

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION
County Government Center Board Room
101 Mounts Bay Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185
February 24, 2015
4:00 PM

ADOPTED

A. CALL TO ORDER

MAY 12 2015

B. ROLL CALL

**Board of Supervisors
James City County, VA**

Mary K. Jones, Berkeley District
John J. McGlennon, Roberts District
Kevin D. Onizuk, Vice-Chairman, Jamestown District
James G. Kennedy, Stonehouse District
Michael J. Hipple, Chairman, Powhatan District

Bryan J. Hill, County Administrator
Adam R. Kinsman, Interim County Attorney

C. BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Hill stated that he would be forwarding a summary of the Budget Retreat to the Board in the next day or so. He requested that the Board review the summary to ensure that he has captured all of their questions from the Budget Retreat so that he may begin putting together responses to their questions. Mr. Hill also stated that he has been asked to look at the average home price in 2007 and then compute the assessment trend of that same home.

Mr. Kennedy stated that he should look into the assessed value of commercial property as well. He stated that commercial property actually saw an increase in assessed value during the last round of assessments, and there has been a lot more commercial construction in the last few years than residential. He stated it would be interesting to see the trends of commercial construction, residential homes predating 2008, and residential construction after 2008.

Mr. Hill clarified that the Board wanted him to go back as far as 2007. The Board agreed.

Mr. Onizuk stated that he asked for these numbers to see what the average homeowner has been paying in taxes over the last several years. He stated that if a tax increase is recommended, then he wanted to see the effect in real dollars on the average homeowner.

The Board continued to generally discuss the trends and changes in population and residential construction over the last several years.

Mr. Hipple asked for a detailed outline of what would need to be cut from the budget if the Board chooses not to raise taxes. The mandates will still have to be met, and those monies would have to come from somewhere, so what reductions would it take to balance the budget.

Ms. Jones stated that she believes that it is very important to continue to try to do what we need to do with what we have. There were poor policy and financial decisions made over the last decade that need to be addressed, but doing it all in swiipe by increasing the tax rate is not fair to the citizens.

Mr. Kennedy stated that he believes that the County has done a great job of responding to the recession, with making do with less and in some cases increasing services to residents. He stated that the revenues have been flat for years, so if someone has another plan of what can be cut, then please bring it to the table.

The Board generally discussed strategies that have been utilized over the last several years to save money and survive the recession.

Mr. Kennedy asked for a detailed look at cutting the current budget by 12% to see what would have to be cut in order incorporate the five strategic initiatives without having to raise taxes. He stated that it is not a scare tactic or to be draconian, but we need to understand what is at stake and what is at risk of being cut if the Board does nothing. He stated a hard look needs to be taken at what happens when you do not fully fund and staff a budget, the Commonwealth shows us examples of this everyday. He stated that we have absorbed about as much as we possibly can before we start cutting services.

D. CLOSED SESSION

1. Performance Review of the County Administrator

A motion to Enter a Close Session was made by John McGlennon and the motion result was Passed.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

Ayes: Jones, McGlennon, Onizuk, Kennedy, Hipple.

At 4:28 p.m., the Board entered into Closed Session.

At 5:27 p.m., the Board reentered Open Session.

Mr. McGlennon made a motion to certify the Closed Session.

On a roll call vote, the vote was: AYE: Mr. Kennedy, Mr. McGlennon, Mr. Onizuk, Ms. Jones, Mr. Hipple, (5). NAY: (0).

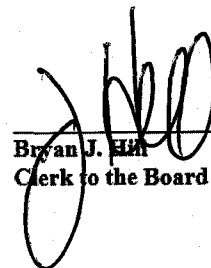
E. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to Adjourn was made by John McGlennon and the motion result was Passed.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

Ayes: Jones, McGlennon, Onizuk, Kennedy, Hipple.

At 5:29 p.m., Mr. Hipple adjourned the Board until the Regular Meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m.



Bryan J. Hill
Clerk to the Board