

April 11, 2017

At a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday, the 11th day of April 2017; at 5:30 p.m., there were present:

Pattie Cooper-Jones

Calvin L. Gray

Robert M. Jones

Odessa H. Pride

Howard F. Simpson

C. Robert Timmons, Jr.

Jerry R. Townsend

Jim R. Wilck

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator.

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order as a reconvened meeting from April 4, 2017, for a work session.

In Re: Budget Work Session

Mr. Bartlett reviewed Revenue estimates. He stated the landfill revenues are greater than budgeted; CFS, which bought out Arena Trucking, has sold some routes to a company out of Lynchburg, which started dumping at the landfill last week. Mr. Bartlett said the Personal Property tax increased the most; he said Mrs. Booth, Commissioner of Revenue, sent out 328 more applications than last year. He said more than 500 more were sent out last year which increased the revenues about \$200,000; this year there may be \$150,000 more in revenue. He said overall there are a few revenues that could be “stretched” if there is a need.

Supervisor Timmons said the security measures could be costly.

Mr. Bartlett stated the security measures and the Animal Control Shelter will be costly and are not contained in the budget; discussion followed regarding work needed at the Shelter.

Mr. Bartlett then reviewed Expenditures. He said the departments have been doing well; he added the Library is now being treated as a department.

Discussion followed on a custodial position versus an outside maintenance position.

Supervisor Timmons said that could be discussed at the Properties Committee meeting.

Supervisor Timmons presented a spreadsheet showing his recommendation of donations. He said if it is not on the list, he recommends it stays as Mr. Bartlett recommended. He said the Library funding should be increased to the amount requested. He said that since Moton is now an entity of Longwood, and they will have additional sources now, he suggested cutting their portion to \$6,000. He then recommended amounts for PEFYA (\$25,000), Special Olympics (\$1,000), Piedmont Senior Resources (\$200), Heart of Virginia Free Clinic (\$5,000), and the Summer Program at the YMCA (\$0). He said his reasoning to delete funding of the Summer Program at the YMCA is because they are in much better shape financially than what they were.

Chairman Jones stated the Library is now funded differently and not from the charitable organizations; Mr. Bartlett will tweak the revenues to get the funding for the Library. Chairman Jones said the Board could take an avenue to help Virso [Community Center].

Supervisor Cooper-Jones stated she doesn't feel Virso Community Center should receive anything this year. She stated \$6,000 should be taken to fund the Museum and give \$1,000 to the Heart of Virginia [Free Clinic] because they provide a great service.

Supervisor Townsend stated the Virso Community Center should not be taken from the equation. The Virso citizens did the work and asked that it not be allowed to regress. He said the Board must look at other options and they boxed themselves in when they limited the amount used for donations.

Supervisor Pride stated she was not on the Board when that was voted upon, but Virso Community Center got what was requested and other areas also need growth.

Supervisor Timmons stated initially it was to be a place to have an area for recreation and they were not to be an ongoing source of funding. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Gray stated the Board doesn't have a recreation area and the Board should do all that they can to help that area until other areas have requests. He said it would be less than 1% to recreational areas.

Chairman Jones suggested a straw vote to determine if the Board wanted to either support it financially with a donation or not.

Supervisor Townsend stated that in the Board's Strategic Plan, the vision is to increase and enhance Parks & Recreation activities in the rural areas. He said there should be a line item in the budget in the future, the overall goal is to move the County forward.

Supervisor Simpson stated Virso is one place in the County that, when the County gave them money, they used it and made something out of it. He said the County gave funds to Prospect and they didn't do anything. He said Virso kept it going, and he said he is in support of giving them funds; they have fund raisers to sustain themselves. Supervisor Gray added that until other areas are doing the same, it is to the Board's benefit to support them. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Wilck asked if they have fundraisers and how much they make. Supervisor Townsend said they hold fund raisers but he was unsure of income from those fundraisers as his contact is currently in the hospital.

Mr. Bartlett stated each district had a set amount to spend; some spent theirs and some didn't, which is why there was residual left which was partially used for Virso the last two years. Discussion followed regarding the funds still left in the fund. Supervisor Timmons suggested providing the residual in the fund to Virso over the next three years.

Mr. Bartlett said there has been a lot of discussion regarding the need for a more robust recreation department to expand out in the County, outside of the Farmville area. He said that is an expensive and long-term proposition and the thought process is not matured. He said the Board needs to discuss if that is what the Board wants to do; he said it would expand the scope of the government to provide recreational activities. He said years ago, the Board decided to partner with other organizations such as PEFYA and the YMCA which would provide the recreational activities. Monetarily, it has been very successful; Mr. Bartlett said counties of this size would normally spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on a recreation department.

Supervisor Pride said there is a building in Hampden-Sydney that could provide recreational and educational activities. She said other areas need it also.

Supervisor Timmons requested dissolution of the fund and put the residual funds into the General Fund, and create a line item.

Chairman Jones took a straw vote on supporting Virso this year with some type of financial funding for Virso and the vote failed with four Supervisors in favor of supporting Virso and four who did not.

Following further discussion, Supervisor Timmons stated he would email a spreadsheet to the other Board members showing the changes proposed.

Chairman Jones opened discussion on the school budget.

Mr. Bartlett recommended providing an additional \$123,802 to the Prince Edward County Schools.

Supervisor Timmons stated he met with Dr. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools; they discussed a compromise in the budget as proposed wherein Dr. Johnson would be permitted to keep the savings and under-runs for this year. Supervisor Timmons stated Dr. Johnson figured the amount would be between \$100,000 to \$150,000. He said she also stated the remaining \$40,000 short in her proposed budget would be manageable. Supervisor Timmons stated the other option would be for the County to take the under-runs and increase the school budget by \$150,000. He suggested funding what is in the County's budget and allowing Dr. Johnson to manage the under-runs this year, and that the amount would come out to be the same.

Mr. Bartlett reviewed Capital Projects. He stated the Sheriff requested three vehicles at a cost of \$120,000, the new CAD reporting system will be approximately \$200,000; voting machines must be replaced at a cost of \$70,000 by July 1, 2018. Mr. Bartlett said normal replacement of printers, copiers and computers is ongoing and is estimated to cost \$32,000.

Mr. Bartlett asked if any limits should be placed on the School budget and how the under-runs can be used. Supervisor Timmons stated the agreement is for this budget year only.

Mr. Bartlett then stated sometimes if the Schools are permitted to keep the under-runs, the School then looks at that money as their base. He said the Schools also haven't yet provided information about the cost of the salary increase in FY19 and beyond.

On motion of Supervisor Timmons, seconded by Supervisor Gray, and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones	Nay: None
	Calvin L. Gray	
	Robert M. Jones	
	Odessa H. Pride	
	Howard F. Simpson	
	C. Robert Timmons, Jr.	
	Jerry R. Townsend	
	Jim R. Wilck	

the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.