

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

May 12, 2020

A meeting of the Campbell County Board of Supervisors was held on the 12th day of May 2020 in the Board of Supervisors meeting room of the Walter J. Haberer Building, Rustburg, Virginia. The members present were:

Charlie A. Watts II, Chairman, Presiding	Brookneal Election District
Kenneth R. Brown	Spring Hill Election District
Matt W. Cline	Concord Election District
Jon R. Hardie	Rustburg Election District
Susan R. Hogg	Timberlake Election District
A. Dale Moore	Altavista Election District
Steve W. Shockley	Sunburst Election District

Also present were:

Frank J. Rogers, County Administrator
Clifton M. Tweedy, Deputy County Administrator
Kristin B. Wright, Staff Attorney
Catherine H. Moore, Clerk

Chairman Watts called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

// APPEARANCE – MEGAN LUCAS

The Board of Supervisors at its April 16, 2020 meeting had questions regarding the funds allotted to the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance (LRBA) and requested a representative from the Alliance meet with the Board. Megan Lucas, CEO, was present.

Mrs. Lucas referred to a memorandum dated November 22, 2019 that was prepared annually and provided detailed information on the County's contribution (based on population) and where those dollars were spent. The County's 2020 contribution was \$69,379, and the 2021 contribution was \$69,281.

Two years ago the LRBA formed a formal Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) program. Two areas that were critical to local and regional economic development was business retention and expansion and property creation and recruitment. On the BR&E side, they work to make sure the manufacturers who call Campbell County and the region home were successful because it was easier to keep them here and growing than it was to recruit a new or replacement company. A strong BR&E program was a must. When the program was developed, every locality was assured the Alliance would not approach a business in its area without the local Economic Development Director present. Those visits to the manufacturers were done for two reasons – one to let them know the locality was proud and thankful to have them and to ask what barriers or issues they were facing or what opportunities were available for growth. From those visits, they had learned about workforce issues, supply chain issues and growth opportunities and it sends a message that the locality wanted them in the region and wanted them to be successful. With that being said, the Alliance nor the economic development directors could solve every issue, and some companies made decisions to relocate based on other factors. In the past year, the Alliance made 35 visits, six (6) of which were in Campbell County, in addition to visiting the headquarters of Abbott Labs in Chicago.

The Alliance had also completed “due diligence” for 33 acres in Seneca Park through a grant from Go Virginia bring the site's State ranking from a Tier 2 to a Tier 4. The Alliance contributed \$20,000 towards that process to complete several water and other environmental studies. While those studies were only good for five (5) years, having the studies available increased the competitiveness of the site. Mrs. Lucas also spoke to the advertising the Alliance did locally, regionally and nationally, and its support to the Regional Career Fair to let students know of job opportunities in the region.

Mrs. Lucas spoke highly of Mike Davidson and the leadership he provided regionally. He was well regarded in the economic development field and would be missed when he retired this June.

There were several questions from the Board. Supervisor Hardie asked what businesses the Alliance was successful in bringing to the region. Mrs. Lucas said over the last couple of years the jobs that were created were through expansions of current businesses. One of the most recent businesses was Cloudfit that chose Downtown Lynchburg bringing 150 jobs in the fourth quarter of 2019. Prior to that was the announcement of Standard Insurance Group. One blow to the region was the closing of LSC Communications, but 80% of that workforce transferred to other manufacturers. 20% of those employees retired.

In answer to a question by Chairman Watts, no business was too small to receive assistance from Mike Davidson and the Alliance. They would be willing to work with all businesses including entrepreneurs and startups.

Supervisor Hogg asked a question regarding dues and membership. Mrs. Lucas said the dues were \$1.25 per capita based on population. The participating localities included the counties of Amherst, Bedford and Campbell, City of Lynchburg, and the Towns of Altavista and Amherst. Supervisor Hogg also asked what direction the Alliance was taking for the future. Mrs. Lucas indicated face to face contacts was still the best way to win and retain businesses. Until the slowdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, this region had received seven (7) leads. She anticipated things would pick back up post COVID, and it would be important to have all data available electronically. Mrs. Lucas also explained that when a lead came into the Alliance, she sends that prospect out to all the economic development directors which was called the Red Team (Regional Economic Development Team). If the localities did not have a site to meet the criteria, private owners and sites were considered. The ultimate goal was to bring jobs and wages to the region.

In answer to Supervisor Cline's question regarding funding streams, Mrs. Lucas advised the Alliance also acted as the Chamber of Commerce and received 70% of its funding through the private sector, and 30% through the public sector. She would provide the Board with a list of the 100 private sector investors.

Hearing no further questions, the meeting was recessed at 5:40 p.m. to reconvene for the 6:00 p.m. meeting.

// ADOPTION OF FY 2021 BUDGET

The meeting was reconvened at 6:00 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silence, Administrator Rogers opened the meeting with an update on the FY 2021 Budget. The Board conducted its public hearing on May 5, 2020. Time was scheduled at this meeting to consider adoption of the Appropriations Resolution and the Tax Resolution. State Code requires appropriations to be adopted by mid-May.

The Appropriations Resolution covers funding for the twelve-month period beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 and reflected the Board's direction to lower Machinery and Tools tax by \$0.05 and Personal Property Tax by \$0.02. The Personal Property tax reduction lowered the General Fund revenues and expenditures by \$50,000 from what was presented at the April 7th Board of Supervisors meeting. There had been no changes since the public hearing held on May 5th. The Capital Improvement Plan was unchanged from the one presented to the Board on March 3, 2020.

The proposed combined expenditure budget for the County in FY 2021 is \$107,270,016. This included funding for the General Fund in the amount of \$79,626,586, Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$3,021,439, Debt Service Fund of \$3,930,097, Solid Waste Fund in the amount of \$2,020,086 and Health Insurance and Flexible Benefits Fund in the amount of \$18,671,808.

Transfers out from the General Fund to all other funds totaled \$37,981,557 and was \$6,700,097 more than FY 2020 driven primarily by the new Debt Service Fund and \$950,000 increase to Solid Waste. The proposed transfer from the General Fund to the Schools Operating

Budget Fund is \$28,386,460, the same as FY 2020. A balanced budget was presented for approval and included a proposed \$1,354 salary increase for all County full time employees. The salary increase may be effective December 1st depending on County revenues in the first quarter of FY 2021.

Administrator Rogers advised that correspondence was received from all the Chiefs of the County Fire Departments requesting additional budget consideration because they had not been able to hold their annual fundraisers due to COVID-19. The combined potential loss of operating income for the four departments was approximately \$100,000. Administrator Rogers recommended the Board take the request under advisement at this time and bring the matter back up for discussion at the close of the FY 2020 budget. There was a consensus of the Board to take this matter under advisement. Supervisor Hardie added it would be important to consider additional funding and support for the volunteers speaking to the vital services they provided the citizens.

The following motions were offered:

TAX RESOLUTION

On motion of Supervisor Hogg, it was resolved the Board of Supervisors adopts the following resolution:

TAX RESOLUTION

It is hereby RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that there shall be levied for the tax year 2020, a tax of \$0.52 per \$100 of assessed valuation on all taxable real estate, a tax of \$4.38 (nominal) per \$100 of assessed valuation on all personal property segregable for local taxation by Virginia law with the exception of a tax of \$3.85 (nominal) per \$100 of assessed valuation for motor homes and all non-motorized pull behind recreational trailers and a levy of \$3.20 (nominal) per \$100 of assessed value on vehicles that are for hire and receive an apportioned tax; and a tax of \$3.20 (nominal) per \$100 of assessed valuation on machinery and tools. Taxation of real estate and personal property of public service corporations shall be based on the assessment thereof fixed by the State Corporation Commission, located in this County on January 1, 2020 at the tax rates stated herein; and

It is further RESOLVED that there shall be levied for the tax year 2021, BPOL tax rates of \$0.1520 per \$100 of gross receipts for contractors, \$0.1900 per \$100 of gross receipts for retail sales, \$0.3325 per \$100 of gross receipts for personal service & repair, \$0.4750 per \$100 of gross receipts for professional service, \$0.0048 per \$100 of gross receipts for public service and \$0.0475 per \$100 of gross purchases for wholesalers, in accordance with the provisions of the Campbell County Code of 1988, Chapter 14, *Licenses and Permits*.

It is further RESOLVED that there shall be levied for the tax year 2020, Transient Occupancy Tax of 2% of charges for occupancy.

The vote was: Aye: Brown, Cline, Hardie, Hogg, Moore, Shockley, Watts
Nay: None
Absent: None

FY 2021 BUDGET

On motion of Supervisor Hogg, it was resolved the Board of Supervisors adopts the FY 2021 Budget as presented.

The vote was: Aye: Brown, Cline, Hardie, Hogg, Moore, Shockley, Watts
Nay: None
Absent: None

FY 2021 APPROPRIATIONS

On motion of Supervisor Hogg, it was resolved the Board of Supervisors adopts the FY 2021 Appropriations Resolutions as presented.

The vote was: Aye: Brown, Cline, Hardie, Hogg, Moore, Shockley, Watts
Nay: None
Absent: None

FY 2021 SALARY INCREASE

On motion of Supervisor Hogg, it was resolved the Board of Supervisors approves a tentative salary increase of \$1,354 possibly effective December 1, 2020 for eligible full-time County employees subject to realized revenue in the first quarter of FY 2021.

The vote was: Aye: Brown, Cline, Hardie, Hogg, Moore, Shockley, Watts
Nay: None
Absent: None

// ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Supervisor Cline, the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m. until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, 2020 to meet with the Financial Advisors to consider bond funding.

The vote was: Aye: Brown, Cline, Hardie, Hogg, Moore, Shockley, Watts
Nay: None
Absent: None

CHARLIE A. WATTS, II, CHAIRMAN

Approved: _____