

**At a Budget Work Session of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors
Held in the General District Courtroom on
Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 6 pm**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Keith C. Blowe
C. Eric Fly, Sr.
Alfred G. Futrell
Susan B. Seward
John A. Stringfield
Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Vandy V. Jones, III, Interim County Administrator
Millard P. Stith, Independent Consultant
Raymond R. Bell, Sheriff
Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/Deputy Clerk to the Board
Deste J. Cox, Deputy Treasurer
Brenda H. Drew, Housing Coordinator
Ernest Giles, Captain
William Jenkins, General Registrar
Kelly W. Moore, Interim Finance Supervisor
Patrick Plourde, Director of Social Services
Lyndia P. Ramsey, Commonwealth's Attorney
Eddie T. Vick, Public Safety Coordinator

1. Call to Order/Determine Quorum

The April 13, 2017 special meeting (Budget Work Session) of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Seward.

2. The Invocation

The Invocation was offered by Supervisor Tyler.

3. The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

4. Agenda Amendments

Supervisor Tyler requested to add under Item 6. Budget Work Session – Fiscal Year 2018 as 6.01 Audit Bids.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR BLOWE and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the

agenda amendment to add under Item 6. Budget Work Session – Fiscal Year 2018 as 6.1 Audit Bids.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Fly, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

5. Approval of Regular Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR BLOWE and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the agenda inclusive of agenda amendment as noted.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Fly, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

6. Budget Work Session – Fiscal Year 2018

Interim County Administrator Jones gave an overview of the process of the budget and previous Budget Work Sessions held. He explained that the budget work sessions were scheduled to allow for discussion and questions in accordance with deadlines for the schools and health insurance at the previous Budget Work Session. The current budget work session was scheduled for any discussions and/or questions regarding the Sheriff's Department, General Registrar, and Public Safety budgets.

Mr. William Jenkins, General Registrar, gave a brief overview of his budget in regards to the new voting machines. Mr. Jenkins reviewed the new voting machines required by law. He advised the machines had to have the new optical scan by July 1, 2020. There is currently one (1) new machine in the Central Absentee Precinct (CAP). Mr. Jenkins advised that each of the eleven (11) precincts will eventually need an optical scan at a cost of \$8,930/machine-Atlantic Election System.

Mr. Jenkins stated that he would like to request any funds not spent in the current budget be rolled over to a line item to help purchase one (1) of the machines.

A copy of the plan to acquire the voter machines and a list of precincts were provided to the Board members by Mr. Jenkins.

Interim County Administrator Jones explained that the Sheriff's Department was scheduled for the Budget Work Session for questions from the Board members rather than a presentation. Sheriff Bell and Captain Giles were present for any questions.

Mr. Jones reminded the Board that mandatory spending was noted by the red "M" in the budget.

Supervisor Fly inquired about the two (2) positions the Sheriff Department was not going to keep. Sheriff Bell advised that he had decided to keep those two (2) positions.

Interim County Administrator Jones clarified that previous discussions in regards to the two (2) positions given up were in order to provide promotions for approximately seven

(7) people in which there weren't any funding for in the budget. The two (2) positions would offset those promotions. Mr. Jones asked if he kept the two (2) positions, he would not move forward with the promotions. Sheriff Bell advised that it would be at the Board's request. Mr. Jones clarified that if the two (2) positions—road deputy and correction officer—were put back in the budget, the promotions would be off the table. It was also noted that the Sheriff's budget had decreased. It was noted that there was a \$45,000.00 decrease due to the lease expiring for the Mobile Data Terminal (MDT).

There were questions regarding purchasing vehicle versus leasing. Sheriff Bell advised that leasing was cheaper.

Chairman Seward inquired about the mileage line item for gas increase and decreases through the various fiscal years. Sheriff Bell explained the costs increases/decreases for fueling. Vice Chairman Blowe advised that he had spoken to staff. Staff is in the process of comparing prices or bidding out prices for fuel.

There was also discussion on the E911 dispatchers. There was also discussion about inmate medical expenses.

Chairman Seward discussed the concept of transferring Animal Control from the Public Safety Department to the Sheriff's Department for the next year's budget session. There was discussion of having two (2) full time Animal Control Officers and a full time Animal Pound Attendant.

It was recommended staff work with the Sheriff Department and Animal Control to research pros and cons and bring back to the Board during the year.

Mr. Eddie T. Vick, Public Safety Coordinator/Animal Control Supervisor, was present to answer any questions.

There was discussion of reduction in medical services expenses. Mr. Vick stated that he believed that the full time position should be for an adoption attendant.

There was discussion of the communications system. There aren't any new funds appropriated in the budget.

Supervisor Fly inquired about funding for new ambulances and fire trucks. Mr. Vick advised that funding will be budgeted for the communications system.

Supervisor Tyler requested administration to complete an analysis of contracting versus hiring County employees. There was also discussion of obtaining a copy of the audits of the Fire Department as a means of accountability of funds.

There was question regarding the Planning Department

There was discussion on the number of Planning Commission members.

There was discussion of purchasing four (4) vehicles for Building and Grounds, Environmental Inspections, Building (Inspections) Department, and Animal Control. Interim County Administrator Jones gave a brief overview of the mileage and condition of the vehicles for the departments named.

There was discussion and questions and answers of various line items.

6.1 Audit Bids

Supervisor Tyler stated that he believes that it would be a cost savings to the County to bid out audit services. Audit services had not been sent out for bids in a while.

Supervisor Tyler made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Stringfield to bid out audit services.

Mr. Jones wanted to have the opportunity to review what was currently in place.

After discussion, it was decided that there was no motion needed. Administration was tasked with preparing a request for proposal for bids for auditing services. Supervisor Tyler withdrew his motion.

7. Citizens' Comments (8:00 pm)

Comments were heard from Mr. Robert E. Hamlin (Henry District) regarding Faith Based Coalition (FBC). Mr. Hamlin stated the FBC started in the latter part of 2012 among some preachers, pastors, and concerned citizens. He explained that the organization is not faith based in the fact of the service, but through its communication between local churches in the County. Mr. Hamlin stated the original request from the County was for \$15,000.00. FBC is trying to address poverty in the County. Mr. Hamlin further discussed the Faith Based Coalition plans. They sponsor the Food Bank at the first Tuesday of the month.

It was requested to have the Faith Based Coalition to provide information on organization for review.

8. Closed Session

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby enters Closed Session for discussion, consideration, or interview of appointment of specific public officer of the public body, pursuant to Code Section 2.2-3711(A)1, the Tie Breaker position.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Fly, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

8.01 Reconvene to Open Session/Certification

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR FUTRELL and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby reconvened to Open Session.

WHEREAS, the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves adoption of resolution for certification, to-wit:

WHEREAS, that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, requires a certification by the Board that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby certifies 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, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Closed Meeting were heard discussed or considered.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Fly, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

8.02 Action Resulting from Closed Session

No action taken on Closed Session items.

9. Adjournment

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR FLY and carried: RESOLVED that the April 13, 2017 Budget Work Session of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Fly, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

9.01 Next Meeting

The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be the Budget Work Session to be held on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the General District Courtroom – Sussex Judicial Center at 15098 Courthouse Road, Sussex, VA 23884. The regular Board of Supervisors meeting will follow at 6:00 p.m. on the same date and location.