

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
MARCH 16, 2005**

The Fauquier County Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 16, 2005, beginning at 7:00 P.M. in the second floor conference room of the Warren Green Building, 10 Hotel Street, Warrenton, Virginia. Those members present were Mr. Jim Stone, Chairman; Mrs. Ann McCarty, Vice Chairman; Mr. John Meadows, Secretary; Mr. Richard Robison; and Mr. Holder Trumbo. Also present at the meeting were Ms. Elizabeth Cook, Mr. Kevin Burke and Mrs. Rebecca Kauffman.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN – Fiscal Years 2006-2015 – The CIP lists proposed projects for the School Division and General County Government, which includes Library, General Services, Parks & Recreation, Extension Office and the SPCA. Included within the document, for example, is also a summary of each project recommended for consideration, along with justifications for projects not recommended.

Mr. Stone opened the public hearing.

Mr. Dennis Hunsberger, Cedar Run District, stated the new intake center for the animal shelter is desperately needed, particularly in light of the recent events in Spotsylvania County, and the sooner construction begins the better. He indicated funding should be dispersed as soon as possible but no later than FY 2007.

Mr. Brian Tippie, staff lead for the CIP, stated the animal shelter is set to receive funding in FY 2007. He noted that a spreadsheet was presented to the Planning Commission displaying the most up-to-date version of its CIP recommendations. Mr. Tippie highlighted the changes calling attention to the absence of funding allocated for the proposed storage facility and Rappahannock River access. He explained these items have been intentionally passed over, at this time, pending resolution of related issues.

Mr. Bob Sinclair, Scott District, stated he is concerned about the placement of funding for school related issues and suggested it would be ill-advised to move funding for the Southern Fauquier elementary school out three (3) years. He said numbers indicate the current schools will be overloaded before the funding comes through.

Ms. Sally Murray, Center District, stated she is concerned with the overcrowding at the Southern Fauquier elementary schools and suggested it is unrealistic to think new buildings will not be necessary until FY 2014. She continued she is equally distressed about the inundation of the Center District elementary schools as they are already receiving trailers to accommodate the overflow. She mentioned a tour she and Delegate Athey took of the schools and the embarrassment she felt at children being taught in rooms so small they could not even fit desks. She urged the Planning Commissioners to visit the schools and base their decisions not on what is fiscally possible but on what is needed.

In that there were no further speakers, Mr. Stone closed the public hearing.

Mr. Meadows questioned whether the Planning Commission should move on this before visiting the schools.

Mr. Stone responded the Capital Review Committee (CRC) visited the schools and worked carefully with the numbers that were provided. He stated while there is likely a need for new schools in the not so distant future, the Committee was constrained by fiscal limitations. He said this year's cycle of the CIP is complete, but the Planning Commission should visit the schools before next year's cycle begins. He added if the financial guidelines are to be broken, it will have to be at a political level as opposed to a planning level as he does not feel, as a Planning Commissioner, he has the power to ignore the fiscal limitations.

Mr. Robison noted the CRC, not the Planning Commission, actually recommended moving back funding for the schools. He commented it is likely that the CIP will have to be reworked several times throughout the next few years.

Mr. Stone stated next year even more new schools will come into the picture and the CIP will be have to be reconstructed.

Mr. Meadows stated he is aware that right now the focus is on FY 2006 but said it should be noted that there are things, which are not due to receive funding until FY 2012-2015, that may need to be moved forward in FY 2007.

Mr. Trumbo concurred with Mr. Meadows and added he hopes next year the Planning Commission will visit the schools before acting on the CIP.

Mr. Stone questioned whether the SPCA should be accommodated sooner.

Mr. Tippie stated FY 2007 was likely the earliest it could even begin to come to fruition.

Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Robison, moved to forward to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation of approval.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Tippie announced he will compile the CIP with the Planning Commission's recommendations for its review and signature before the document goes before the Board of Supervisors.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

A tape recording of the meeting, as well as the associated staff report and documents, will be retained on file in the Department of Community Development's Planning Office, 10 Hotel Street, Warrenton, Virginia, for a period of one year.