

Grayson County Board of Supervisors
Budget Work Session
March 16, 2020

Members attending: Kenneth R. Belton, Michael S. Hash, Brenda R. Sutherland, John S. Fant, and Thomas R. Revels.

Staff attending: William L. Shepley, Mitchell L. Smith, Leesa A. Gayheart, Paul D. Hoyle, and Carl H. Caudill, II.

IN RE: OPENING BUSINESS

Supervisor Belton called the meeting to order. Supervisor Revels made the motion to approve the agenda; duly seconded by Supervisor Fant. Motion carried 5-0.

IN RE: COVID-19 UPDATE – ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Shepley gave an update on the Coronavirus meetings noting that we've been on regional and state calls to stay updated with the most significant one being no meetings of more than ten (10) people. Mr. Shepley noted that Mr. Hoyle has been working diligently on this for us.

Mr. Hoyle gave the following update:

- reported that Virginia is increasing confirmed cases, currently in Northern Virginia and the Virginia Department of Health is updating their site daily.
- Currently the Commonwealth has 41 declarations of emergencies from counties, cities and towns. Northwest North Carolina counties are declaring local emergencies – doing them preemptive.
- The Presidential declaration freed up restrictions on masks – national stockpiles have been released and will be distributed based on need.
- A press release has been posted on our website and will be sent on to the press as well and Supervisor Fant recommended notices be sent out on Nixle as well.
- Hospitals are assessing their situations as well. Quarantine in the hospitals is more of a concern than the lack of beds.
- Mr. Hoyle recommended setting up a hotline for the citizens needs.
- As of March 16, 2020, the Virginia Supreme Court has suspended all non-emergency court cases until April 6, 2020. There will be no meetings in the courtroom.
- Alleghany County in North Carolina has declared a state of emergency
- We've asked department heads to evaluate options to work from home if necessary

- A resource guide is available on the website with a list of departments and facilities
- 14 field hospitals are ready to be activated when needed
- The Maple Festival at Mt. Rogers has been cancelled

IN RE: OLD BUSINESS – MT. ROGERS ROOF BID

Mr. Shepley opened the topic and explained what has been done to repurpose the building: this facility was transferred to the EDA; an RFP was posted; did not receive any bids; met with another gentleman but he decided not to proceed with his plan; new part of the school has deteriorated dramatically and we also looked at options including a Brownfield study to see if it would be possible to remove the “new” section and save the “original” section. Supervisor Revels noted that an environmental study has been completed and they recommended that no one use the facility due to the conditions of the facility (lead in paint, mold, etc). The community would like for the “stone” section to be a historic building. The county maintenance department has been keeping a check on the building and the roof is leaking which is causing rapid decay in the building. Maintenance has received bids to put a new roof on the “old” section and it would cost approximately \$20,500 to replace the roof on the “old” section. Discussion of the future of facility took place with Supervisor Fant suggesting getting community input/other support and establishing a plan in phases – phase 1: stabilize the old section of the facility; phase 2: need a planning study and phase three: tear down newer section. Supervisor Revels offered to work with Administration to lead the development of a proposal since he has a contact with the Brownfields Group, he knows what the community wants plus he’s written a few grants – he would like to pull it together and is very interested in seeing this come to fruition. Supervisor Revels then made the motion to put the roof on the “old” part of the building contingent upon Supervisor Revels putting a plan together on what the County wants to do with the facility which would include input from the Board and the Brownfields Group; duly seconded by Supervisor Hash. Motion carried 5-0.

IN RE: BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mr. Shepley explained to the Board the County is in better shape than this time last year and that CIP money needs to start being put away. Mr. Shepley made note of the last page of the budget work sheet. After Administration met with Larry Bolt, Commissioner of Revenue, and Pete Hall, Treasurer, total has been narrowed down to \$81,053.41. Budget discussion then changed to the school and the starting point above RLE. Supervisor Fant noted that we need to keep in mind that the Baywood School was transferred to the County Supervisor Fant pointed out the school is above SOQ on admin and principals. Mrs. Gayheart noted that the SOQ funded in 9.1 and Grayson County has 4.67. May 1st is the date the school needs to know how much the County will fund. Establish a baseline for the school after these adjustments:

- (1) Sustain step pay for teachers (funded last year) – per levy adjustment

- (2) 2% of the 4% pay raise for teachers
- (3) Minimum wage adjustments – required

We should receive the Weldon Cooper Center 5-year projections soon.

Take the \$500,000 down to \$300,000 for the Baywood School which is a reduction in operating costs for the school.

Supervisor Revels asked to discuss community support and mental health budget (Mt. Rogers Community Services). They have had a 21% increase in patient visits and the state is paying them 9% less and they are currently looking at cutting services. Supervisor Revels will send a report to Mr. Shepley for his review. In prior years they had money in their “bank” from the counties and was still asking for a lot of funding, so the counties decreased their funding. Suggestion was given to fully fund the Mt. Rogers Community Services request. Supervisor Fant requested the budget requests documents be shared for William King Museum of Art (Abingdon) and the Southwest Virginia Alliance for Manufacturing. Supervisor Fant inquired about the building fees and asked staff to look into this.

IN RE: CLOSED SESSION

Supervisor Fant made the motion to amend the agenda to go into closed session pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(5) for discussions relating to prospective business or industry or expansion of an existing business or industry; duly seconded by Supervisor Revels. Motion carried 5-0.

Supervisor Hash made the motion to come out of closed session; duly seconded by supervisor Revels. Motion carried 5-0.

Whereas, the Grayson County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed session on this 16th day of March 2020, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

Whereas, §2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Board of Supervisors that such closed session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed session to which this certification resolution applies, and (II) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the Board of Supervisors with recorded confirmation from members as follows: Michael S. Hash – I so certify; Thomas R. Revels – I so certify; Kenneth R. Belton – I so certify; John S. Fant – I so certify; Brenda R. Sutherland – I so certify.

The Board decided another budget work session is needed and decided to meet again on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

IN RE: ADJOURN MEETING

Supervisor Revels made the motion to adjourn; duly seconded by Supervisor Hash. Motion carried 5-0.