

**FLUVANNA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Carysbrook Performing Arts Center  
8880 James Madison Hwy, Fork Union, VA 23055  
February 7, 2024  
Regular Meeting 5:00pm**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chris Fairchild, Cunningham District  
Mike Goad, Fork Union District  
Timothy M. Hodge, Palmyra District  
Tony O’Brien, Rivanna District *(entered at 5:08pm)*  
John M. (Mike) Sheridan, Columbia District

**ABSENT:** None.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Eric M. Dahl, County Administrator  
Kelly Harris, Assistant County Administrator  
Dan Whitten, County Attorney  
Caitlin Solis, Clerk for the Board of Supervisors

**1 - CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, & MOMENT OF SILENCE**

At 5:06pm, Chair Fairchild called to order the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2024. After the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed.

**3 - ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

- Mr. Dahl asked to add A Resolution to Oppose Senate Bill 697, and the Amended FY25 Budget Calendar to new business.

<b>MOTION:</b>	Accept the Agenda, for the February 7, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors, as amended.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O’Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>				Second	Motion
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

**4 - COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Dahl reported on the following topics:

Happy belated birthday Mr. Hodge!

- February 3<sup>rd</sup>

Announcements and Updates - New Employees

- Brittany Baxter, E911, Communications Officer, Started February 5th

February is teen dating violence awareness month

- In the United States, up to 19% of teens experience sexual or physical dating violence, about half face stalking or harassment, and as many as 65% report being psychologically abused
- Signs of teen dating violence can include Telling a partner who they can or cannot hang out with or follow on social media, Looking through messages on a partners' phone without permission, Inconsistent school, attendance, Sudden request to change a class schedule, Constant worrying about making a partner angry, Joking about a partner's violent behavior or temper

Next BOS Meetings

Day	Date	Time	Purpose	Location
Wed	Feb 21	5:00 PM	Budget Work Session – FCPS FY25 Adopted Budget Presentation	Performing Arts Center
Wed	Feb 21	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Performing Arts Center
Wed	Feb 28	7:00 PM	BOS Budget Work Session – County Agency Briefs	Performing Arts Center

**5 - PUBLIC COMMENTS #1**

At 5:13pm, Chair Fairchild opened the first round of Public Comments.

- Patricia Beers-Block, 103 Island Hill Rd, spoke in favor of the map for the Resolution Designating Off-Leash Trails, Dog Parks, and Dog Exercise Areas. She also spoke in favor of Resolution opposing House Bill 800 and Senate Bill 713 which shifts make ready costs for broadband expansion to electric cooperatives.

With no one else wishing to speak, Chair Fairchild closed the first round of Public Comments at 5:17pm.

<b>MOTION:</b>	Move the Board of Supervisors approve the following Board, Commission, or Committee appointment(s)/reappointments(s):				
<b>BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE</b>	<b>APPOINTEES</b>		<b>APPT/ REAPPT</b>	<b>BEGINS TERM</b>	<b>ENDS TERM</b>
Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA) Advisory Council - Citizen Representative	Allison Pace		Appt	02/07/2024	06/30/2025
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Second			Motion
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

**7 – PRESENTATIONS**

*Blue Ridge Health Department (BRHD) Update* – Ryan McKay, BRDH Health Director

Ryan McKay provided the Board of Supervisors with a Fluvanna County Health Department (FCHD) update including, BRHD and FCHD staff, FCHD services provided, FCHD Clinical data highlights, and FCHD Environmental Health data highlights.

**8 - ACTION MATTERS**

*TJPDC Multi-Jurisdictional Safety Action Plan Letter of Support* – Curtis N. Scarpignato, TJPDC Regional Planner and Sandy Shackelford, AICP, TJPDC Director of Planning & Transportation  
 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Project Background

- U.S. DOT Discretionary Grant Program established in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve safety and help prevent deaths and serious injuries on the nation’s roadways
- Funding is available for both planning and project implementation
- Eligibility for implementation funding is dependent on first adopting a qualifying Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
- TJPDC applied for and was awarded a grant to develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan that will meet eligibility requirements for all six of its member jurisdictions
- Each jurisdiction committed funding to support the local match
- Planning process is being managed regionally by the TJPDC, but priority countermeasures will be identified individually for each locality

Recommended goal and Requested Action

- Fluvanna County commits to undertake efforts to reduce the combined number of roadway fatalities and serious injuries in the County by 50 percent by 2045
  - Virginia’s Strategic Highway Safety Plan establishes a goal of reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries by 50% by 2045
- TJPDC is requesting approval from the Board of Supervisors for the Resolution of Commitment to Roadway Safety Goals

<b>MOTION:</b>	Adopt a Resolution of Commitment to Roadway Safety Goals, as presented.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Second	Motion		
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

*Resolution Designating Off-Leash Trails, Dog Parks, and Dog Exercise Areas* – Dan Whitten, County Attorney

On January 17, 2024, the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors amended the Fluvanna County Code to enact section 4-2-5 which prohibits dogs from running off-leash within the boundaries of any property owned, leased, controlled or operated by the County. There is an exception in the code section for dogs within areas designated by a resolution approved by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors as off-leash trails, dog parks and dog exercise areas.

County staff recommends that the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors designate the northwestern part of Pleasant Grove Park as shown on the attached map as an off-leash area to include the follow trails:

- (i) part of the Heritage Trail; and
- (ii) all of the Birding, North Hill, Cross Hill and Burke Heights Trails.

County staff also recommend that the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors designate the southeastern part of Pleasant Grove Park as shown on the attached map as an off-leash area to include the following trails and areas:

- (i) part of the Heritage and Rock Brook Trails;
- (ii) all of the Discovery, Horseshoe, River Bluff, Sandy Beach and River Anne Trails;
- (iii) 6 acres of open fields; and
- (iv) the dog park.

The prohibition regarding off-leash dogs on County property will go into effect on February 16, 2024.

<b>MOTION:</b>	Approve the resolution to designate off-leash trails, dog parks, and dog exercise areas that are exempt from the prohibition in Section 4-2-5 of the Fluvanna County Code.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O’Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Motion	Second		
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

*Resolution to Approve Local Funding for the Live Fire Training Structure – Eric Dahl, County Administrator*

- August 2017: Fluvanna County was awarded the Live Fire Training Structure Grant (aka Burn Building) for a Prototype 2
  - \$450,000 for construction
  - \$30,000 for A&E
  - \$630,000 original cost estimate, \$150,000 County Contribution
- June 2018 – November 2022: Issued numerous Solicitations for a Prototype 2; RFP for Design/Build, two Invitation for Bids and redesigns to try and save costs.
  - Minimum \$1M project costs, which did not include a contingency fund, site work, special inspections, construction administration, electric and water hookups.
- September 2021 – Attended the Virginia Fire Services Board meeting requesting additional grant funding due to significant costs increases for Live Fire Training Structures. The request was denied.
- Winter 2022/2023 – Burn Building Committee was looking for additional cost effective burn building options.
- April 2023 – A presentation was made to our Live Fire Training Building Committee for a Prototype 4 - container type fire training structure.
- With the challenges we have encountered to build a Prototype 2 in a cost effective manner and knowing two other localities (City of Richmond and Goochland County) have received approval from the Fire Services Board for a Prototype 4 - container style structure (which currently is not approved under the grant), it was important to pursue this request to serve the training needs of our volunteer firefighters and therefore serving our community.
- August 2023 - A presentation was brought forward to the BOS to determine moving forward with a special request to the Virginia Fire Services Board and what Prototype 4 design that would be. Our local committee recommended the following:
  - Design “B” – A 5 container structure total, but 1 vertical container. The estimated current cost of containers, props, equipment, training and shipping for this configuration is \$675K (previously estimated at \$585K). If approved to use this type of prototype structure with the grant funds, \$450K could be used toward the structure costs only. The \$675K does not include costs for a contingency fund, site work, special inspections, construction administration, electric and water hookups (some items could be reduced/removed). The estimated costs to be \$325K, for an estimated maximum project price of \$1M, with \$450K potential to be covered by the grant if authorized by the Fire Services Board. The estimated maximum cost to the County would be \$550,000.
- September 2023 – Made a presentation to the Virginia Fire Services Board – Live Structure Committee for the Prototype 4 - container style structure request and another grant extension. The Live Fire Training Structure Committee approved the request and a one year grant extension. The full Virginia Fire Services Board tabled the approval until their December 1, 2023, waiting to get more information from their engineers on a Prototype 4.
- December 2023 – Attended the Virginia Fire Services Board meeting, where Fluvanna and an additional locality was requesting approval of a Prototype 4 - container style structure from the full Virginia Fire Services Board. The City of Hopewell was approved and Fluvanna was tabled again to present to the Virginia Fire Services Board – Live Fire Training Structure Committee in February 2024 for the following reasons:
  - More information was required and that the locality had received multiple extensions.
  - There was a comment about the County’s funding commitment for the project.
- To date, the County has received 5 grant extension approvals.
- February 2024 – Requesting the Board of Supervisors to take formal action on the funding commitment for the project.
- February 2024 – Attendance to the Virginia Fire Services Board – Live Fire Training Structure Committee, if the Board of Supervisors approves a funding commitment, to address the Live Fire Training Structure Committee to provide any additional design and funding progress and request a grant extension.

Description	Cost
Costs: containers, props, equipment, training and shipping	\$680,000
Grant funding - Applies to Structure only	(\$450,000)
<b>County Cost</b>	<b>\$230,000</b>
Costs: contingency fund, site work, special inspections, construction admin., electric and water hookups	\$320,000
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COUNTY COST</b>	<b>\$550,000</b>

<b>MOTION:</b>	Approve “A Resolution to Approve Local Funding for the Live Fire Training Structure”, with the not to exceed amount of \$550,000 local funding amount to come from Unassigned Fund Balance.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O’Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>			Second		Motion
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

*Requesting an Administrative Program Specialist position for the Public Utilities Department – Robert Popowicz, Director of Public Utilities*

This request is for a full-time Administrative Program Specialist position for the Public Utilities department. The Administrative Program Specialist in the Public Works Department split duties between Public Works and Public Utilities. With the recent employee resignation of the Administrative Program Specialist in Public Works, it was determined to move forward with restructuring the position and have an Administrative Program Specialist position in each department to focus on their individual growing needs. Currently, Public Works is in the hiring process to back fill its vacant Administrative Program Specialist position. With the growth of the Public Utilities department and the expansion of the water and sewer systems in the County, it is important for Public Utilities to have its own Administrative Program Specialist to focus more specifically on daily customer service for water and sewer customers, performing monthly utility billing processing, becoming a subject matter expert for the Munis utility billing module, and handling the daily administrative functions of the department.

To offset the cost for this position request, the Public Utilities department has a vacant Utilities Operator position it is requesting to transfer the funding instead for the Administrative Program Specialist position, therefore creating no new additional cost for the department.

<b>MOTION:</b>	Table Tab F - Requesting an Administrative Program Specialist position for the Public Utilities Department				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O’Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Second	Motion		
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>3-2</b>				

*Resolution opposing House Bill 636 and Senate Bill 567 which gives the SCC the authority to override local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances for the siting of utility-scale solar, wind and battery storage facilities– Dan Whitten, County Attorney*

The 2024 Virginia General Assembly has convened to consider the passage of legislation that would amend laws affecting the authority and operation of Virginia local governments. Staff suggests that the Board of Supervisors approve a resolution to oppose House Bill 636 and Senate Bill 567 which gives the SCC the authority to override local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances for the siting of utility-scale solar, wind and battery storage facilities. The proposed legislation would allow applicants to essentially bypass the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors when seeking approval for the siting and operations of solar projects with a rated generation capacity 50 megawatts (MW) or more, wind projects of 100 MW or more, and energy storage facilities of 50 MW or more.

The proposed legislation essentially requires one statewide ordinance that defines the parameters of what qualifies as a compatible renewable energy ordinance with specific limitations on what a locality can require regarding facility setbacks, height and other design and operating features.

If the locality fails to act on the application within a specified time, or if it denies the application for land use approval, even though such application complies with minimum requirements of the statewide ordinance, then it may apply for approval from the SCC. If the SCC approves the application, then it “shall be exempt from obtaining approvals or permits, including any land use approvals or permits under the regulation and ordinances of the host locality.

<b>MOTION:</b>	Approve the resolution to oppose Senate Bill 567 (Senator R. Creigh Deeds) which gives the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) the authority to override local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances for the siting of utility-scale solar, wind and battery storage facilities.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Motion			Second
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

*Resolution opposing House Bill 800 and Senate Bill 713 which shifts make ready costs for broadband expansion to electric cooperatives – Dan Whitten, County Attorney*

The 2024 Virginia General Assembly has convened to consider the passage of legislation that would amend laws affecting the authority and operation of Virginia local governments. County staff suggests that the Board of Supervisors oppose House Bill 800 and Senate Bill 713 which seeks to shift responsibility for costs associated with “make ready” efforts, which are efforts necessary to prepare existing electrical infrastructure, including poles, for the colocation of fiber and related communications infrastructure necessary to support broadband expansion.

The legislation would shift responsibility for these costs to electric cooperatives, and such costs are not necessary to the electrical system. The legislation would require rural ratepayers to foot the bill for broadband construction costs which is inequitable shift from large for-profit companies to individual homes. The electrical cooperatives would be responsible for the cost of pole upgrades in order to accommodate attachments for broadband. Electrical cooperatives do not have excess margins available for unplanned and unnecessary infrastructure upgrades. Accordingly, the legislation will significantly raise utility costs for members of electric cooperatives.

<b>MOTION:</b>	Approve the resolution to oppose Senate Bill 713 (Senator David W. Marsden) which shifts make ready costs for broadband expansion to electric cooperatives.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Motion			Second
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

#### **9 - PUBLIC HEARING**

None.

#### **10 - CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were discussed before approval:

The following items were approved under the Consent Agenda for February 7, 2024:

- *Minutes of January 17, 2024* – Caitlin Solis, Clerk to the Board
- *Minutes of January 24, 2024* – Caitlin Solis, Clerk to the Board
- *Amendment of the November 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes* – Caitlin Solis, Clerk to the Board
- *Approval of Open Space Agreement for April Mae Baber* – Andrew M. Sheridan, Jr., Commissioner of the Revenue
- *Resolution to Assign a Road Name: Carols Lane* – Kelly Harris, Assistant County Administrator
- *Building Official Position Description Update* – Donna Snow, Director of Human Resources
- *Services Term Contract - Sydnor Hydro, Inc.* – Dan Whitten, County Attorney
- *Project Agreement - Sydnor Hydro, Inc.* – Dan Whitten, County Attorney

<b>MOTION:</b>	Approve the consent agenda, for the February 7, 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>			Motion	Second	
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

#### **11 - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

#### **12 - NEW BUSINESS**

*A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE SENATE BILL 697 (SENATOR SCHUYLER T. VANVALKENBURG)* – Dan Whitten, County Attorney

The proposed resolution opposes Senate Bill 697 which requires localities to permit utility-scale solar and energy storage facilities as a “special exception” per 15.2-2288.8 of the Virginia Code; and affirms that localities should

have the authority to address all impacts and all choices associated with utility-scale solar and battery storage facilities.

<b>MOTION:</b>	Approve "A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE SENATE BILL 697 (SENATOR SCHUYLER T. VANVALKENBURG)."				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Motion	Second		
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

*Amendment of Budget Calendar* – Tori Melton, Director of Finance

Ms. Melton presented an updated Budget calendar, switching County Department Briefs/CIP Review to February 21, 2024 and FCPS FY25 Adopted Budget Presentation to March 6, 2024.

<b>MOTION:</b>	Approve the Amended FY25 Budget Calendar, as presented.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Second		Motion	
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

### **13 - PUBLIC COMMENTS #2**

At 7:00pm, Chair Fairchild opened the second round of Public Comments.

- Patricia Beers-Block, 103 Island Hill Rd, commented on solar issues in Fluvanna County.

With no one else wishing to speak, Chair Fairchild closed the second round of Public Comments at 7:02pm.

### **14 - CLOSED MEETING**

<b>MOTION:</b>	At 7:03pm, move the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors enter into a closed meeting, pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.2-3711 A.1, & A.5 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for the purpose of discussing Personnel – Employees of Public Utilities and Public Works, Prospective Industry – Prospective Business Update.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>				Motion	Second
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

<b>MOTION:</b>	At 7:38 pm, move Closed Meeting be adjourned and the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors convene again in open session and "BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors does hereby certify to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Section 2.2-3711-A of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting."				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>			Motion		Second
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

*Requesting an Administrative Program Specialist position for the Public Utilities Department* – Robert Popowicz, Director of Public Utilities

<b>MOTION:</b>	Approve a Full-time Administrative Program Specialist for the Public Utilities department, with the funding to come from the vacant Utilities Operator position.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>		Motion	Second		
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>5-0</b>				

County Administrator's FY25 Budget Proposal and FY26-29 Projected Budgets (The Five-Year Financial Plan) – Eric Dahl, County Administrator presented the FY25 Budget Proposal.

#### FY25 Budget Proposal Highlights

- Budget totals \$107,555,422
  - Real Estate tax rate of \$0.844 remains unchanged.
  - No Change to the Personal Property tax rate, which remains unchanged at \$4.10 per \$100 of assessed value.
  - No change to the Business and Public Utility Personal Property tax rates (Remains at \$2.90 per \$100 of assessed value)
  - No change to the Machinery & Tools tax rate (Remains at \$1.90)
- Overall increase in total County expenditures by \$1,959,566, a 1.9% increase from the FY24 amended budget

#### Revenues

- Projected total revenues will increase by \$1.9 million above the FY24 amended budget amount. The most significant contributing factors are:
  - Net Increase of \$536K in tax and local operating revenue, mainly in part to increased real estate revenue (residential and public utilities), and an increase in sales tax and interest income revenue.
  - Net Increase of \$873K in Schools state/federal/other local revenue, not including the County contribution.
  - A decrease of \$759K in Debt Service revenue, due to the decreased use of fund balance and other subsidy/rebate revenue.
  - Net increase of \$1.4M for CIP project funding, utilizing increased use of fund balance and reflecting a reduction of federal ARPA funds and state grants to fund CIP projects.
  - Increase of \$21K in Enterprise Funds.
  - Decrease of \$181K in Social Services state/federal revenue.

#### Expenditures

- Departments, Constitutional Officers and Agency budgets have been reviewed in detail and funded at reasonable levels to cover day-to-day operational requirements
  - The County has not received Fluvanna County Public School's formal funding request, since the FY2025 Budget Request has not yet been adopted by the School Board.
  - The School System's full budget request will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on February 21, 2024.
- General Government
  - Reassessment- \$92,048 total: The County is on a reassessment cycle of every other year and FY2025 will reflect when a majority of the upcoming reassessments costs are expended.
  - Information Technology- \$52,319 total: \$35,000 for a one-time server replacement and the remainder of the increase is for software services.
- Public Safety
  - Emergency Services- \$276,848 total:
    - In FY2023/FY2024 the County created a new Department of Emergency Services; included hiring an EMS Supervisor, hiring 16 EMT Advanced Life Support (ALS)/Basic Life Support (BLS) providers, part-time EMT ALS/BLS providers and the associated personal and operational costs with the new department.
    - Besides the two staffed ambulances running 24/7/365, the County also authorized for the department to implement a new Quick Response Vehicle (QRV), which is staffed by a Paramedic.
    - In FY2024, the QRV costs were absorbed with vacancy savings and FY2025 will require these new costs to be reflected in the budget.
    - The FY2025 budget also includes EMS Education Equipment for our EMS providers.
- Health and Welfare
  - CSA Purchase of Services - \$104,500 total: Increases for community based services for clients of the Children's Service Act.
- Non Departmental
  - Staff Pay Plan, Health Insurance and the Virginia Retirement System - \$521,004 total cost
- Employee Compensation
  - Maintain competitive compensation to attract and retain high quality employees.
  - \$288,596 - 2% COLA for all County staff July 2024 (1% = \$144K).
  - \$135,229 - 1% Bonus for all County staff December 2024
    - Compensation Board reimbursement for the bonus is \$24,131
- Health Insurance
  - Health insurance cost increases have been significant fiscal influences every year.

- The budget includes \$136,392 to cover a 6.0% portion of an estimated 8.5% increase, and lessen any adverse impact on employees.
- Each 1% premium increase represents approximately \$22,732
- Virginia Retirement System (VRS)
- The budget includes \$93,392 for the biennial VRS rates increasing 0.76% for FY25 & FY26
- New Position Requests

#### Capital Projects

- The County has made a practice of using unassigned fund balance to fund one-time expenditures.
- Many requested projects of less urgency were delayed until later fiscal years to avoid affecting the tax rates, fund balance or debt service funding requirements.
- Cannot continue to defer essential maintenance, facilities, equipment, and vehicles; before long they will be beyond effective life, potentially compromise safety, or fail at a critical time of use.
- Debt service financing may be required to maintain adequate and safe service levels for the community.

#### Fund Balance

- Fluvanna continues to adhere to a conservative fund balance policy that maintains unassigned restricted fund balance at a minimum of 12% of General Fund revenues and the School Fund revenues, less the County's funding portion from the General Fund.
- As of June 30, 2023:
  - Unassigned restricted fund balance is \$11,198,981.
  - Unassigned unrestricted fund balance is currently \$15,082,839 (use toward capital projects).

#### Economic Factors

- Annual Unemployment Rate
  - US 3.6%, VA 2.9% & Fluvanna 2.6%
  - Fluvanna Monthly Unemployment Rate
    - Nov. 2023: 2.5%
- Sales Tax
  - 2021 to 2022 increased 8.8%
    - Changes implemented for online retailers making more than \$100,000 in annual gross sales to collect and pay sales tax starting July 1, 2019.
    - Residents were shopping more locally during the coronavirus pandemic and that trend has continued.
- Population Growth
  - 2000 to 2010 increased 28.2%
    - 25,691
  - 2010 to 2020 increased 6.1%
    - 27,249
  - 2021 to 2022 increased 1.0%
- Total Building Permits
  - 2019: 609 (49%)
  - 2020: 624 (3%)
  - 2021: 631 (1%)
  - 2022: 840 (33%)
  - 2023: 651 (-23%)
- Permits for new home construction
  - 2019: 120 (-2%)
  - 2020: 212 (77%)
  - 2021: 184 (-13%)
  - 2022: 164 (-11%)
  - 2023: 108 (-34%)

#### New Revenue Sources

- Staff continues to review and investigate other potential new and existing revenue sources. New sources would include:
  - Meals Tax: A new local taxing authority was passed by the General Assembly that allows Counties to now implement a meals tax without a referendum, effective July 1, 2020. The Board considered the option of implementing a meals tax in our County (as in most surrounding counties) and put the referendum question to the voters in November 2018, but it failed to pass. The new legislation includes that a County may not impose a meals tax until six years after a referendum failed. With this language, Fluvanna is prohibited from adopting a meals tax ordinance until November 2024. A very conservative estimate shows that a meal tax could generate \$350K-\$650K annually, which

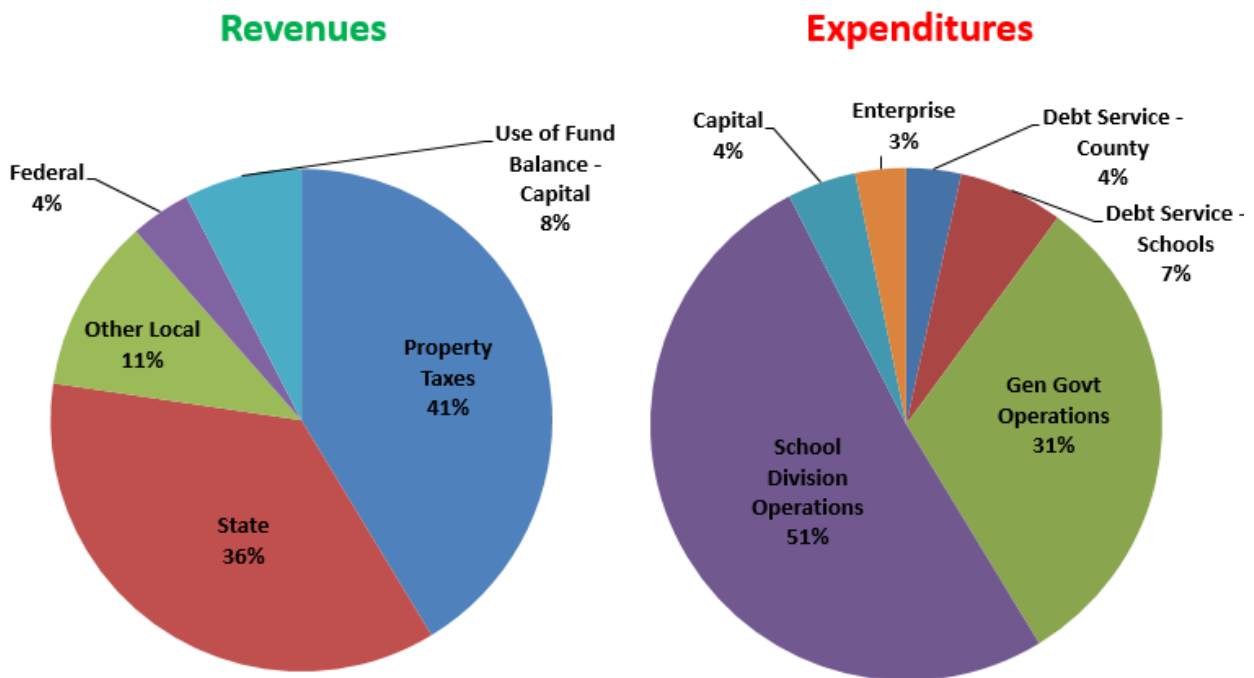


equates to 1-2 cents of real estate tax. *The board could consider implementing this tax in the FY25 budget.*

- Mr. Sheridan suggested hiring a grant writer. Mr. Hodge suggested creating a grant advisory committee to identify and write grants for the county.
- Mr. Hodge commented on the Dog Tag Program and asked if it makes less money than it takes to administer the program. Mr. Hodge also suggested a flat fee for the convenience center to phase out the old scale and all the repair costs associated with it.
- Mr. Goad asked to take another look at the personal property tax voucher program for volunteer fire fighters.

FY25 Revenues and Expenditures – Tori Melton, Director of Finance

FY25 COAD Proposed Budget - \$107,555,422



General Fund Revenue Summary – FY23-25

Revenue Source	FY23 ACTUAL	FY24 Amended Budget	FY25 COAD	FY25 to FY24 Budget (Inc/Dec)
General Property Tax	\$41,890,987	\$43,514,909	\$44,975,623	\$1,460,714
Other local taxes	5,257,571	5,567,680	5,722,000	\$154,320
Permits and fees	410,101	434,925	378,450	(\$56,475)
Fines and forfeitures	56,019	40,800	60,925	\$20,125
Use of money	933,377	190,000	394,165	\$204,165
Charges for services	1,052,853	1,059,920	1,073,895	\$13,975
Miscellaneous	327,495	67,000	75,000	\$8,000
Recovered Cost	445,232	237,924	264,667	\$26,743
Commonwealth	8,794,385	8,132,177	8,361,649	\$229,472
Federal	2,363,396	3,189,073	1,682,210	(\$1,506,863)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,531,416</b>	<b>\$62,434,408</b>	<b>\$62,988,584</b>	<b>\$554,176</b>

Top 4 Local Revenue Sources

Revenue Source	FY23 Actual	FY24 Amended	FY25 COAD	FY25 to FY24 Inc/Dec
Real Estate Taxes	\$27,068,698	\$27,533,323	\$28,552,052	\$1,018,729
Personal Property Taxes	10,657,073	10,847,942	11,754,765	906,823
Public Service Corporator	3,517,709	3,738,065	4,094,136	356,071
Local Sales Taxes	2,860,774	2,800,932	2,925,000	124,068

Commonwealth of VA Revenue

<b>PPTRA</b>	<b>\$2,996,570</b>
<b>Compensation Board</b>	<b>\$2,534,628</b>
<b>CSA</b>	<b>\$2,033,232</b>
<b>Social Services</b>	<b>\$721,557</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$1,135,278</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,421,265</b>

Real Estate Tax

#	Category	FY25 Residential	FY25 Commercial	Final Date
1	Total Assessed Real Estate Value	\$3,966,963,300	\$122,253,800	Supplements thru Oct.
2	Non-Taxable Real Estate Value	-\$321,803,000	\$0	
3	Total Taxable Real Estate Value	\$3,645,160,300	\$122,253,800	Supplements thru Oct.
4	Land Use, Conservation Easements, and Open Space Agreements (Est.)	-\$301,736,300	N/A	April
5	Tax Relief for Elderly/Veterans (Est.)	-\$97,461,496	N/A	April 1
6	Revised Taxable Real Estate Value	\$3,245,962,504	\$122,253,800	
7	Divided By	100	100	
8	Times Tax Rate	\$0.844	\$0.844	
9	Taxable Real Estate Revenue	\$27,395,924	\$1,031,822	
10	Collection Rate	97.5%	97.5%	
11	FY25 Budget Real Estate Tax	\$26,711,025	\$1,006,027	

Real Estate Penny Calculation

Real Estate (Residential) Value/100	\$32,459,625
Real Estate (Commercial) Value/100	\$1,222,538
Public Utilities Value/100	\$4,850,872
Mobile Homes Value/100	\$20,550
<b>Total Value/100</b>	<b>\$38,553,584</b>
Times \$0.01	\$0.01
<b>Revenue generated by each \$0.01 increase in tax rate (100% Collection Rate)</b>	<b>\$385,535</b>
<b>Per Penny Amount</b> (Collection Rates: 97.5% Real Estate, 100% Public Utilities, and 97.5% Mobile Homes)	<b>\$377,110</b>

General Fund Expenditure Summary – FY23-25

Expenditure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Amended Budget	FY25 COAD	FY25 to FY24 Budget (Inc/Dec)
General Govt	\$2,954,950	\$3,923,273	\$4,072,508	\$149,235
Judicial Admin	1,371,150	1,619,727	1,638,407	\$18,680
Public Safety	9,551,712	13,126,152	13,165,575	\$39,423
Public Works	2,449,103	3,156,831	3,142,108	(\$14,723)
Health & Welfare	7,128,419	6,951,965	6,899,746	(\$52,219)
Education	17,348,937	21,928,526	21,928,526	\$0
Parks, Rec. & Library	1,002,001	1,307,993	1,356,550	\$48,557
Comm. Development	1,312,087	1,456,081	1,454,170	(\$1,911)
Non-departmental	43,963	435,565	956,569	\$521,004
Debt Service	8,931,437	10,050,599	8,955,047	(\$1,095,552)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$52,093,759</b>	<b>\$63,956,712</b>	<b>\$63,569,206</b>	<b>(\$387,506)</b>

<b>MOTION:</b>	Adjourn the regular meeting of Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 8:50pm.				
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Mr. Fairchild	Mr. Goad	Mr. Hodge	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Sheridan
<b>ACTION:</b>				Second	Motion
<b>VOTE:</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>4-1</b>				

ATTEST:

FLUVANNA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caitlin Solis  
Clerk to the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher S. Fairchild  
Chair

APPROVED



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
 County of Fluvanna  
 Palmyra, Virginia  
**RESOLUTION No. 03-2024**

**RESOLUTION OF COMMITMENT TO ROADWAY SAFETY GOALS**

**WHEREAS**, 108 people were killed or seriously injured in crashes that took place in Fluvanna County from 2018 to 2022 and have lasting impacts on victims, loved ones, and communities at large; and

**WHEREAS**, achieving the goal indicated in the 2035 Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission’s Rural Long Range Transportation Plan, which is referenced in Fluvanna County’s Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2015, of providing a safe and secure transportation system in Fluvanna County will require collaboration among Fluvanna residents and other jurisdictions, as well as regional, state, and federal organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law established the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program and funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway fatalities and serious injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, Move Safely Blue Ridge—the safety action plan for the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) —will identify and prioritize roadway safety improvements in the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal grant received by the TJPDC requires that this safety action plan contain an official public commitment to an ambitious percentage reduction of roadway fatalities and serious injuries by a specific date with an eventual goal of eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, Fluvanna County is committed to the Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)’s vision of zero deaths and serious injuries and its goal to reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries by half by 2045;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna County that the County supports Move Safely Blue Ridge, will actively participate in the planning process, and will prioritize implementation of the recommended safety countermeasures, all with the eventual goal of zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries.

**RESOLVED**, that Fluvanna County commits to undertake efforts to one day eliminate roadway fatalities and serious injuries; and

**RESOLVED**, that Fluvanna County commits to undertake efforts to reduce the combined number of roadway fatalities and serious injuries in the County by 50 percent by 2045.

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	MOTION	SECOND
Christopher Fairchild, Cunningham District	X					
D. Mike Goad, Fork Union District	X					X
Timothy M. Hodge, Palmyra District	X				X	
Anthony P. O’Brien, Rivanna District	X					
John M. Sheridan, Columbia District	X					

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Christopher S. Fairchild, Chair

Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
 County of Fluvanna  
 Palmyra, Virginia

**RESOLUTION No. 04-2024**

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFF-LEASH TRAILS, DOG PARKS AND DOG EXERCISE AREAS THAT ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PROHIBITION IN SECTION 4-2-5 OF THE FLUVANNA COUNTY CODE**

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2024, the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors amended the Fluvanna County Code to enact section 4-2-5 which prohibits dogs from running unrestricted within the boundaries of any property owned, leased, controlled or operated by the County; and

WHEREAS, there is an exception to the prohibition for dogs within areas designated by a resolution approved by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors as off-leash trails, dog parks and dog exercise areas; and

WHEREAS, the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors desires to designate the northwestern part of Pleasant Grove Park as shown on the attached map as an off-leash area to include the follow trails:

- (i) part of the Heritage Trail;
- (ii) all of the Birding, North Hill, Cross Hill and Burke Heights Trails; and

WHEREAS, the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors desires to designate the southeastern part of Pleasant Grove Park as shown on the attached map as an off-leash area to include the following trails and areas:

- (i) part of the Heritage and Rock Brook Trails;
- (ii) all of the Discovery, Horseshoe, River Bluff, Sandy Beach and River Anne Trails;
- (iii) 6 acres of open fields;
- (iv) the dog park; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna County:

1. Designates the northwestern part and southeastern part of Pleasant Grove Park as shown on the attached map as an off-leash area and exempt from the prohibition in Section 4-2-5 of the Fluvanna County Code.
2. This Resolution shall be in effect upon adoption.

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors at a meeting of the Board held on the 7th day of February 2024:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	MOTION	SECOND
Christopher Fairchild, Cunningham District	X					
D. Mike Goad, Fork Union District	X				X	
Timothy M. Hodge, Palmyra District	X					X
Anthony P. O'Brien, Rivanna District	X					
John M. Sheridan, Columbia District	X					

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_

Christopher S. Fairchild, Chair

Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

County of Fluvanna  
Palmyra, Virginia

**RESOLUTION No. 05-2024**

**A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE SENATE BILL 567 (SENATOR R. CREIGH DEEDS) WHICH GIVES THE VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION (SCC) THE AUTHORITY TO OVERRIDE LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANS AND ZONING ORDINANCES FOR THE SITING OF UTILITY-SCALE SOLAR, WIND, AND BATTERY STORAGE FACILITIES**

**WHEREAS**, the 2024 Virginia General Assembly has convened to consider the passage of legislation that would amend laws affecting the authority and operation of Virginia local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors opposes Senate Bill 567 which gives the SCC the authority to override local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances for the siting of utility-scale solar, wind and battery storage facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation would allow applicants to essentially bypass the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors when seeking approval for the siting and operations of solar projects with a rated generation capacity 50 megawatts (MW) or more, wind projects of 100 MW or more, and energy storage facilities of 50 MW or more; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation essentially requires one statewide ordinance that defines the parameters of what qualifies as a compatible renewable energy ordinance with specific limitations on what a locality can require regarding facility setbacks, height and other design and operating features; and

**WHEREAS**, if the locality fails to act on the application within a specified time, or if it denies the application for land use approval, even though such application complies with minimum requirements of the statewide ordinance, then it may apply for approval from the SCC. If the SCC approves the application, then it “shall be exempt from obtaining approvals or permits, including any land use approvals or permits under the regulation and ordinances of the host locality;” and

**WHEREAS**, local review and approval of utility-scale solar, wind and battery storage projects are necessary to determine if the use and location are consistent with a locality’s land use goals and objectives.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna County hereby expresses its opposition of Senate Bill 567 which gives the SCC the authority to override local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances for the siting of utility-scale solar, wind and battery storage facilities.

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors at a meeting of the Board held on the 7th day of February 2024:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	MOTION	SECOND
Christopher Fairchild, Cunningham District	X					
D. Mike Goad, Fork Union District	X				X	
Timothy M. Hodge, Palmyra District	X					
Anthony P. O’Brien, Rivanna District	X					
John M. Sheridan, Columbia District	X					X

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher S. Fairchild, Chair  
Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
 County of Fluvanna  
 Palmyra, Virginia

**RESOLUTION No. 06-2024**

**A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE HOUSE BILL 800 (DELEGATE CHARNIELE L. HERRING) AND SENATE BILL 713 (SENATOR DAVID W. MARSDEN) WHICH SHIFTS MAKE READY COSTS FOR BROADBAND EXPANSION TO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES**

**WHEREAS**, the 2024 Virginia General Assembly has convened to consider the passage of legislation that would amend laws affecting the authority and operation of Virginia local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors opposes House Bill 800 and Senate Bill 713 which seeks to shift responsibility for costs associated with “make ready” efforts, which are efforts necessary to prepare existing electrical infrastructure, including poles, for the colocation of fiber and related communications infrastructure necessary to support broadband expansion; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation would shift responsibility for these costs to electric cooperatives, and such costs are not necessary to the electrical system; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation would require rural ratepayers to foot the bill for broadband construction costs which is an inequitable shift from large for-profit companies to individual ratepayers; and

**WHEREAS**, the electrical cooperatives would be responsible for the cost of pole upgrades in order to accommodate attachments for broadband; and

**WHEREAS**, the internet service providers or grant dollars should pay for the upgrades to the poles; and

**WHEREAS**, electrical cooperatives do not have excess margins available for unplanned and unnecessary infrastructure upgrades; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation will significantly raise utility costs for members of electric cooperatives.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna County hereby expresses its opposition of House Bill 800 and Senate Bill 713 which shifts make ready costs for broadband expansion to electric cooperatives.

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors at a meeting of the Board held on the 7th day of February 2024:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	MOTION	SECOND
Christopher Fairchild, Cunningham District	X					
D. Mike Goad, Fork Union District	X				X	
Timothy M. Hodge, Palmyra District	X					
Anthony P. O’Brien, Rivanna District	X					
John M. Sheridan, Columbia District	X					X

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_

Christopher S. Fairchild, Chair

Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
 County of Fluvanna  
 Palmyra, Virginia

**RESOLUTION No. 07-2024**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LOCAL FUNDING FOR THE LIVE FIRE TRAINING STRUCTURE**

**WHEREAS**, a fire training need was identified for our locality and the construction of a Live Fire Training Structure for our volunteer firefighters was brought forward to serve that need; and

**WHEREAS**, the County received a Live Fire Training Structure grant from the Virginia Department of Fire Programs in 2017 for \$480,000, \$30,000 for engineering and \$450,000 for construction; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has issued numerous solicitations between 2018 and 2022, to include a Request For Proposal for a Design/Build project and two Invitation For Bids for a Prototype 2 Live Fire Training Structure; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has yet to achieve cost effective total results over the years for a Live Fire Training Structure project of less than \$1,100,000; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to reduce project costs, a Prototype 4 Live Fire Training Structure was identified as a cost effective option; and

**WHEREAS**, the County requested from the Virginia Fire Services Board to use the \$450,000 Live Fire Training Structure grant to construct a Prototype 4 Live Fire Training Structure; and

**WHEREAS**, an approval from the Virginia Fire Services Board would require local funding above the \$450,000 construction grant; and

**WHEREAS**, the total cost to complete the Live Fire Training Structure project with a Prototype 4 is approximately \$1,000,000.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna County hereby approves local funding for the Live Fire Training Structure project in an amount not to exceed \$550,000.

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors at a meeting of the Board held on the 7th day of February 2024:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	MOTION	SECOND
Christopher Fairchild, Cunningham District	X					
D. Mike Goad, Fork Union District	X					
Timothy M. Hodge, Palmyra District	X					X
Anthony P. O'Brien, Rivanna District	X					
John M. Sheridan, Columbia District	X				X	

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Christopher S. Fairchild, Chair

Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors





**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
 County of Fluvanna  
 Palmyra, Virginia  
**RESOLUTION No. 08-2024**

**A RESOLUTION TO ASSIGN A ROAD NAME: Carols Lane**

**WHEREAS**, the E911 emergency system requires the assignment of names to all streets and roads in the county, the assignment of building numbers to all buildings having telephones and/or occupancies, and the erection of appropriate street signs at intersections; and,

**WHEREAS**, a third address has been assigned to the private road serving Carols Farm subdivision which requires that a name be assigned; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 18-2 (B) of the Code of Fluvanna provides that the name of each street shown on a subdivision plat approved pursuant to Chapter 19 of the Code of Fluvanna and subsequently recorded in the office of the clerk of the circuit court shall be deemed to have been approved pursuant to this section; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors is empowered to name streets, roads and alleys within the County in accordance with Section 18-2 of the Fluvanna County Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna County pursuant to Section 18-2 of the Fluvanna County Code that the private road located off of Kidds Dairy Road that provides access to Carol Farm subdivision, be named Carols Lane.

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	MOTION	SECOND
Chris Fairchild, Cunningham District	X					
John M. Sheridan, Columbia District	X					
Mike Goad, Fork Union District	X					
Timothy Hodge, Palmyra District	X				X	
Anthony P. O'Brien, Rivanna District	X					X

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_

Christopher S. Fairchild, Chair

Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
 County of Fluvanna  
 Palmyra, Virginia

**RESOLUTION No. 09-2024**

**A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE SENATE BILL 697 (SENATOR SCHUYLER T. VANVALKENBURG)**

**WHEREAS**, the 2024 Virginia General Assembly has convened to consider the passage of legislation that would amend laws affecting the authority and operation of Virginia local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors opposes Senate Bill 697 which requires localities to permit utility-scale solar and energy storage facilities as a “special exception” per 15.2-2288.8 of the Virginia Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation requires the localities to develop an ordinance that establishes “reasonable criteria and requirements” for the siting of utility-scale solar and battery storage projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation requires that such reasonable criteria and requirements “shall not include limits on the total amount, density, or size of solar and storage facilities that can be developed;” and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation requires localities to permit any application for utility-scale solar and energy storage facilities, regardless of the cumulative impact of such facilities, as long as the requirements of the local ordinance with reasonable criteria and requirements are met; and

**WHEREAS**, localities should have the authority to address all impacts and all choices associated with utility-scale solar and battery storage facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the state should not require localities to permit utility-scale solar and battery storage facilities, regardless of the total amount, density or size of the projects.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna County hereby expresses its opposition of Senate Bill 697 which requires localities to permit utility-scale solar and energy storage facilities as a “special exception” per 15.2-2288.8 of the Virginia Code; and

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors at a meeting of the Board held on the 7th day of February 2024

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	MOTION	SECOND
Christopher Fairchild, Cunningham District	X					
D. Mike Goad, Fork Union District	X				X	
Timothy M. Hodge, Palmyra District	X					X
Anthony P. O’Brien, Rivanna District	X					
John M. Sheridan, Columbia District	X					

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Christopher Fairchild, Chair  
 Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors