

MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK

Regular Meeting
April 5, 2022

6:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened. A Regular Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:02 p.m., Tuesday, April 5, 2022, in the East Room, York Hall, by Chairman Sheila S. Noll.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: Walter C. Zarembo, Sheila S. Noll, G. Stephen Roane, Jr., and Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Chairman Noll read a statement certifying that W. Chad Green will participate remotely due to a personal matter.

Also in attendance were Neil A. Morgan, County Administrator; Mark L. Bellamy, Jr., Deputy County Administrator; Brian Fuller, Assistant County Administrator; James E. Barnett, Jr., County Attorney; Richard Hill, Deputy County Attorney, and Heather L. Schott, Legislative Assistant.

WORK SESSION

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET

Mr. Neil Morgan, County Administrator, stated that the focus of the work session is to allow the Board to further deliberate on the recommended FY 2023 Budget. He stated that the evening's agenda will include those items typically discussed by the Board prior to consideration and adoption of the annual budget.

COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Walt Akers, Community Services Grants Advisory Committee Chair, thanked County staff, especially Brian Fuller and Sheri Newcomb for their invaluable assistance. He also thanked the Committee Members Gregory Sakimura, District 1; Alexander Payne, District 2; Ellen Thacker District 4; and David Allen, District 5. He then provided a brief presentation that included the following information:

- There were 16 organizations to apply for the grant in FY 2023. As usual the Committee broke the applicants into the following categories of service as follows: four groups were placed in the food and meals distribution category; three were placed in a category that focuses on independent living; two were identified as providing rehabilitation, therapy and treatment; two were placed in the youth advocacy and development category; four provide emergency and transition shelter; one focuses on end of life care; one works to reduce poverty; and two applicants that provide other services to the community.
- As in years past, the Committee Members independently reviewed each application in order to distribute the funds appropriately. Afterwards, the Committee met together to average all of the individual results.
- This year we had \$50,000 to distribute among the applicants, which is \$10,000 more than last year.
- A map was presented that illustrated the service area covered by each of the applicants as well as a chart depicting the number of County residents they serve versus the number of people they serve outside of the County. A chart was also provided that illustrated the amount of funding provided by these organizations compared to what is provided by surrounding localities and other funding sources.

- The number of worthwhile agencies who apply each year always exceeds the amount of available funding. As such, most organizations will not receive full funding.
- Regional American Red Cross provides disaster relief in the form of food, shelter, clothing and medication; emergency communication support to the Armed Forces' members and their families; and smoke alarm installations. They requested \$5,000 and the Committee is recommending \$1,000.
- Arc of Greater Williamsburg provides wellness programs, recreational therapy, self-advocacy and life skills' training to 127 developmentally disabled adults in York County. Although they service adjacent localities, one-third of their services are provided to York County residents. The Committee is recommending \$1,500 in funding for this organization with is an increase from last year.
- Avalon Center for Women and Children provides shelter for women and children; a 24-hour crisis line; and counseling, education and training services. In the past year, they directly supported 167 York County residents. Full funding in the amount of \$4,000 is being recommended for this agency.
- Bacon Street Youth and Family Services focuses on preventative and rehabilitative services to address the problem of youth alcohol and drug abuse in the community. Their Journey Home Project provides services that are free-of-charge for youth ages 10 through 16 and their families that are struggling with homelessness and substance abuse. Although their primary area is James City County, they provided services for 450 York County residents last year. Funding in the amount of \$2,700 is recommended for this agency.
- BikeWalk Williamsburg is a new agency applying for funding. This organization supports the bicycle co-op of Williamsburg, promotes bicycle safety and provides free bicycle helmets to adults and children. Funding in the amount of \$1,050 is recommended for this organization.
- Colonial Court Appointed Special Advocates provides courtroom and community advocacy for children who are victims of abuse or neglect in our community. In the past year they provided support for 16 children in York County. They receive some support from surrounding localities, but the bulk of their funds come from grants and individual donors. A donation of \$2,450 for this organization is recommended this year.
- Community Brain Injury Services provides life skills training, vocational services, case management and a number of other services to County residents that have suffered a brain injury. This group has a fairly large service area and has been effective in securing grants. It is recommended that this organization receive \$1,850 in the upcoming budget.
- Historic Virginia Land Conservancy protects and preserves significant natural, scenic, agricultural and historic land in the lower James, York and Rappahannock Rivers. An allocation of \$1,800 is recommended this year.
- Hospice House of Williamsburg provides hospice support and end of life care to the terminally ill. They also provide bereavement services and respite support for caregivers. Over the past year, they provided services to 32 residents in York County but expect that number to increase next year as people begin to emerge with the reduction in COVID concerns. The recommended allotment for this organization is \$3,900 this year.
- Natasha House provides transitional housing, skill workshops, tutoring and/or counseling to women and children in York County and other localities on the Peninsula. The funding requested this year is largely to support their Seed to Table Program, which produces additional revenue streams to support their services. Funding in the amount of \$8,000 is recommended for the agency this year. He explained that more funding is recommended for this agency over similar applicants based primarily upon their location and presence in York County.

- Transitions Family Violence Services provides emergency shelter, hotline support and advocacy services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Their service area covers the southern Peninsula and they receive funds from surrounding localities. An allocation of \$5,000 is recommended for them this year.
- United Way of the Virginia Peninsula is also a new applicant this year. They are seeking funding to support their community assistance network which helps to coordinate the distribution of resources to the working poor, as well as coordinating advocacy services for 820 York County residents. Since they are seeking funds to coordinate work as opposed to actually doing the work and because other organizations are providing the same service, an allocation of \$1,575 is recommended for this organization.
- The Virginia Peninsula Food Bank provides a centralized repository for distributing food to needy individuals on the Peninsula. They have a very large service area and provide meals and support to 6,405 residents in York County, which is a third more than last year. The Committee's recommendation for this organization is full funding at \$5,000.
- The Williamsburg Faith in Action organization serves to promote independent living such as transportation services, visits, well checks and help with chores to 45 York County residents over the past year. Their request will be fully funded and more at \$2,525.
- Williamsburg Area Meals on Wheels provides two categories of services: provision of hot meals to the sick and elderly, but also support for independent living by providing daily check-ins for people who otherwise could not live at home. In the past year, they provided services to 135 York County residents and full funding in the amount of \$2,300 is recommended.
- York County Meals on Wheels provides hot meals to needy individuals and supports independent living exclusively for York County residents. In the past year, they provided services to 530 individuals and as such full funding and more in the amount of \$5,350 is recommended.

Dr. Akers closed stating that providing food and shelter for the citizens in need has remained the highest priority for the Committee this year. He pointed out that the Committee received requests for funding in the amount of \$106,808 this year and the full amount of \$50,000 was recommended across all the applying organizations. Throughout the process, the Committee tried to ensure that groups with similar activities received similar funding with some variation based upon their respective service area and number of individuals they serve.

Chairman Noll asked specifically how the Red Cross had assisted County residents over the past year.

Dr. Akers responded that in the application they ask for the top three things that their organization provides to the residents of the County; however, they do not ask for specifics.

Mr. Roane asked if the Avalon Center shelter is contracted out or do they run it themselves and if the shelter is located in York County.

Dr. Akers noted that the shelter is run by the staff of the Avalon Center and is located either in York County or Williamsburg proper.

Regarding the BikeWalk Williamsburg organization, Chairman Noll noted that this organization is run entirely by volunteers. They accept bike donations, refurbish and sell them, but also donate bikes to those individuals who are nominated by Social Services and other community services agencies. She further noted that they also teach people how to make bike repairs.

In regards to the Historic Virginia Land Conservancy group, Mr. Roane asked how do they protect and preserve historical properties.

Mr. Brian Fuller, Assistant County Administrator, stated that this group tries to preserve the land, acquire additional property, works to restore the watersheds, advocates for land conservation, and educates and coordinates conservation efforts for land and surrounding waters.

April 5, 2022

Mr. Roane asked if the number of service recipients was down at the Natasha House this year.

Dr. Akers stated that the numbers were down slightly, but with the seclusion caused by COVID spousal abuse increased.

Mr. Green asked if the United Way had just moved its office for greater visibility.

Mr. Morgan stated that previously there were two facilities, one office in Newport News City Center and a second one in the northern County off of Waller Mill Road. However, he pointed out with the consolidation of the United Way of Williamsburg and the United Way of the Peninsula, one United Way office was established in northern York County as noted by Mr. Green.

Mr. Zaremba asked if the Meals on Wheels program provides single meals or recurring meals to needy individuals.

Dr. Akers stated that it was his understanding that they provide one meal a day for five days a week.

Mr. Roane commended the Committee for doing a great job and asked if they have found a way to evaluate the effectiveness of the different agencies/organizations.

Dr. Akers stated that there are several ways. First, all of the applicants must be 501(c)3 organizations that are required to submit annually a Form 990 with the federal government which are publicly available for review via GuideStar. He stated that by reviewing the information on GuideStar it is clear how efficiently each of these organization are run, that is how much of the funding goes directly to those in need.

Mr. Roane asked if the Committee has a threshold for efficiency that must be met when reviewing the applications.

Dr. Akers explained that the 501(c)3 criteria also helps to ensure that the funding is appropriately dispersed. As such all of the information is used by the individual Committee members to ensure they make good decisions which are then averaged together to determine which organizations receive funding and how much.

Mr. Shepperd stated that there are private firms that evaluate charities and added that the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank had recently received a five-star rating from such a firm. He added that individuals can review these evaluations prior to selecting and donating.

Dr. Akers reiterated that anyone may visit GuideStar online to review the ratings of all of the charitable agencies before they decide to contribute to the respective agencies.

Mr. Morgan interjected relative to the organizations that serve Williamsburg, that one can get a good sense of the quality of their programs from the funding that the Williamsburg Health Foundation provides since they have a great deal of analytical capacity that the Committee nor staff have. In other words, if the Williamsburg Health Foundation is providing a good deal of funding for a specific charity, he stated that you may be sure they have thoroughly vetted it prior to doing so.

Mr. Zaremba asked Dr. Akers if the Committee feels somewhat frustrated when trying to divvy up \$50,000 over 20 plus worthwhile organizations. He also pointed out that these organizations typically receive funds from many other sources. He inquired if the Committee had considered requesting additional funds for these charitable agencies.

Dr. Akers concurred that over the past couple of years the value of a dollar has greatly decreased. However, he added that over the past ten years, the Board of Supervisors have taken the larger organizations that have provided the most help and have placed them in the County's annual budget so that a much larger contribution to each may be considered annually. In addition, he noted that the Board has regularly increased funding for the other charitable agencies. He stated that the most important thing the Supervisors can do for these organizations is to provide the funding that keeps them moving forward and to prevent them from failing. However, should the County decide to increase the amount of funding for these groups, he recommended increasing notification/advertising regarding how organization can apply for

this funding. Currently the funding for the number of applications works well; however, should inflation continue the amount of the grant may need to be revisited.

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Noll thanked the Committee for a job well done.

OTHER COMMUNITY SUPPORT LINE ITEMS

Mr. Morgan stated that he and Mrs. Theresa Owens, Director of Finance, would jointly present the other portions of the work session on the proposed budget. First, he stated that they will address the regional commitment component of the budget and then the Board's community support portion of the budget. A pie chart of the regional initiatives was displayed that illustrated a breakdown of the proposed budget according to the Board's strategic priorities. He explained that all of our significant regional activities are either tied to a state statute, a regional memorandum of agreement or to other commitments, which are listed on page 57 of the budget. He then presented a list of regional and contractual organizations that the County typically funds and specifically offered details on a few of these that included the following:

- Child Development Resources – a non-profit that supports the Head Start Program;
- Colonial Behavioral Health – the community services board which provides mental health services which we share with Poquoson, Williamsburg and James City County;
- Colonial Community Corrections – adult probation;
- Colonial Group Home Commission – people under 18 years of age in the criminal justice system are convicted and confined to staying at this home and/or reporting to their counselors;
- Hampton Roads Alliance – is the regional economic development agency that we have rejoined with the rest of the Peninsula;
- Hampton Roads Military & Federal Facilities Alliance – watches out for our federal facilities, which basically provide one-third of the Hampton Roads' economy to ensure neighboring states and regions do not obtain and/or move our federal facilities elsewhere;
- Hampton Roads Planning District – which also includes the Transportation Planning Organization although they have different tasks;
- Hampton Roads Workforce Council – this agency has evolved from a Peninsula support-based basis to a Hampton Roads activity; and
- Heritage Humane Society – is one of two animal services operations with a proposed significant budget increase due to their facility expansion and the increased growth in that area.

Mr. Morgan stated that Mrs. Owens will present additional organizations that the Board has in the past taken a special interest in.

Mrs. Owens pointed out that Mr. Morgan had provided details on the contractual and the regional organizations; however, she stated that she will do likewise with the local organizations that the Board has traditionally supported in the past. A list of these organizations was then presented, specifically listing what the Board has approved for each over the last three years, what is being requested for FY 2023 and what is being recommended for each in the upcoming budget. She then asked the Board to review these requests and stated that she will be happy to provide any additional details necessary so that they may make informed decisions regarding these funding requests.

Mr. Green asked if the Watermen's Museum had submitted a funding request this year.

Mrs. Owens confirmed that they had.

April 5, 2022

Mr. Shepperd asked if the Living Museum had submitted an application.

Mrs. Owens stated that the Living Museum had not submitted an application for funding for several years. She noted that this list includes those organizations that at one time were included in the list requesting funding through the Grants Advisory Committee. However, due to their significant service to the County they have been moved to the list of agencies that typically receive funding through the General Fund Budget each year such as the Lackey Free Clinic.

Mr. Shepperd asked why the York County Historical Committee had not requested any funding this year.

Mrs. Owens explained that staff had reached out to the Historical Committee to ask if they wanted to apply for funding and were told that they were unable to do the programs they planned last year so they have residual funding and as such did not want to request new funding.

Mr. Roane asked for additional information on the Launchpad Regional Incubator.

Mr. Morgan explained that it is a business incubator that we have in partnership with Williamsburg, James City County and William and Mary College which is now located in Tribe Square. Although he did not have the statistics, he stated that they have enjoyed some positive success stories from this agency.

Mr. Zaremba asked if the Launchpad publishes a quarterly or annual report, which shows how many businesses have actually been launched through this venue.

Mr. Morgan stated that staff will be happy to obtain and supply this report to the Board. He added that staff made some judgment calls on a couple of organizations' funding request. For example, he stated the Colonial Soil and Water had requested an increase in funding this year; however, staff is uncertain how this organization benefits the County.

Mr. Green suggested that representatives from Colonial Soil and Water attend an upcoming Board meeting to explain how their agency serves the County.

Mr. Morgan responded to the suggestion and stated that staff had a meeting with the Colonial Soil and Water recently and found they have some worthy ideas, but as of yet these ideas have not been translated into action.

Mr. Roane asked for additional information regarding the Williamsburg Area Medical Assistance Corporation (Olde Towne).

Mr. Morgan explained that they are affiliated with and are housed in a James City County facility. The organization has a governing board that includes a member of the Board of Supervisors and it provides hybrid model health care for people who do not have health insurance. In other words some of the people who are served by this clinic pay and some do not, unlike Lackey Free Clinic that is 100 percent free.

Mr. Shepperd asked about the Virginia Tech Extension Program and also about the Housing Partnership and how they work with staff to assist citizens and how the small amount of funds recommended for this group can be beneficial.

Mr. Morgan stated that they are in the budget for \$60,000 but they are not on this list, but rather is tied to the education portion of the budget. He added that the School Division is the primary item in the education portion of the budget, then the Library and lastly the Virginia Tech Extension Office. He also noted that increased funding was not recommended for the Housing Partnership based upon the Community Services Department recommendation.

Mr. Brian Fuller, Assistant County Administrator, explained that the Housing Partnership is a non-profit organization that works closely with the County and currently is assisting with Carver Gardens. He stated that they are a good partner; however, most recently County staff has assumed some of their responsibilities. This group has a list of volunteers and they also solicit funding from other organizations and localities.

Mr. Morgan added that the Partnership is governed by different regulations and policies than the County so this small amount of funds can help with such projects as installing in-door plumbing for residents who do not have it.

Mr. Roane asked for more details on the York County Historical Museum

Mr. Morgan stated that the County's contribution to this Museum is uncertain because they are currently in a discussion with the Park Service, which will begin shortly to require lease payments for the Museum's continued use of the apothecary building which they also utilize. It is too early to make a decision about funding for this group. He continued by stating, should the Park Service require lease payments for the ancillary structure the museum utilizes, then it would be better for the County to enter into the lease agreement and allow the Museum to be the subtenant.

During a discussion regarding those organizations for which the County is the sole benefactor, Mr. Fuller noted that the Yorktown Foundation-Tall Ships is the only such group for which the County is the sole source of funding. He noted that their visits are of great benefit to the County. He added were we to invite the Tall Ships to Yorktown, it costs approximately \$15,000 for each ship to visit for a weekend. However, since our Dockmaster, James Scruggs, has an excellent relationship with the owners of the Tall Ships he is typically able to obtain their presence on a weekend for free if they are in the area for larger localities.

Mr. Morgan concurred that the Tall Ships is one of our best little investments since with each visit we enjoy many visitors to the area.

Mr. Zaremba asked if the ship named Alliance requests funds from the County.

Mr. Morgan stated that they do not, as the owners of the Alliance pay the County rent to locate on our pier.

Chairman Noll asked about the County's recommended funding for the Celebrate Yorktown Symphony since she noted that they raise a great deal of money each year.

Mr. Fuller responded that we recommend these funds as the Symphony is a great marketing tool and brings many people into the area, especially since they provide free concerts.

OTHER POTENTIAL BUDGET IMPACTS

Mr. Morgan stated that on March 15th when he presented the recommended FY 2023 Budget there were three specific questions that the Board asked and were subsequently answered in memorandums. However, for the sake of the listening public he reiterated the Board's questions to include the respective answers for each as follows:

- Relative to the Constitutional Officers, how many employees are authorized by the Compensation Board and how many are covered by the County.
 - Out of the five Constitutional Offices, there are a total of 188.5 positions, 102 of which are authorized by the State Compensation Board. However, even for the positions authorized by the state, they only pay slightly over 50 percent of the actual cost. The County pays \$9.7 million annually for Constitutional Offices' employees.
- Will the new Youth Librarian position focus only on small children.
 - The new position will focus on children services through High School.
- Does the County benefit monetarily from approving short-term rentals.
 - Short-term rentals generate minimal revenue for the County. For example, the 13 approved STRs combined generate approximately \$20,000 in revenue for the County.

April 5, 2022

Mr. Morgan then briefly presented the recommended FY 2023 Budget recommendations that included:

- Real Estate Tax rate decrease of 1.5 cents;
- Increase in Capital Improvements Plan transfer and debt service – Law Enforcement building;
- Increase to health insurance premiums (i.e. family rate increases \$50 per month);
- Compensation package – five percent increase plus \$1,500;
- Public Safety position; and
- School contributions.

Mr. Morgan explained, with the proposed Real Estate Tax decrease to \$0.78 per \$100 assessed value, that York County will have the lowest rate for a full service major local government in Hampton Roads.

Mr. Zaremba asked if the County is obligated, according to a state statute, to reduce the Real Estate Tax rate when assessment values increase.

Mr. Morgan noted that the County is only obligated to advertise what the effective tax rate is. He added if we were to cut the rate so that the average person paid the same amount of Real Estate Tax, the rate would have to be decreased to \$0.74, which would be devastating to the proposed budget which will address essential items. He also added that with the current inflation rate, we are basically taking an inflationary increase from the growth of real estate and really not much more. He also pointed out that the value of used cars has greatly increased, but the County's Personal Property Tax rate is one of the lowest in the region. He noted that there are still some unknowns related to the budget that could negatively affect it which includes:

- General Assembly actions – specifically concern over the one-cent grocery tax that is currently local revenue.
- Consumer related revenues – our estimates on consumer taxes is relatively aggressive; however, with the Ukraine conflict and fuel prices this will be watched closely.
- Construction costs – the new Law Enforcement building will be bid shortly which may be greatly impacted by the current inflation.

Mr. Roane asked if it would be beneficial to buy the needed construction supplies now and stockpile it before the costs increase.

Mr. Morgan stated to a degree we have already accomplished some of this by bidding out the site work that included associated supplies. In addition, he noted that we have already ordered the generators for the building, but the main construction procurement will still have to bid out. He then requested the Board's direction on several issues that will also impact the upcoming budget. First, he stated that several Board Members have approached him about reviewing the County's current Disabled and Elderly Relief Abatement Program due to the rise in inflation. He pointed out that the last time this program was reviewed by the Board was in 2004. Mr. Morgan suggested that between now and the next year's budget that we take a detailed, analytical look at the whole program. However, meanwhile he suggested that the current program be tweaked, that is a flat 10 percent increase in everything related to this program be approved. He noted that the \$20,000 income limit would go up 10 percent; the \$50,000 cap would go up 10 percent and the asset limit would also increase 10 percent. This proposed adjustment would basically give qualifying citizens a three-year inflation adjustment. He requested the Board's support to implement this simple adjustment in the FY 2023 Budget and to take a more detailed look at the program prior to next year's budget. He added that a speedy decision on this matter will be required as the Commissioner of the Revenue will be required to widely advertise these changes so she needs to know something very quickly. Should the Board agree to implement this program change, it will result in the loss of revenue in the \$50,000 to \$75,000 range as opposed to the current \$40,000 revenue loss.

Chairman Noll suggested that henceforth the program be adjusted pursuant to the current cost of living so this is not forgotten in the future.

Mr. Morgan stated that might very well be the way to handle this in the future; however, he stated that this program needs a thorough review and we will need to ensure whatever is decided it is in accordance with state statutes.

Mr. Roane asked what percentage change of our population from 2004 will be impacted by this program change.

Mrs. Owens stated that there are currently 450 citizens participating in the program and there were 679 participating in 2011.

Mr. Morgan apologized for needing such a quick response on this matter, but stated that this change will require a separate public hearing and it would occur after you have voted on the budget. However, if the Commissioner knows that the Board has made a commitment she can set up the programs accordingly.

Following a brief discussion, consensus of the Board was to support the proposed changes to the Elderly and Disabled Abatement Program.

Mr. Morgan stated that prior to the final budget vote, there are always last minute changes such as the Abatement Program and another could be the change in fuel costs since the fuel cost incorporated in the budget has already increased 25 percent. He stated that if any other such issues arise prior to the budget adoption, information on such items will be sent to the Board in advance.

Mr. Roane asked if the County fuel prices are based upon the wholesale market.

Mr. Morgan stated that it is; however, the County does not have to pay state and federal taxes. The total fuel budget for the County is approximately \$900,000. Another item of concern is employee compensation and retention. We have learned that our proposed compensation is not on the higher end of what neighboring localities are doing. We are thinking about providing a supplemental salary increase halfway through the year for County staff and School staff. However, the criteria to proceed with this additional compensation would be based upon: confirmation that FY22 surplus is adequate; the grocery tax is left intact or similar funding is provided or made possible by the state; and the first quarter FY23 revenue performance is adequate. If approved the supplement will include:

- \$750 increase to all employees except Department Heads and Constitutional Officers;
- Funding to Schools equivalent to 1.25 percent pay increase to employees except principals and senior staff; and
- The total cost to initiate this plan is \$350,000 for the County and \$600,000 for the Schools.

Mr. Green asked why would we not take care of this needed additional compensation increase by adding \$2,000 to each employee's annual pay rather than the proposed \$1,500 so that the second compensation boost would not be required in January.

Mr. Morgan responded that it would be prudent not to add the second compensation increase until we can see that the economy is stable and our revenues are adequate.

Mr. Zaremba clarified that in essence in the first proposed compensation, employees are getting effectively a 5.5 or 5.6 percent raise.

Mr. Morgan concurred and stated that the reason it is done this way is because the straight percentage is applied to the gross salary and the dollar amount in percentage terms means that people in the lower half of the salary range get a larger percentage. He emphasized that these increases are added to the ongoing salaries of employees and will count towards their retirement, and the lower your salary the larger your raise. However, on the proposed second salary

April 5, 2022

increase he is asking to withhold that from the higher paid employees. He added that he will recommend like treatment for the schools as well.

Chairman Noll asked how this will impact those vacancies that you are currently trying to fill.

Mr. Morgan stated that the core budget recommendation allows us to raise the ranges basically eight percent. However, the surrounding localities are doing likewise for their staff. As such the morning after the Board approves the compensation package, the Human Resources Office, will modify the advertised salaries accordingly.

Mr. Roane stated that in essence the Board is being asked to consider a supplemental compensation increase for staff that will be added to the budget approval resolution based upon meeting the three aforementioned criteria.

Following a brief conversation, it appeared the consensus of the Board was to support the amendment to add the additional salary supplement as described and included in the employees' first pay in January, 2023, contingent upon meeting the previously stated criteria.

Mr. Morgan reminded the Board that the budget public hearing will be held April 19, 2022 at 7:00 pm; however, prior to that meeting he will endeavor to round up any adjustments, the one discussed this evening and anything else that arises, and send them a memo in advance containing this information and a verbal update that evening before the vote.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was considered and **approved on a vote of 4:0:1**. A summary of actions taken are below.

Mr. Roane asked that Item No. 4 Fair Housing Principles, be pulled for further discussion. He stated that the memorandum on this item did not appear to reflect the resolution proposed for adoption.

Mr. Morgan stated that the program was initiated in the early 1980s and since his tenure with the County this has always been a Board endorsement that places us in a position to obtain CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) grants.

Mr. Fuller explained that the accompanying memos are more of an historical element that reflect any changes that are passed down from the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) office. However, he emphasized that the grant funds are invaluable in support of housing programs such as the Carver Gardens Project and also in support of the County's housing choice voucher program for which we have received \$2 million and \$1.6 million in COVID relief for York County businesses. He noted that the protected classes of individuals does change periodically; however, they must comply with the applicable federal and state regulations in order to obtain their monetary support.

Mr. Zaremba asked if the recent change in the classes of individuals to be assisted came from the federal or the state government.

Mr. James Barnett, County Attorney, pointed out that the language in the memorandum is reflective of the associated state law that was adopted by the General Assembly last year in special session number one at which time a couple of new categories of individuals were added.

Mr. Zaremba asked if the additions were related to gender.

Mr. Barnett responded by reading part of the proposed resolution that basically stated that this will update our language to match the state's declared policy on fair housing which prohibits discrimination relative to race, religion, sex, elderly, sexual orientation, etc.

Mr. Zaremba asked how gender status is defined.

Mr. Barnett replied that he did not see a particular definition for this term and that he would have to do some research to obtain an answer.

Mr. Morgan stated and Deputy County Clerk, Mrs. Heather Schott concurred, that the resolution before the Board this evening is identical to the one they had approved last year.

Mr. Fuller confirmed that the County has to approve the submitted resolution in order to obtain the funds for our projects/programs.

Mr. Zaremba expressed concern that approval of the resolution supports more gender identifications other than male and female. As such, he stated that he will abstain on voting on the endorsement of the Fair Housing Principles resolution.

Mr. Roane asked if approval of the proposed Fair Housing Principles resolution will put the County in sync with the state and federal requirements.

Mr. Morgan stated that is his understanding. He also noted that should an individual come into the housing office and complain that due to their gender status they are not receiving the housing assistance for which they qualify, the County would have to investigate the matter. However, approval of the resolution will ensure the County will be eligible for grants.

Mr. Shepperd moved that the Consent Calendar be approved as submitted, Item Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, respectively.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (4) Green, Roane, Shepperd, Noll
 Nay: (0)
 Abstain: (1) Zaremba

Item No. 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Thereupon, the following minutes were approved and resolutions adopted:

February 15, 2022, Regular Meeting
 March 1, 2022, Regular Meeting

Item No. 2. GRANT APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY HOME REPAIR PROGRAM: Resolution R22-29.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT THE EMERGENCY HOME REPAIR PROGRAM AND TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE ANY GRANT FUNDS AWARDED TO THE COUNTY BY THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Item No. 3. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM ANNUAL FUNDING RENEWAL: Resolution R22-30.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT FUNDING AND CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM FUNDED THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE VIRGINIA HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Item No. 4. ENDORSEMENT OF FAIR HOUSING PRINCIPLES: Resolution R22-31.

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE PRINCIPLES OF FAIR HOUSING AS SET FORTH IN TITLE 36, CHAPTER 5.1 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA (1950) AS AMENDED

Item No. 5. WATERLINE EASEMENT TO NEWPORT NEWS WATERWORKS IN CONNECTION WITH ENLARGEMENT OF THE YORKTOWN LIBRARY BRANCH: Resolution R22-58.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE DEEDS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO CONVEY TO

April 5, 2022

NEWPORT NEWS WATERWORKS A WATERLINE EASEMENT ACROSS PROPERTY OWNED BY THE COUNTY AND LOCATED AT 8500 AND 8428 GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY, IN CONNECTION WITH THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE YORKTOWN LIBRARY BRANCH

Item No. 6. COMMENDATION OF A RETIRING EMPLOYEE: Resolution R22-59.

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND LIEUTENANT ROBERT W. MOORE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM COUNTY SERVICE

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr. Zaremba expressed concern over “Build Back Better” initiative and the huge amount of funds that have been given to the municipalities across the country in association with this initiative. He asked specifically how much money the County received and how it will be utilized.

Mr. Morgan responded by stating that staff has reviewed with the Board in great detail what we received and how the Board directed that it be used. First he stated the County received Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) CARES Act funds and then American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Initially, we received just under \$13 million in the first tranch in May last year and we are expecting to receive the second tranch in May of this year. He noted that all of the funds have been allocated at the Board’s direction except for \$900,000 which has yet to be allocated. He then briefly reviewed how the Board had used these funds. He reminded the Board that he has provided several detailed reviews on these funds and how they have or will be used in accordance with the Board’s direction. Relative to the federal infrastructure initiative, he stated that he does not have any additional information on this as of yet except that there will be a large sum of money that will be used over the next few years on capital infrastructure project. However, he stated that it does not appear that these funds will pass through the local governments.

Mr. Zaremba stated that he knew that bonuses, using some of the funds from the first tranch, had been granted to the First Responders; however, he queried if with the proposed compensation package in the recommended budget are we duplicating or doubling the raises beyond that which is reasonable. He expressed concern that with the new proposed increase staff may get too large a jump in pay.

Mr. Morgan stated that some of the CARES Act money had been used to provide public safety bonuses. In the second round with ARPA funds we did one round of bonuses last fall for all employees, \$3,000 for public safety personnel and \$1,500 for other full-time employees, but these were bonuses and the money was not added to their respective annual salaries. However, he noted that the vast majority of the money the Board very wisely decided to use was for one-time capital improvements. Regarding the last amount the County will receive this spring, he stated that the Board has already committed the majority, leaving only a small contingency amount.

Mr. Green offered his sincere condolences to the family of a young, promising reporter, Sierra Jenkins, who had died the victim of random violence in Norfolk. He urged everyone to refrain from senseless violence

Mr. Roane stated that Ms. Sharon Owens, who oversees The Gallery at York Hall, reached out to him to say they need volunteers to help man this facility. In regards to weather emergency preparedness, he asked how often does the County hold such exercises and how do we coordinate with other regional and federal emergency agencies.

Mr. Morgan stated that he would be pleased to provide some written information on this topic. He explained that there is a variety of structured exercises that occur. In particular, he noted that the Surry Nuclear Plant holds an annual simulated nuclear disaster. He stated that this is extremely important since a large percentage of what is done for this exercised is basically what you would do for any type of mass casualty event. In addition, he noted that the Fire Department performs drills which are more related to weather emergencies. He stated that staff currently is updating the sheltering plan with Mr. Brian Fuller taking the lead; however, this responsibility is slowly transitioning to Social Services.

Mr. Shepperd stated that it appears that we are slowly returning to normal life since COVID, but we are not yet totally out of the woods. He stated that it is reported that six to 700 people are today still dying from COVID. He encouraged people to continue to take precautions in order to stay well, i.e. wash hands frequently, get a booster shot, etc. He stated that he had learned today that the Grafton Post Office processes passports to include taking the required photograph.

Chairman Noll expressed appreciation for how lovely the County is looking this spring and commended all the grounds staff for a job well done.

CLOSED MEETING. At 8:21 p.m. Mr. Shepperd moved that the meeting be convened in Closed Meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) of the Code of Virginia pertaining to Personnel Matters.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (5) Shepperd, Zaremba, Green, Roane, Noll
Nay: (0)

Meeting Reconvened. At 8:31 p.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

Mr. Shepperd moved the adoption of proposed Resolution SR-1 that reads:

A RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY COMPLIANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REGARDING MEETING IN CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the York County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711.1 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the York County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this the 5th day of April, 2022, hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the York County Board of Supervisors.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (5) Zaremba, Green, Roane, Shepperd, Noll
Nay: (0)

APPOINTMENT TO THE YORK COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION: Resolution R22-67

Chairman Noll then moved the adoption of proposed Resolution R22-67.

A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE YORK COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the York County Arts Commission due to the resignation of Jeanne Eickhoff; and

WHEREAS, the term of Debora F. Sasin will expire and July 31, 2022, and she has indicated that she wishes to be reappointed;

April 5, 2022

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this 5th day of April, 2022, that the following individual be, and is hereby, appointed to the York County Arts Commission to fill the vacancy of Jeanne Eickhoff, such term to begin immediately, and end July 31, 2025.

Debora F. Sasin

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Marcia Swanson be, and is hereby, appointed, such term to begin on August 1, 2022, and end July 31, 2025.

Yea: (5) Green, Roane, Shepperd, Zaremba, Noll
Nay: (0)

APPOINTMENT TO THE COLONIAL BEHAVIORAL BOARD: Resolution R22-54.

Mr. Shepperd then moved the adoption of proposed Resolution R22-54.

A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A YORK COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COLONIAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists due to the resignation of Talbot N. Vivian;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this the 5th day of April, 2022, that the following representative be, and is hereby, appointed to the Colonial Behavioral Health Board to fill the unexpired term of Talbot N. Vivian, such term to begin immediately and expire June 30, 2024:

Reynaldo S. Carpio

Yea: (5) Roane, Shepperd, Zaremba, Green Noll
Nay: (0)

APPOINTMENT TO THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD: Resolution R22-55.

Mr. Roane then moved the adoption of proposed Resolution R22-55.

A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A CITIZEN MEMBER TO THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD

WHEREAS, the York County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 16-3 establishing, jointly with the York County School Division, a trust for the purpose of accumulating and investing assets to fund post-employment benefits other than pensions in accordance with Section 15.2-1544 of the Code of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 16-3 also established a Local Finance Board in accordance with Section 15.2-1547 to serve as the trustee of the County of York with respect to the Trust Fund, and appoints the individuals holding the following positions to the Local Finance Board:

- Chief Financial Officer (County)
- County Treasurer
- Chief Financial Officers (School Division)
- Chief Human Resources Officer (School Division)
- Citizen Representative appointed for a term of two years; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen Representative on the Local Finance Board is a position appointed by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the term of the current Citizen Representative, Mr. Thomas Tragle, will expire on May 31, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this the 5th day of April, 2022, that the following individual be, and is hereby, appointed as the

Citizen Representative to the Local Finance Board for a term of two years, such term to begin June 1, 2022, and expire May 31, 2024:

Thomas Tragle

Yea: (5) Shepperd, Zaremba, Green, Roane, Noll

Nay: (0)

APPOINTMENT TO THE SENIOR CENTER BOARD: Resolution R22-66.

Mr. Zaremba then moved the adoption of proposed Resolution R22-66.

A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SENIOR CENTER OF YORK BOARD

WHEREAS, a vacancy now exists on the Senior Center of York Board due to the resignation of Arlene Connell;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this the 5th day of April, 2022, that the following individual be, and is hereby, appointed to the Senior Center of York Board to fill the unexpired term of Arlene Connell, such term to begin immediately and end June 30, 2024:

Taylor B. Jacobs, III

Wanda P. Fralick

Yea: (5) Zaremba, Green, Roane, Shepperd, Noll

Nay: (0)

APPOINTMENT TO THE VIRGINIA PENINSULAS PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY: Resolution R22-56

Mr. Green then moved the adoption of the proposed Resolution R55-56.

A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A REGULAR YORK COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE VIRGINIA PENINSULAS PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, the Articles of Incorporation for the Virginia Peninsulas Public Service Authority (VPPSA) call for a York County representative and an alternate appointed to their Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, each appointment shall be for a term of four years;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Laurel Halperin currently serves as the alternate member on the VPPSA Board of Directors and will continue to serve in this capacity;

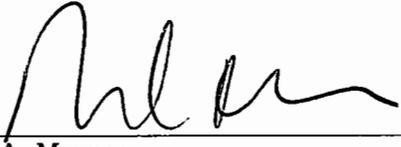
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this 5th day of April, 2022, that Mr. Robert Kreiger, Acting Director of Public Works for York County, be, and he is hereby, appointed as the York County regular to the VPPSA Board of Directors, such term to begin immediately and expire June 30, 2024.

Yea: (5) Green, Roane, Shepperd, Zaremba, Noll

Nay: (0)

April 5, 2022

Meeting Adjourned. At 8:35 p.m. Chairman Noll declared the meeting adjourned sine die.



Neil A. Morgan
County Administrator



Sheila S. Noll, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors