

**Virginia:**

At the Board of Supervisors and School Board Joint Budget Work Session held at the Charles City County Government Administration Building thereof on **Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at 6:00 pm** in the 244<sup>th</sup> year of the Commonwealth and 386<sup>th</sup> year of the County.

PRESENT:	<b><u>Board of Supervisors</u></b>	<b><u>School Board</u></b>
	William G. Coad, Chairman	Rodney Tyler
	Gilbert A. Smith	Joy Harris
	Lewis E. Black, III	Martha Harris
		Preston Adkins

Meeting called to order by Chairman, William G. Coad.

RE: REVIEW OF FY21 PROPOSED BUDGET

Michelle Johnson stated during the budget meeting held in January the Board agreed to have a joint Budget Work Session with the School Board. She gave a summary of the FY21 proposed budget for the County. She stated the total budget for the County totals 17.7million; this includes all departments and agencies.

Bill Coad requested to include side notes on the budget report for rebates or funding that are coming from another locality or company.

It was asked when the School needs money the School Board comes to the Board of Supervisors, where does the County get their money? The dollars come from the Fund Balance, the reserve for emergencies. To operate the County and Schools, it takes \$341,000 a week.

Lewis Black asked, can the schools receive their own Fund Balance? The School appropriates its budget by month. By code, the Board can allocate the School Board budget monthly, quarterly, or lump sum. Michelle stated the reason the County went to monthly appropriation was because of the shortfall to the budget a few years ago. It was decided to discuss this option further at a later date.

Bill Coad stated that the Animal Shelter has a lot of animals due to animal cruelty. By consensus, the Board of Supervisors requested Michelle Johnson to report back to them the steps that need to be taken to recoup expenses from animal cruelty cases.

The County is projecting a two to four percent salary increase this year. Bill Coad requested staff to give the Board a report on performance raises for the last three years, by position and amount.

Dr. David Gaston gave a summary of the school budget for FY21. He stated the State had not given them their final budget number. The budget numbers will change. They are requesting 1.6m for the operating budget. Eighteen new positions are being

requested. Special education is 18.2%, 19 students are CSA. The Psychologist is a part-time position; they are looking into absorbing this into a full-time job, which is a required position.

Gilbert Smith asked if it is a requirement to have so many aids for a certain amount of kids? No, aids are not a requirement. Presently there is one aid floating between 3 classes; they help with safety issues and special needs.

Two-thirds of the students are eligible for Medicaid. The School will receive Medicaid reimbursement. The School is behind in replacing six buses. To handle the workload, the School is requesting an additional mechanic. Preston Adkins stated he believes two mechanics are always needed, for safety reasons.

Bill Coad asked what percentage of County vehicles are in the shop right now? There is a total of 30 vehicles in the shop right now, including Social Services.

Teachers will receive a 6% increase to include state dollars. Everyone else will receive a 3% increase. With a total of 13% increase in the last three years, it will make the County schools #30 in our division.

Under medical supplies, the State passed the feminine hygiene law. Schools will have to stock and provide feminine hygiene products starting next year.

RE: REVIEW OF CIP BUDGET

Michelle Johnson reviewed the County CIP Budget, 5-year plan, by department. She stated she had not talked to the Directors; these numbers may change.

Lewis Black stated he would like to see the County move away from updating the gym complex and invest in an athletic complex. This should be included in the CIP. The County is looking into putting a shingle roof on the Social Center. It was suggested to get quotes for a metal roof; it may be cheaper.

This is the second year the judge is requesting to update the old library in Iona W. Adkins Courthouse into a courtroom. The Board agreed for the County Administrator to send a formal letter to the judge to hold off on a Courtroom.

Parks and Recreation will be proposing to provide setup, breakdown, and clean up when you rent the Social Center. The rental cost will be increased. They are in the process of creating a new policy and procedure to rent the Social Center.

Michelle Johnson stated once all the departments have reviewed the new accounting system, staff will come back together and decide which company to use. Everyone thus far has agreed to go with Edmunds.

Bill Coad asked if the schools and County could combine the use of the IT Department. Dr. Gaston stated their IT Department is contracted out; they currently

pay \$74,000, servicing 780 computers. There is one person on-site three days, the other two days they are web-based. Bill Coada asked County staff to give a comparison of the County and School IT System; to include all hardware and personnel.

Dr. Gaston reviewed the School CIP Budget. The School will be refreshing 375 laptops to include an upgrade of servers, insurance, etc. For transportation, the School will be requesting three buses. They have received grant funds for electric buses. The School will have to purchase two of the buses; the grant funds will pay to have the buses electric. The mechanics will have to go to training on how to service electric buses. One bus will be purchased for special needs, to include an elevator. In regards to the HVAC System, five boilers are left to be replaced.

Bill Coada stated he had asked Andre Jones, from the Chronicle, why the County host regional track meets. Andre Jones, who was present, said we are one of six that has a track in our region. Other schools do not have a track to host track meets. Schools that host track meets are compensated. There are 20 to 25 teams in our region; one meet can raise \$5,000.00 for the School hosting the track meet. Our track has only been patched since it was installed. There is no cost to us for having a meet. There is also a social community piece associated with the track; several people use the track for walking.

Gilbert Smith asked the money that is collected for track meets, where does it go? It goes to athletics programs. Citizens need to show up to games to break even; it cost to pay referees, etc.

Dr. Gaston stated the School is requesting 1.7 million dollars in their CIP Budget.

Preston Adkins thanked the Board for having this meeting. He stated this has helped him realize and understand what the County has to go through to create a budget.

Motion was made by Preston Adkins to adjourn the School Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business Bill Coada **recessed until March 19, 2020, at 6:00 pm, Board of Supervisors Townhall Meeting.**