

VIRGINIA:

A FY 2015 Budget Work Session of the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors was held in the Administrative Building Board/Commission Meeting Room of said county on Wednesday, March 19, 2014.

- Members Present: B. Wally Beauchamp, Chair
 Jason D. Bellows, Vice Chair
 F. W. Jenkins, Jr., Board Member
 Ernest W. Palin, Jr., Board Member
 William R. Lee, Board Member
- Staff Present: Frank A. Pleva, County Administrator
 Don G. Gill, Planning/Land Use Director
 Crystal Whay, Building/Land Use Secretary

Mr. Beauchamp called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

BUDGET CONSIDERATION

Northern Neck Free Health Clinic

Ms. Jeanne Nelson and Mr. Page Henley were present to represent the Northern Neck Free Health Clinic.

Ms. Nelson thanked the Board of Supervisors for their past support of twenty years and stated that they were requesting a small increase. Ms. Nelson gave the Board materials to review concerning the clinic. She stated that their request this year is for \$107,910.

Ms. Nelson stated that the Northern Neck Free Health Clinic serves five counties and Lancaster County is the largest recipient. She stated that there are two locations in Kilmarnock.

Ms. Nelson stated that more and more people are in need of the services of the free health clinic and the criteria and eligibility of their clients has changed. She stated that the free health clinic has had to evolve over the years.

Ms. Nelson stated that Mr. Page Henley would like to speak on behalf of the free health clinic. She stated that Mr. Henley is a volunteer at the clinic and with his initiative, they were able to get a grant for expansion.

Mr. Henley stated that he was one of over 300 volunteers at the clinic and he works in screening potential patients. He stated that he got into volunteering at the clinic because his grandfather, Dr. Pierce, took care of patients for over 60 years and he wanted to help the community as well.

Mr. Henley stated that the need is great for the free health clinic. He stated that no one knows what will happen with Medicaid expansion. He stated that they see a huge number of working poor and without the free health clinic, they would have no access to medical care. He stated that the free health clinic provides wonderful service to an underserved portion of the population of this county and four other counties.

County Treasurer

Mrs. Bonnie Haynie, the Lancaster County Treasurer, stated that this year was her ninth budget cycle in her position and the first time she has come before the Board for an increase in funding. She stated that she had been told by the Information Technology Department that her department would need some computer upgrades. She stated that cost would be \$2000, but her overall request would only be \$1070, because she has tried to cut her budget in other areas. She stated that the new computer towers would need to be purchased in an effort to prevent security risks.

Voter Registrar

Mrs. Susan Jett, the Lancaster County Voter Registrar, stated that Lancaster County is ahead with its election machinery inventory and she is proud to represent the County when she attends various seminars and trainings.

Mrs. Jett stated that she had three line item increases for her budget. She stated that they were mileage, convention and education expense and a copier. She stated that an annual mandatory meeting has been split into two meetings annually, resulting in more travel expense. She stated that her copier is 13 years old and she is currently paying \$55 a month for maintenance. She stated that she found out with the last presidential election cycle that the copier cannot keep up with her demand. She stated that she had received three estimates from Ricoh and stated that the color copier would better serve her department because of the additional printing and copying that her office has to do for the state, such as posters in the polling places.

Emergency Services

Mr. Terry McGregor, Chief of Lancaster County Emergency Services, stated that there have been several extra expenditures in overtime due to vacant positions and

unscheduled events. He stated that the vacant positions have been filled so the overtime costs associated with those have been eliminated.

Mr. McGregor stated that the next item, where there is an increase is for vehicle maintenance on the Ford Explorer that he drives. He stated that as the vehicle ages, the maintenance repairs continue to increase. He stated that approximately \$800 has been spent in the current year and the vehicle needs more work.

Mr. McGregor stated that another item that is being increased is telecommunications. He stated that the Emergency Services Department has moved to the former maternity center and they have had increased costs with communications because of the move.

Mr. McGregor stated that one area of significant increase for the upcoming year is in training. He stated that he had requested \$30,000 for training and associated equipment. He stated that those funds would go to several projects that he is proposing. He stated that because of the relatively low call volume, the skills of his employees need to be constantly updated and that is where on-going training comes in. He stated that he has identified some funds that may be able to be used to offset the initial cost.

Mr. McGregor stated that another item that is being increased is medical supplies. He stated that the hospital no longer provides all disposable materials to the squads. He stated that to maintain the standard of care, his department has had the increased burden of purchasing those materials.

Mr. McGregor stated that another item is professional organization fees. He stated that membership with the professional organizations allows his department to acquire materials with discounted costs.

Bay Aging

Ms. Kathy Vesley-Massey, CEO of Bay Aging, stated that she wanted to thank the Board of Supervisors for their support in the past. She stated that her organization provides services for people who are 60 and over. She stated that there is a huge aging population in Lancaster County. She stated that they are requesting level funding this year of \$15,600. She stated that those funds helped their Meals on Wheels Program and helped to supplement in-home care for individuals who wanted to stay in their homes, instead of going to a nursing home. She stated that there are many other programs that Bay Aging is involved.

Mr. Pat Frere, the Bay Aging Family Housing Director, stated that Bay Aging assists the County in implementing its indoor plumbing program, which totaled 4 Lancaster County homes last year. He stated that another program is the weatherization program and they also assist with block grants and are currently working on the Greentown-Gaskins project with the County. He stated that Bay Aging also manages senior apartments, such as Tartan Village and that helps to generate tax income for the

County. He stated that he wanted to thank the Board of Supervisors for their continued support.

Mr. Ken Pollock, the director of Bay Transit, stated that they started operating in Lancaster County in December 1998. He stated that they were not asking for an increase in funds this year. He stated that Bay Transit provides rides to the residents of Lancaster County mostly for work and medical appointments.

Community Library

Ms. Lindsay Gardner of the Community Library stated that she wanted to thank the Board for their generous support in the past. She stated that a lot of the library patrons bring their own devices to the library now and they have needed to upgrade their network, which the current funding from the Board has allowed.

Ms. Gardner stated that the Community Library had recently purchased the former River Lanes Building in Kilmarnock. She stated that their vision for the purchase is to have an enlarged children's area as well as a larger space for community programs.

Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Ronnie Crockett stated that he was asking for another dispatcher for his department. He stated that an additional dispatcher would give him a total of 5 and that would give the coverage that is needed. He stated that the cost would be approximately \$30,000 with salary and benefits. He stated that he has been able to cut his budget in other areas so he hoped that the Board would consider his request.

Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Community Services Board

Mr. Charles Walsh, Jr., Executive Director of the Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Community Services Board, stated that the board was officially established by 10 counties in 1974. He stated that they operate over 50 programs and have three full-time clinics and eleven group homes. He stated that they also subsidize apartments. He stated that this year, the board is asking for a three percent increase in their funding for a total amount of \$37,846.32. He stated that he is asking all of their counties for an increase.

Mr. Walsh stated that the present time is a critical point for funding of mental health services and he is telling that to every county board that his organization serves. He stated that budget cuts to mental health facilities and programs is a big reason why they are in that position. He stated that mental health programs need to be on-going, not just a reaction after something bad happens.

Virginia Cooperative Extension

Ms. Kathleen Watson, the Unit Coordinator, stated that she wanted to bring the Board up to speed on what was going on in the Extension office. She stated that

approximately a year ago, they became fully staffed with the addition of another extension agent, Mr. Landre Toulson. She stated that Mr. Toulson is promoting agriculture in the schools and formed an agriculture club at Northumberland High School.

Ms. Watson stated that the 4-H program continues to grow. She stated that she has been working with the Link program to provide budgeting assistance for citizens and she is working with Rappahannock Community College to provide basic financial literacy and healthy lifestyles classes.

Ms. Watson stated that the Master Gardeners are continuing their outreach programs in the area. She stated that, in 2013, they provided information to over 4000 individuals and they continue to do their shoreline evaluations.

Ms. Watson stated that she is asking for a small increase in funding this year, which would cover fringe benefits and for the agents to receive a small raise.

Lancaster County Circuit Court

Mrs. Diane Mumford, Clerk of the Circuit Court, stated that she was not asking for any additional funding this year, but wanted to let the Board know where the money has been spent. She stated that the imaging program and training has been completed, so they are scanning everything now. She stated that part of the program was funded by a grant they had obtained.

Mrs. Mumford stated that her future plans include repairing the land books as budget funds allow. She stated that they would be digitized as well. She stated that she is also looking into implementing credit card payments for certain services and she is waiting on a quote.

Rappahannock Community College

Mr. Kim McManus, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, thanked the Board of Supervisors for their continuing support. He stated that they are asking for their regular operating funds request of \$6,667. He stated that last year, they also requested monies for their capital fund. He stated that they are asking for that capital money over a ten-year span, which would make this year's request in the amount of \$26,817. He stated that about 47 percent of students in Lancaster County that are pursuing higher education are going to RCC. He also listed other certificate programs and work force development programs.

Mr. Bill Pennell, a RCC board member, stated that the college is important to economic development for the community. He stated that two examples of that are the nursing program and the Newport News Shipbuilding program. He stated that the state does not pay for anything five feet outside of the buildings, so that is why they are asking for capital improvement funds.

Boys and Girls Club of the Northern Neck

Mr. Phillip Mumford, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club, stated that they wanted to continue their after school and summer programs. He stated that they are asking for additional support, in the amount of \$15,000 this year to help them develop and expand the teen program with a professional director. He stated that amount would take their total request to \$65,000.

Upper Lancaster Volunteer Rescue Squad

Mrs. Judy Hammell stated that, in September 2010, the squad asked the County to staff weekends due to their declining membership. She stated that in November 2010, the County provided two EMTs to cover the weekend nights. She stated that in November 2010, the Board took away the squad's annual funding. She stated that she was told that the squad would be getting approximately \$14,000 in annual funding for the percentage of their coverage. She stated that in March 2011, she found out that the squad would be receiving no monies from the County.

Mrs. Hammell stated that the squad is about three or four months away from closing their doors due to lack of finances. She stated that it would be a savings for the County to donate at least \$30,000 annually to the Upper Lancaster Volunteer Rescue Squad instead of having to hire more EMS personnel with salaries and benefits.

Mrs. Hammell stated that the squad does fund raisers such as bake sales, auctions and letters to help with their expenses, but it is not enough.

Social Services

Mrs. Edna Davenport, Director of Social Services, stated that the programs at social services are state mandated programs. She stated that, over the last year, they have taken on an automation project that was also mandated by the state. She stated that they have lost two employees in the last 18 months. She stated that they are trying to maintain all of their programs and maintain staff and it takes about a year to fully train someone. She stated that a salary study that was done by the state said that the social services department for the county lagged behind in pay as compared to neighboring agencies.

Mrs. Davenport stated that her department was requesting an increase in funding. She stated that they have critical positions in the County and at times must work with law enforcement and employees need to be on call at all times. She stated that they were asking for raises in 5 percent increments. She stated that this would allow an employee to be able to afford housing and the salary would be more competitive with neighboring agencies.

Mrs. Davenport stated that the department is also requesting funding for a CSA Coordinator. She stated that this position is the result of more duties and responsibilities falling on the local department and they anticipate a CSA audit in the near future.

Mrs. Davenport stated that her submitted budget reflects an increase of \$41,814.

American Red Cross

Ms. Julie Dudley stated that the American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. She stated that most people know about the American Red Cross' role in disasters, but they are also there for house fires. She stated that house fires are actually increasing each year. She stated that a lot of people that have a house fire are not insured. She stated that they provide food, housing, clothing and other necessities to people who are in that situation.

Ms. Dudley stated that they have recently gone through a reorganization and are now part of the Richmond region. She stated that eleven chapters are in the region and they raise money together. She stated that if she did not meet her budget, the other chapters would have to help her sustain her budget.

Ms. Dudley stated that the Red Cross has provided a generator for the YMCA so that building can serve as a secondary emergency shelter. She stated that the Red Cross provides armed forces services, such as relaying emergency messages. She stated that the American Red Cross also provides funding for swimming programs, CPR classes, babysitting programs, lifeguarding and many other programs.

Ms. Dudley stated that this is the first time that she had been before the Board of Supervisors in her eight years to request funds and hoped that they would consider a donation to the American Red Cross this year.

Commonwealth Attorney's Office

Mr. Robert Cunningham, the Lancaster County Commonwealth's Attorney, stated that his office was on track with last year's budget, but was asking for a couple of items. He stated that his department was asking for \$500 in mileage costs, \$900 in fees and dues and \$2000 to supplement the Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney's salary. He stated that he had done an excellent job and the increase will keep the salary competitive with other employers.

Building Department

Mr. Steve Daum, Lancaster County Building Official, stated that he had no requests for additional funding for his department.

Planning/Land Use

Mr. Don Gill, Director of Planning and Land Use, stated that he was requesting level funding for the four departments he supervises, Land Use Administration, the Planning Commission, the Wetlands Board and the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Beauchamp asked about setting another date for a work session.

Mr. Larson stated that the Board was ahead of schedule and the school system didn't have their numbers in yet.

The consensus was to wait on setting a date for the next work session.

CONSIDERATION DOCKET

1. Adoption of a Resolution Regarding the Timely Adoption of the State Biennium Budget

Mr. Pleva stated that the resolution was a request by both Delegate Margaret Ransone and Senator Ryan McDougal. He stated that the resolution was modeled after a resolution passed by the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors. He stated that other localities have also adopted similar resolutions.

Mr. Beauchamp stated that he had had a recent conversation with both Delegate Ransone and Senator McDougal concerning the issue. He stated that they want to see the budget adopted and the Medicaid issue considered separately.

RESOLUTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF STATE BIENNIUM BUDGET

WHEREAS, each year the foremost duty of the Virginia General Assembly is to pass a budget or budget amendments that serve as Virginia's financial blueprint for each fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Virginia is consistently recognized for its sound fiscal management and budgetary practices as illustrated by its AAA bond rating and the strong bond ratings of many local government divisions throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lancaster is currently in the process of developing and adopting its budget for the upcoming fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors relies on the timely passage of a budget to allocate funding to local government services and make policy and hiring decisions for the upcoming fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, 11,391 residents of Lancaster County depend on county government to provide critical services such as education and public safety; and

WHEREAS, failure to pass a timely budget will result in uncertainty for the County of Lancaster, which receives approximately 20% of its funding as direct aid from the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Lancaster County School Board relies on the timely passage of the state budget in order to set its budget and make staffing decisions, which includes teacher contracts; and

WHEREAS, interruption of the provision of educational services to Lancaster County students will have a significant negative impact on students and families, and

WHEREAS, the interruption of public safety services would likely result in the loss of property, serious injury, or loss of life for Lancaster County citizens, and

WHEREAS, critical mental health services to Lancaster County residents are provided via funds that flow from the state budget through county, and

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly adjourned sine die on Saturday, March 8, 2014 without adopting a budget for the two year biennium beginning July 1, 2014, be it

RESOLVED by the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors, that the Governor of Virginia and the Virginia General Assembly are urged to pass a budget as soon as practicable to ensure the continued functioning of state and local governments; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the issue of Medicaid Expansion under the Affordable Care Act should be decoupled from budget negotiations and considered in a separate legislative session to facilitate prompt passage of a state budget; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Honorable Terence R. McAuliffe, Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the members of the Virginia General Assembly so that they may be apprised of the sense of the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors in this matter.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to Adopt the Resolution Regarding Adoption of the State Biennium Budget.

VOTE:	B. Wally Beauchamp	Aye
	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	F. W. Jenkins, Jr.	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye

2. Consideration of the Approval of County Funds for the Repair of the Regional Burn Building

Mr. Pleva stated that the regional burn building is in need of repairs. He stated that the building serves the volunteer fire departments in the Northern Neck counties. He stated that Northumberland County serves as the fiscal agent for the project. He stated that the Virginia Fire Programs grant left a balance of \$42,611 and the counties' share would be \$10,652.75 each.

Mr. Pleva stated that the reason it is on today's agenda is that there is an upcoming deadline and the other counties have approved their share at earlier meetings. He stated that he was asking for the Board's approval for Lancaster County's participation and that appropriation could be done later.

Mr. Bellows made a motion to Approve the Funds for Lancaster County's Participation for the Repair of the Regional Burn Building.

VOTE:	B. Wally Beauchamp	Aye
	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	F. W. Jenkins, Jr.	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye

3. Adoption of a Resolution Endorsing the Foundation for Historic Christ Church's Preservation Activities and Its Grant Application that Seeks Funding for Repairs of Storm-Related Damage

Mr. Pleva referred to a letter from Camille Bennett, the Executive Director for the Foundation for Historic Christ Church, and stated that they have an application

deadline of March 28th. He stated that the Foundation has asked for a resolution in support of their project, but there is no financial liability for the County.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT RESTORATION PROJECT FOR HISTORIC CHRIST CHURCH

WHEREAS, Christ Church, a unique and extraordinary example of early colonial church architecture, is a treasure and asset to our community, and,

WHEREAS, Christ Church has been designated a Virginia and National Historic Landmark, and,

WHEREAS, since 1958 the Foundation for Historic Christ Church, through its corps of volunteers now numbering over 250 has provided an enlightening interpretation of the Church and its history to tens of thousands of visitors, and

WHEREAS, since 1958 the Foundation has provided award-winning stewardship in preservation of this unique structure, and

WHEREAS, after its installation in 1897, the Buckingham slate roof of the church has not only suffered almost 120 years of weathering but specific damage from Hurricane Sandy and now needs to be completely raised, repaired and reinstalled, in order to assure the present and future integrity of the whole structure, and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Historic Resources has endorsed the Foundation's plan for this project,

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Lancaster County:

- praises the Foundation for its faithful preservation of Christ Church,
- takes note of and endorses the Foundation's value to the community as a premier attraction for visitors and through its research, education and other services to its visitors and the public, and
- commends the Foundation and its plans to fully repair the church roof to those funding sources, public and private, from which it will seek support.

Mr. Lee made a motion to Approve the Resolution to Support the Restoration Project for Historic Christ Church.

VOTE:	B. Wally Beauchamp	Aye
	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	F. W. Jenkins, Jr.	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye

Mr. Beauchamp stated that he had received a phone call from Tom Richardson before the meeting. He stated that Mr. Richardson could not attend the meeting because of a family medical issue, but that he was requesting level funding for Virginia Quality Life.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to adjourn.

VOTE:	B. Wally Beauchamp	Aye
	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	F. W. Jenkins, Jr.	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye