

VIRGINIA: County of Lee, to-wit:

At the Recessed Meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors in the Conference Room o the Lee County Courthouse on April 25, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. thereof.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Shoemaker, Vice-Chairman
Josh Flanary
Mike Kidwell
Roger Waddell

MEMBERS ABSENT: D. D. Leonard, Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT: Dane Poe, County Administrator
Robby Wright, Assistant County Administrator

OTHERS ABSENT: Angie Thomas, Administrative Assistant
Stacy Munsey, County Attorney

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:37p.m.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mr. Poe provided a general explanation of how the budget printout is laid out, showing three years of revenue and expense history, budget and expenses for the current fiscal year and department and agency funding requests for the 2024-25 fiscal year. He briefly described a binder that contained information on capitol equipment requests, salary increases, etc. Mr. Poe informed the Board he had not made any changes to the requests as he wanted each member to see the full requests by department prior to any cuts being made. He explained that revenue is an estimate, although it should be close, and the revenue would be finalized when the state has adopted a budget.

Mr. Waddell asked about the process for obtaining quotes on items for other departments such as vehicles for the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Poe advised that all purchases were required to comply with procurement laws and went through the Purchasing Department. It was not possible for each department to complete this process meeting the purchasing requirements by the state.

Mr. Waddell asked if purchasing was also done for Social Services and the School Board.

Mr. Poe stated they are their own entities and have their own purchasing departments.

Mr. Poe went on to further explain the revenue side of the proposed budget stating that tax revenue has been relatively flat but it could fluctuate up or down according to the changes in personal property, machinery, etc. reported by individuals and businesses in the county. He also reminded the Board that a reassessment of real property is underway but will not have any revenue impact on the 2024-2025 budget.

He advised of the requirement to hold a public hearing concerning the budget 7 days prior to it being adopted. This public hearing would have to be scheduled on or prior to June 23rd to be enacted by June 30. The budget did not have to be complete at the time of the public hearing but it should be close. He also informed the board that any tax increase of more than 1% would also require a public hearing.

Mr. Poe stated the budget in its current form has \$4.8 million more in expenses than revenue. He stated that \$2 million of that deficit was the proposed increase in the school system budget local match but that will not be finalized until the state adopts a budget. He went on to state that there was ARPA funding available to offset a portion of the expense if they chose to do so. He estimated that he could easily cut approximately \$350,000 from this proposed budget.

Mr. Flanary asked about the casino money.

Mr. Poe stated the casino money was included in the budget. This money is not targeted for a specific purpose but it can be used for education, transportation or public safety. The estimated revenue for FY24-25 is \$675,000.

Mr. Flanary stated he had received several questions concerning earmarking this money for EMS.

Mr. Poe advised that the revenue to cover the budget had to come from somewhere and if the casino revenue was earmarked for additional funding to certain departments, other new tax revenue would have to cover the deficit.

There was discussion regarding various grant funded departments, delinquent tax collection costs, DSS payroll costs, offsetting revenues, various methods of salary increases, and the status of minimum wage increases.

Mr. Kidwell inquired if they should have a joint meeting with the School Board.

Mr. Poe advised that he had mentioned it to the Superintendent but nothing had been scheduled.

There was discussion regarding employees who are on call on a varying schedule taking vehicles home.

There was a discussion about the prospect of consolidating the School System and County into a Centralized Accounting system.

Mr. Poe left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Kidwell, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to enter Closed Session pursuant to Code 2.2-3711 A.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. 2.2-3711 A.6. The investing of public funds where

competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Waddell, to exit Closed Session. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION

It was unanimously agreed as follows.

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a Certification by this Lee County Board of Supervisors that such Closed Meeting was conducted within Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from Closed Meeting in which this Certification Resolution applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion convening the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Lee County Board of Supervisors.

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to recess until May 2, 2024 at 5:30pm. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell