

Special Called Board of Supervisors Budget Meeting (Wednesday, March 15, 2023)
Northumberland County, VA

Members present:

Ronald L. Jett, James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, Thomas H. Tomlin, James W. Brann

Other Staff Present:

Mr. Luttrell Tadlock, County Administrator
Mr. Drew Basye, Assistant County Administrator
Ms. Morgan Wilson, Executive Assistant
Mr. Robert Headley, IT Administrator
Mr. Matthew Bailey, IT Assistant

The special called meeting was convened by Chairman Haynie and held at the Northumberland Courthouse located at 220 Judicial Place, Heathsville, VA 22473.

1. Call to Order

Procedural: A. Meeting Call to Order 5:00 p.m.

2. Budget Discussion

Discussion: A. Discussion

***Due to the School Board postponing their budget public hearing to March 26, 2023, there was no discussion on the school budget at this time.*

3. County Administrator Items

Action, Information: A. Health Insurance Update

County Administrator Tadlock explained that the Board asked for additional information on the potential of the County offering health insurance to part-time employees. Staff sent out a survey to see how many part-time employees would be interested in this opportunity, and only 1 out of 43 employees were interested so the County's participation rate would drop below 75%.

The School Division has now classified their bus drivers as full-time employees, so the County no longer needs to consider this option.

County Administrator Tadlock continued by bringing attention to the document provided to the Board showing the health insurance rate increase of 9.9%, and the cost increase of approximately \$98,752.20.

Motion A: Motion to approve FY24 Local Choice Renewal Rates as presented for active employees, with no change to the employee contribution cost.

Motion by: Thomas H. Tomlin, second by: Ronald L. Jett.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Ronald L. Jett, James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, Thomas H. Tomlin, James W. Brann

Motion B: Motion to approve FY24 Local Choice Renewal Rates for Cobra Rates as presented with full premium cost to eligible participants.

Motion by: Thomas H. Tomlin, second by: James W. Brann.

Motion Carried

Aye: Ronald L. Jett, James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, Thomas H. Tomlin, James W. Brann

County Administrator Tadlock then reminded the Board that they were considering changing the regular meeting start time to 5:00 p.m. The regular meeting date advertisement included a start time of 5:30 p.m., so if the Board voted to change the start time to 5:00 p.m., staff would need to readvertise the remaining dates with that new start time.

Supervisor Tomlin suggested keeping closed meeting items where they are and postponing it to the end of the meeting if they are running behind on time. Along with this, Mr. Tomlin doesn't believe presentations need to be read aloud if they are already provided on paper for the Board.

Supervisor Brann suggested leaving the order of the agenda as it is and revisit it if they run into the issue again.

Supervisor Tomlin asked County Administrator Tadlock to see what other localities do about public comments and repetitive speaking to see if there's any way to eliminate some time.

Vice Chairman Jett asked staff to look into lights that change color for time limit purposes during the public comment/hearing section.

Supervisor Tomlin asked County Administrator Tadlock to look into getting the dispatchers a second computer screen or separate computer for more efficient notifications on the "I am responding" app.

Supervisor Brann referenced page 157 in the audit report and asked if the invoices have been matched up with the expenditures from the school. Along with this, Mr. Brann wanted to know if the school received a credit or if money was put back into the budget for the bills that were overpaid.

Supervisor Brann continued by referencing page 156 relating to the conflict between the Treasurer's office and the School Board in reconciling the total school fund expenditures. Mr. Brann asked how this can be changed to ensure the Treasurer has all the proper information she needs to reconcile.

County Administrator Tadlock stated that he would follow up with the auditor on the items from page 157. The Treasurer has been communicating with Finance Director Booth and Superintendent Wargo in relation to what needs to be reported to the Treasurer for reconciliation.

Supervisor Tomlin asked if the County ever received a carryover figure from the School Board last year.

County Administrator Tadlock stated that former Finance Director Bellows provided that number before he left the position.

Supervisor Tomlin would like the carryover figure from fiscal year 2022.

County Administrator Tadlock stated that through conversations with the auditor, there was approximately \$320,000 that the County paid due to federal funds not being requested in time, so it is his understanding that there were no left-over monies returned to the locality.

4. Items Related to Closed Meeting

Action, Information: A. Convene into Closed Meeting

Motion to Action: A. Convene into Closed Meeting: convene into closed meeting as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1), (29); 1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that involves the teacher and some student and the student involved in the matter is present, provided the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board. Nothing in this subdivision, however, shall be construed to authorize a closed meeting by a local governing body or an elected school board to discuss compensation matters that affect the membership of such body or board collectively. 29. Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

Motion by: Ronald L. Jett, second by: James W. Brann.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Ronald L Jett, James M Long, Richard F Haynie, Thomas H Tomlin, James W Brann

Action: B. Reconvene into Open Meeting

Motion to reconvene into open session.

Motion by: Thomas H. Tomlin, second by: Ronald L. Jett.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Ronald L. Jett, James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, Thomas H. Tomlin, James W. Brann

Action: C. Certification of Closed Meeting

Motion that the Northumberland Board of Supervisors return to Public Meeting and certify by roll call vote that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered during the closed meeting.

The vote on the motion was passed by a roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Richard F. Haynie, Ronald L. Jett, Thomas H. Tomlin, James M. Long, James W. Brann

Motion by: Richard F. Haynie, second by: Ronald L. Jett.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Ronald L. Jett, James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, Thomas H. Tomlin, James W. Brann

Information: D. Action(s) taken from Closed Meeting

5. Closing of Meeting

Action: A. Carry Over

Motion to carry over to the special called meeting on March 22, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Motion by: Thomas H. Tomlin, second by: Ronald L. Jett.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Ronald L. Jett, James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, Thomas H. Tomlin, James W. Brann