

King and Queen County
Board of Supervisors
Workshop and Presentation Meeting

Monday, March 26, 2012

7:00 P.M.

King and Queen County Courts and Administration Building
General District Courtroom

“Minutes of the Meeting”

Chairman Alsop called the March 26, 2012 workshop meeting to order, with all members being present.

UPDATE ON FULCRUM STATUS

County Administrator Thomas Swartzwelder advised that the Planning Commission approved Fulcrum PC's request and will be coming before the Board at their next meeting. Mr. Swartzwelder further advised that the soil people are lined up for evaluation for an alternative system with a cost of approximately \$1,900.00. After which we will have to get the design to start the road work.

Mr. Swartzwelder expressed that he needs authorization from the Board to move forward on some of the small things which include the soil and design work. It was the consensus of the Board to move forward authorizing an amount up to \$5,000.00.

Mr. Swartzwelder further provided an update on the following:

- ❖ Advised of possible purchase of land and acreage near Branscome site on Rt. 360, consisting of approximately 20 acres. Carroll Lee Walker, owner has advised that he will sell to the county for appraised value. Property has VDOT road entrance already there, and all equipment will be left unless the County does not want it. If this is the case it will be moved within 30 days of purchase.

Chairman Alsop expressed that she was still interested but it depends on the budget, and that it was worth looking into for further discussion.

- ❖ **Farmers Market, Rt. 33:** Mr. Swartzwelder advised that Carroll Lee Walker is ready to do a Memorandum of Understanding upon the Boards approval. Mr. Walker will take the

appraised value and agree to sell it to the county on a 1 year contract and will reimburse the County for improvements under a Public Private Partnership which could be \$50,000 - \$70,000 to start.

It was the concensus of the Board to proceed with the Memorandum of Understanding and a lease, suggesting that the MOU be signed with bullet points specified and then on the legal end be filled in.

- ❖ **Circuit Court Room** - Mr. Swartzwelder advised that he had good news , reporting that they now believe they can do the cleanup (asbestos) in a reasonable way and guarantee that the building will be useable. Per report received, they will not have to go very deep in the soil to get the asbestos out. A quote of \$6,000 has been received to do the scope of work which includes inspection to make sure the county is in compliance. Mr. Swartzwelder further advised that the County will go out for bid on actual remediation.

BUDGET WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

County Administrator Thomas Swartzwelder advised that the Board agreed to go ahead and advertise the budget with a six (6 cent) tax increase and then would have an option to go lower, if possible. The Schools alone will be an increase of \$305,000 to cover the Virginia Retirement System rate. During discussion, Mrs. Morris expressed that she did not want to have to raise the taxes anymore than three (3 cents).

Mr. Swartzwelder provided a handout to the Board showing what the 6 cent increase would allow for. Mr. Swartzwelder advised that the budget is largely level funded with exception of \$20,000 equalizing salaries within several offices, those being 2 within the County Administration Office, 1 in the Treasurers' Office and 2 in the Sheriffs' Office, and enough to cover VRS. Fuel for the Sheriffs' Department has been jacked up to \$90,000 which the Sheriff has agreed to not move the \$90,000 and have a balance at the end of the year.

Mr. Milby expressed that a huge part of the budget includes a step program. Mr. Swartzwelder provided an outline of the steps, ranges reflecting where county employees are compared to neighboring counties. In the step program Constitutional Officers will needed to have pre-determined criteria which includes number of years of service, certifications received and good reviews. The step program is to be used as a planning tool of what he feels should be salary ranges that we need to be in to be remotely competitive with our neighboring localities. County employees make less than Constitutional Officers employees. Mr. Swartzwelder further expressed that we should take better care of our people, as they could go across the river to King William County and make an additional \$10,000 for the same positions.

Ms. Alsop expressed that she liked a step plan, as it use to be when you came into a job you would make the same thing as the former employee. That is not the way to do it as certain people have met certain qualifications and is a better model.

Mr. Milby expressed concern that the Board has to have the courage and backbone when offices come before the Board throughout the year and continuously want budget amendments that the Board needs to say no.

Discussion was also made relating to whether the board wants to appropriate all of the \$305,000 to the Schools or wait and appropriate quarterly.

After further discussion and concerns expressed relating to the budget amendments and the proposed budget and tax increase, a motion was made by Mr. Simpkins and seconded by Mrs. Morris to recess to reconvene on Wednesday, March 28th, 2012 at 6:00 P.M., to meet with members of the Lower King and Queen Fire and Rescue Department at the Lower King and Queen Rescue Building located in Bohannon Industrial Park, Shacklefords, Virginia.

IT IS ORDERED THAT THIS BOARD RECESS TO RECONVENE ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2012 AT 6:00 P.M., AT LOWER KING AND QUEEN RESCUE BUILDING, BOHANNON BUSINESS PARK, SHACKLEFORDS, VIRGINIA.

Sherrin C. Alsop, Chairman

Thomas J. Swartzwelder, Clerk