrepreneur who would like for the EDA to sponsor a grant; he is looking for a letter of support for his agriculture coop office and “farm to table” restaurant that he would like to open in Town.

General Comments/General Information

Mr. Simpson thanked the EDA for their financial support of Project Cloud. He provided the following update: He has been in continuous contact with the project management team and informally, the study looks good. He will know more by late February-early March. Could break ground in 10-12 months.

CLOSED SESSION:

On a motion by Dr. Jeffrey Garrett, seconded by Mr. Kenny Gobble, the Economic Development Authority voted to convene in Closed Session concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business’ or industry’s interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community, specially pertaining to Project A, pursuant to Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)6, for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the government unit would be adversely affected, specifically being incentives for Project A.

Roll Call Vote: Jeffrey Garrett-yes, Mary Lou Spiggle-yes, Claudia Puckette-yes, Kenny Gobble-yes, Ron Coleman-yes

The meeting was re-opened to the public.

Mary Lou Spiggle made the following motion:

To the best of each member’s knowledge, the only subjects just discussed or considered in the preceding closed meeting were those: (i) lawfully exempted from the FOIA Act’s open-meeting requirements and (ii) properly identified in the motion that convened the closed meeting, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)5 and Section 2.2-3711(A)6.

The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Garrett.

Roll Call Vote: Jeffrey Garrett-yes, Mary Lou Spiggle-yes, Claudia Puckette-yes, Kenny Gobble-yes, Ron Coleman-yes

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With no further business, the EDA meeting adjourned at 7:41p.m.

Christy Torrence
Interim Clerk of Council

Dr. Jeffrey Garrett, Chairman