

At a regular monthly meeting of the Accomack County Board of Supervisors, held on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2019, in the Accomack County Board of Supervisors Chambers, Room 104, in Accomac, Virginia at 5:00 p.m.

## **1. Opening of Meeting**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT**

#### **Board of Supervisors Present:**

Donald L. Hart, Jr., Chair  
C. Reneta Major, Vice Chair  
Robert D. Crockett  
William J. "Billy" Tarr  
Laura Belle Gordy  
Grayson C. Chesser  
Harrison W. Phillips, III  
Paul E. J. Muhly

#### **Board of Supervisors Absent:**

Ron S. Wolff

#### **Others Present:**

Mr. Michael T. Mason, County Administrator  
Mrs. Cela J. Burge, County Attorney  
Mr. Gregory Davis, Chief Financial Officer  
Mrs. Jessica Taylor Hargis, Executive Assistant

There being a quorum, Chairman Hart called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### **1.1. Invocation**

The invocation was given by Mr. Tarr.

### **1.2. Pledge of Allegiance**

## **2. Consent Agenda**

### **2.1 Consider changing polling place from New Church Firehouse to Arcadia Middle School based on the Fire Company's decision to cease allowing the County to use the facility for election purposes.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Chesser and seconded by Mr. Muhly, the Accomack County Board of Supervisors voted to schedule a public hearing for its February 20, 2018 meeting, as required by the Code of Virginia 24.2-306, prescribed notice requirements when a change in polling place occurs.**

## **3. County Administrator's Proposed FY20 Budget**

Mr. Mason acknowledged County staff for their hard work on the Proposed Annual Fiscal Plan, in particular, the Finance staff. He noted his understanding of being charged with

providing the Board with a proposed annual budget and while much of the document is focused on the financial side of County government, the budget is the most significant policy document the Board will approve each year. The document determines this County's priorities going forward and ultimately decides what initiatives staff will be charged with completing.

Mr. Mason expressed that just as successful businesses do, the County needs to constantly reevaluate the needs and expectations of its customers and respond to them. Our ability to adapt determines whether we are successful or not. It is with this mindset that he and the entire leadership team have approached this budget.

Mr. Mason noted the following priorities in his proposed budget:

**1. Keep property tax rates at or below their current levels**

- No increase in the current real estate or personal property tax rate is proposed.

**2. Continue to attract and retain a high-performing workforce**

- Leverage potential state matching funds and provide a 2% general compensation increase for the entire workforce.
- Incentivize employee skill development and advancement.
- Pay increase for poll workers.
- Increase employer health insurance premium match for spouse/dependent plans, to become more in-line with the national average.

**3. Maintain the County's investment in its buildings and infrastructure and prepare for future capital replacement**

- Building & Infrastructure Repairs (Circuit Court, 911 Building, Animal Control roof)
- Northern Spur Water & Sewer extension
- Boating Facility Repairs/Improvements (Folly Creek)
- 911 Center IT equipment and back-up plan
- Scheduled IT Infrastructure Replacement & Maintenance
- Vehicle and Equipment Replacement

**4. Maintain or improve customer service & employee/customer safety**

- Replace County & School financial system, cost shared with schools
- Armed security for the Clerk of Circuit Court, surveillance for the Administrative Building and operating costs of cameras at convenience centers.
- Support for permitting and tracking software
- Part-time Zoning Enforcement position
- Convert part-time registrar position to full-time
- Industrial Park lighting operating cost
- Replace customer counter in the Treasurer's Office with ADA compliant counter
- Operating costs associated with new EOC building

**5. Continue to strengthen "Rainy Day" fund to a "best practice" level**

- Make 50% of scheduled transfer, still on target to reach 2022 goal of reserving 16.7% of revenue.

**6. Honor contractual commitments, agreements and mandates**

- School Division Revenue Sharing Agreement
- Health Department Agreement
- E.S. Community Services Board Performance Contract
- Cooperative Extension agreement
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site Agreement

Mr. Mason and the Board discussed the following projects that Mr. Mason had identified as ‘Not funded, but needed’:

1. Sawmill Park Pavilion – Use of the park will never be maximized without a pavilion
2. Additional E911 funding – Staffing and succession are major issues
3. Regional Housing Assessment and Strategic Plan
4. Improvements at other boating facilities (Queen Sound, Schooner Bay)
5. Repairs to non-essential but historically significant facilities, such as the Debtor’s Prison

Mr. Davis reviewed the layout and navigation of the FY20 Fiscal Plan with the Board.

Mr. Crockett thanked the County and its citizens for their donations of water to Tangier Island while they await repairs to the main water line that burst. He specifically thanked Director of Public Safety, C. Ray Pruitt and his staff for their quick response and willingness to assist, as well as staff of the Department of Public Works who assisted in the transportation, delivery and loading of 840 cases of water. Mr. Crockett informed the Board that the new equipment and repair crew had arrived on Tangier and hoped repairs would be completed by February 8, 2019.

Ms. Major asked the Board and citizens for their thoughts and prayers for the State of Virginia.

**4. Adjournment**

**On a motion made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mrs. Gordy, the Accomack County Board of Supervisors voted, at 6:32 p.m., to recess to its Wednesday, February 6, 2019 Budget Meeting to receive department and agency budget requests.**