

## **Open Work Session**

**September 1, 2020**

### **Land Preservation Easements -**

- **Delmarva Farms, LLC**
- **Porter Mill Properties, LLC**
- **William R. and Teresa B. McCain**
- **MARVIC Associates, LLC**
- **William and Mary Todd**

Ms. Gloria Smith, Planner with the Department of Planning, Zoning, and Community Development came before Council and said she is the local administrator for the Agricultural Land Preservation Program. She said she is here tonight because they received five new applications this year that were submitted to potentially sell land preservation easements to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program. She said all five of those applications meet or exceed the minimum State requirements for location, size, and soils criteria, and have been reviewed and recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission, and by the Wicomico County Ag Preservation Advisory Board. She said the final step in the review process is a Public Hearing with the Council because they need a Resolution from Council to send to the State to support the applications.


Mr. Dodd asked Mrs. Hurley when they can have this Public Hearing, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, they can do this September 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Hastings said, on Attachment 10, it is always good to see multiple conservation easements adjoining each other, and this helps keep farmers in business, and helps make sure that farming is part of their ethic for Wicomico County for a long time to come. Ms. Smith said, in that particular case, some of those are State easements that have been there a long time. She said she thinks the Allen one goes back to the 1990s, and the Bachelor one also, and then the two that were the Harcum properties are actually County easements when they had some money to purchase some local easements.


Mr. Hastings said, on Attachment 6, the zoning map boundaries do not match the 2017 survey. He then asked if there is anything Ms. Smith would like to say about that, to which Ms. Smith responded, there is a red line across that property, and that red line is what was originally shown on the tax maps as the boundary of this property, but she filled it in to match the survey that Mr. McCain submitted.

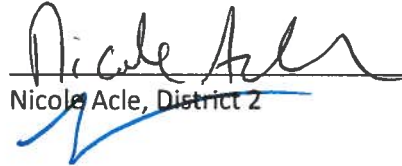
Mr. Cannon asked if the Porter Mill properties are the properties that a few years back created a whole lot of turmoil in Hebron as far as what they were going to develop there, to which Ms. Smith responded, no. She explained, the bulk of the Porter Mill properties are across Route 50 and a little bit to the west, and actually wraps around Jack's Market, and is not the same property Mr. Cannon is referring to.

Mr. Dodd said Ms. Smith always does an excellent job when she makes her presentation on these. There was no further discussion.

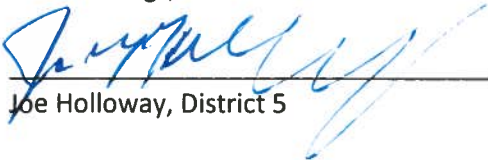
  
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Larry W. Dodd, President, District 3

  
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John T. Cannon, Vice President, At-Large

  
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Ernest F. Davis, District 1

  
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Nicole Acle, District 2

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Josh Hastings, District 4

  
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Joe Holloway, District 5

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absent

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William R. McCain, At-Large

  
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Laura Hurley, Council Administrator