

**LUNENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM  
LUNENBURG COURTS BUILDING  
LUNENBURG, VIRGINIA**

**Minutes of June 3, 2021 Budget Public Hearing and Continued May Meeting**

The continued May meeting and public hearing for the FY22 Budget of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the General District Courtroom, Lunenburg Courts Building, Lunenburg, Virginia. The following members were present: Supervisors Edward Pennington, Alvester Edmonds, Mike Hankins, Charles R. Slayton, Robert Zava, County Administrator Tracy M. Gee, and County Attorney Frank Rennie. Supervisors Frank Bacon and T. Wayne Hoover were absent.

Chairman Slayton reconvened the meeting, continued from May 13, 2021.

Administrator Gee discussed the FY2021-22 proposed budget. After meeting with School Superintendent of Finance, James Abernathy, and reviewing the State Department of Education requirements for Required Local Match for programs, she called all of the finance committee members. The finance committee recommends increasing the School allocation by \$300,767, and allowing their FY20 carryover of \$140,900 for a total local allocation of \$4,252,367, based on enrollment of 1,550. Enrollment of 1,550 is nineteen students above the current year. The finance committee also recommends appropriating School funds through the January 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting and assessing the enrollment numbers to appropriate funds for the last two quarters of the fiscal year.

The increase in School funding will increase the use of reserve funds to \$761,584 for FY22.

Administrator Gee directed the Board to a letter request from May 27, 2021 for the Sheriff's Office to have funding for a full-time 911 Coordinator position. The finance committee has not discussed this as a whole as it was a late submission. However, Mrs. Gee indicated that there is concern that the 911 Fund will be nearly depleted by the end of FY22 and the position will need to be funded in the future years. Supervisor Zava stated that the budget cannot continue operating in a deficit and that vacancy savings or cuts should be explored. Mrs. Gee indicated that there may be an opportunity for a fire and rescue tax levy to cover the emergency services capital expenses in future tax years and she will bring that information back to the Board at a later date.

Supervisors Pennington and Edmonds both indicated that they are in favor of an incremental real estate tax increase.

Supervisor Zava made motion, seconded by Supervisor Pennington and by roll call vote, with all five Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, approved, to enter public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Lunenburg County Budget.

Mr. Buck Tharpe stated that he thought the finance committee did a good job with the amount of revenue that they receive. There was no further public comment.

Supervisor Zava made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and by roll call vote, with all five Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, approved, to exit public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Lunenburg County Budget.

Attorney Rennie indicated that a continued matter from the May meeting is the formation of a solar facilities committee as there are quite a few inquiries to Lunenburg regarding solar facilities and in-depth review

of the upcoming agenda items containing a revenue sharing and solar facilities ordinance. He recommended to the Board of Supervisors that Supervisors Zava and Edmonds be appointed to form the solar facilities committee with advisory participation by Administrator Gee, Planning Commission Chair Buck Tharpe, Director of Planning and Economic Development Taylor Newton, and County Attorney Rennie.

Supervisor Hankins made motion, seconded by Supervisor Pennington and by roll call vote, with all five Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to appoint Supervisors Zava and Edmonds to the solar facilities committee.

Mr. Francis Hodsell of SolUnesco requested to speak about the solar facilities committee. Mr. Hodsell indicated that there is a lot of solar activity and asked that the Board support the formation of the focused group and use the tools and resources from the Department of Mine and Mineral Energy and Weldon Cooper Center for evaluating solar revenues. He also asked that the formation of the committee not impact the timeline on the existing appeal by Red Brick Solar, LLC for a decision on their 15.2-2232 agreement with the Joint Comprehensive Plan. They are behind in the regulatory process and they may have liquidated damages on their business with any more delays.

Mr. Buck Tharpe mentioned that the Rural Solar Development Coalition is also a great resource that covers the information to which Mr. Hodsell referred.

Administrator Gee asked that the landfill committee plan to meet before the next Board of Supervisors meeting on June 10, 2021 at 5:00pm.

Supervisor Edmonds made motion, seconded by Supervisor Hankins and by roll call vote, with all five Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, approved, to adjourn the meeting.

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Tracy M. Gee, Clerk  
County Administrator

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Charles R. Slayton, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors