MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK

Adjourned Meeting
March 23, 2006

7:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened. An Adjourned Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:02 p.m., Thursday, March 23, 2006, in the Board Room, York Hall, by Chairman Walter C. Zaremba.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: Walter C. Zaremba, Sheila S. Noll, Kenneth L. Bowman, and James S. Burgett.

Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr., was absent

Also in attendance were James O. McReynolds, County Administrator; J. Mark Carter, Assistant County Administrator; and James E. Barnett, County Attorney.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET AND 2006 TAX RATES

Mr. McReynolds gave a brief overview of the proposed $111.1 million budget which includes a $.12 real estate tax rate reduction from $.8175 to $.6975 per $100 of valuation. He noted that other tax rates are unchanged, and there are 11.5 new positions included in the proposed budget. Mr. McReynolds stated the overall budget increase is 8.4 percent over FY2006.

Mrs. Marycarol White, Director of Financial and Management Services, provided the audience with information concerning the highlights of the proposed FY2007 budget.

Chairman Zaremba then called to order a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2007 Budget which was duly advertised as required by law.

Mr. Mark Medford, Chairman of the York County School Board, stated the School Board and County staff used the formula as agreed upon for many years to develop the school division operating budget for FY2007, and next Monday night the School Board will approve its proposed budget. In answer to the many questions about what the school division spends, he stated the School Board takes its responsibility as a good shepherd of its funding as seriously as it does its responsibility for the education of the youth of the County. He spoke of the most recent data on school systems, stating it indicates that York County schools have next to the lowest spending per pupil in all of Hampton Roads, and York County has the lowest number of teachers per 1,000 students. Mr. Medford thanked the Board of Supervisors for its past support and commitment to quality education for York County schools.

Dr. Dennis Wool, Director of the Colonial Services Board (CSB), thanked the Board of Supervisors for its support over the years. He stated that as the Colonial Services Board transitions into new leadership, the CSB will be a very responsive part of the community. Its budget has not been passed yet, but there is still hope to get some funds out of Eastern State Hospital. He spoke of two areas of growth area—the geriatric population and child and adolescent programs, stating the CSB hopes to provide services that York County needs. He invited the Board members to visit the CSB whenever possible.

Mr. Ned Logan, representing the Jamestown 2007 Stamp and Cachet Project, spoke regarding the project in conjunction with the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. Over 3,000 Virginia public and private schools received information kits on a contest for the cachet project which just ended, and adjudication is almost complete. The results will be revealed at the World Philatelic Exposition in Washington, DC, where the artwork will be displayed, and the convention draws a minimum of 125,000 people. Dr. Logan also informed the Board that the replica Godspeed will be docked in Alexandria at the same time, and there will be extensive media coverage for both events. He requested that the Board favorably consider the request of $5,000 for the cachet project.

Ms. Kim Hinson, 100 Jotank Turn, Yorktown, representing the Virginia Air and Space Center in Hampton, thanked the Board for including the Center in the proposed budget. She noted that education, tourism, and the economics of the County will be impacted by the Board's contribution to the center. She indicated 3,000 children from York County visited the Center last year. The 400th anniversary of Jamestown is coming up, and there will be a new space-bound exhibit in 2007. She indicated the Center creates jobs and tourists coming to the area to spend money.

Ms. Virginia Hartmann, representing Avalon Center for Women and Children, spoke of Avalon's programs to reduce incidents of violence and sexual assault on women and their children, stating it is the Center's goal to empower victims to make choices in order to take control of their lives and live violence free. She provided statistics on York County women and their families helped during the past fiscal year, and stated Avalon is seeking a second location in York County to further benefit York County residents. Ms. Hartmann asked that the Board consider the services provided by Avalon and approve its request for FY2007 funding.

Ms. Martha McCartney, President of the Heritage Humane Society, thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with York County another year. She noted the Society has raised over $1 million for the new shelter, and it expects to receive competitive bids from the contractors.

Mr. Don Wiggins, 301 Dawson Drive, Seaford, indicated he was present on behalf of the Watermen's Museum in place of Director John Hanna who could not be present this evening. He expressed the Museum's gratitude to the County staff for paving the way for the museum during the construction of the Riverwalk and Riverwalk Landing, and he spoke of the Watermen's mission, plans for new programs, and the need for funding. Mr. Wiggins asked for the Board's consideration of a $75,000 donation from the tourism fund in the FY2007 budget.

Mr. Joe Taylor, 109 Marlbank Drive, Yorktown, applauded the efforts of staff with respect to the proposed FY2007 budget. He noted the tax rate was going down, but he questioned whether it was going down far enough. The then spoke of some areas of the proposed budget where he had concerns. He stated he felt more funding should be programmed for library services because the system is not as good as it was a couple of years ago.

There being no one else present who wished to speak on the proposed budget, Chairman Zaremba closed the public hearing.

Chairman Zaremba then called to order a public hearing on the proposed tax rates for Calendar Year 2006. Proposed Ordinance No. 06-5 is entitled:

> AN ORDINANCE TO IMPOSE TAX LEVIES UPON TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY, UPON MACHINERY AND TOOLS, UPON MOBILE HOMES, AND UPON REAL ESTATE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2006, AND TO PRORATE TAXES ON MOBILE HOMES

There being no one present who wished to speak concerning the Calendar Year 2006 tax rates, Chairman Zaremba closed the public hearing.

A brief discussion ensued as to the need for the tentatively scheduled March 28 work session on the proposed budget.

Chairman Zaremba proposed that the Board members provide him with input on specific topics they wish to address at the work session by close of business Monday. He stated if he did not receive any input by then, there would be no need to have the work session on Tuesday.

Meeting Adjourned. At 7:36 p.m. Chairman Zaremba declared the meeting adjourned tentatively to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 28, 2006, in the East Room, York Hall, for the purpose of conducting a work session.

James O. McReynolds, Clerk
York County Board of Supervisors

Walter C. Zaremba, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors