

AT A SCHEDULED BUDGET WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY VIRGINIA, HELD IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 150 SOUTH MAIN STREET LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA ON MONDAY MARCH 25, 2013 AFTER THE REGUARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING.

PRESENT CHAIRMAN RONNIE R. CAMPBELL
MEMBERS: ALBERT W. LEWIS, JR., RUSSELL S. FORD,
JOHN M. HIGGINS

ABSENT: DAVID W. HINTY, JR.
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AND CLERK TO BOARD: SPENCER H. SUTER
FISCAL SERVICES
DIRECTOR: STEVEN BOLSTER

Call to Order:

Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order.

Continued Budget Work Session (#4):

Chairman Campbell provided an overview of the budget work session and provided an opportunity for citizen comments. Chairman Campbell closed this portion of the budget work session seeing no request from citizens to speak.

Mr. Suter then provided some of the key points resulting from the budget work session #3 held on March 14, 2013.

- 1) The finance committee was asked to do further budget reviews.
- 2) The Board considered a 2% and 3% increase for County personnel and the impact of the Compensation Board's plan to provide a 3% increase to Constitutional Officers and their staffs effective August 1, 2013. The Board leaned towards providing a 3% increase to County employees in FY13-14.
- 3) A 3-cent real estate tax increase was projected for FY13-14.
- 4) The Board requested the finance committee take a look into the future for potential impacts on tax rates due to obligated and planned expenditures.

At this point Mr. Suter handed the floor over to Mr. Bolster to discuss resultant changes in revenues and expenditures as a product of the finance committee's work and then discuss anticipated impacts on future budgets.

Mr. Bolster provided an update that a new accounting line was added to the County's General Fund budget to reflect the Transfer to the Rockbridge County School Division's debt service per the request of the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Lewis asked what the additional .25¢ on the proposed three cent real estate tax rate was set aside for. Mr. Bolster answered that it was allocated for the Transfer to Reserve budget line.

Mr. Bolster then transitioned to providing a penny rate projection for FY's 2013-14 through 2018-19. This presentation included a review of debt service obligations and planned expenditures which are expected to impact future real estate tax levels. These include the following:

- Virginia Retirement System (VRS) 5% compensation increase
- MRMS Quality School Construction Bond debt service
- Two additional Sheriff's deputies and one new School Resource Officer at MRMS
- Jail Renovation Project
- Radio System Upgrade
- County employee 3% COLA increase
- Fire & Rescue Director
- VRS Supplement Transfer
- Landfill Tipping Fee costs
- MRMS Virginia Public School Authority debt service
- Fire and EMS services
- Infrastructure project(s)

The projected real estate tax rates by fiscal year are:

- FY13-14: .67¢
- FY14-14: .715¢
- FY15-16: .743¢
- FY16-17: .745¢
- FY17-18: .747¢
- FY18-19: .75¢

Mr. Suter noted that the vast majority of proposed increases were for Public Safety (to include Fire and Rescue services), Law Enforcement, Emergency Communications, and Solid Waste Disposal. He strongly cautioned that the projected increases do not account for the standard operational increases. Mr. Suter cited needs in potential Human Resources and Maintenance functions. He also commented that the County will

continue to work towards achieving efficiencies wherever possible.

Supervisor Ford noted that the projected increases do not include any increases on health insurance. He further noted that we are being very conservative on the anticipated revenues.

Supervisor Lewis offered his appreciation to the finance committee and staff for the effort. Chairman Campbell echoed this gratitude.

Adjourn:

Chairman Campbell announced that the focus of the next budget work session will be to consider the request to advertise the proposed FY13-14 budget and CY2013 tax rates. With no further business, the budget work session will reconvene on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in the Rockbridge County Extension Office.