

**MINUTES
KING WILLIAM COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2015**

A scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors of King William County, Virginia, was held on the 13th day of April, 2015, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, with the following present:

Terry S. Stone, Chairman
Stephen K. Greenwood, Vice-Chairman
C. Thomas Redd III
Travis J. Moskalski
Otto O. Williams

Daniel M. Stuck, County Attorney and Interim County Administrator
K. Charles Griffin, County Administrator

RE: CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the Board of Supervisors meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked for a roll call vote.

C. T. Redd III	Aye
T. J. Moskalski	Aye
S. K. Greenwood	Aye
O. O. Williams	Aye
T. S. Stone	Aye

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2016

i. Staff Presentation – Mr. Stuck gave a brief overview of the budget recommendations. He said the proposed budget is a maintenance level budget. He said the expenditures are proposed to do what was done in the County in 2015 and does not propose any real changes to programs. The proposed budget takes into account inflation; state mandates; cost shifting; cost increases; and loss of revenue due to the change in the assessment.

He said in preparation of this budget there were some significant cost issues that had to be addressed. He explained that these are costs that the County is going to experience in the next few years that were not experienced in the current year. Total spending in the general fund is up about 2.7%. There is no proposed increase for the school budget or other budget items except where mandated. He noted the expenditures for the next fiscal year is relatively flat partly due to the slowly improving economy. State and federal revenues are also flat and no anticipation of any additional funding from these sources. The funds received from these sources have

been allocated by the General Assembly for pay raises to the Constitutional Officers and other specified items. He stated the assessment is the big item and is a significant reduction of approximately 12% in the property tax base. There is also an anticipated decline in the number of utility connections.

In closing, he said the proposed budget meets mandated increases and recaptures the revenues lost because of the decline in the assessment.

Mr. Moskalski asked for clarification if the increase in debt service is largely due to the refinancing of a note in 2011 and not because of any new debt.

Mr. Stuck stated that is correct and that there have been no recent borrowings.

Mr. Greenwood asked for clarification if the increase in debt service includes completing any unfinished areas or any improvements in the courthouse building.

Mr. Stuck confirmed that no funds are allocated to any additional build out of the courthouse building in this budget or the five year CIP.

ii. Public Comments (3 minutes per individual; 5 minutes if representing an organization or group) – Chair Stone declared the public hearing open to receive comments on the proposed Budget FY 2016.

1. Eugene Campbell, of the 2nd District, stated he has spent some time reviewing the proposed budget and suggested several areas he feels should be looked at and possibly cut. He strongly supports the Parks and Recreation department and King William Schools. He also supports the land use program but feels the qualifying parcels should be more closely monitored.

2. Donald Berberich, of 2450 Old New Castle, opposes the land use program and feels all land owners in King William County should be taxed the same. He also feels the County could cut spending in order to lower the tax rate.

3. Bob Shannon, of the 3rd District, said healthcare and pension benefits for public sector employees are steadily increasing and the brunt of these increases are going to be incurred at the state and local level. He encouraged the Board to be cautious about adding any new personnel for this reason. He suggested the Board take another look at the proposed reduction in services at the Regional Animal Shelter to only services mandated by the State.

4. Charles Piersa, of the 2nd District and President of Farm Bureau, spoke in favor of the land use program. He feels farm and forestry lands do not cost the County any money and is not a burden; homes are what costs the County money.

5. Ann Todd, land owner in the 2nd District, opposes a tax increase including any tax increases on businesses. She feels the tax rate in King William is too high. She urged that spending be kept under control and lowered if possible. She encouraged the Board to make sure that future growth of the County is considered when preparing and adopting budgets.

6. James Bancroft, of 408 Norwood Bruington, spoke in support of the Regional Animal Shelter.

7. Don Wagner, of 5515 Herring Creek Road, feels the County has come a long way in the last few years despite cutting a number of positions. He suggested attention be focused on economic development for the County. He also feels our schools need to be protected and progress in a positive direction is needed. He supports the activities of the Parks and Recreation department. He urged the Board to accept the budget as presented.

8. Ann Garner, of 8071 Dabneys Mill Road, supports the schools in King William County and encouraged the Board to continue the much needed support. She also supports Parks and Recreation.

9. Tere Pistole, of King & Queen County and representing North America Animals, spoke in support of the Regional Animal Shelter.

10. Anne Mason, of the 4th District and representing Indian Rivers Humane Society, also spoke in support of the Regional Animal Shelter.

11. Dan Jones, of 343 Spring Pleasant Drive, spoke in support of King William County Schools. He urged the Board to look into more funding in order to keep the schools competitive and on a level playing field.

12. Tracey Anderson, of the 4th District and representing the King William Public Schools Education Foundation, gave a brief explanation of what the nonprofit organization does. The main goal of the organization is to raise funds to build an auditorium for King William County Schools. As a citizen she spoke in

support of King William County Schools and Parks and Recreation. However, she has seen a decline in the activities that drew her family to reside in the County.

13. Jean Wightman, of the 4th District and representing the Indian Rivers Humane Society, spoke in support of the Regional Animal Shelter.

14. Steven Tupponce, representing the King William County School Board, spoke in support of level funding King William County Schools.

15. Jeanette Wagner, of 5515 Herring Creek Road, spoke in support of farmers having the benefits of the land use program. However, she feels the program is over used and should be monitored more closely. She also supports King William County schools.

There being no other persons to appear for or against this matter Chair Stone closed the public hearing.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED TAX LEVIES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015

i. Staff Presentation – Mr. Stuck had no additional information to provide.

ii. Public Comments (3 minutes per individual; 5 minutes if representing an organization or group) – Chair Stone declared the public hearing open to receive comments on the proposed Tax Levies for Calendar Year 2015.

1. Robert Hughes, of the 2nd District, opposes any tax increase. In his opinion, some services provided could be out sourced in order to save money. He also urged the Board to make cuts to the budget to get spending under control.

2. William Hughes, of the 5th District, thanked the Board for the transparent discussions on the development of the proposed tax rate. He suggested the Board call for a volunteer committee to propose ways to bring growth to King William.

There being no other persons to appear for or against this matter Chair Stone closed the public hearing.

Chair Stone thanked everyone for coming and the valuable input received from the many speakers. She noted the next budget work session is

scheduled for Friday, April 17th, and will be a full day of budget deliberations. There is a budget work session scheduled for Monday, April 20th, at 7 p.m., if needed.

RE: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' COMMENTS

The Board members thanked everyone for their input on the public hearing matters presented.

Mr. Williams said it is a struggle to balance, to be fair to everyone, and to keep the quality of services provided to the citizens. He said many people came to live in King William for the rural setting.

Mr. Redd said the Board listens, appreciates, and considers all public comments made by the citizens. He anticipates the upcoming work session to be productive.

Mr. Greenwood also feels homeowners are getting the brunt of the proposed tax increase. He is in favor of making cuts and hopes some will be made during the scheduled work session. He said the Board does take public input seriously.

Mr. Moskalski urged citizens to review the proposed budget for an illustration of where we are today and where we have been. He noted the proposed tax rate in this budget is one penny less than the adopted tax rate for the County in 2007. He feels this Board has held the line on spending to the amount it is possible. He said every year we are faced with increased costs not only because of inflationary pressures but also because of state mandates and lower levels of state funding. He feels the public comments made tonight in support of services provided are important and they impact a lot of people. From his perspective, he cannot see sacrificing these programs in the name of a penny here and there. In his opinion, it is worth funding these programs at the current level. In closing, he said he continues to support the land use program and feels it is a useful tool for farmers in this area. He agrees with the Farm Bureau that the program needs to be held steady and only allow those that belong in it.

Chair Stone pointed out that the information presented on the proposed budget to date is available on the County website. She reiterated that the services funded in this budget is at the state mandated levels; very few are over and above the level. She explained the public hearing meeting schedule was changed this year so the Board could hear public comments prior to the all-day budget work session meeting.

She said some of the line items in the budget are complex and if citizens have questions they should contact a Board member for further explanation.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before this board Chair Stone adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

COPY TESTE:

Terry S. Stone, Chair
Board of Supervisors

Bobbi L. Langston
Deputy Clerk to the Board