

**King and Queen County
Board of Supervisors Meeting
Monday, March 25, 2024**

6:00 P.M.

**Regular Meeting
King and Queen County Courts and Administration Building
Second Floor Conference Room**

Minutes of the Meeting

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Simpkins called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with member Sherrin Alsop being absent. A change in the agenda was noted, moving Closed Session to Item 2A.

APPROVAL OF RECURRING WARRANTS

A motion was made by Ms. Norman and seconded by Mr. Berry approving the recurring warrants for the month of February.

AYES: J.L. SIMPKINS, M.R. BERRY, M.H. NORMAN, C.R. BILLUPS

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: S.C. ALSOP

PRESENTATION BY RURAL HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Ms. Zuhowski was unable to attend.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Ms. Billups and seconded by Ms. Norman to enter into closed session pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3711(A)(6) for discussion of the investment 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 and Va. Code § 2.2-3711(A)(8) consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, the subject being the acquisition of real property in the Stevensville Magisterial District of King and Queen County, Virginia.

AYES: J.L. SIMPKINS, M.R. BERRY, M.H. NORMAN, C.R. BILLUPS

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: S.C. ALSOP

Ms. Alsop arrived during the closed session.

A motion was made by Ms. Billups and seconded by Ms. Norman that each member of the King and Queen County Board of Supervisors certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, (ii) only such

public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the King and Queen County Board of Supervisors, and (iii) no action was taken in the closed meeting.

AYES: S.C. ALSOP, J.L. SIMPKINS, M.R. BERRY, M.H. NORMAN, C.R. BILLUPS

NAYS: NONE

SCHOOL FUNDING UPDATE

Dr. Carter provided a memo containing preliminary information on the changes in state funding for FY25. She also included draft numbers on the changes in revenue that would occur if the school division reduced did not participate in the VAVA program in FY25. Based on these preliminary figures, the current proposed FY25 budget of level funding would leave the division with a shortfall of \$38,097. If the Board allowed the division to keep the interim additional appropriation if FY24 of \$71,418 then the division would have positive revenue of \$33,321 to use towards funding additional items.

There was general discussion related to the workload change of not participating in the VAVA program, the number of King & Queen students that do not attend KQPS and other items that are still unknown that may impact the division in FY25.

BUDGETCAPITAL PROJECTS DISCUSSION

Ms. Seay provided an update on the site plan for the fire station project on the Carlton's Corner property. After brief discussion, Chairman Simpkins advised that nothing further should be done on this project until he has received the information back from Central Fire on their needs for this facility.

Ms. Seay noted that construction at the telework center is proceeding well.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY DISCUSSION

Ms. Seay advised that Mr. Tickle with Caroline Habitat for Humanity has requested a letter of support only following his presentation of their plans for expansion into King and Queen. The only financial commitment at this time is in-kind match by waiving permit fees.

A motion was made by Ms. Alsop and seconded by Ms. Norman authorizing the County Administrator to send a letter of support to Caroline Habitat for Humanity.

AYES: S.C. ALSOP, J.L. SIMPKINS, M.R. BERRY, M.H. NORMAN, C.R. BILLUPS

NAYS: NONE

DISCUSSION – DEPARTMENT HEAD QUARTERLY REPORTS

Staff advised that the April board agenda is already quite full. This would normally be the night for quarterly reports from departments and now with the inclusion of several new department heads, the time needed for these reports could be lengthy. It was the consensus to have quarterly reports moved to the April work session meeting.

OTHER ITEMS BROUGHT BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Berry commented that the proposed 3 cent tax increase was not well received at the recent community meeting. He also advised that the Treasurer told him that there are already 50 residents on payment plans and this increase could make it harder for many more citizens. He voiced concern over the Economic Development position being made full-time and also with it being shared with other counties/towns. He suggested deferring the decision on making it full-time for a year and see how the budget goes and have some savings in the budget. It was the consensus to have staff prepare an alternate budget with only a 2 cent tax increase.

Ms. Alsop expressed that new businesses are needed in order to relieve the tax burden on the citizens, that a full-time Economic Development position would increase the county's ability to attract appropriate businesses.

Mr. Simpkins also voiced concerns with the Economic Development position however he cited examples of businesses such as Premier Tech and Fulcrum Concepts that having a good and consistent point of contact made a difference in attracting them and also in getting the grants for them from the state.

Ms. Billups agreed with the comments regarding the Economic Development position. She feels there are things that need to be addressed first; a direction on the school project, a decision on whether or not to spend \$3.8 million on the fire station. Can we afford \$95,000/year for Economic Development. She also expressed that if we do make it a full-time position it should only serve King and Queen, not other places.

Ms. Norman advised that her community meeting will be Thursday, March 28th at 7:00 in the auditorium at Central High School.

Ms. Billups advised that her community meeting will be held Thursday, March 28th at 6:00 at the Thrive CARE Center in Shackelfords.

IT IS ORDERED THAT THIS BOARD BE ADJOURNED

A motion was made by Ms. Billups and seconded by Ms. Norman to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk of the Board