

**HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES**

April 10, 2008 – 5:00 pm

The Henry County Board of Supervisors held a meeting on April 10, 2008, at 5:00 pm in the Fourth Floor Conference Room of the County Administration Building, King's Mountain Road, Collinsville, Virginia. The purpose of the meeting was to hold a work session on the FY '08-'09 School Budget and Total County Budget. The following Board members were present: Chairman, Jim Adams; Vice Chairman, H. G. Vaughn; Debra Buchanan, Paula Burnette, Jim McMillian and Tommy Slaughter.

Staff members present were Benny Summerlin, County Administrator; Tim Hall, Deputy County Administrator; George Lyle, County Attorney; Susan Biege, Administrative Assistant; Jimmie Wright, Director of Accounting; and Darrell Jones, Assistant Director of Accounting.

Debbie Hall of the Martinsville Bulletin was present.

Sheriff Lane Perry and Major Steve Eanes were present.

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. He stated the meeting is a continuation of its April 3, 2008 meeting. Mr. Adams recognized guests from the Sheriff's Office and School Board who were in attendance. Mr. Adams turned the meeting over to Mr. Summerlin.

Mr. Summerlin stated the Board would proceed reviewing the budget by category and if the Board has any questions he would respond.

REVENUE

Mr. Adams inquired about the collection of revenues.

Mr. Wright stated it is based on 95%.

Mrs. Burnette stated in the budget narrative it was noted that combined with the loss of ABC and wine tax profits, Henry County is receiving \$468,477 less in state revenue. She stated Pittsylvania County has only one ABC store and they recently passed a resolution requesting the State to close the store since the County would not be receiving any profits back from the State. She stated this is a loss of tax profits from ABC and it's another way of the State pushing its responsibility over on local government. She stated it's a loss of money that was clearly designated for local governments.

Mrs. Buchanan noted that under miscellaneous revenues it appears recycling is up and that should increase once the three new sites are manned starting July 1.

EXPENDITURE

- **General Government Administration**
- **Judicial Administration**

Mr. Adams inquired about the State's hiring freeze on the Clerk of Court's office since it will be losing one employee to retirement. He asked if there would be any flexibility in the Clerk's budget to hire a replacement.

Mr. Summerlin stated the Compensation Board put a hiring freeze on Constitutional Officers with the exception of the Sheriff and Commonwealth Attorney. He stated if you have a vacancy then you would have to hold it for 90 days before refilling a position. He stated next year the Compensation Board is placing the same restriction on all Constitutional Officers and those savings would go to the State.

- **Public Safety**

Mrs. Burnette asked if staff expects any of the State funding to come back to the Sheriff's Office if they needed to replace the three eliminated positions.

Mr. Summerlin stated he would only expect State funding to get worse and the only hope is future growth among revenue to help restore some of the funding needed.

- **Public Works**

- **Health and Welfare**

Mr. Adams asked if the budget addresses the building needs of the health department.

Mr. Summerlin stated that would fall under Public Works; however, the City is the fiscal agent for the maintenance of the health department building. He stated the County budgeted \$6,500 to be matched by the City of \$6,500 for maintenance.

- **Education**

- **Recreation/Culture**

- **Community Development**

- **Non-Departmental**

- **Special Funds**

- **Capital Improvements**

Mrs. Burnette stated the FY '09 budget does not call for a tax increase. She asked where the money is being saved.

Mr. Summerlin stated the County took a \$466,000 cut in funding. He stated for the most part savings primarily came from the Enterprise Zone benefits and Refuse Collection.

Mr. Vaughn stated he had concerns of whether or not the County has enough funds allocated for increases in fuel costs and diesel fuel. He stated the County needs to be overly cautious.

Mr. Summerlin stated staff also is concerned with the rising increase in fuel cost and an allowance was made for increases but you don't know where it's going to stop. He suggested that as you go into the budget that fuel expenses need to be carefully monitored and it may be a need to shift resources from other areas of the budget to accommodate fuel prices.

There were some general comments on the new proposed shell building, which would be owned by the Industrial Development Authority and funded by the Board of Supervisors and the County and City looking at joint services of the Parks and Recreation Department and City Leisure Services for more cost efficient services.

Mr. Summerlin stated another item that needs to be addressed is the job title change of the Director of Central Accounting to Director of Finance and also the department name of Central Accounting to Department of Finance. He stated the Board has a draft ordinance amendment and will require holding a public hearing. (A Copy of Proposed Ordinance Amendment Included in Board's File).

Mrs. Burnette moved that the Board set a public hearing at its May 27th meeting on the proposed ordinance amendment, second by Mr. McMillian and unanimously carried.

Mr. Summerlin noted that the public hearings on the School and County Budgets will be held Monday, April 14, 2008. He noted the School Budget has to be adopted by May 1, 2008.

There being no further business to discuss Mr. McMillian moved at 5:30 pm to continue the meeting to April 14, second by Mrs. Burnette and unanimously carried.

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