

April 9, 2013

At a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday, the 9th day of March, 2013; at 5:00 p.m., 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

Absent: Pattie Cooper-Jones

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator; Dr. K. David Smith, Superintendent of Prince Edward County Schools; Cindy Wahrman, Division Director of Finance, Prince Edward County Schools; Russell Dove, School Board Chairman; and School Board members.

Chairman Fore called the reconvened meeting to order.

In Re: Presentation of the School Budget

Dr. K. David Smith, Superintendent of Prince Edward County Schools, stated federal and state funding declined and the localities are expected to carry the burden. Last year the reduction was over \$2 million. Dr. Smith said he appreciates the level funding provided by the County but it doesn't make up the difference in the losses. He stated the loss in federal funding (\$614,000) and the loss in state funding (\$194,000) total approximately \$809,000.

Dr. Smith reviewed the proposed School budget, stating the proposed increases he feels strongly about, to include a 4% salary increase, increase in the health insurance premium of 5.8%, a critical position of "Turn Around Process Manager," currently funded through the federally funded Turn Around Program. He stated the projected costs for occupational therapy and physical therapy will increase; these services are

required for students with special needs. Dr. Smith also requested funding for an additional athletic/weight trainer, an Elementary School Resource Officer position and a Special Education Homebound Teacher.

Supervisor Cooper-Jones entered the meeting at this time.

Dr. Smith stated salaries have been frozen for several years and now the salaries are “off scale” and must be restored to give proper credit for the years of service. He added the buses and vans in the Transportation Department have a suggested life span of 15 years and quite a few will need to be replaced and will need to be purchased in cycle.

Dr. Smith requested proposed increases of \$1,398,968.

Dr. Smith then reviewed the Summary of Anticipated Revenues and Expenditures in more detail.

Dr. Smith continued by reporting on the Capital Improvements Plan. He said he plans to enter an engineering and procurement period to secure a new roof the following year, and in each year, planned replacement of the buses to include three buses each year. He said enclosure of the main entryway between the fifth grade wing and the main building is planned and underground plumbing is necessary. Dr. Smith said it is necessary to re-key classroom doors and locks. He said plans for the second year include renovation of the athletic complex, the roof and buses. The third year, HVAC controls would be replaced in order to control the system by computer, replacement of smaller HVAC units, renovation of the high school auditorium, replacement of the high school roof, and buses. The fifth year would include replacement of the telephone system, relocation of the greenhouse-as-classroom and buses.

Supervisor Gantt inquired about summer school; Dr. Smith stated a non-traditional summer school program is available for remediation and intervention for a two- to three-week duration. The food service program is available as well as the YMCA and Family Preservation Services programs.

Discussion followed on the amount necessary to raise the tax rate to cover fully funding the request of the School Board.

In Re: County Health Insurance

Mr. Bartlett stated the County has received a renewal with the Local Choice Program for the provision of health insurance for county employees for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. The County will experience a 16.1% increase in rates. The County can only select two plans to offer the employees.

Supervisor Campbell stated he is on the County insurance program and pays the entire premium.

Discussion of the costs, rates and benefits of the available plans followed.

Supervisor McKay made a motion to authorize advertisement of a public hearing to be held Tuesday, April 22, 2013 regarding the proposed budget for FY14 as presented with one amendment to the Real Estate Tax Rate at \$0.51; the motion failed:

Aye: Howard M. Campbell
Don C. Gantt, Jr.
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Howard F. Simpson
Jim R. Wilck

Nay: Pattie Cooper-Jones
William G. Fore, Jr.

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

Aye: Howard M. Campbell
Pattie Cooper-Jones
William G. Fore, Jr.
Don C. Gantt, Jr.
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Howard F. Simpson
Jim R. Wilck

Nay: None

the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.