

AT A RECONVENED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF JAMES CITY, VIRGINIA, HELD ON THE TENTH DAY OF APRIL, NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE, AT 3:00 P.M., IN THE GOVERNMENT CENTER, 101 MOUNTS BAY ROAD, JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA. THE MEETING WAS A WORKSESSION TO REVIEW THE PROPOSED FY 80 BUDGET.

A. ROLL CALL

Stewart U. Taylor, Chairman, Stonehouse District
Abram Frink, Jr., Vice Chairman, Roberts District
John E. Donaldson, Jamestown District
Jack D. Edwards, Berkeley District
David W. Ware, Jr., Powhatan District

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

B. REVIEW OF ESTIMATED REVENUES FOR FY 80 AND PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

The Board members were presented budget workbooks detailing the revenues and expenditures for the General Fund.

Mr. Oliver asked John McDonald to begin the presentation to the Board.

Mr. McDonald reviewed the information in the workbook and the corresponding item in the budget, line item by line item.

Mr. Edwards stated he was concerned somewhat with the change in the format of the budget summary section -- going from a line summary technique as last year to a collection of larger categories this year. He stated he had trouble comparing last year's action with this year's and could not locate this year's surplus.

Mr. McDonald stated that although it was true the surplus was not set out clearly in the budget, the workbook did contain a summary which explains the source of total revenues and the anticipated surplus.

Mr. McDonald continued the presentation by stating that real property taxes for next year are expected to increase due to new construction and the increase in assessments. The reassessment and new construction is expected to add \$37 million in assessed property to the tax rolls in 1980. The projected tax rate is expected to decrease from 88¢ to 85¢.

\$464.8 million in assessed property is estimated for next year. At the 85¢ rate that results in gross tax levies of \$3,951,360.

A discussion involving comparisons of farm land values with other jurisdictions in the State followed. There were some questions regarding James City County's agriculture property being assessed for its use-value as opposed to market value. It was also noted that the use-value of timberland is below what the market-value would be.

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Mr. McDonald continued with an outline of the various categories of personal property tax:

Individual and Business	-	\$4.00 per \$100 value
Machinery and Tools	-	\$4.00 per \$100 assessed value (25% assessed value = 25% of original cost)
Mobile Homes	-	billed at real estate rate

There is a major increase this year in machinery and tools primarily due to the expansion of the Brewery and the addition of property subject to personal property taxes at the Brewery.

Mr. Donaldson asked Mr. Morton, County Attorney, if under existing law, the Board of Supervisors was allowed to pay the chairman a supplement to his salary.

Mr. Morton said he would look into the matter and submit a report in the Board members reading files.

During review of the proposed funding of the Planning Office's budget, Mr. Donaldson asked if any major activity was scheduled in respect to up-dating the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Oliver indicated major up-date of the Comprehensive Plan is anticipated for 1981, although that schedule could possibly be accelerated.

In reference to the new Economic Development position proposed in the Planning Office's budget, Mr. Donaldson stated he thought the County could benefit from having a skilled person address the needs to expand the tax base.

A brief discussion followed during which Mr. Taylor pointed out that one of the main objections he heard was that the County was hiring too many employees. He stated he did not see any need to have someone solicit more industry for the County. Mr. Taylor also reported it was his impression that most of the citizens of James City County were content with the industry already located here and they are satisfied with the County's present rate of growth. Mr. Donaldson was in favor of having a person primarily responsible for preparing some marketing data to supply potential industries information regarding James City County's resources. Mr. Edwards stated he felt if a firm was contemplating locating in this area, it more than likely would already have some indication of the County's resources. Mr. Frink said he was not convinced there was a need for an individual to solicit industry and referred to the Brewery and Owens-Illinois Glass Company as examples of unsolicited industry. Mr. Ware was also of the opinion a full-time position was unnecessary for the pursuit of industry for the County at this time.

Mr. Taylor made a motion for tentative instruction to the staff to delete the Economic Development position from the proposed budget.

The motion carried by a 4-1 majority roll call vote. Mr. Donaldson voted against the motion.

Mr. Ware raised the question as to why the contribution to the Chamber of Commerce had been raised from \$300 last year to \$1,500 this year. Mr. Ware stated he viewed this as forcing the taxpayer to belong to such organizations and that the Chamber of Commerce and Williamsburg Players and other similar organizations should more appropriately use fund drives as a means to support their functions.

Staff members explained the proposed contribution would bring James City County in conformance with other neighboring jurisdictions' level of funding for this organization as well as to help support a study on tourism.

Mr. Ware moved to tentatively instruct the staff to delete \$1,200 from the Chamber of Commerce contribution and leave it at \$300 as last year.

A brief discussion followed in which Mr. Donaldson pointed out that in the past the Chamber of Commerce had not been supportive of the Board of Supervisors. However, he felt the amount of the contribution should be more than \$300. Mr. Donaldson made a substitute motion to fund the Chamber of Commerce for a contribution at \$500 a total reduction of \$1,000.

The motion carried by a 3-2 majority roll call vote. Mr. Ware and Mr. Taylor voted no.

Mr. Ware withdrew his original motion.

Mr. Edwards made the comment that he felt the contribution of \$500 to the Chamber was reasonable and fair and that he would like to see it not be raised in future years.

After reviewing the recommended contribution for the Library Board, Mr. Donaldson moved to increase the staff proposal of \$85,000 to \$95,237 as requested by the Library Board.

The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

There was a discussion on the staff recommendation not to provide funds for Child Development Resources under the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Budget Account.

Mr. Oliver pointed out that the County's contribution to Mental Health services was more than generous and due to the fact that a large increase was made last year, the level should be held for a while. He pointed out that the County was making a contribution to the Mental Health/Mental Retardation organization and the funds could then be distributed to fund Child Development Resources or other activities accordingly.

Mr. Donaldson agreed the County was being very generous to Mental Health services, but he felt this item should be considered more in the area of education than health. He stated he felt the County would suffer tremendously if this service was not funded.

Mr. Donaldson moved to increase the appropriation to the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Account in the amount of \$3,322 with the understanding that the amount was to be set aside exclusively for Child Development Resources.

The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Donaldson also moved that the staff be instructed to earmark \$5,000 as a one-time appropriation for the Child Development Resources account toward the acquisition of a permanent building for this organization.

The motion carried by a 4-1 majority roll call vote. Mr. Taylor voted no.

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Mr. Edwards moved to recess the meeting until the next day, April 11, 1979 in order to continue the budget review process.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

THE MEETING RECESSED at 6:15 P.M.

James B. Oliver, Jr., Clerk
Board of Supervisors




MEMORANDUM


Date: May 12, 2015
To: Records Management
From: The Board of Supervisors
Subject: Board of Supervisors Minutes: April 9, 1979; April 10, 1979; April 11, 1979; and April 16, 1979

The following minutes for the Board of Supervisors of James City County dated April 9, 1979; April 10, 1979; April 11, 1979; and April 16, 1979 are acknowledged to be missing signatures.

It is also acknowledged that the April 9, 1979; April 10, 1979; April 11, 1979; and April 16, 1979 minutes, were voted on and approved and may be mentioned in later dated minutes of the Board of Supervisors.



Michael J. Hipple
Chairman



Bryan J. Hill
Clerk

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