

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

MAY 6, 2025

At a Worksession of the Orange County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Public Safety Building, 11282 Government Center Drive, Orange, Virginia. Present: R. Mark Johnson, Chairman; Eduward M. Van Hoven, Vice Chairman; Crystal D. Hale; Keith F. Marshall, and J. Bryan Nicol. Also present: Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator; J. Robinson Hubbard, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and LaToya M. Smith, Chief Deputy Clerk.

RE: FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed tax rates for the upcoming fiscal year, specifically the Fire/EMS District Tax and the Real Estate Tax. The consensus was that there is a demonstrated need to stabilize the Fire/EMS Fund. The Board discussed the feasibility of reducing the five-cent increase that was previously discussed on the Fire/EMS rate to a four-cent increase.

It was noted this proposal would equate to a combined tax rate of \$0.62 per \$100 of assessed value, including \$0.47 for the General Fund and \$0.15 for the Fire/EMS Fund. Staff noted a number of purchases have been reduced from the proposed budget; those identified as critical have been kept. It was suggested that adjustments could potentially be made after a mid-year review of the budget to see how things are progressing.

Glenda Paul, Deputy County Administrator, was recognized and provided a brief explanation on how delinquent taxes are accounted for in the budget, noting that those estimates are normally based on historical collections.

Mr. Voorhees expressed appreciation to the Board for their participation and input throughout this budget process. He also thanked Ms. Paul for her expertise and acknowledged Ashley Jacobs, Management Analyst, and Crystal Aylor, Accounting Manager, for their contributions. Mr. Voorhees thanked the Board for allowing staff the opportunity to make these final tweaks to the proposed budget.

Board members were given an opportunity to offer remarks at this time.

RE: CALENDAR ITEM – SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Johnson apprised the Board of a need to schedule a public hearing to initiate the condemnation/quick-take process for the road improvement project in Wilderness Shores. There are about five properties that have not settled on the right-of-way easements that the County needs in order to proceed with the project. Staff has proposed scheduling that public hearing on May 27, 2025 as part of the Board's Regular Meeting agenda.

By consensus, the Board authorized staff to proceed with the scheduling and advertising of the aforementioned public hearing as discussed.

RE: ADJOURN

Chairman Johnson adjourned the worksession at 5:58 p.m.

R. Mark Johnson, Chairman

Glenda B. Paul, County Administrator