

The Charlotte County Board of Supervisors convened in a Budget Work Session on May 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Supervisor Member Present:

Garland H. Hamlett, Jr. Chairman
Gary D. Walker, Vice Chairman
Robert L. Shook, Jr.
Kay M. Pierantoni
Tony Reeves
Donna Fore
Will Garnett

Also Present:

Daniel Witt, County Administrator
Norma Tuck, Finance Director
Jenni Booth, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Hamlett called the work session to order.

Chairman Hamlett gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Kay M. Pierantoni, seconded by Tony Reeves and carried with all other members and voting yes to approve the agenda as presented.

Machinery & Tools Tax Discussion:

Naisha Carter, Commissioner of Revenue addressed the Board. Mrs. Carter provided information to the Board on the work she and her staff have been doing to have all the machinery and tools tax information up to date. The Board requested Mr. Witt contact other Counties for information on outside sources for on site auditing.

Solar Discussion:

Daniel Witt addressed the Board. Mr. Witt stated in the January 2020 meeting the Board voted to approve and appropriate \$5,000 to hire a lobbyist to work for the County on solar issues. Mr. Witt attended several meetings on solar and did not feel the money would be well spent to hire a lobbyist and the funds were never used. Mr. Witt has been in contact with Advantus Strategies. Advantus Strategies is a business to government and government affairs consulting firm providing a full range of services to clients in the areas of business to government consulting, lobbying and advocacy. It is the recommendation of Mr. Witt for the Board to allow staff to use Advantus Strategies for education and guidance on solar issues and projects. After Board discussion Mr. Witt suggested the Board wait until after the public hearing and set a work session for solar only.

By consensus of the Board, Mr. Witt was requested to confer with the Planning Commission and set the following Public Hearings for May 26th or May 28th at 6:00 p.m.:

- Zoning Ordinance Amendment (3-acre restriction)
- U. S. Cellular Tower
- Zoning Amendment for adding retreats
- Zoning Amendment giving the Board of Supervisors authority to reduce the 1-mile setback for utility scale solar
- Zoning Amendment giving the Board of Supervisors authority to increase the 3% density for utility scale solar

Budget Discussion:

Mr. Witt addressed the Board with a summary of the budget and the discussion to date. Mr. Witt stated staff has incorporated changes requested by the Board however there are still unknowns from the State that could impact the budget, the Board has the authority to make changes once new information becomes available.

The Board discussed the budget proposed by the Schools and the Departmental request. Mr. Witt advised the Board regardless of the changes in the School's budget the local match would not increase. By consensus of the Board Mr. Witt was requested to include a statement from the Board with the budget to all Department Heads informing them all non-essential expenditures must be approved through the Administration Office.

Board Member Other Comments:

Donna Fore – None

Tony Reeves – None

Will Garnett – None

Robert L. Shook, Jr. – None

Kay M. Pierantoni – Supervisor Pierantoni stated she was incorrect on the population of the schools. Mr. Ramsey's information provided in the last meeting was correct. Supervisor Pierantoni stated we should be moving forward with the School renovations. Supervisor Pierantoni is in favor of the sales tax increase to help fund renovations for the Schools. By consensus and at the request of Supervisor Pierantoni the Board agreed to add \$35,000 into the budget for the 7 fire departments.

Gary D. Walker – Supervisor Walker requested Mr. Witt draft either a letter or a resolution to the Governor asking for Southside Virginia's restrictions to be lifted.

Garland H. Hamlett, Jr. – Chairman Hamlett requested Mr. Witt have a letter drafted for the Board of Supervisor's meeting on Monday 11th to the Governor asking for Southside Virginia's restrictions to be lifted.

Being no further discussion Chairman Hamlett adjourned the work session.