

Special Called Board of Supervisors Budget Meeting (Wednesday, March 22, 2023)
Northumberland County, Virginia

Members present:

Ronald L. Jett (arrived at 5:15 p.m.), 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 Presentations

Information: A. David Woolard - Sanitary District

Plant Supervisor, David Woolard, thanked the Board for their continuous support of the sanitary district and provided a document that shows the daily operations and duties for the three wastewater treatment plants. Each facility requires a lot of time and effort, so the sanitary district is requesting funds to hire another full-time employee in fiscal year 2024. Mr. Woolard emphasized they simply do not have enough help to complete daily projects and maintenance.

Supervisor Tomlin asked who does the sampling for the sanitary district.

Mr. Woolard stated that each staff member is trained to do this, but specific employees do the sampling.

Chairman Haynie asked how much time is spent at the school's wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Woolard explained that two hours a day are typically spent at the school plant, but this does not include the time it takes to complete the paperwork/reports required by The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Supervisor Tomlin asked how long it takes for the report to be completed.

Mr. Woolard explained that the report takes about an hour and a half to complete.

Supervisor Brann asked Mr. Woolard to update this document to show all information related to the sanitary district such as sewer connections, manhole covers, and drainage. Mr. Brann does not believe Mr. Woolard is being fair to himself by only listing a small portion of the duties performed by the sanitary district.

***Vice Chairman Jett arrived at the meeting.*

Information: B. Jamie Tucker and Tara Walker - RCC

Ms. Jamie Tucker listed some statistics related to the enrollment of Northumberland students in Rappahannock Community College (RCC) and stated that Northumberland is a leader in this aspect. RCC is requesting an increase in funding this year in the amount of \$279.00 which totals \$9,656.00 for fiscal year 2024.

Supervisor Brann had the opportunity to be a student at RCC by enrolling in their CDL program. Mr. Brann stated that the program is wonderful and RCC should stand behind Mr. Michael Carter whose heart and soul is dedicated to that program.

Supervisor Tomlin asked what the statutory constitutional requirement was for RCC's five-foot rule.

Ms. Tara Walker explained that she would look into this and get this information to County Administrator Tadlock.

Information: C. Chris Stallings - Healthy Harvest Food Bank

Mr. Chris Stallings stated that the funding request from Health Harvest Food Bank for fiscal year 2024 was \$10,000.00. Mr. Stallings' full presentation can be accessed in board docs.

Information: D. Jane Blue - Library Director

Library Director Jane Blue invited Ms. Jamie Tucker, the Chair for the Board of Trustees, to speak on behalf of the library. Ms. Tucker thanked the Board for their support and hoped they'd consider the funding request to allow the library to meet the state requirement for County funding.

Library Director Blue shared some recent accomplishments of the library as well as a long-range plan for the library. Their funding request for fiscal year 2024 is \$260,490.00. More information related to Mrs. Jane Blue's presentation can be found in board docs.

Information: E. Sheriff Beauchamp - Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Beauchamp presented the Sheriff's office operational budget request for fiscal year 2024 by going through each line-item request. Each line-item request can be accessed in board docs. Along with this, Sheriff Beauchamp presented the request for additional patrol positions for fiscal year 2024 – 2026 and included justifications for why these positions are needed. Sheriff Beauchamp finished by presenting the animal shelter's budget request for fiscal year 2024. More information related to their request can also be accessed in board docs.

3. County Administrator Items

Action, Information: A. Emergency Radio Microwave Replacement

County Administrator Tadlock explained that the link from the Lottsburg tower to the high school tower failed and Radio Communications found that it was defective when trying to troubleshoot it. The installed units are no longer available or compatible with the newest model radios, so the entire link needs to be replaced.

Motion to approve the quote from Radio Communications for replacement of the defective E.O.L. microwave link from the high school tower to the Lottsburg tower in the amount of \$16,709.00 for the County's emergency radio system.

Motion by: Thomas H. Tomlin, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Supervisor Tomlin asked staff to work on getting a timeline for when the replacement would be completed.

Information: B. School Bus Update

The school provided the Board with two updated estimates for school buses. One bus estimate was \$125,269.00 and the bus is available to be purchased. The other bus estimate totaled \$132,640.00, but the bus has a 25-week lead time. County Administrator Tadlock explained that the school wanted to make the Board aware that they will be moving forward with the single bus estimate that totaled \$125,269.00. County Administrator Tadlock stated that purchasing the two buses combined exceeds the \$200,000.00 that the Board appropriated in the school's capital improvement plan budget for fiscal year 2023.

Discussion: C. Solar Energy Facility, Small System

County Administrator Tadlock explained that Mr. Mark Mally spoke at the regular meeting on February 9, 2023, about small energy facilities. Mr. Mally installed a solar field next to his house

that is a 25KW system, but he would like to upgrade it to 36 KW, so he requested the Board to consider the ability to exceed 25KW.

The Board requested staff to reach out to Mr. Mally to get additional information on his project before they send the ordinance to the Planning Commission.

4. Closing of Meeting

Action: A. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

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