

AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF JAMES CITY, VIRGINIA, HELD ON THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF MARCH, NINETEEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO AT 7 P.M. IN THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER BOARD ROOM, 101 MOUNTS BAY ROAD, JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

A. ROLL CALL

Abram Frink, Jr., Chairman, Roberts District
 Perry M. DePue, Vice Chairman, Powhatan District
 Jack D. Edwards, Berkeley District
 Thomas D. Mahone, Jamestown District
 Stewart U. Taylor, Stonehouse District

James B. Oliver, Jr., County Administrator
 Frank M. Morton, III, County Attorney
 John E. McDonald, Assistant to the County Administrator

B. BOARD CONSIDERATION

1. Case No. SUP-10-81. Commonwealth Gas Pipeline

The above item had been carried over from two previous meetings, Mr. Oliver explained. It was for a Special Use Permit which the Planning Commission had approved. However, it had been the staff's recommendation to approve this permit but hold off until the State issued its permit for this construction. Mr. Oliver indicated that this has now been done.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve this Special Use Permit.

On a roll call, the vote was AYE: Frink, DePue, Edwards, Mahone, Taylor (5). NAY: (0).

RECOMMENDATION

I am satisfied with the findings of the state agencies involved in terms of environmental issues and that the public interest has been protected in their review of the project. I do not think that issuing the permit before the Army Corps of Engineers permit will have a substantive effect on the County's position. Therefore, I am recommending approval of the Special Use Permit with the following conditions:

1. The applicant must comply with all State, Federal, and local regulations involved in the construction of the pipeline.
2. The applicant must maintain valid State, and Federal permits during the construction period.
3. Disturbed areas ashore shall be stabilized and seeded after construction.

C. PRE-BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Oliver said that John McDonald, Assistant to the County Administrator, would go over the important parts of the proposed budget for the benefit of those citizens who were not present for the meeting of March 22, 1982. Mr. Oliver added that copies of the budget were available for those who wished to use them for reference.

Mr. McDonald explained that he did not wish to bore his audience with a repetition of last week's presentation but he would highlight some of the elements of the proposed budget.

Mr. McDonald stated that the proposed budget contains a 13.8 percent increase; the major recipients are the schools and law enforcement. The schools will receive a little over \$7 million, and law enforcement will occupy their new building in May or June, buy four new patrol cars, and fund positions for four new police officers. The Fire Department plans to hire a new firefighter to maintain, operate and train people in the use of the ladder truck. In the area of recreation, Mr. McDonald said, the County, in agreement with the City of Williamsburg, plans to take over three new sites for summer youth programs and an additional site for general activity. The library will receive a 20 percent increase in funds primarily due to increased funding for the Cultural Center.

In the general area of public health services, the budget proposes a facility to house public health and social services for the County in the Capital Project Budget, and two additional family planning clinics in the operating budget.

A 6 percent cost of living raise is being proposed for County employees with an average 3.5 merit increase; this would comprise a 9.5 increase a year for a meritorious employee.

Mr. McDonald touched lightly upon the fortuitous circumstances within James City County over the past few years which resulted in a sizeable growth in revenue. However, machinery and tools are assessed at cost, and the tax revenue is now leveling off. The County, at this point, does not visualize substantial growth in this area in the near future.

Mr. McDonald noted that the County is projecting some impact in the proposed budget for annexation, but he added that the full impact will not occur until FY '84.

He added that the County was now using better methods of revenue forecasting and believes that future forecasts will be more realistic.

Mr. McDonald noted that the budget proposed a 74 cent per \$100 real estate tax. He explained that according to the Consumer Price Index, inflation has increased around 30 percent over the past four years; the value of an average house in James City County has increased around 25 percent; the operating budget of the County has increased 25 percent; and, yet, real estate taxes have only increased about 10 percent.

He explained that this reasonable figure was a result of the commercial and industrial expansion which had taken place in the County in the past several years. This expansion, he said, has contributed the funds for the improved facilities and programs which James City County citizens enjoy.

Mr. McDonald then stated that the dampening effect of annexation, the plateau in the machinery and tools tax, and reduced growth of certain revenue sources compel the County Administration to restrict operating budget increases.

In summing up, he said that this year's resources including the capital improvements budget and the operating budget, are fairly high, but they will not grow significantly in the future.

Mr. Frink, Chairman, noted that the budget presently under discussion is the staff proposal and that no decisions would be made at this meeting. He said that the Board of Supervisors wanted to hear what the public had to say about the proposed budget. Mr. Frink added that there would be two more public hearings and several work sessions open to the public.

Dr. Gary Smith, Chairman of the Williamsburg-James City County School Board was the first speaker. He read a statement to the Board of Supervisors which outlined the needs, as he saw them, of the schools laying particular stress on the need to upgrade teachers' salaries, maintain the school buildings in a safe and healthy condition, and improve the school transportation system.

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Dr. William H. Cope, a resident of James City County and Director of the Penninsula Health District, spoke as a representative of the State Department of Health. He said that the building the Health Department is now using in this area is very inadequate and construction of a new building is urgent. He wished the record to show that his department supports construction of a new human services building.

Mrs. Ann R. Yankovich, Chairman of the Board of the Department of Social Services, urged support for two budget items; one, the \$250,000 request of the Social Services Department; and two, inclusion of the human services building in the Capital Improvement proposal.

Mrs. Yankovich gave some specific examples of the financial needs of the Social Services Department, and then noted that the department is in very cramped quarters and would benefit greatly by moving into a bigger building.

Mr. Louis F. Vosteen, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Regional Library, was next to speak. Mr. Vosteen explained that the budget submitted by the Library contained an increase of 28 percent--the bulk of which was earmarked for salaries and positions, and an increase of 4 percent in operating costs. He added that the Library Board has been attempting to raise professional salaries for a number of years and to make salary adjustments to meet normal cost of living increases.

Mr. Vosteen noted that since the County's proposed budget seeks to reduce the library budget request by \$25,000, and because the library enjoys dual funding with the County and the City of Williamsburg, the result will be a cut of \$50,000 in their budget request. Mr. Vosteen said that he hoped that the Board of Supervisors would reconsider the staff's proposed cut in the amount requested.

Ms. Barbara A. Kniest, Executive Director of the Child Development Resources and a member of the James City County Human Services Committee, said that as a member of these committees she was keenly aware of the need for a human services center and was in strong support of this capital project.

Mrs. Peggy Wilchek, a citizen of James City County, said that she had served for three and a half years on the James City County PTA Council. She said that the great growth within the County has accounted for many new families, and that it was the responsibility of the community to provide the best education possible for all our children. Mrs. Wilchek endorsed the requested funding for schools.

Ms. Ethel Thomson, a resident of James City County and a senior citizen, said that she felt that senior citizens in the County were in need of a better recreation program.

Ms. Eula Radcliffe, a citizen of James City County, said that she was in support of the increase in teachers' salaries, a recreation center, and a County senior citizens' center.

Ms. Radcliffe then read a letter from Mr. W. L. Trumbo, Executive Director of the Williamsburg-James City County Community Action Agency, Inc. Mr. Trumbo's letter supported the community center and senior citizens' center.

Mrs. Inex Mihalcoe, President of the PTA Council of Williamsburg-James City County Schools, expressed support for the budget. She said that the schools need to raise teachers' salaries in order to compete with salaries on a national level and attract top-quality teachers.

Dr. Roberta Rosenberg was present to speak on behalf of the Virginia State Ballet. She said that this is a professional organization with people working full time--ten professional dancers and two artistic directors. She added that there were also volunteers and part-time workers involved with the ballet. Dr. Rosenberg hoped that the Board of Supervisors would demonstrate their commitment to recreation and art when they allocate funds.

Mr. Ernest Wallace, President of Grove Community Organization, recommended that the budget increase teachers' salaries. He also recommended a community recreation building and a senior citizens building.

Ms. Elsie M. Wallace said that she represented a senior citizens group of the Grove community. She said that these senior citizens support the senior citizens' center and the community center.

Mr. C. S. Colenda, Jr. said he was concerned about the growth of real estate assessment in James City County. He stated that if his real estate assessment continued to grow at its present rate, it will soon be up more than 50 percent. He wants consideration for retirees like himself who live on fixed incomes.

Mr. Frink thanked all of those who had come to the meeting and expressed their views about the proposed budget. Mr. Frink then noted that there will be two more public hearings and a couple of work sessions all of which will be open to the public.

Mr. Edwards asked for the dates for these public hearings and work sessions. Mr. McDonald said that public hearings were scheduled on April 12 at 7:30 P.M. and on April 19 at 7:00 P.M.; and in addition to these public hearings there would be public work sessions for the Board to review the budget in detail on April 5 at 4 P.M., April 7 at 7 P.M. and on April 21 at 7 P.M.

Mr. Frink then closed the public hearing.

Mr. Taylor made a motion for adjournment. On a roll call, the vote was AYE: Frink, DePue, Edwards, Mahone, Taylor. NAY: (0).

Meeting ADJOURNED until April 5, 1982 at 4 P.M.


James B. Oliver, Jr.

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