

Minutes  
Board of Supervisors  
Work Session  
June 5, 2023

Members Present: Keith Weakley, Chairman At-Large  
D. Keith Guzy, Jr., District 1  
Mark Stroupe, District 3  
Larry Foltz, District 4  
Jeff Vaughan, District 5

Members Absent: Allen Louderback, District 2

Staff Present: Amity Moler, County Administrator  
Regina Harner, Assistant County Administrator  
Tracy Clatterbuck, Zoning Administrator  
Kimberly Donohoe, Executive Assistant  
Caleb Routhier, County Attorney

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Keith Weakley called to order the work session of the Page County Board of Supervisors on June 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Supervisors Room located in the Page County Government Center, 103 South Court Street, Luray, VA 22835. The call to order was followed by a Moment of Silence and the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**Public Hearings:**

**Disposable Plastic Bag Tax:**

The public hearing on the proposed ordinance was advertised as follows:

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF PAGE, VIRGINIA  
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 105 (TAXATION)  
TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE GOVERNING  
A DISPOSABLE PLASTIC BAG TAX  
TO THE PAGE COUNTY CODE**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:** That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Page, Virginia shall hold a public hearing on June 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Government Center, 103 South Court Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Luray, Virginia 22835, for the purpose of a public hearing on the proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 105 (Taxation), to add Article XXIV (Disposable Plastic Bag Tax) to the Page County Code.

The full text of the proposed amendment to the Ordinance may be reviewed and inspected at the office of the County Administrator, 103 South Court Street, Suite F, Luray, Virginia 22835.

The public is invited to attend this public hearing to express their views thereon.

The Notice is given pursuant to § 15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

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Chairman Weakley opened the public hearing on the proposed ordinance at 7:01 p.m.

Amity Moler, County Administrator, presented the proposed plastic bag tax to the Board. The tax is five cents per bag, with four cents going to the county and one cent to the retailer. The funds collected must be used for environmental cleanup, education programs designed to reduce environmental waste, and mitigating pollution and litter. The funds would be directed to the Battle Creek Landfill. If approved, the ordinance would go into effect on September 1, 2023.

Public Comments on the Public Hearing:

Susan Corbett: Susan applauded the Board for considering the tax because plastic is never completely gone. It took about a year to remember to use a reusable shopping bag, but it is important to stop using plastic bags. She relayed a story where she was with her son in a beautiful, wild location and there was a plastic bag hung on a fence. Susan wished we could use another word, rather than tax, because people do not like that word.

Rodney Rooks: Rodney noted that as a taxpayer, he is tired of paying taxes, it does not matter what it is. He hopes the ordinance is not passed.

Lucia King: Lucia supports the proposal because plastic bags have proved to be an environmental hazard for all of us, humans and wildlife. She was a VDOT road volunteer for 14 years and has seen a lot of litter and plastic bags. Lucia went on to outline three options to eliminate plastic bag use and opportunities to spend the collected funds if the Board approved the plastic bag tax as it stands at five cents.

Ken Jemielity: After Ken reviewed how he uses disposable plastic bags, he asked if there was a refund option for those that recycle.

Jane Mangum: Jane moved from Montgomery County, Maryland, where they instituted a plastic bag tax in 2012. She noted a report showed that the tax did reduce the use of the bags. She supports the tax but wants to make sure we know where the money is going. Jane discussed how the plastic bags fly around at the Battle Creek landfill and how pleased she is that the new manager is taking steps to prevent this. She noted that there are programs that collect plastic, and the county should do more to recycle the bags.

Chairman Weakley closed the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

After discussion, the Board decided to postpone voting on the proposed ordinance until the June 20, 2023, Regular Meeting, to gather additional information.

**Motion:** Supervisor Vaughan moved to table the proposed ordinance until the June 20, 2023, Regular Meeting. Supervisor Guzy seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Aye: Weakley, Guzy, Stroupe, Foltz, Vaughan. Nay: None. Absent: Louderback.

**VDOT Secondary Six Year Plan:**

The public hearing on the proposed Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) plan was advertised as follows:

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**PUBLIC HEARING  
2023-2024 THROUGH 2028-2029  
SIX-YEAR IMPROVEMENT  
PLAN  
PAGE COUNTY**

The Virginia Department of Transportation and the Board of Supervisors of Page County, in accordance with Section 33.1-70.01 of the Code of Virginia, will conduct a joint public hearing at Page County Government Center, at 7:00 p.m. on June 5, 2023. The purpose of this public hearing is to receive public comment on the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2023-2024 through 2028-2029 in Page County, and on the proposed Secondary System Construction Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Copies of the proposed plan and budget may be reviewed at the Office of the Residency Administrator, located at 3536 North Valley Pike, Harrisonburg, VA or at the Page County Administrator's Office, located at 103 S. Court Street, Luray, VA.

All projects in the Secondary Six-Year Plan that are eligible for federal funds will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which documents how Virginia will obligate federal transportation funds.

Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this hearing should contact the Virginia Department of Transportation at (540) 434-2587. Persons wishing to speak at this public hearing should contact the Page County Board of Supervisors at (540) 743-4142.

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Chairman Weakley opened the public hearing on the proposed plan at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Don Komara, VDOT Residency Administrator, presented the VDOT Secondary Six-Year Plan to the Board. Basically, it is a gravel road to hard surface plan with a goal of building one road a year. The plan involves completing Island Ford Road, with an estimated cost of \$249,986. Also, included in the Plan is improvements to McDaniel

Lane, South Page Valley Road, Mt. Carmel Road, Old Stanley Road, Ida Loop Road, Springfield Road, and Hulse Road.

In addition to the reconstruction of roads, on State Route 611, Farmview Road, the bridge crew replaced the timber deck bridge with concrete slabs. Next week, VDOT will be doing the same thing on Ida Road, which will be closed for approximately six weeks and the timber deck will be replaced with concrete slabs. On Lucas Hollow Road, VDOT is adding a box culvert. VDOT is also mowing and hope to be done by July 4, 2023. They are also working on road patching on Marksville Road and conducting a speed study on Hawksbill Park Road. The big asphalt project this year is on Route 340 from Springfield Road to the county line. VDOT has also been adding signs at hidden intersections.

Public Comments on the Public Hearing:

Ken Jemielity: Asked if it is standard procedure to put a passing lane on a bridge that has no shoulders? He expressed concern about the bridge near his house.

Chairman Weakley closed the public hearing at 7:52 p.m.

**Motion:** Supervisor Guzy moved that the Page County Board of Supervisors accept the plan as presented by VDOT. Supervisor Vaughan seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Aye: Guzy, Stroupe, Foltz, Vaughan, Weakley. Nay: None. Absent: Louderback.

Update on the Intersection Improvement at US-211/340 – Big Oak Road:

Mr. Tim Gregory, VDOT project manager, presented an update on the intersection improvement of a traffic signal at Big Oak Road and US 211 West. Construction is expected to start in the spring of 2024. Mr. Gregory explained that VDOT is installing a displaced left signal, which will allow for shorter wait times for vehicles making a left turn. The project has a budget of \$3.3 million.

Review of Special Use Permit Request – Margaret Osborne:

Tracy Clatterback, Zoning Administrator, informed the Board that Margaret L. Osborne filed an application for a Special Use Permit to operate a dog breeding business located at 460 Lake Arrowhead Road, Luray, VA. The parcel is identified by tax map number 54-A-54I, contains 28.17 acres, and is currently zoned as Woodland-Conservation (W-C). The property is improved with multiple single-family detached dwellings, numerous farm buildings, and an existing 15x30 dog kennel.

She requested the Board hold a public hearing for the special use permit at the June 20, 2023, regular meeting and direct staff to provide adequate notice of such hearing in accordance with Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia.

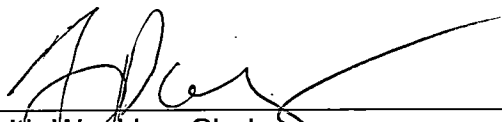
**Motion:** Supervisor Guzy moved that the Page County Board of Supervisors hold a public hearing on the special use permit application at the June 20, 2023, regular meeting, and direct staff to provide adequate notice of such hearing in accordance with the Code of Virginia §15.2-2204. Supervisor Vaughan seconded and the motion carried

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by a vote of 5-0. Aye: Stroupe, Foltz, Vaughan, Weakley, Guzy. Nay: None. Absent: Louderback.

**Adjourn:** 8:05 p.m.

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Weakley adjourned the meeting.



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Keith Weakley, Chairman



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Amity Moler, County Administrator