

VIRGINIA: At an Adjourned Meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the County of

Accomack held in the Board Chambers on the 25th day of April, A.D., 2006.

Members Present: Donald L. Hart, Chair
Gregory L. Duncan, Vice Chair
Wanda J. Thornton
Ron S. Wolff
Sandra Hart Mears
Steve D. Mallette
Laura Belle Gordy
C. Reneta Major

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Steven B. Miner, County Administrator
Linda Martin Warner, Assist County Administrator
Shelia S. Goodman, Administrative Secretary
Reed Ennis, Finance Director
Michael Mason, Deputy Finance Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hart and opened with a prayer by Miss Major after which the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Mr. Hart reminded members that the dedication of the Social Services Building would be held on Wednesday, May 26th at 12:15 p.m.

FY 2007 Proposed General Budget

Chairman Hart recognized County Administrator Steven Miner.

Mr. Miner gave brief comments regarding the task of the Board having to adopt a balanced budget with possible tax increases and additional funding requests from County departments, other agencies, and the School Board. He gave a brief update regarding the proposed recommendations that had been discussed previously relating to the FY 2007 Budget. A discussion continued.

FY 2007 Proposed General Budget

Finance Director Reed Ennis distributed information to members concerning the Compensation Study costs and discussed same. He also provided information showing all of the increases which had been implemented in the proposed FY 2007 Budget. Mr. Ennis continued discussing the information which had been provided and responded to questions regarding the proposed tax increase, revenue proposed for the schools, cost for implementing the goal of the Strategic Plan, etc.

In reference to a proposed cost for a meal's tax, Mr. Ennis responded that staff had spoken to the Commissioner of Revenue George Fulk who informed staff that he was working on the matter but no information was available at the time.

A discussion issued regarding the amount of the proposed tax increase and the amount of reduction needed for a 3 cents/4 cents tax increase.

Staff responded to questions regarding the total cost of the reassessment and funds received from the sale of surplus school buildings. The Chairman stated that money had not been received for the sale of the Central Middle School. A discussion continued regarding the receipt of funding from the sale of the school properties.

Mrs. Thornton talked about other variables and scenarios she felt the County had for generating revenue opposed to raising taxes, i.e., land use taxes, sale of school properties, household waste fee, and delay of the reassessment. A discussion continued regarding same. A discussion ensued with Mr. Hart noting that some of the suggestions offered by Mrs. Thornton could be viable but would not affect the budget until the middle of the year. A discussion ensued regarding matters relating to the Land Use Taxation and a Meals Tax.

Discussions continued and suggestions were given regarding ways to reduce the proposed tax increase by possibly eliminating certain positions and various items on the operating side of the proposed 2007 Budget recommendations. County staff responded to questions regarding the present cost of legal fees and related matters pertaining to the full-time County Attorney position. A discussion ensued.

Based on the FY 2007 Budget Work Papers/Analysis of Recommended Funding Increases, Mrs. Mears made a motion to: Approve Goal #1, Eliminate Goal #2, Approve Goal #3, Approve Goal #5, Approve the Summary of Other County Administrator's Recommendation and to eliminate the \$100,000 for the Economic Development position/other costs. Mrs. Gordy seconded the motion.

A discussion ensued with Mr. Miner responded to questions regarding Solid Waste Mandates, School Board funding and other budgetary issues.

Mrs. Mears removed her motion from the floor.

There was discussion regarding matters relating to funding for the School Board and staff responded to questions about same. Members offered comments about their concerns with State mandates for School funding and its effect on local government. As requested, Mr. Rick Bull, Superintendent of Schools, responded to questions and briefly explained the process in which grant funding was received and spent.

Based on the FY 2007 Budget Work Papers/Analysis of Recommended Funding Increases, Mrs. Mears made a motion that all items remain as recommended and to remove

the following: the Economic Development position (\$100,000), Goal #2, which would establish strategically located solid waste convenience centers to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of solid waste collection in the County and to reduce the School Board's additional funding request from \$600,000 to \$400,000, a reduction of \$200,000; thereby creating no tax increase. Mrs. Gordy seconded the motion.

A discussion continued.

Mr. Bull offered comments and responded to questions regarding the impact the reduction in funding would have on being able to increase teacher's salaries, increased utility fees, computers, books, etc.

A discussion ensued regarding solid waste projects and other budgetary matters.

Mr. Mallette requested that the motion be amended to include Goal #2 at a cost of \$265,917 which would require a 2 cents tax increase.

Mrs. Mears made a motion to accept the amendment to include Goal #2 at a cost of \$265,917 requiring a 2 cents tax increase.

Mrs. Gordy seconded the motion.

A discussion continued regarding school funding and matters relating to same. The motion failed 1 – 7 with the following vote: Aye: Mrs. Mears. Nays: Mrs. Thornton, Miss Major, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Hart, Mrs. Gordy, Mr. Wolff and Mr. Mallette.

Mr. Wolff made a motion that the funding formula remain at 2 cents with all the recommended funding increases with the exception of the new Economic Development position (\$100,000) as proposed in the FY 2007 Budget Work Papers and approve the additional new funding to the schools of \$607,437 which would require a 3 cents tax increase. Mr. Mallette seconded the motion.

Mrs. Thornton requested that the motion be amended to omit the new position for a County Attorney and all costs associated. Mr. Wolff did not accept the amendment.

A discussion ensued. The motion failed 4 – 4 with the following vote. Aye: Mrs. Mears, Mr. Hart, Mr. Mallette and Mr. Wolff. Nay: Mrs. Thornton, Mrs. Gordy, Mr. Duncan and Miss Major.

Recess

The Chair declared a five-minute recess.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting back to order.

FY 2007 Proposed Budget

Mr. Wolff made a motion that the budget be adopted and appropriated with the inclusion of a 3¢ tax increase, to exclude funding of \$100,000 for the new Economic Development position; to give additional funding totaling \$804,347 to the Accomack County Schools, and that active grants and capital projects are continued. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. A discussion ensued.

The motion passed 7-1. The vote: Ayes: Mr. Mallette, Mrs. Mears, Mr. Wolff, Mr. Hart, Mrs. Gordy, Mr. Duncan, Miss Major. Nay: Mrs. Thornton.

Orders of Tax Levies

General Fund

Mr. Duncan made a motion that it be ordered that a tax of 49¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of real estate and mobile homes assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for general county purposes. Mr. Wolff seconded the motion. The motion passed 7 – 1. The vote: Ayes: Mr. Mallette, Mrs. Mears, Mr. Wolff, Mr. Hart, Mrs. Gordy, Mr. Duncan and Miss Major. Nay: Mrs. Thornton.

Mr. Duncan made a motion that it be ordered that a tax of \$3.10 be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of personal property and machinery & tools assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for general county purposes. Mr. Wolff seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-1. The vote: Ayes: Mr. Mallette, Mrs. Mears, Mr. Wolff, Mr. Hart, Mrs. Gordy, Mr. Duncan and Miss Major. Nay: Mrs. Thornton.

Mosquito Control – Greenbackville & Captain’s Cove

Mr. Wolff made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 4¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of real estate assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 to be paid to the Greenbackville/Captain’s Cove Mosquito Control District. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Atlantic District Fire and Rescue

Mr. Wolff made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 7¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of real estate and mobile homes assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing fire protection and/or rescue services in the Atlantic Fire and Rescue District. Mr. Mallette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wolff made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 8¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of personal property and machinery and tools assessed with taxes for the

Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing fire protection and/or rescue services in the Atlantic Fire and Rescue District. Mr. Mallette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Metompin District Fire and Rescue

Mr. Duncan made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 4¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of real estate and mobile homes assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing fire protection and/or rescue services in the Metompin Fire & Rescue District. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Duncan made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 5¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of personal property and machinery and tools assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing fire protection and/or rescue services in the Metompin Fire & Rescue District. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lee District Fire and Rescue

Mr. Mallette made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 4¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of real estate and mobile homes assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing fire protection and/or rescue services in the Lee Fire & Rescue District. Mrs. Gordy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mallette made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 5¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of personal property, and machinery and tools assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing fire protection and/or rescue services in the Lee Fire & Rescue District. Mrs. Gordy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Pungoteague District Fire and Rescue

Miss Major made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 5¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of real estate and mobile homes assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing fire protection and/or rescue services in the Pungoteague Fire & Rescue District. Mr. Hart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Miss Major made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 5¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of personal property and machinery and tools assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing fire protection and/or rescue service in the

Pungoteague Fire & Rescue District. Mr. Hart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consolidated EMS

Mr. Mallette made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 6¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of real estate and mobile homes assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for the purpose of providing emergency medical services in the Atlantic, Metompkin, Lee, and Pungoteague Fire & Rescue Districts. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Debt Service

Mr. Wolff made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 11¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of real estate and mobile homes assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for retirement of school debt. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wolff made a motion that it is ordered that a tax of 6¢ be levied on every \$100 of assessed value of personal property and machinery and tools and assessed with taxes for the Fiscal Year 2007 for retirement of school debt. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

RFP 197

Mr. Mallette made a motion to approve the award of RFP #197 for General Reassessment Services. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Accomack County Health Department

Finance Director Reed Ennis updated members about the presentation made by Dr. Fears regarding the request from the Health Department for supplemental funding.

Mr. Duncan made a motion that the fees in the amount of \$7,124 be returned for Fiscal 2005 to be appropriated to the Fiscal 2006 budget to provide the local match for an additional Environmental Health Specialist as requested from the Health Department. Miss Major seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Accomack County Parks and Recreation

A brief discussion transpired regarding remaining funds needed by Parks and Recreation to complete the new ball field at the Nandua Middle School.

Closed Meeting

Miss Major made a motion that the Board go into closed meeting for the following purposes pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mrs. Gordy absent.

(A) (1) Discussion of personnel matters, and

(A) (7) or consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation related to the Onancock High School property

Open Meeting

The Chair declared the meeting open to the public.

Certification of Closed Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Hart and seconded by Mr. Wolff, a roll call vote was taken pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia immediately after reconvening in Open Meeting, at which time each member certified by his vote that the only matters discussed during the Closed Meeting were (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements under this chapter and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened.

Aye: Mrs. Thornton	Mr. Mallette
Mr. Wolff	Mrs. Gordy
Mr. Duncan	Miss Major
Mrs. Mears	Mr. Hart

Recess

Miss Major made a motion to recess at 5:25 p.m. to Metompkin Elementary School for a joint meeting with the Accomack County Planning Commission at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair