

June 6, 2023

IDA Board Meetings held on the second Tuesday of the Month beginning at 6:00 PM

100 Athletic Field Rd, Lawrenceville, VA 23868

- **Roanoke River Regional Business Park (RRRBP)**
- Work continues on the Microsoft project. The timeline for opening has not been announced.  
2.0
- **85 Business Park in Alberta.** Work continues on selecting a contractor
- **Sledge & Barkley** I along with our engineers are reviewing the final stages of the engineering. We were awarded a 150,000 grant from the Virginia Housing Authority to be utilized for construction. Tessie Bacon and I are working on the steps needed for the management of the property. Upon completion of the ongoing feasibility study we will be in much better position to reapply for the IRF Grant through DHCD I met with members of the Lawrenceville Town Council to discuss logistics for the Sledge Project and to update them on a time line. It was a very collaborative conversation. Ann Williams asked about parking and I assured her that we have taken that into consideration and that I will provide Lawrenceville with a detailed response. Buck Brockwell provided LaVern with excellent ideas on a project she is working on.
- **Strategic Plan Joint Meeting** On Wednesday May 24 The Board of Supervisors and the IDA Board of Directors met in a joint meeting for our Strategic Plan Workshop. During this meeting Paige Pollard with Commonwealth Preservation Group facilitated the discussion on best practices to collectively and effectively accomplish economic development. She spoke of the stakeholder survey and to the fact that there was confusion as to the roles of the IDA and Economic Development. She explained the state statutes and that there were differences in the roles and that there were a majority of areas where the roles were the same. It was a very good meeting which included an honest and open conversation. Everyone agreed that communication was key. It was agreed that Executive Director Michael Dotti will provide quarterly reports to the Board of Supervisors. Working groups will be developed for both Boards to share experiences and information on projects. The IDA Chairperson Gloria Menyweather-Woods made it very clear that Vision 2035 is our guiding document. BOS Chair Dr. Seward and County Administrator Leslie Weddington showed great leadership by making sure that this meeting happened. Dr. Seward allowed Alberta Mayor Robert Hayes, a citizen in attendance to speak. Mayor Hayes along with the Town Council and Town Manager were in attendance. Mayor Hayes provided input and expressed appreciation for the updates and opportunities to interaction with County Officials. Supervisor Welton Tyler summed up the purpose of the meeting by saying in regards to improving Brunswick County “the more people involved the better” It was agreed by everyone in attendance that good communication was the issue. To me the biggest take away was that the Board of Supervisors and the Industrial Development Authority Board are working towards making the County better. This is a big task and working together we can accomplish much.

- **Virginia Consultants Forum** On May 16 & 17 I attended the Virginia Consultants Forum in Virginia Beach. The primary focus of the event is how to make your location attractive to site selectors and to business. Key to this project is making your sites ready to go in the business environment. Quick moving businesses reacting to an ever changing market place do not have the time to wait for utility upgrades, zoning changes, tax incentive discussion all on top of permitting and construction.

## Attracting Site Developers

### Fundamentals

#### ➤ **Utilities-Accuracy**

- ✧ Dealing with Transformer Shortage
- ✧ Cost to extend
- ✧ Who bears cost of infrastructure?
- ✧ Utility Incentives
- ✧ Capacity and Line Sizes
- ✧ Redundancies-in case of utility disruption.

#### ✧ Transportation costs

#### ✧ **Site Readiness**

- ✧ Identify Sites
- ✧ Environmental Mitigation Cost/Timeline
- ✧ Permitting requirements
- ✧ Encumbrances
- ✧ Plan against issues-endanger species/ conservation.

#### ➤ **Labor base**

- ✧ Education for new skills
- ✧ Employer training programs
- ✧ Prioritize Talent Attraction

- **Dominion Energy** will be undertaking site cleanup at the Western Mill Pump Station this upcoming month. This will include EPA approved herbicides, woody plant trimming. This work is generally limited to Dominions right of way.