

**At a Regular Meeting of the
Sussex County Board of Supervisors
Held in the General District Courtroom on
Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 7 pm**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT:

Vandy V. Jones, III, County Administrator
Millard D. Stith, Independent Consultant
Steve White, BOS Tie Breaker
Wallace Brittle, County Attorney
Deste J. Cox, Treasurer
Andre M. Greene, Director of Community Development
Kelly W. Moore, Director of Finance
Cecil Stainback, Animal Control Officer
Lorenzo D. Turner, Assistant to the Director of Community Development
Monica J. Whitney, Permit Technician
Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/
Deputy Clerk to the Board

1. Commencement

1.01 Call to Order/Determine Quorum

The April 18, 2019 meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Seward.

1.02 The Invocation

The Invocation was offered by Supervisor Futrell.

1.03 The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

1.04 Agenda Amendments

County Administrator Jones stated that the minutes of the Thursday, March 21, 2019 regular meeting needed to be amended to add Mr. Steve White as being present at the meeting.

County Administrator Jones requested the following agenda amendments: (1) under Item 3. Recognitions, move Item 3.01 Presentation FY19 Audit: County of Sussex Annual Presentation by Aaron Hawkins to Item 3.03; (2) add as Item 3.01 Introduction of Mr. J. Reid Foster, Sussex County Public Safety Coordinator; (3) add as Item 3.02 Adoption of Proclamation in recognition of May 2019 Mental Health Month; and (4) move under Item 4. Public Hearing, move Item 4.03 Conditional Use Permit #2019-02, Calvin Pegram, applicant, to Item 4.01, moving Item 4.01 Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed County Budget to Item 4.02, and Item 4.02 Calendar Year 2019 Proposed Tax to Item 4.03.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR BLOWE, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the following amendments to the April 18, 2019 agenda inclusive of: (1) under Item 3. Recognitions, moving Item 3.01 Presentation FY19 Audit: County of Sussex Annual Presentation by Aaron Hawkins to Item 3.03; (2) adding as Item 3.01 Introduction of Mr. J. Reid Foster, Sussex County Public Safety Coordinator; (3) adding as Item 3.02 Adoption of Proclamation in recognition of May 2019 Mental Health Month; and (4) move under Item 4. Public Hearing, moving Item 4.03 Conditional Use Permit #2019-02, Calvin Pegram, applicant, to Item 4.01, moving Item 4.01 Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed County Budget to Item 4.02, and moving Item 4.02 Calendar Year 2019 Proposed Tax to Item 4.03.

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

Voting nay: none

Absent during vote: Supervisor Tyler

1.05 Approval of Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR BLOWE, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the April 18, 2019 agenda of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors is hereby approved inclusive of the following amendments: 1) under Item 3. Recognitions, moving Item 3.01 Presentation FY19 Audit: County of Sussex Annual Presentation by Aaron Hawkins to Item 3.03; (2) adding as Item 3.01 Introduction of Mr. J. Reid Foster, Sussex County Public Safety Coordinator; (3) adding as Item 3.02 Adoption of Proclamation in recognition of May 2019 Mental Health Month; and (4) move under Item 4. Public Hearing, moving Item 4.03 Conditional Use Permit #2019-02, Calvin Pegram, applicant, to Item 4.01, moving Item 4.01 Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed County Budget to Item 4.02, and moving Item 4.02 Calendar Year 2019 Proposed Tax to Item 4.03.

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

Voting nay: none

Absent during vote: Supervisor Tyler

2. Approval of Consent Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR BLOWE, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approved the consent agenda inclusive of the following: (a) Minutes of the March 18, 2019 Personnel Committee meeting and March 21, 2019 Regular Board meeting inclusive of adding Mr. Steve White, Board Tie Breaker, as being present, (b) Approval of Warrants and Vouchers; (c) Proclamation: March

2019 Colon Cancer Awareness Month in Sussex County; and (d) Proclamation: April 2019 Fair Housing Month in Sussex County.

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

Voting nay: none

Absent during vote: Supervisor Tyler

3. Recognition/Awards

3.01 Introduction of Mr. J. Reid Foster, Jr., Sussex County Public Safety Coordinator

County Administrator Jones introduced Mr. Reid Foster, the County's new Public Safety Coordinator, to the Board and citizens.

Mr. Foster expressed pleasure and excitement of working for Sussex County and with its citizens. Mr. Foster spoke in reference to the forecasted severe weather alert.

Vice Chairman Blowe requested information to be placed on the County website so that citizens can have access to information.

3.02. Proclamation: May 2019 Mental Health Month for Sussex County

Vice Chairman Blowe requested staff to prepare a proclamation for the Board to adopt declaring May 2019 as Mental Health Month in Sussex County.

Vice Chairman Blowe gave a brief review of some statistics and background of mental health.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR BLOWE, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts resolution proclaiming May 2019 as Mental Health Month in Sussex County, to-wit:

WHEREAS, mental health is part of overall health; and

WHEREAS, mental health sustains an individual's thought processes, relationships, productivity, and ability to adapt to change; and

WHEREAS, one in twenty-five adults live with mental illness, such as major depression, bipolar disorder, or schizophrenia; and

WHEREAS, roughly one-half of chronic mental illness begin by the mid-teens and three-fourths by the mid-20s; and

WHEREAS, early identification and treatment can make a difference in successful management of mental illness and recovery; and

WHEREAS, it is important to maintain mental health and to recognize the symptoms of mental illness and seek help when it is needed; and

WHEREAS, every citizen and community can help end the silence and stigma surrounding mental illness; and

WHEREAS, through public education and civic activities, Virginia remains engaged in the promise to address the challenges facing people with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Month is an opportunity to increase public understanding of the importance of mental health and to promote the identification and treatment of mental illness;

NOW THEREFORE, the Sussex County Board of Supervisors do hereby recognize May 2019 as **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**, in **SUSSEX COUNTY** and call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

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

Voting nay: none

Absent during vote: Supervisor Tyler

3.03 Presentation: FY19 Audit: County of Sussex Annual Presentation, Mr. Aaron Hawkins (Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates)

Mr. Aaron Hawkins, with Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates, gave a brief review of the FY18 Final Audit Report. Mr. Hawkins stated that the report is later than normal due to accounting changes that required a new type of evaluation to be performed by actuaries for other post-employment benefits.

Mr. Hawkins stated that the unmodified opinion states that the financial statements that come after this opinion are free of any material misstatement due to error or fraud based on their testing.

He stated that the County had a change in accounting principles restatement of beginning balances which has to do with the new standards that came out this year regarding post-employment benefits. The liability and other factors that go into health insurance that is provided to retirees had to be recognized. Also, through the VRS program, there are post employee benefits, such as group life, that's administered through the VRS program. Mr. Hawkins stated that the School Board had health insurance credits.

Mr. Hawkins reviewed fund statements, balance sheet, total assets of the County's General Fund (approximately \$6.8 million), and the Total Fund Balance (\$6,000,047 million). Mr. Hawkins stated that it is typically recommended to have 10%-20% Fund Balance compared to the expenditures. He stated that the County was in excess of that percentage.

Mr. Hawkins advised that the audit is annual. Going forward, the County should have their report finalized by November 30, to be presented in December.

It was requested to have auditors look at credit card practices for any recommendations, if any.

The Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018 was provided to Board members.

County Administrator Jones thanked Ms. Moore, Director of Finance, and Ms. Cox, Treasurer, for their work.

4. Public Hearing

Chairman Seward entered Public Hearing.

4.01 Conditional Use Permit #2019-02, Calvin Pegram, Applicant

Ms. Monica J. Whitney, Permit Technician, provided the staff report for Conditional Use Permit #2019-02, Calvin Pegram, applicant.

Ms. Whitney reported that the applicant, Calvin Pegram, is requesting a conditional use permit (CUP) to operate a truck and tractor pulling track. The site is located on the north line of General Mahone Highway (U.S. Route 460), approximately two (2) miles west of the corporate limits of the Blackwater Election District. The property in question, identified as tax map number 16-A-1 (owned by the Town of Waverly), is zoned A-1, General Agricultural District and consists of approximately 167 acres. The effected parcel is partially wooded. Surrounding land use include woodlands, a single family residence, Norfolk and Southern Railroad, and several commercial establishments—B & B Motor, John's Body Shop, and Row-Mic Construction, Inc.

The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to operate a truck and tractor pulling track on a portion of the 167 acre site in question.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on March 4, 2019 and found the following:

1. The proposed use for the property for the tractor pulling track is consistent with other uses allowed in the A-1 General Agricultural as the A-1 District currently allowed mudbog with a conditional use permit.
2. Only six (6) events will be held on the first (1st) Saturday, from May to October; therefore, any impact such as increased traffic or noise will be temporary.
3. The proposed truck and tractor pulling operation will provide a recreational opportunity to the residents in Sussex County, as sources of recreation in Sussex County are limited.
4. To date, no objections have been received to the Conditional Use Permit application #2019-02.
5. The nearest residential dwelling in the area is located across the highway and is approximately 1,600 feet from the proposed site of the track.
6. Trees exist on site to buffer the proposed truck and tractor pulling track.

Based on these findings, the Planning Commission voted (8 ayes, 1 abstention) to approve Conditional Use Permit application #2019-02, Calvin Pegram, applicant, subject to the following conditions:

1. The conditional use permit may be revoked by the Sussex County Board of Supervisors at any time, following a public hearing, if the truck and tractor pulling track is deemed to be a public nuisance.

2. The conditional use permit shall not be transferable or assignable to future property owners.
3. No events shall be held on Sunday and all events shall comply with the Sussex County Noise Ordinance.
4. The number of races per calendar year shall be limited to six (6) unless an exception is granted by the Sussex County Board of Supervisors.
5. No alcoholic beverages shall be allowed or served onsite.
6. There shall be no overnight camping of RV's, travel trailers or campers.
7. The applicant shall obtain any permits required by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and to make any required road improvements prior to holding any event at site in question.
8. The buffer of trees located on the subject property shall be maintained for the life of the truck and tractor pulling track.
9. Food vendors and/or the applicant must secure the appropriate permit(s) from the Department of Health and any required local business license(s) from the Commissioner of Revenue's Office.

A copy of the staff report and conditions, summation of CUP #2019-02, a copy Conditional Use Permit Application #2019-02, dated 1.27.2019, and a copy of Certification sent Adjacent Property Owners, dated 4.8.2019 were included in the Board packet.

There were no comments from the public.

Messrs. Calvin Pegram, John Jones, and Tracy Pegram (Waverly District) were the owners. They were present to answer any questions. They gave a brief overview of trying to provide recreation for the Waverly area and the County.

Mayor Angela McPhaul (Town of Waverly) – Explained the rescue squad members' intention; rescue squad didn't ask for compensation; gave a brief overview of the Town of Waverly responsibility and willingness to assist with donation for the rescue squad.

Board member comments were heard from:

- Supervisor Tyler (Henry District) – absent
- Supervisor Futrell (Waverly District) – Mini tractors & small pick-up trucks; building for over 20 years; help economy on Rte. 460.
- Supervisor Stringfield (Wakefield District) – none
- Supervisor Blowe (Stony Creek District) – none
- Supervisor Fly (Courthouse District) – Inquiry of rescue squad services compensation, no campers, trailers, RV, no tents; no overnight lodging.
- Supervisor Seward (Blackwater District) – Inquiry of site location as Waverly Election District: verified the location—Blackwater Election District, staff is to correct information on CUP application regarding election district.

Public Hearing was closed on for Conditional Use Permit #2019-02, Calvin Pegram, applicant.

Action on Public Hearing Item

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL seconded SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves Conditional Use Permit #2019-02, Calvin Pegram, applicant, to operate a truck and tractor pulling track subject to the following conditions:

1. The conditional use permit may be revoked by the Sussex County Board of Supervisors at any time, following a public hearing, if the truck and tractor pulling track is deemed to be a public nuisance.
2. The conditional use permit shall not be transferable or assignable to future property owners.
3. No events shall be held on Sunday and all events shall comply with the Sussex County Noise Ordinance.
4. The number of races per calendar year shall be limited to six (6) unless an exception is granted by the Sussex County Board of Supervisors.
5. No alcoholic beverages shall be allowed or served onsite.
6. There shall be no overnight camping of RV's, travel trailers or campers.
7. The applicant shall obtain any permits required by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and to make any required road improvements prior to holding any event at site in question.
8. The buffer of trees located on the subject property shall be maintained for the life of the truck and tractor pulling track.
9. Food vendors and/or the applicant must secure the appropriate permit(s) from the Department of Health and any required local business license(s) from the Commissioner of Revenue's Office.

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

Voting nay: none

Absent: Supervisor Tyler

Supervisor Tyler entered at 7:36 p.m.

Chairman Seward entered Public Hearing.

4.02 Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed County Budget

County Administrator Jones stated that the Public Hearing was in regards to Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed County Budget. He gave an overview of the budget cycle stating that the budget process started in November 2018. Letters and packages were distributed to County departments. Discussions were had with these departments. At the regular Board meeting held March 21, 2019, County Administrator Jones presented the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Budget.

County Administrator Jones began his presentation of the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed County Budget. He stated that the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2020 is \$37,191,756. The current budget, FY19, is \$36,297,742. The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2020 is an increase of \$894,014, over the fiscal year budget, reflecting a 2.5% increase.

County Administrator Jones stated that there were some notable items in the Fiscal Year 2020 proposed budget. A three percent (3%) cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all employees and a less than one percent (1%) increase in the health insurance benefits rates are included in the proposed budget. The health insurance increase will be \$5,424 for all employees, which is a notable decrease.

County Administrator Jones stated that some Budget Work sessions have been held. He stated that the Board approved the \$5,424 health insurance increase and the County's public school system local funding in the amount of \$7,999,170.

County Administrator Jones stated that in the budget work sessions there were extensive discussions regarding the Office Space Needs Study. It was decided to focus on renovating existing building on the complex versus some of the previous discussions of new construction,

County Administrator Jones discussed the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). He stated that the total of the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budgeted CIP is \$503,223 of which the majority is vehicles and bulk equipment. The significance difference in the current CIP budget and the proposed CIP budget is the Board's approval of the purchase of a fire truck. The fire truck has been ordered and under construction and is anticipated to be completed in August 2019—the next year, FY21. There have been discussions between the Finance and Treasurer departments to encumber these funds for the next fiscal year when the vehicle is received.

Public Comments were heard from:

Kevin Bracy (Courthouse District) – BB&T bank closure; encourage the Board to take care of senior citizens.

There were no Board comments.

Chairman Seward closed the Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed County Budget.

The next Board of Supervisors Budget Work Session was scheduled Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Location to be determined. County Administrator Jones asked the Board to submit any items they may have for the Budget, so that Administration can have the opportunity to prepare for the Budget Work session.

Chairman Seward entered Public Hearing for the Calendar Year 2019 Proposed Tax Rates.

4.03 Calendar Year 2019 Proposed Tax Rates

County Administrator Jones stated that there are no increases in tax levy for Calendar Year 2019 Proposed Tax Rates.

There were no Public Comments.

There were no Board Comments.

Chairman Seward closed the Public Hearing for the Calendar Year 2019 Proposed Tax Rates.

4.04 Action on Public Hearing Items

There was no action on the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed County Budget and Calendar Year Proposed Tax Rates public hearing items.

5. Appointments

5.01 Appointment to Planning Commission

County Administrator Jones stated that the term of Mr. J. Lafayette Edmond (Courthouse District), 16423 Jerusalem Plank Road, Waverly, VA, on the Planning Commission is due to expire April 30, 2019. Staff has contacted Mr. Edmond. He is willing to continue to serve, if reappointed.

A copy of Mr. Edmond's confirmation letter included in the Board packet along with the list of Planning Commission members.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR BLOWE, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Mr. J. Lafayette Edmond, 16423 Jerusalem Plank Road, Waverly, VA 23890, to the Planning Commission – with a term expiring June 30, 2023.

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

Voting nay: none

5.02 Appointment to the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Board of Directors

County Administrator Jones stated that the term of Mr. Charles D. Ross, 23200 Moore's Lane, Jarratt, Virginia 23867 on the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Board of Directors is due to expire May 15, 2019. Staff has contacted Mr. Ross. Mr. Ross is willing to continue to serve, if reappointed.

A copy of Mr. Ross' confirmation letter was included in the Board packet along with the IDA Board of Directors list of members.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR BLOWE and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Mr. Charles D. Ross, 23200 Moore's Lane, Jarratt, Virginia 23867, to the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Board of Directors, with a term expiring May 15, 2023.

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

Voting nay: none

6. Action Items

6.01 Town of Waverly Voting Precinct

Mr. William Jenkins, Sussex County General Registrar, contacted Administration and advised that several years ago the Board of Supervisors moved four (4) voting precincts to locations that were handicapped accessible and well known to voters.

Mr. Jenkins advised that the Town of Waverly's voting location was not moved at that time because input had not been received from Waverly. Due to reluctance to vote in the Town Hall of Waverly from various mayors, an "emergency relocation" was used temporarily to facilitate two (2) Town of Waverly Elections.

Mr. Jenkins advised that it is the desire of the Sussex Electoral Board to request the Board to vote to officially move the Town Election of Waverly to the Sussex County Waverly Office Building at 233L South Country Drive, Waverly, Virginia 23890. (This is the office building in the Family Dollar parking lot, adjacent to the Sonabank Drive Through.) The next election will be in May 2020.

There will be no update cost to use this building. It is "Election Ready".

Mr. Jenkins was present and provided a brief overview of his request and was present to answer any questions.

A copy of Mr. Jenkins' letter to the Board, dated April 4, 2019, was included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR FLY and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the official moving of the Town Election of Waverly to the Sussex County Waverly Office Building at 233L South Country Drive, Waverly, Virginia 23890.

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

Voting nay: none

7. Reports of Departments/Agencies

7.01 Atlantic Waste Disposal, Inc. – Mr. Jason Williams

Mr. Jason Williams, Senior District Manager of Atlantic Waste Disposal, Inc., stated that there were some issues with the disposal of items that are not allowed at the convenience sites, especially tires. There was an issue at the landfill on Cabin Point Road where the dumpster was almost completely filled with tires. There was an issue when the Stony Creek convenience site can was dump at the landfill, a fire started. Mr. Williams stated that it isn't known as to what exactly caused the fire. Once it hit the ground, the fire ignited. However with fire extinguishing equipment, they were able to put out the fire. He stated that these issues increase during summer months particularly with the disposal of swimming pool chemicals, charcoal, etc. Mr. Williams requested that the convenience site workers be informed and made aware and check for such items.

Mr. Williams stated that the recycle business is experiencing significant changes. The business model of being paid when recycling has changed drastically. Recycling centers are actually charging to accept material. Mr. Williams advised that convenience sites are cognizant of items that are placed in the recycle bins. Communicate with staff at the convenience sites regarding

items that can be accepted for recycle. If items are not recyclable, Atlantic Waste Disposal, Inc. will be charged for those non-recyclable items wherein they will have to communicate with the County regarding those incurred charges. Cameras will be installed at the gate at the Cabin Point Road landfill to try to combat some of the issues with dumping going forward.

Mr. Williams stated that tires are no longer accepted at their facility since Emmanuel Tires moved from the landfill. During Amnesty Days, vouchers are given to any resident for disposal of four (4) free tires to be taken to Emmanuel Tires. In turn, Emmanuel Tires bills Atlantic Waste Disposals, Inc. for tires disposed of using the vouchers. Mr. Williams stated the Amnesty Days are April 17th – 20th. Amnesty Days will be scheduled in September 2019.

It was discussed to extend the Amnesty Days to April 22nd due to the pending inclement weather.

There was discussion of safety issue and status of lighting at Jarratt Convenience sites and for another site. It was noted that this was a County matter. County Administrator Jones stated that the project was underway, as stated at the Jarratt as the other site. In regards to the Jarratt Convenience site, there is a matter of the easement to property. Other alternatives are being considered.

There was also discussion of communication of convenience site workers of the diameters of shrubbery/branches accepted.

There discussion of moving towards adding a dumpster at conveniences site for other things such as furniture and appliances. Mr. Williams stated that if any items such as refrigerators and the like, their staff is trained wherein they will not pick up/pull those items unless it's documented that the chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) has been removed from the refrigerator. There's an exception on Amnesty Days. There's a separate dumpster, at that time, for such items. He also stated that businesses can't dispose of e-computers; however, residents are exempt. There is concern for the mercury in the items.

There was discussion of the train schedule at the landfill. Mr. Williams stated that Norfolk Southern delivers to the landfill. Mr. Williams discussed the window of delivery time. It was noted that Atlantic Waste Disposal, Inc. had no control of their delivery schedule. However, Atlantic Waste Disposal, Inc. will try to minimize time that the road's blocked.

It was also discussion of the Board members receiving letters regarding tipping receipts.

7.02 Treasurer's Report – *included in Board packet* – *included in Board packet*.

The Treasurer's office was recognized for staff receiving Office Accreditation through the Treasurer's Association of Virginia and completion of requirements for Master Governmental Certification through the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at UVA at the Treasurer's Association Career Development Program. Documentation was included in the Board packet.

7.03 Animal Services Report– *included in Board packet*

There was inquiry regarding the contract for the Animal Shelter slab.

7.04 Community Development Report – *included in Board packet.*

7.05 Housing Department Monthly Report – *included in Board packet*

There was inquiry, regarding bids for Manufactured/Modular Homes, of rental properties owned by out of state residents.

7.06 Environmental Inspections Monthly Report – *included in Board packet*

7.07 Virginia Cooperative Extension Report - – *included in Board packet*

7.08 Sheriff's Department Report – *included in Board packet*

8. Citizens' Comments (8:00 p.m.)

There were comments heard from:

- Angela McPhaul (Mayor – Town of Waverly) – abandoned homes, inoperable vehicles and disrepaired homes posing health and safety risks to residents and neighbors; efforts to collect property and real estate taxes and delinquent business license payments; counties and other town join in efforts on addressing issues.
- Cecil Stainback (ACO for Sussex County) – Reminder to take of pets and take inside home due to forecasted severe storm the weekend.
- Janet Gray-Stith (Wakefield District) – Concern with storm; plan for storm; suggested committee for elderly citizens and designated area in place for forecasted severe storm; signage for speed in Carver Heights in Wakefield.

9. Unfinished Business

9.01 Meals Tax Referendum

County Administrator Jones stated that at a previous Board meeting, staff was directed to proceed with the process of preparing the meals tax for the November 2019 Election Referendum.

Staff recommends a referendum seeking approval for a 4% meals tax. Revenue from the meals tax would be designated as capital improvement project funding for the Sussex County Public Schools and Public Safety.

Based on the data from the Virginia Department of Taxation (Taxable Sales by Business Classification) as given at a previous meeting, a meals tax of 4% levied in past years would have yielded \$215,441 in 2015, \$190,185 in 2016, and \$183,077 in 2017. County Administrator Jones noted that Sussex County is viewed as a whole in regards to numbers in data. The Department of Taxation does not differentiate in the entities located within the Towns versus entities located within the County. However, the referendum is only for the County. It doesn't apply to businesses located within the Towns.

County Administrator Jones stated that in order for the referendum to appear on the November 5, 2019 election ballot, the referendum must be ordered by the court at least 81 days prior to the date set for the election. He stated that the request for the Order needs to be sent by Mid-August to allow time to have the Order entered to appear on the November 5, 2019 election ballot. County Administrator Jones noted that it has been the Board's practice in the last couple of years that there has been no regular meeting held in August. County Administrator Jones stated that it is his hope that if something is done, it would be done by the regular meeting held in June to allow time to meet the mid-August deadline for the request to go forward to the Courts.

Supervisor Fly noted the numbers/trend of meals taxes for the past couple of years, designation for meals tax revenue, public school system request for capital projects, and the resolution.

A copy of the language for the referendum and a copy of the Analysis of Potential County Meals Tax Using Taxable Sales from Food and Drinking Establishments were included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR BLOWE, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts a resolution authorizing the County to request the Circuit Court to order a referendum to consider adopting a meals tax 4% in order to address the public education and public safety capital needs of Sussex County.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Futrell, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: Supervisors Fly, Seward

10. New Business

There was no New Business.

11. Board Member Comments

11.01 Blackwater District – none

11.02 Courthouse District – none

11.03 Henry District – Governor's visit to County; \$350,000 grant County received; progress of attracting revenue and creating jobs in Sussex County; exploring using the Improvement Association's building in Waverly for shelter.

11.04 Stony Creek District – Wished everyone a Happy Easter; mental health awareness and resolution; New Hope Baptist Church sponsoring mental health groups once a month.

11.05 Wakefield District – Shared achievements of his daughter, Cherish Stringfield, a Sussex County Public School graduate; supplying resources Sussex children need; shelter in the Wakefield area; cost to renovate/rehab Chambliss Elementary School for shelter.

11.06 Waverly District – none

12. Closed Session

There was no Closed Session.

13. Adjournment

13.01 Adjournment

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR BLOWE, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the April 18, 2019 meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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

Voting nay: none

13.02 Next Meeting

Sussex County Board of Supervisors Special (Budget Work Session) Meeting will be held Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Location to be determined.

The next regular Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the Sussex Judicial Center - General District Courtroom, 15098 Courthouse Road, Sussex, VA 23884.