

At a Budget Hearing of the Accomack County Board of Supervisors, held electronically on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020, in the Accomack County Board of Supervisors Chambers, Room 104, in Accomac, Virginia at 6:00 p.m. and via conference call.

## **1. Opening of Meeting**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT**

#### **Board of Supervisors Present:**

C. Reneta Major, Chair (Physically Present)  
Ron S. Wolff, Vice-Chair (Physically Present)  
Robert D. Crockett  
Vanessa Kay Johnson  
H. Jackie Phillips (J. Phillips)  
Harrison W. Phillips, III (H. Phillips)  
Paul E. J. Muhly  
Donald L. Hart, Jr.  
William J. "Billy" Tarr

#### **Board of Supervisors Absent:**

#### **Others Present:**

Mr. Michael T. Mason, County Administrator  
Mrs. Cela J. Burge, County Attorney  
Mrs. Jessica Taylor Hargis, Executive Assistant

There being a quorum, Ms. Major called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **1.1. Invocation**

The invocation was given by Mr. Wolff.

### **1.2. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **1.3. Adoption of Agenda**

**On a motion made by Mr. Wolff and seconded by Mr. H. Phillips, the Accomack County Board of Supervisors voted to adopt the agenda as presented.**

## **2. Report of Public Officials**

No report of Public Officials.

## **3. Public Hearing (6:00 PM)**

### **3.1 Public Hearing Rules**

Mrs. Burge read the Public Hearing rules, reminding the Board of the rules that were suspended by the Board by its adoption of the resolution at its March 20, 2020 emergency meeting related to COVID-19.

Mr. Mason provided details for the public listening on how to access the agenda information on the County's BoardDocs website for this meeting as well as all others.

Mr. Mason gave the Board a presentation on each of the public hearing items.

Mr. Mason reminded the Board:

- There are several pending matters and several new pieces of federal legislation that may affect Accomack County's FY 20 and the proposed FY 21 budgets and financials, but that it was too early to have any substantive information to propose adjustments or changes.
- Any change in tax rates which result in a rate above that which was advertised for public hearing will require another public hearing to be held.
- The Board cannot take any action on the advertised budget until 7 days after this public hearing per Code of Virginia §15.2-2506

To consider the following conservative measures before adopting the budget:

- Consider appropriating budgeted funds on a quarterly basis
  - Will allow budget to be rebalanced at a later date
- Consider deferring appropriations for non-mission critical/non-mandated capital projects until the second half of the fiscal year in order to verify revenues are sufficient to pay for them.
- Consider linking any employee pay raises to the availability of funds.
- Consider deferring the due date of property taxes traditionally June 5th in order to provide temporary taxpayer relief (will require ordinance amendment)

### **3.2 FY2021 Budget Public Hearing**

Ms. Major opened and closed the public hearing as no comments were received.

### **3.3 FY2021 Tax Rates Public Hearing**

Ms. Major opened the public hearing.

Mr. Mason informed the Board that one public comment has been received from Mary and Bill Burnham, owners of Burnham Guides Paddling Adventures, requesting that the Board consider delaying the deadline on personal property taxes for at least three months, with no interest or penalties.

Mr. Mason reminded the Board that while it is able to defer payments up to 90 days, it does not have the authority to waive penalty and interest, which is the authority of the Treasurer.

Ms. Major closed the public hearing

## **4. County Administrator's Report**

### **4.1 Other Items – Schedule Meeting to Adopt Budget, Tax Rates and CIP**

**On a motion made by Mr. J. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Crockett, the Accomack County Board of Supervisors voted by roll call vote, with all members in favor, to hold its next meeting to consider adopting the Fiscal Year 2021 budget, Calendar Year 2020**

**Tax Rates and FY21-25 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) on Monday, April 6, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.**

**5. County Attorney's Report**

No additional items to report. Mrs. Burge did remind the Board of the importance of roll call votes, especially during electronic meetings.

**6. Board of Supervisors Comment Period**

The Board wished its best to citizens during this time and reminded all to stay safe and take care.

**7. Budget and Appropriation Items**

None

**8. Adjournment**

**8.1 Adjournment**

**On a motion made by Mr. Wolff and seconded by Mr. Crockett, the Accomack County Board of Supervisors voted to adjourn at 6:32 p.m.**