

April 20, 2010

At the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday the 20th day of April, 2010; at 12:00 noon, there were present:

Howard M. Campbell

William G. Fore, Jr.

Don C. Gantt, Jr.

Robert M. Jones

Charles W. McKay

Howard F. Simpson

Jim R. Wilck

Mattie P. Wiley

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

Chairman Fore called the reconvened meeting to order and said the purpose of the meeting was to hold a budget work session.

In Re: School Budget

Wade Bartlett, County Administrator, said that the Board requested level funding the schools with no reductions. He briefly reviewed the proposed budget.

Discussion followed on holding the funding for the athletic improvements until the academic programs improve and the \$377,413 carry-over funds requested by the School Board. Supervisor McKay expressed concern regarding the safety of the athletic fields and said at least the minimum must be done to make the fields safe. Chairman Fore stated \$275,000 would be used to repair drainage, irrigation and re-surfacing of the football field, to include topsoil, seed and fertilizer.

Supervisor Simpson suggested keeping the carry-over funds in the amount of \$377,413 in the General Fund until the School Board presents a satisfactory plan on how they will spend the funds on the athletic field; the Board concurred, with a caveat regarding academic improvement attached to the

expenditure, to put the funds into the General Funds. Chairman Fore said a decision will be made on what to do with those funds at a later date.

Mr. Bartlett said he will work with the County budget and keep the Schools level funded.

In Re: Donation Requests

Discussion followed on the donation requests with emphasis on savings to the County while still providing for the services the organizations offer to the citizens.

The consensus of the Board was to provide \$5,000 to SCOPE, Inc. due to the purchase of the building.

Discussion on the support to PE-FYA followed; Supervisor Simpson suggested adjusting support to \$10,000 because the expenses will be lower; Supervisor Gantt said the Board previously stated the donation would not be changed.

Supervisor Simpson said the donations should be level funded, with no support going to new organizations.

Mr. Bartlett recommended level funding the fire and rescue departments, providing the same as the previous fiscal year. Discussion followed on the possibility of a purchasing agent, and holding a meeting with the fire department presidents regarding next fiscal years' funding.

Discussion followed on possible cost savings in the County departments and Constitutional offices, with emphasis on eliminating duplication of accounts and services.

Supervisor Gantt requested an update from Draper Aden on the water and sewer project. Mr. Bartlett said the scheduled monthly update will be held April 27 at 9:00 a.m.; representatives from Draper Aden and Crowder Construction will be in attendance. Discussion followed on the safe yield of the Appomattox River. Mr. Bartlett said the flow of the river as well as drought conditions are contributing factors. He said water is a concern on the entire east coast; as more wells are sunk, the ground water level drops. He said the amount of water in the river is not only determined by lack of rainfall but also because of the population increase, the number of wells and the drop of the groundwater levels. Mr. Bartlett said the Sandy River Reservoir is being developed for use in the future, for 20 years from the present time.

Chairman Fore said the County must be prepared in the event the Town of Farmville runs out of water; the reservoir must be functional prior to that happening.

In Re: Daily Bread

Ms. Darlene Hartley gave a brief presentation on the services provided by The Daily Bread. She asked for continued use of the SCOPE building for the socialization and activities provided to the senior citizens through their organization.

The consensus of the Board was to allow Daily Bread to continue operation of their program at the SCOPE building.

In Re: Work Session

Following the presentation, discussion turned to the tax rates; Mr. Bartlett recommended all rates hold level with the exception of the Real Estate tax; he recommended an increase of \$0.04, bringing the rate to \$0.44. Discussion followed on additional state reductions.

Supervisor Jones suggested an increase in the Motor Vehicle License fee of \$10 and an increase in the Real Estate tax of \$0.02.

Discussion followed on the process and timetable for the budget approval.

In Re: Engineering Services

Mr. Bartlett reviewed the scope of services outlined in the proposal for Engineering Services provided by Wiley/Wilson. He said that by signing the Scope of Services, Wiley/Wilson would act as the County's Engineer. The County has no in-house capability for engineering services. He added that while the County has a long and beneficial relationship with Draper Aden, they are working for Crowder Construction on this project, and are obligated to Crowder and not the County. Mr. Bartlett said the engineer is necessary to perform the County's technical obligations set forth in the interim agreement as well as providing the County and the Board of Supervisors with engineering support and oversight as the project continues. Mr. Bartlett said the proposal cost is \$36,500 over two years. Discussion followed on contract cost versus an hourly rate for services rendered.

Supervisor McKay asked the County Administrator to renegotiate with Wiley/Wilson for a cost of \$30,000.

On motion of Supervisor Campbell and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell	Nay: None
	William G. Fore, Jr.	
	Don C. Gantt, Jr.	
	Robert M. Jones	
	Charles W. McKay	
	Howard F. Simpson	
	Jim R. Wilck	
	Mattie P. Wiley	

the meeting was recessed at 5:03 p.m. until Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m..