

CITIZEN'S BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE  
Meeting Minutes 10/19/2020  
Board of Supervisors Meeting Room

Members Present:

Kathryn Dennis, Chairperson, Chancellor  
Karen Adams, Vice Chairperson, Lee Hill  
Dawn Napper, Battlefield  
Richard Thompson, Courtland  
Scott Phelps, Courtland Alternate  
Phillip Scott, Chancellor Alternate  
Jackie Williams, Livingston Alternate

Call To Order: 6:33 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Phillip Scott

Moment of Silence:

Determination of Quorum: Yes

Old Business:

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from September, 2020 was made by Karen Adams and a 2<sup>nd</sup> made by Dawn Napper. A few corrections were suggested by Ms. Napper and accepted. The motion passed 4-0, Adams, Dennis, Thompson, Napper. Williams abstained.

Ms. Dennis referred us to FY 2021 adopted budgets from the county and the school board that were modified after the COVID reductions understanding that the numbers are fluid and probably changed as soon as the books were printed. On Page 7 Mr. Petrovitch said we anticipate a \$3.9 million loss in tax revenue from sales, meals, hotel and business license taxes. This may also be attributed to a reduced earnings on county deposits due to interest rates being an all time low.

Bonnie Jewell updated our committee on county revenue. Regarding sales, meals and hotel taxes, to date, revenues will exceed adjusted projections that were made in March. She stated if this continues, the numbers will need to be revised again, but currently are on pace to EXCEED what was projected for FY 2021 by the following amounts:

Sales Tax Revenue = +\$2 million

Meals Tax Revenue = \$900,000

Hotel Tax Revenue = +between \$50K and \$200K

Ms. Dennis asked what Facility Asset Management Program was on Page 9 and we learned it was the Capital Project Program for county buildings. Ms. Dennis asked for an update on why real estate revenue fell short of projections in FY 2020 and Ms. Jewell said she was still awaiting an update from the Treasurer's Office on this and expected it this week. She said personal property tax for 2020 was right on target and the real estate tax was short \$2 million. Once the December 7<sup>th</sup> payments are received, she will be able to update us further as to how real estate revenue is looking for FY 2021.

Ms. Dennis asked if they were still planning on using \$3.9 million from the Budget Stabilization Reserve or are they thinking they won't need to now and Ms. Jewell said she expects we will be able to substitute out the fund balance for the Budget Stabilization Reserve.

Ms. Jewell reiterated that the first round of CARES Act money was used for public safety salaries and needs to be spent by December 30, 2020. This then freed up funds that were originally appropriated for these salaries for other things. The second CARES Act of \$11.9 million has been received and she expects the supervisors to announce how it will be spent at the November meeting.

Ms. Dennis asked if the schools can buy technology through their CIP. Ms. Jewell said they could if the items purchased will last 5 or more years. She said they routinely do this.

Ms. Dennis thanks Dawn Shelley for attending as a school board representative to answer any questions we may have. She asked what the Donations Special Program (650000) in Fund 5 for \$25,000 was. Ms. Shelley said she thought it was a donation from the community for the Special education programs but Ms. Dennis pointed out that it was an expenditure, not a donation. It was undetermined exactly what this line item was. There was no definitive answer and Ms. Shelley said she would look into it.

Ms. Dennis also asked if the SCS was still offering the IB program and wanted to know how many seniors graduated from the IB program last year. Ms. Shelley said she did not know.

Ms. Dennis inquired about item 310400 which showed a large increase in funds for field trips for the Commonwealth Governor's School. Ms. Shelley stated that she felt this number would be adjusted due to less trips with COVID but then added that the governor wanted to see more funding for field trips for CGS students.

Ms. Dennis then stated that we needed to revisit some of our site visits from last year, specifically volunteer agencies and the animal shelter and felt we could postpone them until January, 2021 or later.

#### New Business:

Ms. Dennis inquired which agencies the members of the CBRC would like to visit and review once COVID restrictions are relaxed. Mr. Thompson volunteered to review the Maintenance Department, Mr. Phelps and Mr. Scott will review Information Services, Ms. Adams and Ms. Napper will revisit the animal shelter when completed and Ms. Dennis and Ms. Adams will revisit volunteer Fire/Rescue agencies. Ms. Williams will notify us by the November meeting as to which department she would like to review.

Ms. Jewell confirmed that the new addition to the animal shelter will be completed in 6-8 weeks but when it is, the old portion is going to be renovated and felt it was best that Ms. Adams and Ms. Napper wait until all is completed to revisit.

Ms. Jewell was happy to report that Fitch upgraded our water and sewer bond rating from AA- to AA+ moving us up two points in ratings. We are rated AAA with general obligation bonds.

Ms. Dennis noted that we still need representatives on the CBRC for the Berkeley and Salem Districts. The committee felt she should reach out again to these supervisors to fill these spots. The supervisors are aware that these positions need nominations.

Lastly, Ms. Napper presented us with a handout showing surrounding school districts and the percentage of CARES act money given to their school district as compared to Spotsylvania. Ms. Shelley also expressed her displeasure in the disparity of funding from Spotsylvania County as compared to other, nearby localities.

A Motion to Adjourn was made by Mr. Thompson and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Napper and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.