

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JOINT MEETING WITH WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL AND WJCC SCHOOL BOARD
STRYKER CENTER
412 N BOUNDARY ST
WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185
March 15, 2024
8:30 AM

ADOPTED
MAY 28 2024
Board of Supervisors
James City County, VA

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Ortego Calls the Joint Meeting to Order for the School Board - The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Mayor Pons Calls the Joint Meeting to Order for City Council - The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m.

Ms. Larson Calls the Joint Meeting to Order for the Board of Supervisors - The meeting was called to order at 8:32 a.m.

B. ROLL CALL

School Board: Present were Dr. Daniel Cavazos, Ms. Amy Chen, Mrs. Andrea Donnor, Mr. Michael Hosang, Mrs. Kimberley Hundley (virtually), Mr. Randy Riffle, and Mrs. Sarah Ortego (Chair). Also present were Olwen E. Herron, Ed.D., superintendent; Ms. Beth Allar, clerk of the board, staff, press and the public.

Approval to Allow Mrs. Hundley to Attend Meeting Via Electronic Communication - A motion was made to allow Mrs. Hundley to attend the meeting via Zoom.

Mrs. Hundley attended via electronic communication from Mexico, due to her vacation. Motion by Andrea Donnor, second by Daniel Cavazos.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Daniel Cavazos, Amy Chen, Andrea Donnor, Michael Hosang, Randy Riffle, Sarah Ortego

City Council: Present were Mr. W. Pat Dent, Ms. Stacy Kern-Scheerer, Ms. Barbara Ramsey, Mr. Caleb Rogers, and Mr. Douglas Pons (Mayor). Also present were Mr. Andrew Trivette, City Manager; and Ms. Dustie McCay, clerk of council.

Board of Supervisors: Present were Mr. Michael Hipple, Mr. James Icenhour, Mr. John McGlennon, Ms. Barbara Null, and Ms. Ruth Larson (Chair). Also present was Mr. Scott Stevens, County Administrator.

C. PRESENTATION(S)

None.

D. BOARD DISCUSSIONS / GUIDANCE

1. FY2025 Operating Budget

Highlights from the presentation included:

- State Code Requirements
- FY 25 Budget Process
- Local Composite Index (LCI) - As the LCI increases, State funding decreases
 - Williamsburg
 - 2020-22 LCI = 0.7459
 - 2022-24 LCI = 0.7217
 - 2024-26 LCI = 0.7426
 - James City County
 - 2020-22 LCI = 0.5553
 - 2022-24 LCI = 0.5331
 - 2024-26 LCI = 0.5403
- Local Composite Index Comparison - Regional
- Enrollment History K-12 (Sept. 30 count) - Budgeted SY 24-25 at 11,324 students
- Governor's Proposed FY25 Budget
 - State Revenue FY25 Estimated \$68,831,234 (change from FY24 0.2%)
- Budget Development Goal - Explained Mandatory vs Essential Expenditures
- Expenditure Increases
 - Goal 1: Academic Achievement/College Readiness \$1,318,997
 - Goal 2: Educational Equity \$876,500
 - Goal 3: Communication & Engagement \$45,000
 - Goal 4: Safety and Security \$310,395
 - Goal 5: Human Capital & Positive Culture \$5,773,877
 - Goal 6: Organizational Efficiency & Effectiveness \$1,423,731
- Budget Reductions & Savings (\$1,465,000)
- Operating Expenditures by Function - Instruction = 73% of total budget
- Revenue/Expenditure Summary
 - Additional Funds Needed (request from localities): \$8,076,205
- Revenue/Expenditure Summary - Under Consideration
 - Increasing Bilingual Language Specialist to Full-time
 - Increasing Salaries from 3% to possibly 4-5%
 - Change in Healthcare Cost
 - Possible Addition of 4 million in State Funding
 - Additional Funds Needed (request from localities): \$9,321,205-\$10,521,205

Discussion from board and council members included:

- teacher retention as forecasted on recent surveys - confirmed that WJCC is currently trending (as in the recent past) in the 85% range
- reasons for the high rate of teacher retirement
- the expectation for potential vacancies in every grade level
- the impact of smaller applicant pools on hiring
- transitioning teaching assistants to become qualified teachers
- the impact of compensation to retention and whether other issues are causing departures moving the salary needle for teachers

- retention issues impacting the city and the county health insurance and the financial impact for support staff if they choose certain plans - confirmed about 70% of staff utilize health benefits
- how to balance without raising taxes too much
- special education funding increases every year - noted the need to advocate at the state and federal level to increase funding
- SOQ vs Non-SOQ position funding (state vs locality responsibility)

Comments were made that the budget approved by the General Assembly does recognize the need to make a more significant investment in public education, and that members should take the opportunity to express support for that kind of funding; and, that regarding a county tax rate increase - this is the time for the community to decide how much they value the people who work for James City County and the school system.

E. CLOSED SESSION

F. ADJOURNMENT

1. Adjourn until 1 pm on March 26, 2024 for the Business Meeting

School Board Adjourns - The Williamsburg-James City County School Board adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

City Council Adjourns - At 9:36 a.m., Ms. Ramsey made a motion to adjourn the Williamsburg City Council, and Mr. Rogers gave the second. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 5:0.

Board of Supervisors Adjourns - At 9:37 a.m., Mr. McGlennon made a motion to adjourn until 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 5:0.

Teresa J. Saeed

Deputy Clerk