



TOWN OF HAYMARKET TOWN COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING ~ MINUTES ~

David Leake, Mayor
<http://www.townofhaymarket.org/>

15000 Washington St
Haymarket, VA 20169

Tuesday, September 23, 2014

8:00 PM

Council Chambers

A Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Haymarket, VA, was held this evening in the Board Room, Commencing at 8:00 PM

Mayor David Leake called the meeting to order.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Councilwoman Pam Swinford: Present, Councilman Matt Caudle: Absent, Councilman Chris Morris: Present, Councilman Kurt Woods: Absent, Councilman Joe Pasanello: Present, Vice Mayor Steve Aitken: Present, Mayor David Leake: Present.

3. Agenda Items

A. Dominion Virginia Power 230KV Transmission Lines

The Mayor invited Jim Napoli, President of Somerset HOA and Chair of the Haymarket Planning Commission, Bob Weir. Unfortunately, Mr. Napoli was not able to attend this evening.

Bob Weir, Chair, Haymarket Planning Commission

Mr. Weir and the Planning Commission plan to adopt a draft report at the November meeting. Dominion has assured the Planning Commission that will not submit the proposed route to the State Corporation Commission until late November. It appears to him that the sole need for these lines is for the Amazon Data Center.

Mr. Napoli provided an email that was distributed to the Council prior to the meeting. It reads as follows:

Mayor Leake: I wanted to reach out and express the support of Somerset Crossing for a resolution of the Haymarket Township Council opposing the current planned route of high voltage power lines by Dominion Power. As you know, I am the President of the Somerset Crossing HOA, and our residents are outraged by the current proposal that would run the power lines through protected wetlands and within a stone's throw from our homes. Moreover, we do not like the idea of Dominion Power double or even triple stacking the power lines that currently run through historic Haymarket. Our community was planned and built to take advantage of nature the historic Township that we border.

We have already met with Dominion Power once, and are planning another meeting in October. We have also met with Supervisor Stewart, and feel that we have PWC's attention on this issue. In addition, we will be meeting with State Senator Black and State Delegate Marshall later this week. Delegate Marshall is also setting a meeting for us with VDOT to discuss right of way issues. Finally, on the political front, we will be approaching VA leadership on the Hill to the extent necessary.

As a result of these meetings, it appears that a direct route down 66 is emerging as the "preferred" route of the County and the State. Somerset Crossing would certainly support this routing of the power lines, particularly if it were underground inasmuch as the 66 option would have minimal impact to homeowners in that area and would not be routed through protected wetlands. Dominion has placed this alternate route "on the table" and we will be

exploring it with Dominion at our next meeting.

Another option that has been suggested is to run the power lines through Haymarket underground. Under this approach, Dominion and their "mystery" client would be approached to help fund a dual purpose plan; namely, the construction of the power line and the renovation of Haymarket. Of course, this would take an act of your body to accomplish, but I thought it was worth mentioning.

We have also heard from two very important and influential conservation groups; namely, the Sierra Club and the Piedmont Environmental Council. The Sierra Club would like to feature our story in an upcoming newsletter and PEC has discussed with us how they may be of assistance. In addition to these groups, we have heard from other conservation groups who have expressed an initial interest in our plight.

There is much work ahead, but we are prepared to embrace that work and get the job done. I hope that you find this information hopeful and that the Township will take action against the current Dominion Power power line route.

Move to adopt RESOLUTION #20140923-1 Non-Support for Proposed Dominion Power Transmission and Distribution Lines

WHEREAS, the Town of Haymarket Town Council was presented with a proposed installation of Dominion Power transmission and distribution lines through the Town and surrounding areas at our Monday, August 25, 2014 Work Session; and

WHEREAS, the Council has sought citizen input, established working relationships with elected officials throughout the County and the state to ascertain their stance on the proposal, and supported our Planning Commission in their efforts to conduct a public input session at their meeting on September 8, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that it is of the utmost importance to inform residents of what this body deems to be the best response at this point in the process in deliberating over the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the importance of economic development opportunities for the County and the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Council values our citizens' concerns with regard to our Town's view shed, the effect on our property values, and most importantly the effects on the health, safety, and welfare of our residents and surrounding neighbors from the proposed transmission and distribution lines;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Haymarket **does not support the proposed** location of the Dominion Power transmission and distribution lines along the railroad tracks for the following reasons:

- The proposed alignment degrades our historic town and is inconsistent with the Town's plans and investments;
- The "double stack" distribution line along Washington Street would detract from the historic nature of the Town and is not acceptable;
- The proposed alignment has a direct effect on the environment by running through the Town's Conservation District, the state designated Resource Protection Area and the 100 Year Flood Plain.
- The proposed alignment creates a negative environmental impact to North Fork Creek and the

- already distressed Chesapeake Bay Watershed;
- The proposed alignment will have a negative impact on the property values of our residents and will create an unfavorable view shed throughout the Town;
 - The proposed project creates a potential unhealthy environment and threatens the health, safety and welfare of our residents and surrounding neighbors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Haymarket will continue to work with Dominion Power, provided the corporation continues to show a good faith effort in acknowledging and addressing citizens' concerns and change the proposed alignment of the transmission line while at the same time making an effort to avoid creating adverse impacts to other surrounding communities as the current proposed projects egregiously affects the Town's residents and surrounding neighbors.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Pam Swinford, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Joe Pasanello, Councilman
AYES:	Pam Swinford, Chris Morris, Joe Pasanello, Steve Aitken
ABSENT:	Matt Caudle, Kurt Woods

B. Motion to Adjourn

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Aitken, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Pam Swinford, Councilwoman
AYES:	Pam Swinford, Chris Morris, Joe Pasanello, Steve Aitken
ABSENT:	Matt Caudle, Kurt Woods

Submitted:

Approved:



Jennifer Prell, Town Clerk

David Leake, Mayor