

Note from Clerk: These minutes are written as the agenda was presented. Some votes may appear out of order.

SMYTH COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Thursday, March 23, 2023

The Smyth County Planning Commission met in their regular meeting on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. in the Smyth County Office Building.

Commissioners Present: Hazel Wagoner, Chairperson, Atkins District; Graham Davidson Jr., Vice-Chairman, Chilhowie District; David Spence, Saltville District; Tony Dean, Royal Oak District; Paul Shepherd, Rye Valley District; and Robert Campbell, North Fork District

Commissioners Absent: Park District, Vacancy

Staff Present: Becca Creasy

At approximately 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Wagoner called the meeting to order.

Adoption of Agenda: Mrs. Wagoner opened the floor for motions to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Spence made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Shepherd, with the following vote recorded.

Vote: 6 yeas	Campbell, Davidson Jr., Dean, Shepherd, Spence, and Wagoner
1 absent	Park District Vacancy

Appointment Update: Ms. Creasy notified Mr. Spence of the Board's approval to amend his reappointment for a two-year term instead of four years as he requested.

Minutes: Mr. Spence made a motion to approve the minutes of the Thursday, January 26, 2023, meeting. Mr. Dean seconded the motion, and the following vote was recorded.

Vote: 6 yeas	Campbell, Davidson Jr., Dean, Shepherd, Spence, and Wagoner
1 absent	Park District Vacancy

Comp Plan Update: Ms. Creasy informed the Commission of the remarkable participation of individuals in all eight of the focus groups which were held on two separate days (March 9 and 23). She explained Hill Studio will incorporate the focus groups' comments into a draft and meet with each group again in May to review.

Citizens' Time: No citizens were present.

Other Business: None.

Questions/Comments for the Commissioners: None.

Recess: At approximately 6:35 p.m. Mrs. Wagoner recessed the Planning Commission's meeting until their 7:00 p.m. public hearing.

JOINT PUBLIC HEARING WITH BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Members Present: Charlie Atkins, Chairman, Atkins District; Lori Deel, Vice-Chairperson, Rye Valley District; Roscoe Call, Saltville District (electronically); Kris Ratliff, Park District; Phil Stevenson, North Fork District; Michael Sturgill, Chilhowie District; and Courtney Widener, Royal Oak District

Board Members Absent: None

Commissioners Present: Hazel Wagoner, Chairperson, Atkins District; Graham Davidson Jr., Vice-Chairman, Chilhowie District; David Spence, Saltville District; Tony Dean, Royal Oak District; Paul Shepherd, Rye Valley District; and Robert Campbell, North Fork District

Commissioners Absent: Park District, Vacancy

Staff Present: Shawn Utt, County Administrator; Lisa Richardson, Assistant County Administrator - Operations; Clegg Williams, Assistant County Administrator - Development; Scot Farthing, County Attorney; Becca Creasy and Auna Louthian, Administrative Assistants

Others: Stephanie Porter Nichols of Smyth County News and Smyth County Sheriff's Office deputy.

3/23/2023 7:06 PM Charles Atkins, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and Hazel Wagoner, Chair of the Planning Commission, called the joint public hearing to order. Shawn Utt read the advertisement as placed in the Smyth County News and Messenger.

NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARINGS

In compliance with the Code of Virginia of 1950, and amendments thereto, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors and the Smyth County Planning Commission will conduct multiple public hearings to consider Amendments to the Smyth County Code of Ordinances as described below. The Board of Supervisors and the Smyth County Planning Commission shall hear comments from citizens concerning these amendments to the Smyth County Code of Ordinances:

- 1) To consider an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to exempt Accessory Buildings proposed on a vacant tract of land from obtaining a special use permit when the adjoining tract has a principle building and both tracts are in single ownership. Also being considered are increased setback and size limitation requirements for accessory buildings meeting the proposed exemption.
- 2) To consider adopting an addition to the Zoning Ordinance to allow Solar Energy Facilities by Special Use Permit in the A, A/R, C, and I Districts and to amend Article IV to include additional regulations for Solar Energy Facilities.

The public hearing shall be held on Thursday, March 23, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard, in the Board Room of the Smyth County Office Building, 121 Bagley Circle, Marion Virginia, to receive comments on the above-described amendments.

All interested persons may express their views by emailing alouthian@smythcounty.org prior to the scheduled public hearing. Written comments may also be mailed or delivered to County Administrator, 121 Bagley Circle, Suite 100, Marion VA 24354, or by fax to (276) 783-9314. All emails, written comments and faxes must be received by 2:00pm on Thursday, March 23, 2023.

A copy of the proposed amendments being considered are on file in the County Administrator's and Zoning Administrator's offices located at 121 Bagley Circle, Marion Virginia or online at www.smythcounty.org for public review.

In compliance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in these public hearings should contact Clegg Williams, ADA Coordinator at (276) 706-8315, at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the public hearings.

BY ORDER OF THE SMYTH COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS AND THE PLANNING COMMISSION