

VIRGINIA: At an Adjourned Meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the County of Accomack held in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in Accomac, Virginia on the 5th day of February, A.D., 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Robert D. Crockett, Chair
Donald L. Hart, Jr., Vice Chair
Ron S. Wolff
William J. “Billy” Tarr
Grayson C. Chesser
Paul E. J. Muhly
Harrison W. Phillips, III
Laura Belle Gordy, Vice Chair
C. Reneta Major

Others Present: Michael Mason, County Administrator
Cela Burge, County Attorney

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, and opened with a prayer by Mr. William “Billy” Tarr, after which the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

The Chair recognized Mr. Hart for comments.

On behalf of his family and himself, Mr. Hart extended expressions of gratitude and appreciation to the Board and staff for the various acts of kindness shown to them during the passing of his Dad.

Contract Renewal for Virtual Information Security Officer Services

Mr. Tarr made a motion to approve the contract renewal in the amount of \$57,431 for Virtual Information Security Officer (ISO) Bronze level services with Assura, Inc., using GSA Federal Supply Schedule Contract(s) GS-35F-437BA as the Procurement Vehicle. Mr. Wolff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

County Administrator's Proposed FY19 Proposed Budget

Mr. Mason acknowledged County staff for their hard work to accomplish the budget document and he recognized, in particular, the Finance staff for putting together a very complete and clear document in preparation of the presentation.

Mr. Mason stated that he was fully aware of the charge given him as County Administrator to present the Board a proposed budget. He further stated it was the single biggest policy decision that members would make in 2018 because the budget document would dictate what staff does and what the priorities are as a County moving forward. In summary, he stated that the status quo was not good enough anymore because the County needed to constantly reevaluate the needs of the customers (the taxpayers) and rethink how things are done and respond to the demands of the public and to the Board.

Mr. Mason provided an agenda and attachments which included the proposed FY19 Annual Fiscal Plan and draft CIP. He gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation with an explanation of the FY2018-19 Proposed County Budget and Tax Rates work papers which included:

- The Budget “At-A-Glance”
- Guiding FY19 Budget Priorities
- Overall Budget Highlights
- Tax Rates
- Review of Major Funds
 - General Fund
 - Consolidated EMS Fund
 - County Debt Service Fund
 - Landfill Enterprise Fund
 - Airport Enterprise Fund
- Other Items
- Navigating the Annual Fiscal Plan
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule

He stated that the FY19 Budget was much smaller than the prior year's budget because the capital spending varies from one year to another and explained the difference, noting last year's \$60 million budget compared to this year's FY19 budget which is \$57.5 million, a decrease overall of 4%.

He informed members that the total requests for the FY19 budget from all departments and agencies totaled over \$8 million and included additional funding that is historically provided to the School Board through the formula driven allocation in the amount of \$493,000.

Mr. Mason pointed out that of the entire County budget, 56% of the revenue coming in is from general property taxes and the next biggest percentage is Aid from the Commonwealth at 16.6% and other local sales taxes at 13.5%, etc.

In offering clarification for the media, Mr. Crockett offered comments regarding same, noting that the percentage of revenue to operate the budget is sort of low when it comes to real estate taxes which helps the county to offset a reduction in property value without a tax increase.

Mr. Mason stated that the local share that the county provides to the local school system is the largest appropriation at 31% and discussed other appropriations.

He discussed the overall local revenue which highlighted some of the following Guiding FY19 Budget Priorities:

- #1 Keep property tax rates at or below their current levels
- #2 Become a more business resilient County
- #3 Continue to attract and retain a high-performing workforce
- #4 Maintain the County's investment in its infrastructure and prepare for future capital replacement
- #5 Maintain or improve customer service & employee/customer safety
- #5 Continue to strengthen "Rainy Day" fund to a "best practice" level
- #6 Honor contractual commitments, agreements and mandates

He briefly discussed two components of compensation increases which:

- 1) Addresses noncompetitive salaries of law enforcement and correctional officers by providing targeted compensation increases effective December 1, 2018.
- 2) Provides a 2% pay increase for remaining County and State-supported local positions effective December 1, 2018.

Mr. Crockett referenced a meeting which had been held with some members of the School Board staff and Mr. Mason had informed them that there would be an increase in the County's funding for the School Board's budget, noting that school staff stated they would use the additional funds for teachers' salaries.

He informed members of the 7% increase in building, zoning and E&S fees which had not had a significant increase since FY2006.

He stated there was no increase in the real estate or personal property tax rates despite 1.8% reduction in real property values per reassessment results.

Mr. Mason continued discussion regarding FY19 Budget Priorities and matters relating to same.

Mr. Mason proceeded with the PowerPoint presentation and discussed some of the following FY19 Budget overviews:

- Debt Service Fund
The purpose and revenue source
- General Fund
Revenues and Available Funds
- General Fund
Expenditures
- Consolidated EMS Fund
Purpose and Revenue Source
- Multiple Requests/Different Approaches
Option 1 – 3 additional positions
Option 2 – Requests received from Fire and Rescue Departments for new career

EMS personnel for Greenbackville and Saxis.

He stated that he was deferring the decision on the EMS staffing and the tax rates that go with it to the Board once it receives the recommendation from the Chairman's EMS and Fire Committee because they are actually working on it.

He informed members that there were no tax rate increases in the budget proposal.

Mr. Mason reviewed and discussed the summary of revenues, school revenue-sharing funding formula with an increase of \$392,000 plus the restoration of the prior one-time reduction, 2% pay increase for County and State supported employees, one-time capital needs funding, state funding issues, increased funding requests by departments, reassessment impact, debt service, real estate tax comparison with peer group, pay and benefits and additional staffing with a net increase of two (2) FTEs, and the rainy day fund.

He briefly discussed the process of strategic planning which he stated was considered a best practice because it also afforded the Board the opportunity to "craft" the resources and the direction in which it wanted the County to go.

Mr. Mason stated there was no increase in tax rates in the proposed budget and noted that Accomack County's tax rate was the 14th lowest out of 19 counties. He continued to discuss matters relating to tax rates.

He explained in detail the General Fund budget and discussed the revenues and available funds and expenditures.

He discussed matters relating to the anticipated 6.4% increase in medical premiums and the dependent cost. Mr. Mason responded to questions from the Board.

There was discussion regarding funding for an additional School Resource Officer.

Mr. Mason continued discussion regarding the FY18 Budget Priorities and other related matters and responded to questions.

Other Funded Initiatives

Mr. Mason talked about other initiatives with funding proposed for strategic planning and increasing contingencies for the Space Needs Committee needs and Management Reorganization. A discussion continued regarding the management structure with Mr. Mason responding to questions.

Navigation

Mr. Mason gave the Board instructions as to how to find information in the Annual Fiscal Plan that was provided and briefly discussed same.

He noted that FY18 Proposed Annual Fiscal Plan would be posted to the Agenda on the County's Board Docs website as well as to the County website the following day.

Proposal for Search Firm

Human Resources Director, Kathy Carmody, requested that the Board approve authorization for the County Purchasing Manager to issue a request for the proposal for the services of an Executive Search Firm to provide professional services during the recruitment and selection process for the County Administrator search.

Mr. Hart made a motion to give authorization to proceed with an RFP for an Executive Search Firm for the County Administrator search. Ms. Major seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Closed Meeting

Mr. Tarr made a motion that the Board go into closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711. (A) (7), of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended for the following purposes. Mr. Muhly seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

1. For the purpose of consultation with legal counsel for the Board to receive County Attorney's briefing about a specific legal matter particularly related to legislative affecting rail and public transit.

Open Session

The Chair declared the meeting open to the public.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wolff to reconvene in Open Meeting and to Certify by roll call vote, pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia, that to the best of each member's knowledge the only matters heard, discussed, or considered during the Closed Meeting were (i) public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements under this chapter and (ii) such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened.

Ayes:	Mr. Tarr	Mr. Wolff	Mr. Chesser	Mr. Hart
	Mr. Muhly	Mr. Phillips	Mr. Crockett	Ms. Major
	Nays: None	Absent: Gordy		

Adjournment

Mr. Wolff made a motion to adjourn to February 8, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers. Ms. Major seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.