

MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

JULY 30, 2001

The Fauquier County Planning Commission held a Continued Meeting on Monday, July 30, 2001, beginning at 1:00 P.M. in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the County Court and Office Building, 40 Culpeper Street, Warrenton, Virginia. Those members present were Mr. Bob Sinclair, Chairman; Mr. Richard Robison, Vice Chairman and Mr. Serf Guerra, Secretary. Also present at the meeting were Mr. Carolyn Bowen and Mrs. Paulette Dolan, Clerk.

DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER AND RAPPAHANNOCK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACQUIRE LAND IN THE SOUTHERN FAUQUIER AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT FOR AN EXPRESS FEEDER DISTRIBUTION LINE

Dominion Virginia Power and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative have filed a request to acquire land in the Southern Fauquier Agricultural and Forestal District for an express feeder distribution line.

Representatives from Dominion Virginia Power and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative presented their request to the Planning Commission at a work session on July 26, 2001, and the Commission postponed action until today.

Mr. Guerra approached the blackboard and addressed the Planning Commission. He drew the existing towers and the proposed line. He showed the 19' line above the existing towers to be much less intrusive and more economical than that suggested by one of the impacted landowners. Further, Mr. Guerra recommended the Commission to forward to the Board of Supervisors as approved.

Mr. Sinclair stated it would appear this keeps everything in the same avenue. You have the high tension stacks up there, and now you are adding, with the inclusion of 19 feet, another line, so we are keeping everything, essentially, in the same right-of-way. It is my view that one way or another it is going to be done. Do we want to create another right-of-way that goes through farmland or around the edge of farmland or do we want to propose that it continue on and go in the existing right-of-way.

Mr. Robison stated that he agrees with Mr. Sinclair's comments. He stated that his concern is not having citizen input on the application. He stated that some people stated at the last meeting that they were not notified about this.

Mr. Sinclair asked Mr. Robison if he supports the content, and Mr. Robison replied yes, that he supports it from the standpoint of 19 feet along an existing right-of-way rather than a new 40 ft. right-of-way. Mr. Robison further stated that he is opposed to it from a standpoint that we don't have citizen input and not all property owners have been notified, that we need to have a public hearing.

Mr. Ben Jones, attorney representing the applicants, stated that he will agree to a public hearing.

Mr. Sinclair stated that we are saying that our recommendation would be that it exists in the right-of-way, but we also feel strongly that there should be an opportunity for the citizens to participate in the public hearing.

Mr. Jones stated that he would like to have a positive recommendation on the proposal from the Planning Commission.

Mr. Guerra stated that what is important is that this not disturb the area any more than is absolutely needed, and that he does not disagree with having a public hearing.

On motion made by Mr. Guerra and seconded by Mr. Sinclair, it was moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that they hold a public hearing on the request of Dominion Virginia Power and Rappahannock Electric to acquire land in the Southern Fauquier Agricultural and Forestal District along the existing right-of-way. The Commission felt that acquiring an additional 19 feet along the existing corridor would be the best alternative to provide additional power to the Orlean area. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M.

A tape recording of the meeting is on file in the Department of Community Development for a period of one year.