Planning Commission Meeting—June 2nd, 2022
Director of Planning and Economic Development's Monthly Report

Events in <u>April:</u>

April 1st: *Career Expo at Central High School*
April 7th: *RSDC DEQ Solar Stormwater Memo Call*
April 7th: *Solar Facilities Committee Meeting*
April 7th: *Planning Commission Meeting*
April 11th: *VA DMO Spring Meet-Up at Craddock Terry Hotel, Lynchburg, VA*
April 12th: *PTO (Funeral)/WFH (Work from Home)*
April 13th: *Virtual Meeting with CRC, Tony Matthews, and Local Investor*
April 14th: *Board of Supervisors Meeting*
April 18th: *Community Needs—Transportation Workgroup*
April 18th: *Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting in Kenbridge, VA*
April 19th: *Virtual Meeting with DEQ, VEDP, CRC, and Local Investor*
April 19th: *Site Visits at Vacant/Blighted Buildings in the Town of Kenbridge, VA with Tony Matthews*
April 19th: ***One (1) year anniversary with the County***
April 20th: *Commonwealth Regional Council Meeting in Farmville, VA*
April 21st: *Relentless Modernization: The Future of Digital County Government Webinar*
April 22nd: *Site Visit with VA Housing, CRC, Smyth Properties, and Tony Matthews to review properties in which Smyth Properties received funding for housing*
April 25th: *One Path to AICP Overview Webinar*
April 25th: *In Office Meeting with VDOT*
April 25th: *In Office Meeting with VDOT and CUP applicant*
April 26th: *Virginia Agriculture Development Officers (VADO) Meeting in Richmond, VA*
April 27th: *In Office Meeting with Tracy, Buck and the Foleys*
April 28th: *Chamber of Commerce Member Meeting at Marino's*
April 29th: *VGA Marketing Committee Meeting (virtual)*
April 29th: *In Office Citizen Broadband Advisory Committee Meeting*

Planning Commission

- Planning Commission mtg held on April 7th, 2022
- CUP 1-22: Whitehead Personal Service Business (Beauty Salon) was recommended unanimously for approval to the Board of Supervisors.
    - Summary of Planning Commission vote with recommended conditions provided for the Conditional Use Permit Public Hearing. (Full application available for review, if requested).
    - The Planning Commission showed an overwhelming support for small businesses/entrepreneurs, since they are imperative to aid in the boost of the diverse economy of Lunenburg County.
- No Planning Commission meeting scheduled for the month of May.

Broadband

- 911 Fiber Buildout
    - BCS has completed almost all of the boring and conduit placement along the fiber route.
    - Awaiting completion of MR work from Dominion.

Broadband

- 911 Fiber Buildout
    - BCS has completed almost all of the boring and conduit placement along the fiber route.
    - Awaiting completion of MR work from Dominion.
    - Once MR work is completed, BCS will proceed with the installation of fiber on Dominion poles, as well as, the underground sections.
    - Minor changes were made to the project design to create a more direct path for conduit, as well as, placing handhold boxes in various locations to assist with the ease of pulling fiber, once the project is at that stage.
    - Blake, BCS, and Rob Williams coordinated when the fiber is run how it will be handled at the Commissioner of Revenue/Treasurer's Office.
    - Notified Waverly Estates of when BCS would be working in close proximity to their facility to ensure there is not any interference with their operations.
- Kinex Last Mile Broadband Project—Tobacco Commission Grant
    - Completion date is June 6, 2022, which is set-forth by the Tobacco Commission
        - Confirmed with Kinex that the project will be completed by that date.
    - Additional reimbursement voucher has not been received to date.
    - Handhold boxes have arrived from Mexico, so fiber coiled on orange safety cones will but buried.
    - Continuing to conduct client installs following the interest received from the mass mailer sent by Kinex.
- VATI
    - Payment delivered to Kinex for materials received for this project
    - 2023 VATI Input Session Virtual Meetings held
    - Provided citizens a copy of the passings map for the VATI project
    - Actual work on this project has not begun.
        - Completion of the Tobacco Commission grant will occur first, then Kinex will proceed with the RDOF and VATI project(s)
- Citizen Broadband Advisory Committee Meeting
    - Held on Friday, April 29th, 2022 at 4 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Lunenburg County Administration Office.
    - Composed of George Smith, Patricia Harper-Tunley, and Neal Fogg
    - Provided the status of the 911 Fiber Buildout (specifications as to why this is needed), Kinex Last Mile Broadband Project, and VATI grant.
    - Provided the passings map for the VATI grant.

Solar

- Dogwood Lane Solar
    - The Virginia Shared Solar Program requires the project to be located on a single parcel. The Developers have combined the parcels, so it is comprised of a single parcel, at this time.

    - The application will be amended to reflect the reduction from two (2) parcels to one (1) parcel.
    - Provided Local Forester for Virginia Department of Forestry contact information for Developers, as well as, land owner to discuss the requirements pertaining to the cost-share funds that were involved when the parcel was cleared in the past 5-7 years.
    - Financial negotiations
- Laurel Branch Solar
    - Report on application completeness/compliance completed by the Berkley Group—provided to County Attorney, Assistant County Attorney, and Solar Facilities Committee.
        - No objections noted.
    - Provided Dominion with a letter stating the points of non-compliance and/or deficiencies noted in the report from the Berkley Group, the preliminary review summary from VDOT, and the requirement for the conduction of another Community Meeting.
        - Negative feedback was received pertaining to the "science fair"/walk around style Community Meeting, which was held on March 17, 2022.
- 6th Street Solar 2, LLC.
    - Contacted pertaining to application status as they have worked out the interconnection issues.
    - Advised the applicant that they would have to reapply because they official withdrew their application.

Other Activities

- Assisted with Economic Development prospects in the Town of Kenbridge and Town of Victoria.
- Site visit with VA Housing, CRC, Tony Matthews, and Smyth Properties at the locations where they will be placing apartments.
- Met with VDOT on a CUP application
- Met with VDOT on Construction Traffic Management Plan
- Aided citizens with CUP application and discussed the need for CUP application with citizens
- Completed registration with VA 811 (Miss Utility)
- Participated in Steps Community Needs Transportation Workshop
- Reviewed site map for new website
- Assisted with cell tower recertification
- Working with Tony Matthews on the purchase of additional acreage for the Lunenburg Commerce Center
- Elected Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce through the remainder of the current term (November 2022)
- Submitted in-kind pay request for the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

UPCOMING dates of interest:

May 5th: *Go Virginia Region 3: All Hands-on Meeting, The Prizery in South Boston, VA*
May 6th: *Virginia Crossroads Meeting at Red Hill—Patrick Henry Home*
May 11th: *2022 VDOT Coordinating Transportation and Land Use Forum*
May 11th: *Student Government Day*
May 12th: *Virginia's Growth Alliance Board Meeting in South Hill, VA*
May 12th: *Board of Supervisors Meeting*
May 18th: *Commonwealth Regional Council Meeting in Farmville, VA*
May 22nd through May 28th: *PTO (Vacation in Garden City, SC)*
May 30th: *Memorial Day—Office Closed*
June 4th: *Victoria Fire and Rescue's Truck and Tractor Pull (Pullin' in the Park)*
June 20th: *Juneteenth Holiday Observed—Office Closed*
June 22nd through June 24th: *Certified Zoning Administrator Training in Charlottesville, VA*

"Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out."
-Robert Collier

Planning Commission Meeting—June 2nd, 2022
Director of Planning and Economic Development's Monthly Report

Events in <u>May:</u>

May 2nd: *Met with Liz Hamlett to discuss Enterprise Zone Incentives*
May 3rd: *Virtual Meeting with Dominion to discuss Laurel Branch Solar*
May 5th: *GO Virginia Region 3—All Hands Meeting—The Prizery, South Boston*
May 6th: *Virginia's Crossroads Meeting—Red Hill-Patrick Henry Home, Brookneal*
May 9th: *Hazard Mitigation Plan Update—virtual meeting*
May 10th: *PTO (left at 2:00 p.m.—Dr's appt.—worked remotely)*
May 11th: *2022 VDOT Coordinating Transportation and Land Use Planning Forum—virtual*
May 11th: *Student Government Day (could not participate due to being in VDOT forum all day)*
May 12th: *VGA Board Meeting—Southside PDC, South Hill*
May 12th: *Meeting at the Airport with David Denny (VGA), Danny Bond (Tenant), and Larry Way (Airport Manager)*
May 12th: *BOS Meeting*
May 13th: *Left Early (left at 2:45 p.m.—worked remotely the remainder of the day)*
May 16th through May 19th: *RFC Preliminary Audit*
May 16th: *Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting—VFR Station 7, Kenbridge*
May 17th: *Contact Team Meeting—Rosewood*
May 18th: *Commonwealth Regional Council Meeting—Prince Edward Courthouse, Farmville*
May 19th: *VDOT-Richmond District Locality Day—Maymont Foundation, Richmond*
May 23rd through May 27th: *Vacation in Garden City, SC—worked remotely some*
May 30th: *Memorial Day—Office Closed*

Planning Commission

- No Planning Commission meeting held for the month of May.
- June meeting advertised—submitted on May 13th
- Adjoining property owner notification letters sent on May 12th
- Binders prepared by May 20th, but distributed while TNN on vacation
- Collaborated with B. Tharpe and Assistant County Attorney about the Event Venue Definition and Ordinance
    - Public Hearing will likely occur at the July Planning Commission meeting to allow the committee to provide input prior to the public review.

Broadband

- 911 Fiber Buildout
    - Dominion Make Ready work has been completed.
    - BCS proceeded with the relocation of CenturyLink, Comcast, and Verizon lines.
    - Once the relocation of other communication lines has been completed, then BCS will proceed with the installation of above and below grown fiber.
    - Aided with the removal of a stuck bucket truck in the power line—they were relocating communication lines—VERY THANKFUL FOR THE ASSISTANCE FROM THE TOWN OF VICTORIA!
- Kinex Last Mile Broadband Project—Tobacco Commission Grant
    - Received notice from Kinex that due to the delay in receipt of materials, as well as, receipt of their VDOT permit, they will not be able to complete by June 6th, 2022.

- Requested an extension until September 6th, 2022 from the Tobacco Commission noting the delay in receipt of materials and their VDOT permit.

- VATI/RDOF
  - Answered questions received from the public pertaining to the VATI and RDOF project(s)
  - See below for inquiry on the status of the project, as well as, specifics asked of the Citizen Broadband Advisory Committee
- Citizen Broadband Advisory Committee Meeting
  - Presented the questions posed by the committee to Jim Garrett, Kinex.
  - Received responses for the questions posed.
    - As of 5/3/2022—2 weeks prior, the first 250 miles of the project was put out for bid. They received 5 bids, which were above their original estimates due to inflation. They are attempting to negotiate the costs of labor and materials down.
    - The first year ends 12/31/22; however, an extension can be filed if needed. The engineers are working on the next 250 miles and that will come down a more eastern route through Prince Edward and down into Lunenburg, but there will also be a northeastern portion of Cumberland County that will be built, as well.
    - The entire project is underground. The permits for Prince Edward have been approved and received. The bond for Lunenburg has to be increased (was anticipated to occur the week of May 9th to the 13th). South Hill VDOT residency office usually required a higher bond, which may result in the project being broke down into smaller than usual lengths and phases in order to meet VDOT's requirements.
    - The staging of materials, equipment, etc. was originally going to the be the responsibility of the contractor, who received the bid; however, Kinex is willing to work with the locality since there are citizens willing to offer their land to stage the necessary equipment, materials, etc.
    - The $49.95 price will always be there. It is tough to make financials work, but Kinex is committed to be the friend of the clients and not the gouger. Kinex just instituted new pricing to allow people more choices. They are listed below. Kinex is finishing up changing all of their literature to get this in place:
      - 50x10=$49.95
      - 100x20=$59.95
      - 150x20=$69.95
      - 200x20=$$79.95
      - 300x50=$99.95

Solar

- Dogwood Lane Solar
  - Submitted invoice for third-party review by the Berkley Group, as well as, the costs incurred (advertisements, certified mailings, and first class mailings as of May 9th, 2022
- Laurel Branch Solar
  - Received notice that the 2nd Community Meeting will be held on June 6th, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Kenbridge Town Hall
    - It will be in a presentation style rather than a walk around
- 6th Street Solar 2, LLC.

- Have not heard back from applicant since they were advised that a new application will have to be submitted
  - The project in the town and the one in the county will have to be combined into a single project due to the requirement of one (1) mile between medium and large-scale solar facilities.

- Red Brick Solar
  - Sent third-party invoice for services rendered by the Berkley Group

Other Activities

- Assisted with Economic Development prospects in the Town of Kenbridge and Town of Victoria.
- **CUP application fee for solar changed to $2,500 plus any costs incurred (certified mailings, first class mailings, advertisements, etc.)**
- Collaborated with the Halifax County Chamber of Commerce, who will be participating in discussions with representatives from the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond on having an event for business and community leaders throughout the region
- Received notice that VGA has received $100,000 in grant funds from GO VA for the restart/refresh of the organization
- Received site characterization for Lunenburg Commerce Center, as well as, the Lunenburg-Victoria Industrial Site from VEDP.
- Working on the acquisition of three (3) additional acres for the Lunenburg Commerce Center, so it meets the 100 acre threshold and eligible for state funding for site development
- Attended Lunenburg Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting—missed membership meeting due to being on vacation

UPCOMING dates of interest:

May 27th: *Music in the Park in Victoria—6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.—The Tobacco Road Band*
June 4th: *Kenbridge Farmer's Market—8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*
June 4th: *Victoria Fire and Rescue's Truck and Tractor Pull (Pullin' in the Park)*
June 6th: *Laurel Branch Solar's 2nd Community Meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Kenbridge Town Hall*
June 11th: *Kenbridge Farmer's Market—8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*
June 18th: *Kenbridge Farmer's Market—8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*
June 20th: *Juneteenth Holiday Observed—Office Closed*
June 22nd through June 24th: *Certified Zoning Administrator Training in Charlottesville, VA*
June 25th: *Kenbridge Farmer's Market—8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*
July 4th: *Independence Day Observed—Office Closed*
July 9th: *Town of Kenbridge's July Jubilee—10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.—Kenbridge Town Park*

"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."
-Milton Berle