

Farmville Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting
February 21, 2011

The Farmville Board of Commissioners met in special session on Monday, February 21, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Farmville Town Library, Elizabeth Davis Room with Mayor Robert L. Evans presiding. Present for the meeting were Commissioners John Baker, Jamin Dixon, John Moore, Jake Barrow and David Shackleford; Town Manager James Smith and Town Clerk Amy Johnson. Also present at the meeting was Wanda Yuhas, Brenda Daniels and Todd Edwards.

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Evans welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced Wanda Yuhas, Pitt County Economic Development Director and Brenda Daniels, Economic Development Director for ElectriCities. Mayor Evans also welcomed Todd Edwards, from the Pitt County Development Commission, to the meeting.

Wanda asked each Town Board member to state their concerns and what they would like to accomplish from the meeting today.

The Board expressed the following thoughts/concerns in regards to Economic Development:

- History is history
- Where do we go next?
- Best bang for the buck
- What is the future for Economic Development in Farmville?
- What are the community strengths and weaknesses?
- Need to take care of companies and residents in Town as well as recruitment
- What to do with the 100 acre tract of land?
- What are people/businesses looking for in this economy?
- Need to clean up “our house” first! Example- Schools
- Need to keep our website up to date

Brenda expressed that the economy has been hard and companies are holding back from expansions and new ventures. She said that food processing and aerospace seem to be the top “2” business segments at this time.

Wanda explained Senate Bill #13, if it passes, will cut back on incentives.

Yuhas explained that the tract of land is not marketable unless it has utilities ready and available because most companies looking to relocate want to be up and running or building within a 12 month window of time, and it would take that long just to get utilities there. Yuhas stated it was a bad time to try and sell the land as well due to the economy.

An agreement was reached that the Town Board would look to the Pitt County Development Commission and ElectriCities for a more active role in marketing the Farmville Industrial Park and the Farmville Corporate Park.

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Mayor Evans announced lunch was served at 12:10 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Robert L. Evans, Mayor

Attest:

Amy B. Johnson, Town Clerk