

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

MARCH 26, 2024

At a Worksession of the Orange County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, beginning at 3:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Public Safety Building, 11282 Government Center Drive, Orange, Virginia. Present: R. Mark Johnson, Chairman; Keith F. Marshall, Vice Chairman; Eduward M. Van Hoven; Crystal D. Hale; and J. Bryan Nicol. Also present: Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator; Glenda E. Bradley, Deputy County Administrator; and Alyson A. Simpson, Chief Deputy Clerk.

RE: OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator, reviewed the proposed budget timeline and meeting schedule, which included potential public hearings on April 16, 2024, and adoption on April 23, 2024.

General budget discussion ensued among the Board regarding: staff's understanding of what to include in the advertised budget based on previous worksession discussions; the suggested increase to the Fire & EMS Levy and the personal property tax rate for automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles; the history of tax rate changes over the last decade; separation of the Fire & EMS Levy funds and the General Fund; whether to include the two-cent Fire & EMS Levy increase in the tax rates advertisement; areas where Administration already cut the Fire and EMS budget; and clarification on the use of Fund Balance.

Mr. Van Hoven made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Hale, to authorize staff to advertise for the public hearings for the tax rates and budget, as presented.

Mr. Marshall made a friendly motion to modify the previous motion to include a tax rate of \$0.50 for aircraft, to which Mr. Van Hoven and Ms. Hale agreed. Said motion carried by a vote of 4-1, with Mr. Nicol voting against, to allow for the modification of the aircraft tax rate, as stated.

Mr. Nicol made a friendly motion to modify the previous motion to include an amendment to the tax rate for data centers, increasing said rate to \$4.00, to which Mr. Van Hoven and Ms. Hale did not agree. Said motion failed for lack of a second.

On the modified motion of Mr. Van Hoven, seconded by Ms. Hale, which carried by a vote of 4-1, with Mr. Nicol voting against, the Board authorized staff to advertise for the public hearings for the tax rates and budget, as modified.

Ayes: Johnson, Van Hoven, Marshall, Hale. Nays: Nicol.

RE: CLOSED MEETING

At 3:56 p.m., Mr. Voorhees read the following motion authorizing Closed Meeting:

WHEREAS, the Orange County Board of Supervisors desired to discuss in Closed Meeting the following matters:

- Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment as County Attorney. - §2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia

WHEREAS, pursuant to §2.2-3711 (A)(1) of the Code of Virginia, such discussions may occur in Closed Meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange County Board of Supervisors hereby authorized discussion of the aforesated matters in Closed Meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Nicol, seconded by Mr. Van Hoven, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Board adopted the resolution authorizing Closed Meeting, as presented. Ayes: Johnson, Van Hoven, Marshall, Hale, Nicol. Nays: None.

RE: CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

At 5:00 p.m., Ms. Simpson read the following resolution certifying Closed Meeting:

WHEREAS, the Orange County Board of Supervisors has, this day, adjourned into Closed Meeting in accordance with a formal vote, and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, the Freedom of Information Act requires certification that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with the law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange County Board of Supervisors hereby certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the Closed Meeting to which this certification applied, and ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the said Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by it.

Ayes: Johnson, Van Hoven, Marshall, Hale, Nicol. Nays: None.

RE: ADJOURN

On the motion of Mr. Nicol, seconded by Mr. Marshall, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Board adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Ayes: Johnson, Van Hoven, Marshall, Hale, Nicol. Nays: None.

R. Mark Johnson, Chairman

Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator