

AT A REGULAR MEETING FOR ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-16  
OPERATING BUDGET, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY  
VIRGINIA, HELD IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,  
150 SOUTH MAIN STREET LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, ON WEDNESDAY,  
APRIL 22, 2015, AT 6:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** CHAIRMAN J.M.HIGGINS  
**MEMBERS:** R.R.CAMPBELL, R.S.FORD, A.W.LEWIS, JR.,  
D.W.HINTY, JR.  
**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
AND CLERK TO BOARD:** SPENCER H. SUTER  
**FISCAL SERVICES  
DIRECTOR:** STEVEN J. BOLSTER  
**STAFF:** CHRIS SLAYDON

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Higgins called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**Budget Adoption Meeting:**

Chairman Higgins read from his prepared statement as follows:

"As an employee of the Rockbridge Regional Jail Commission, I have a personal interest in the adoption of the budget under the Conflict of Interest Act. However, I am not disqualified from participation in the adoption of the County budget. My disclosure statement is on file with the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors."

Supervisor Hinty read from his prepared statement as follows:

"As my wife is an employee of the Rockbridge County School Board, I have a personal interest in the adoption of the budget under the Conflict of Interest Act. However, I am not disqualified from participation in the adoption of the County

budget. My disclosure statement is on file with the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors."

Mr. Suter followed by providing an overview of budget deliberations leading up to the Budget Adoption Meeting. They include:

"As you know, the budget process never really ends. Tonight is simply the culmination of the most intensive 4 months of the annual process. Over that time, the Board has been presented with many challenges and has had to make difficult decisions. We hope that the Board agrees that we as staff have done our best to enact the Board's wishes and have kept the Board apprised of all changes as the draft budget has evolved to the final, advertised budget.

"Though all department heads and supervisors played a part in developing individual budgets, I'd like to take a moment to recognize the tremendous effort put forth again by two individuals - Steve Bolster and Chris Slaydon. With regard to the CIP (Capital Investment Program), they once again collaborated to improve the process and provide the Board with a clear document which charts the path of potential major expenditures over the next 5 years.

"Moving on to the operational budgets, Steve has once again shown what an asset he is to the organization, with his attention to detail and work ethic in developing a clear document, updated at every step of the way through the development process.

"In preparation for this meeting, Steve and I agreed that there are no changes to present. What is before you is the same

budget that has previously been presented to the Board and which was approved for advertisement.

"In closing, and per conversations we have had through this process, we plan to begin immediately planning for further process improvements next year. One main thrust will be to identify areas of unrestricted reserves and match them to known projects such as those listed in the CIP. We look forward to working with the Board in implementing this budget and planning for the next."

**Convene the Solid Waste Authority:**

Chairman Higgins convened the Solid Waste Authority at 6:02 p.m.

Community Development Deputy Director Chris Slaydon provided a concise update on the 2016-2020 Solid Waste Authority CIP. He explained that since the provisional adoption on January 12, 2015, one change has been made to the plan, based on discussions with the Authority during the subsequent budget process: Worksheet 6 - Used 3/4 Ton Crew-Cab 4x4 Pick-up Truck was removed. This procurement will occur in fiscal year 2015 through budget savings realized as this year has progressed.

Chairman Higgins asked if there was any discussion from the Authority on the updated CIP. Hearing no discussion, Chairman Higgins sought a roll call vote on the adoption of the Solid Waste Authority CIP for 2016-2020:

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM 2016-2020**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code §15.2-2239, the Rockbridge County Planning Commission has prepared an updated capital improvement program bases on the comprehensive plan for the ensuing five (5) years; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted its final review on December 10, 2014, and recommended approval of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to the Solid Waste Authority; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority provisionally approved the CIP at its meeting on January 12, 2015, to serve as a guide during the upcoming budget process, with consideration of formal approval to be scheduled with adoption of the 2015-16 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Solid Waste Authority of Rockbridge County, Virginia, as follows:

1. That the Solid Waste Authority hereby approves and adopts the Rockbridge County Solid Waste Authority, Virginia, Capital Improvements Program 2016-2020.
2. That capital improvement priorities and funding shall be determined and established through the Board's budget process for the fiscal year 2015-2016 and annually for subsequent fiscal years.
3. That the provision of this Resolution shall be effective on and from the date of its adoption.

Adopted this 22nd day of April, 2015.

RECORDED VOTE:

AYES: Ford, Campbell, Lewis, Hinty, Higgins

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

**ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**John M. Higgins, Chairman**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Spencer H. Suter, Secretary**

Mr. Bolster informed the Authority that there were no changes to the proposed fiscal year 2016 Solid Waste Authority budgets since the previous week's Public Hearing.

Chairman Higgins asked if there was any discussion from the Authority on the proposed budgets. Hearing no discussion, Chairman Higgins sought a roll call vote on the adoption of the Solid Waste Authority fiscal year 2016 Landfill Fund and Recycling budgets:

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2015-2016 ANNUAL BUDGETS FOR THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY AND TO SET THE TIPPING FEES FOR 2015-2016 FISCAL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Rockbridge County Solid Waste Authority has developed an annual fiscal plan (annual budget) which is for informative and planning purposes only, and which budget is for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, a brief synopsis of the budget, proposed and current tipping fees, and a notice of the public hearing were published in The News-Gazette newspaper, having general circulation in the County of Rockbridge, on April 8, 2015, in accordance with the requirements of §15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended); and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held, pursuant to Title 15.2 and Title 22.1 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, on April 15, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., to take public comments regarding said annual budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Landfill Fund annual budget in the amount of \$2,005,359.00, and the Recycling Fund annual budget in the amount of \$504,309.00, as published in the County of Rockbridge Budget 2015-2016 effective July 1, 2015, be and is hereby adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the tipping fees to be levied on a per ton basis for the fiscal year 2015-2016 shall be as follows:

Rockbridge County - \$52.00 per ton  
City of Lexington - \$52.00 per ton  
City of Buena Vista - \$37.59 per ton

This resolution shall be effective upon and from the date of its adoption.

Adopted this 22nd day of April, 2015.

RECORDED VOTE:

AYES: Ford, Campbell, Lewis, Hinty, Higgins  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**John M. Higgins, Chairman**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

**Spencer H. Suter, Secretary**

With no further business, the Solid Waste Authority closed at 6:05 p.m.

**Budget Adoption Meeting continued:**

Mr. Slaydon provided a concise update on the 2016-2020 Rockbridge County CIP. He explained that since the provisional adoption on January 12, 2015, only one change has been made to the plan, based on discussions with the Board during the subsequent budget process: Worksheet 6 - New Voting Equipment. The Board has decided to forego setting aside funds in fiscal

year 2016, to see if any funding opportunities from the state will occur in the future to assist with offsetting the cost to procure voting equipment. As result of these discussions, the capital procurement effort is set for fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

Chairman Higgins asked if there was any discussion from the Authority on the updated CIP. Supervisor Lewis asked how recent news that the Virginia State Board of Elections' vote to immediately decertify use of a certain type of voting machine would impact Rockbridge County. Mr. Suter explained that the voting machines which were decertified were a brand called "WinVote"; the Rockbridge County Board of Elections does not use this type of equipment. Mr. Suter added that he had just received news prior to the Budget Adoption Meeting that the Commonwealth has informed Rockbridge County that they will receive 37 new laptop computers for use as Electronic Pollbooks, at no cost. Supervisor Campbell added that Rockbridge County was one of 17 localities selected by the state to be included in their Electronic Pollbook hardware replacement program. Supervisor Ford clarified that these are not replacements for voting machines, but rather are stand-alone laptops used by poll workers during elections. Chairman Higgins asked Mr. Suter to keep contact with the Supervisors and the press as further information becomes available. Chairman Higgins sought a roll call vote on the adoption of the Rockbridge County CIP for 2016-2020:

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM 2016-2020**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-2239, the Rockbridge County Planning Commission has prepared an updated capital improvement program based on the comprehensive plan for the ensuing five (5) years; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted its final review on December 10, 2014, and recommended approval of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to the Board of Supervisors; and,

WHEREAS, the Board provisionally approved the CIP at its meeting on January 12, 2015, to serve as a guide during the upcoming budget process, with consideration of formal approval to be scheduled with adoption of the 2015-16 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Rockbridge County, Virginia, as follows:

1. That the Board of Supervisors hereby approves and adopts the Rockbridge County, Virginia, Capital Improvements Program 2016-2020.
2. That capital improvement priorities and funding shall be determined and established through the Board's budget process for the fiscal year 2015-2016, and annually for subsequent fiscal years.
3. That the provisions of this Resolution shall be effective on and from the date of its adoption.

Adopted this 22nd day of April, 2015.

Recorded Vote:

AYES: Ford, Campbell, Lewis, Hinty, Higgins

NAYES:

ABSENT:

**ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**John M. Higgins, Chairman**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

**Spencer H. Suter, Clerk**

Mr. Bolster informed the Board that there were no changes to the proposed fiscal year 2016 Rockbridge County budget since the previous week's Public Hearing. Supervisor Lewis expressed his hope that there would be a change in the proposed fiscal year 2016 budget. He said it's a flawed budget, it's a disappointment, and it saddens him that the Board will not live up to its most noble vision. Supervisor Lewis added that the budget is being passed on the backs of students and teachers, and that's a shame. Supervisor Hinty asked if the Board was looking at any other avenues to fund the school's budget request as the fiscal year progresses. Chairman Higgins replied in the negative; once the budget is adopted, that is it. Mr. Bolster affirmed that there has been no public discussion on additional funding for the schools. Chairman Higgins sought a roll call vote on the adoption of the Rockbridge County fiscal year 2016 General Fund budget:

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2015-2016 ANNUAL BUDGET FOR ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY AND TO SET TAX RATES FOR THE 2015 TAX YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Rockbridge County has developed an annual fiscal plan (annual budget) which is for

informative and planning purposes only, and which budget is for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, a brief synopsis of the budget, proposed and current tax levies, and a notice of the public hearing were published in The News-Gazette newspaper, having general circulation in the County of Rockbridge, on April 8, 2015, in accordance with the requirements of §15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended); and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held, pursuant to Title 15.2 and Title 22.1 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, on April 15, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., to take public comments regarding said annual budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the annual budget in the amount of \$41,880,592.00, as published in the County of Rockbridge Budget 2015-2016 effective July 1, 2015, be and is hereby adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the tax rates to be levied on taxable property in Rockbridge County for the tax year 2015 shall be as follows:

Real Estate - \$0.715 per \$100 based on 100% valuation  
Mobile Homes - \$0.715 per \$100 based on 100% valuation  
Personal Property Other Than Mobile Homes - \$4.25 per \$100 assessed valuation  
Machinery & Tools - \$2.55 per \$100 assessed valuation  
The Commonwealth's reimbursement rate for the Personal Property Tax Relief will be 45%

This resolution shall be effective upon and from the date of its adoption.

Adopted this 22nd day of April, 2015.

RECORDED VOTE:

AYES: Ford, Campbell, Higgins

NAYS: Lewis, Hinty

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

John M. Higgins, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Spencer H. Suter, Clerk

**Adjourn:**

With no further business, Supervisor Lewis made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Supervisor Hinty. With a unanimous vote by the Board of Supervisors, the meeting was adjourned.