

February 8, 2016

Clarke County Board Of Supervisors
FY2017 Budget Work Session
Meeting Room AB

10:00 a.m.

At a FY2017 Budget Work Session of the Board of Supervisors of Clarke County, Virginia, held in the Berryville Clarke County Government Center, 101 Chalmers Court, 2nd Floor, Berryville, Virginia conducted on Monday, February 8, 2016.

Board Members Present

Barbara J. Byrd; Terri T. Catlett; Mary L.C. Daniel; Bev B. McKay; David S. Weiss

Board Members Absent

None

Staff Present

David Ash; Travis Sumption

Others Present

Chuyen Kochinsky, Dennis Graham, Tom Parker, Chuck Bishop, Val Van Meter

Call to Order

Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

CCPS Update by Chuck Bishop, Division Superintendent CCPS

Prior to the FY2017 Budget Work Session, Chuck Bishop reviewed the following reports:

- CCPS Strategic Plan 2015-2020
- 2014-2015 Instructional Improvement Strategies
- 2015-2016 Instructional Improvement Strategies

Chairman Weiss complimented the School Board and Administrative staff for facilitating the strategic plan process. He opined that the staff's level of caring and concern was quite evident in the strategic plan meetings.

FY2017 Budget Work Session

Tom Judge provided a basic overview. Highlights of discussion include:

- FY2017 budget currently shows a deficit of (\$180,035) without the School Board or Joint Administrative Services or certain capital projects waiting on estimates.
- Fund balance acts as a “savings account” for capital projects and certain contingencies; and the FY2017 budget contains certain events that warrant the use of fund balance designations. Pay-as-you-go currently \$393,280 resulting in a net surplus of \$213,245.
- The Board reviewed the role of the Clarke County Sanitary Authority, the planned \$150,000 shortfall and the challenges faced in operating the Boyce plant.
- Travis Sumption provided additional information on planned data and telecommunications technology upgrades.
- Budget includes a 10% increase in health insurance.
- Communications has been folded into the Sheriff's Department.
- Fire and Rescue services increased by \$105,184 – includes health insurance, part-time salaries, remittance for contract services, uniforms and equipment.
- Volunteer Fire Companies increase of \$73,833, with \$69,000 to cover property and casualty insurance.
- Blue Ridge Volunteer Fire Company requesting \$91,200, an increase of \$39,458. Requests for additional funding made in previous years. Part of request is to cover interest on vehicle purchase, which is not covered within the system or policy of the Board.
- Refuse Disposal increasing \$75,500.
- Sanitation budget will be refined.
- Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Abuse Coalition:
 - o \$15,000 request is carried forward from the FY2016 request.
 - o If it is determined to be a continuing need / desire to participate, the County will ask for a revised request based per capita.
 - o The Board agreed that it would like an update from the Coalition.
- Requests received but not included in budget:
 - o Big Brothers/Big Sisters \$1,500

- Shenandoah Valley Discovery \$8,000
- Requested funding in FY2016 budget; however, the Board had decided not to add new agencies.
- Office of Economic Development: No budget request received; the \$50,250 entered is subject to change pending further review.
- Social Services \$80,187 increase could bear further analysis.
- General government capital projects need further review.
- General Debt Service (\$94,000) decrease represents savings following the final payment in FY2016 of the debt on the original Boyce sewer plant.
- Budget Finance Committee did review revenue but the data for an accurate real estate or personal property tax estimate is not yet available. Services of a part-time employee have been retained to assist in the revenue office. Chairman Weiss opined that budget estimates were at a standstill until the information was received. He asked staff to convey the County's need for the larger revenue figures as soon as possible, even if the smaller revenue figures for items such as boats and trailers were not yet available.
- Supervisor Byrd will request FY2017 proposed budget for Northwestern Regional Juvenile Detention Center.
- State requires localities to advertise the equalized real estate tax rate. With an estimated 5% to 6% reduction in real estate value, by consensus, the Board agreed that it would prefer maintaining the current revenue level.
- Chairman Weiss said that the Finance Committee would cut as sharply as it could opining that he did not believe the Board wanted a general tax increase.
- Requested new positions would be in addition figures presented for the proposed FY2017 budget. Chairman Weiss encouraged departments requesting new positions to meet with the Finance Committee.
- The Finance Committee will further review minor capital requests.
- The Finance Committee will clarify vehicle replacement criteria.
- In the coming weeks, the Board will consider an employee pay increase.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at 11:42 pm Chairman Weiss adjourned the work session.

Next Regular Meeting Date

The next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors is set for Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in the Berryville Clarke County Government Center, Main Meeting Room, 101 Chalmers Court, Berryville, Virginia.

ATTEST: February 8, 2016

David S. Weiss, Chair

David L. Ash, County Administrator

Minutes Recorded and Transcribe by Lora B. Walburn, Deputy Clerk, Board of Supervisors