

FLUVANNA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
Circuit Courtroom
Fluvanna Courts Building
February 9th 2011
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Y. Gooch, Chairman
Joe Chesser
Donald W. Weaver
Mozell H. Booker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shaun Kenney, Vice Chairman
Chris Fairchild

ALSO PRESENT: Jay Scudder, County Administrator
Renee Hoover, Finance Director
Crystal Besecker, Budget Analyst
Mary L. Weaver, Clerk, Board of Supervisors

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gooch called the FY12 Budget work session of February 9th 2011 to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Circuit Courtroom, Fluvanna Courts Building, Palmyra, Virginia.

Chairman Gooch began the meeting by reviewing the agenda briefly and introducing the presenter for the night, Ms. Hoover.

PRESENTATION

Ms. Hoover began the PowerPoint presentation on the County's proposed revenues and expenditures for FY12. The slides began with housekeeping which stated the changes that had occurred since the last meeting on 2/2/11. The Lake Water Rescue vehicle was reduced from \$125,000 to \$25,000 due to a subsequent conversation with Mr. Scott Carpenter, Lake Fire Chief, the vehicle will be financed therefore only requiring the 1st year allocation of the total debt.

Mr. Chesser asked if the vehicle that was requested during last week's presentation by the F&R was in addition to the Water Rescue vehicle and has anyone evaluated whether or not there is a true need for the vehicle. According to the budget request the vehicle Mr. Chesser is referring to is an additional vehicle. (The vehicle was requested in conjunction with a request for paid contract medics so provide transportation to and from rescue sites.)

Ms. Hoover returned to the presentation and proceeded with updating the board members on the recent legislative changes in the General Assembly. She then proceeded to discuss the County's top 5 local revenues. Mrs. Booker inquired about Personal Property tax when the slide was presented and asked if Mr. Scudder was proposing an increase in this tax for the FY12 budget. He stated it is an option, a .05¢ increase nets \$88k. Mrs. Booker also stated she had received a memorandum from a former Commissioner of Revenue who indicated this is a tax the county should consider increasing.

Mr. Weaver mentioned he remembers hearing about tax on Natural Gas. He asked if staff could find out if this is still a possibility.

Attention returned to the presentation. While reviewing the state revenue funding changes, Ms. Hoover stated that Social Services had alerted her they are indeed anticipating a \$48k reduction in administrative service funding. (This is a change from when the slides were prepared.) Schools have stated they anticipate at least a \$1.3 to \$1.4 million dollar reduction in state funding.

Moving forward in the presentation to *Alternative Revenue* sources, after presenting the data on BPOL from the 1997 report commissioned by the BOS, Mrs. Booker spoke up and stated she was ready to take action now. She pointed out the fact that research was done back in 1997 and found these to be viable resources and staff is once again presenting those same findings as viable.

Mr. Scudder interjected the conversation to add another potential revenue source, Land Use value which could be considered and changed next year during the reassessment. The purpose for doing this along with implementing BPOL and Meals and Lodging taxes would be to spread out the tax burden and relieve the pressure on real estate. BPOL would require an ordinance whereas Meals and Lodging tax would require a referendum.

Mr. Gooch then polled the other 3 board members asking if they were ready to take action. Staff was directed to:

- 1) Follow-up with the Registrar to find out what would be required to have the meals and lodging tax placed on the ballot for referendum.
- 2) Prepare a recommendation, structure and timeframe for implementing BPOL and Meals and Lodging Tax
- 3) Prepare a cost for marketing the implementation
- 4) Prepare a proposal for how to incorporate the Chamber of Commerce, EDC and EDA in helping endorse the implementation.

Attention turned back to the presentation and Ms. Hoover moved forward with Expenditures. Increases and Decreases within departments were displayed on the slides.

Mrs. Booker questioned the increase in the BOS training budget. Mr. Scudder responded stating he is proposing this increase as an opportunity for new and seasoned board members to take advantage of several training opportunities throughout the year. To both represent their locality and stay educated.

Mr. Chesser expressed his concerns regarding the IT department and the fact that we almost lost our IT director recently. He stated 'we need to consider adding another person'. Mrs. Booker agreed and stated we are adding additional duties by consolidating the ADP equipment into IT w/o adding staff. Mr. Scudder replied stating we are starting the transition to capture accurate costs and determine the need for an additional person.

Mrs. Lenherr, Treasurer, asked if she could speak. She expressed concern with her part-time and postage lines being decreased. She pointed out that additional revenues are being explored which will require the Treasurer's Office to administer. She also brought up once a year billing for taxes and stated that she has spoken with another locality who is experiencing difficulty with collections and complaints from customers as a result of changing to once a year billing.

Mrs. Booker asked about the Line of Duty pay for the Sheriff's department. Ms. Besecker responded stating this is an increase in the funding that was transitioned to the Sheriff's department from Non-departmental a few years ago. It was originally setup as an incentive plan in an effort to reduce turnover. Mr. Chesser stated he thought there was something before the legislature regarding Bonus Pay for Law Enforcement. Staff agreed to research this and report back. Upon research staff found there is no such bill before the legislature. (There was a bill being considered to reinstate the Sheriff's office state funding for each locality.)

Ms. Hoover concluded the presentation at approximately 8:15 p.m.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Gooch asked if anyone wanted to discuss the budget or ask any questions. Mr. Chesser responded stating 'we have the 5 year forecast meeting next week'. Mr. Scudder added that the 5 year plan will impact the budget planning process.

Mr. Chesser then posed the question of transitioning to electronic data or iPads for board materials, other board members agreed. Mr. Rodriguez spoke briefly about a test period. He would purchase a test pad and allowing each member use it for one board meeting week and then they as a group could decide if this is a transition they would like to make in the near future.

Mr. Gooch then asked if there were any further questions or discussion. All answered 'No'.

ADJOURN

MOTION:

At 8:30 p.m. Mr. Weaver moved to adjourn the work session and Mrs. Booker seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0. AYES: Booker, Chesser, Gooch and Weaver. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Kenney and Fairchild

John Y. Gooch, Chairman