

April 8, 2014

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday, the 8th day of April, 2014; at 5:20 p.m., there were present:

Howard M. Campbell

Pattie Cooper-Jones

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; 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 Simpson called the reconvened meeting to order.

In Re: Presentation of the School Budget

Dr. K. David Smith, Superintendent, reviewed information regarding the school budget; the items on the priority list include a salary increase, salary scale adjustment; VRS rates, master schedule, security at the schools and on the buses; maintenance and improvement of advanced placement; increasing the industrial certification; teacher training and student support programs; maintaining a safe and secure environment.

Dr. Smith stated that after an intensive review, the schools have received full district accreditation from the Advanced Education SACS; enrollment in coursework, dual enrollment, and advanced placement classes increased. Currently there are 346 dual-enrollment classes being taken. Eighty-one students are involved in Advanced Placement. SVCC Associates Degree Pathway is now available to the class of 2017; these students will be able to graduate with an associates degree. Dr. Smith stated there is an increase in students in the Governor's School Pre-Engineering program and a new course has been developed by

Longwood University, an Economics/Personal Finance program which will require the class to be taken online and a few days on campus. The schools are implementing the Seven Habits Program through the elementary and middle schools, and are developing instructional problem-based learning, as well as an iPad Initiative to use technology to support instruction. Dr. Smith stated the graduation rate has increased from 74% to 86.8% in 2013 and the industrial certification has increase from 77 to 130 over the past three years. He also stated that in 2010, 23% of the students had Special Education Classes and now it is only 13% which is more in line with the state average.

Dr. Smith stated the State-required Standards of Learning are administered 100% online; the burden to provide the technology is on the localities.

Dr. Smith stated the total budget decreased 12.27%; the ADM decreased 13.7%; and the total number of contractual employees decreased 16.71% from 2009-2010 to 2013-2014. He reviewed the preliminary budget increases and stated the requested school budget is \$25,805,628; the requested cafeteria budget is \$1,075,034.

Dr. Smith reviewed the Executive Summary and highlighted the revenue sources for the schools: 55% of revenue from the state, 7% from federal sources and 34% from the locality. The large decline of federal funds equates to \$450,000 less to spend on training and targeted work done with students; he discussed the need for salary increases.

Dr. Smith then stated Latin and German language classes were cut, as was the ROTC program.

Supervisor Wilck questioned the VRS rate increase for the schools; Mr. Bartlett said the County and the Schools are on different VRS programs. The School VRS rate is equal to all other schools in the state and the County is stand-alone.

Supervisor Timmons questioned the number of teachers in each block level of service. Dr. Smith said he will provide the information to the Board regarding the statistics.

In Re: County Tax Rates

Mr. Bartlett reviewed the proposed advertisement for the budget and tax rate; he recommended the real estate tax rate be increased \$0.08 to \$0.50 per \$100 Assessed Valuation. He added that the advertised rate may not be increased, but it can be decreased.

Supervisor Timmons questioned the impact to the County and the schools if the advertisement is not approved. Dr. Smith stated the school cannot give contracts to teachers until late June; the requirement that after the legislature finalizes the budget, the governing body has to approve the budget within two weeks and the school board has to have contracts in the teachers' hands.

Supervisor Townsend made a motion to authorize advertisement for a public hearing scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the proposed FY 15 County Budget and County Tax Rates as presented.

Discussion followed regarding time constraints for the school budget. Mr. Bartlett stated the budget may be adopted but it is the appropriation of funds that matters.

Supervisor Townsend repeated his motion to authorize advertisement for a public hearing scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the proposed FY 15 County Budget and County Tax Rates as presented.

Supervisor Timmons made a substitute motion to authorize advertisement for a public hearing scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the proposed FY 15 County Budget and County Tax Rates set at \$0.06 per \$100 Assessed Valuations.

Chairman Simpson first called for a vote on Supervisor Timmons' substitute motion, to authorize advertisement for a public hearing scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the proposed FY 15 County Budget and County Tax Rates set at \$0.06 per \$100 Assessed Valuations; the motion failed:

Aye: Pattie Cooper-Jones
Howard F. Simpson
C. Robert Timmons, Jr.

Nay: Howard M. Campbell
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Jerry R. Townsend
Jim R. Wilck

Chairman Simpson called for a vote on the main motion made by Supervisor Townsend, to authorize advertisement for a public hearing scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the proposed FY 15 County Budget and County Tax Rates as presented; the motion carried:

Aye: Howard M. Campbell
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Jerry R. Townsend
Jim R. Wilck

Nay: Pattie Cooper-Jones
Howard F. Simpson
C. Robert Timmons, Jr.

On motion of Supervisor Cooper-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell	Nay:	None
	Pattie Cooper-Jones		
	Robert M. Jones		
	Charles W. McKay		
	Howard F. Simpson		
	C. Robert Timmons, Jr.		
	Jerry R. Townsend		
	Jim R. Wilck		

the meeting was recessed at 6:11 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.