

VIRGINIA:

A FY 20 Budget Meeting of the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors was held in the Administrative Building Board/Commission Meeting Room of said county on Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

Members Present: Jason D. Bellows, Chair

Ernest W. Palin, Jr., Vice Chair

Jack D. Larson, Board Member

William R. Lee, Board Member

Robert S. Westbrook, Board Member

Staff Present: Don G. Gill, County Administrator

Brian D. Barnes, Planning/Land Use Director and
Environmental Codes Compliance Officer

Crystal Whay, Clerk to the Board and
Building/Land Use Assistant

Mr. Bellows called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Consideration of Adoption of Proposed FY 20 Public Schools Budget

Mr. Bellows stated that the Board of Supervisors had conducted the FY 20 Public Schools Budget Public Hearing at their last regular meeting and had several work sessions with the School Board. He asked if there was a motion for consideration of the proposed budget.

Mr. Lee said that, before the motion, he would like to make a statement. He stated that he wanted to clarify some misinformation that was going around in the community. He stated that it was concerning the contracts for school personnel. He stated that he had been approached by people who said that they did not get offered a contract because the Board of Supervisors had held up the funding. He stated that was not a true statement. He stated that, on March 18th during a work session with the School Board, the majority of the Board of Supervisors approved the funds for the instructional category, so that contracts could be initiated for school personnel. He stated that he wanted to make that clear.

Dr. Westbrook made a motion to approve the Proposed FY 20 Public Schools Budget as presented.

Mr. Larson said that he wanted to state that he cannot support the schools' budget for a couple of reasons. He stated that he had talked with Dan Russell, Assistant School Superintendent, who had been very forthcoming and helpful and he was well aware that Mr. Russell had brought the budget down from its original numbers. He stated that attention had been drawn to the fact that the budget has a relatively small percentage of total increase. He stated that there was a significantly declining enrollment. He stated that, in his opinion, the focus for the Board of Supervisors needs to be on the increase in funding from the County of Lancaster. He stated that increase is approximately five percent at over \$560,000.00, which is very hard to come by. He stated that the Board has been hard on the other fund administrators and have been cutting some of their budgets. He stated that he could not live with the idea that every year they would need to raise the taxes two cents because of this increase in locality funding for the schools. He stated that he could not live with the fact that the state has taken funding away from the schools because of the declining enrollment. He stated that decrease cannot just simply be shifted to the localities and there has to be consideration of the fact that the state took that money away for a reason. He stated that he did not want to get into the schools' business and he would like for them to come to a lump sum figure that everyone could agree on. He stated that, when it comes to the vote, he could not support the proposed budget.

Mr. Bellows called the question on the motion on the floor.

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| VOTE: | Jason D. Bellows | Aye |
| | Ernest W. Palin, Jr. | Aye |
| | Jack D. Larson | Nay |
| | William R. Lee | Aye |
| | Robert S. Westbrook | Aye |

VOTE: 4-1 (Motion carried.)

Mr. Gill stated that approval of the public schools budget was the first step in the process. He stated that, historically, after the approval of the school budget the Board of Supervisors would typically make a motion of how to appropriate the money. He stated that the appropriation would not be until July 1st and can be made by either lump sum or by category.

Mr. Bellows made a motion to appropriate the FY 20 Lancaster Public Schools Budget in a lump sum.

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| VOTE: | Jason D. Bellows | Aye |
| | Ernest W. Palin, Jr. | Aye |

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| Jack D. Larson | Aye |
| William R. Lee | Aye |
| Robert S. Westbrook | Aye |

Consideration of Setting the Next Budget Work Session

The next budget work session was scheduled for Wednesday, May 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Larson referred to the next budget work session and stated that he thought the Board should be able to make a determination on the non-governmental organizations then.

The other Board members agreed.

Mr. Bellows stated that he hoped the upcoming work session could work out the final details for the budget.

Mr. Larson stated that he hoped they could finish the budget work with the next session, but in order to do that, they will need some structure.

Mr. Gill suggested that, under expenditures, they could review the budget department by department.

Dr. Westbrook asked about the County's fuel contract.

Mr. Gill replied that he had drafted a request for proposals for a fuel contract, but wanted the County Attorney to review it before he advertised it. He stated that it was his intention to do it annually and follow the fiscal year.

Dr. Westbrook asked about the expensive contract for the uniforms for the Solid Waste Department and if Mr. Gill had looked into that.

Mr. Gill replied that the contract is based on the uniforms being laundered every week by the company, but he has found that a lot of the employees are washing their uniforms themselves. He stated that they should probably be looking into purchasing those uniforms instead of leasing them.

Dr. Westbrook asked if they were looking into getting out of that contract.

Mr. Gill replied yes.

Other Business

Mr. Bellows stated that the County-Wide Clean Up Day was very successful and he thanked Mr. Lee for the idea and helping to organize the day.

Mr. Lee stated that a lot of groups that he had spoken with are willing to pick up litter on a regular basis. He stated that he was waiting for Sheriff McCranie to get back with him on some information about how other localities are handling their litter problems with cameras and arrests. He stated that they will also be meeting with the Commonwealth's Attorney concerning the issue.

Adjournment

Mr. Bellows made a motion to adjourn to Wednesday, May 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

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| VOTE: | Jason D. Bellows | Aye |
| | Ernest W. Palin, Jr. | Aye |
| | Jack D. Larson | Aye |
| | William R. Lee | Aye |
| | Robert S. Westbrook | Aye |