

April 21, 2015

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2015; at 3:00 p.m., there were present:

Pattie Cooper-Jones

Calvin L. Gray

Robert M. Jones

Charles W. McKay

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; and Dr. David Smith, Superintendent, Prince Edward County Schools.

Chairman Simpson called the reconvened meeting to order for the purpose of a budget work session.

In Re: Donations

Mr. Bartlett led a review of the Donation requests of which the Board requested further information:

- STEPS, Inc.'s request for \$25,000 is used for job training.
- Farmville-Prince Edward Community Library does not use funds from Prince Edward County for the library branch in Buckingham County.
- Old Dominion EMS Alliance is not responsible for the lease of the tower; they cover about 40 counties and it provides insurance for equipment, ensure protocol are standardized in our region, they offer free education for providers, write the Regional EMS Disaster Plan, maintain the contract with the hospital for the refills of the drug boxes on the ambulances and rescue units. Its main source of funding is the Department of Health.

Supervisor Timmons stated the Firefighters Association requested an additional \$2,000 for repairs to the Air Van; they have spent \$1,000 and will need additional funds.

Supervisor Gray entered the meeting at this time.

Supervisor Timmons questioned STEPS' need for the \$25,000 in addition to the \$14,488. Supervisor Jones stated the \$14,488 is for the Community Action Agency and is separate from STEPS operation; he added it should be level-funded; the Board concurred.

After some discussion, the Board concurred to level fund the Library.

Mr. Bartlett stated Prince Edward County is the only county in the region to provide funds to the Old Dominion EMS. Discussion followed on their services to the region. The Board agreed to provide \$1,000.

Supervisor Wilck stated he had listened to the recording of the meeting held June 10, 2014 regarding the donation to the Virso Recreation Center and that it was intended to be a one-time donation to the Center.

Supervisor Townsend said it takes more than \$8,000 to get a community center up and running. After some discussion, Supervisor Townsend stated the Virso Recreation Center had to provide an itemized list of the funds, but PEFYA, the YMCA, the center in Pamplin are not held to that same standard. He said the Committee would appreciate any amount that would be given.

Discussion followed regarding the use of the remainder of the funds in the Recreation Fund. Supervisor Timmons suggested providing \$4,000 per year for three years. Supervisor Townsend suggested providing \$6,000 per year for two years, then the Virso Recreation Center would not submit a donation request for the third year; he added he would monitor the funds to make certain they were spent appropriately. After further discussion, it was determined \$6,500 would be provided to the Virso Recreation Center in Fiscal Year 2016 and \$6,000 would be provided in Fiscal Year 2017.

The Board unanimously agreed to provide \$8,000 to the Firefighters Association, which includes their additional request of \$2,000 for the Air Van repairs.

In Re: Closed Session

Supervisor Cooper-Jones made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Gray, that the Board convene in Closed Session to discuss the consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the

provision of legal advice by such counsel concerning the sewer lines at The Manor, pursuant to the exemption provided for in Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the *Code of Virginia*; the motion carried:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones Calvin L. Gray Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson C. Robert Timmons, Jr. Jerry R. Townsend Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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The Board returned to regular session by motion of Supervisor Cooper-Jones, seconded by Supervisor Timmons, and adopted as follows:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones Calvin L. Gray Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson C. Robert Timmons, Jr. Jerry R. Townsend Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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On motion of Supervisor Simpson and seconded by Supervisor Timmons and carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones Calvin L. Gray Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson C. Robert Timmons, Jr. Jerry R. Townsend Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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the following Certification of Closed Meeting was adopted in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act:

WHEREAS, the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the *Code of Virginia* requires a certification by this Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors.

In Re: Health Insurance

Mr. Bartlett stated the County received information regarding the Key Care 200 and Key Care 300; both are different from the Local Choice Program. He recommended staying with the Local Choice this year and look at self-insurance at a later date, which would allow more time for information and discussion for the Board and for the employees. Some discussion followed.

The Board concurred to wait for more information and to provide the Local Choice insurance for the employees with no change.

Mr. Bartlett stated there are misconceptions regarding the County cutting local funds to the schools. The State has cut funding to the schools; the County has not. He said the school funding increased even though the ADM fell. Mr. Bartlett said the cost of providing services to the County citizens in the General Fund increased approximately 7.55%, due to insurance, fuel costs, VRS and salary increases. In comparison, the cost of running the schools over the same period of time increased approximately 22% even though the debt dropped by 39.65%. He said the increase in funding and the decrease in debt provided approximately \$1.9 million to the schools. Mr. Bartlett stated that in 2014, the cost per pupil was \$3,789; the budget has decreased because of the State funding decrease, not because of the County. He stated even with the \$300,000 funding reduction Local Funds provided per pupil will increase to \$3,939 because of the expected decrease in ADM.

Mr. Bartlett stated the Required Local Effort by Prince Edward County is much greater than elsewhere in the region and shows the Board's commitment to education.

Supervisor Timmons stated that discussion of the Personal Property Tax and other rates will need to be reviewed in the future. Mr. Bartlett suggested discussion of a business license, meals tax and contractor's license.

Supervisor Timmons made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Jones, to deviate from the agenda and discuss the process of changing from an appointed school board to an elected school board; the motion carried:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones Calvin L. Gray Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson C. Robert Timmons, Jr. Jerry R. Townsend Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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Supervisor Timmons said he has received numerous telephone calls from residents regarding the change from appointed school board members to elected school board members, to allow citizens to have input in that process. He requested the Board to allow the staff to research what must be done to bring about that change.

Chairman Simpson stated it had been attempted in the past and had failed to obtain enough signatures to have it placed on the ballot for a referendum. Discussion followed.

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

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones Calvin L. Gray Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson C. Robert Timmons, Jr. Jerry R. Townsend Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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the meeting was recessed at 5:05 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room for the Public Hearing on the County Budget, School Budget and Tax Rates.