

A REGULAR WORK SESSION WAS HELD BY THE NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON THE 26TH DAY OF MAY IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IN NEW KENT, VIRGINIA, AT 9:00 A.M.

IN RE: CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Thomas W. Evelyn called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

IN RE: ROLL CALL

Thomas W. Evelyn	Present
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Present
Patricia A. Paige	Present
Ron Stiers	Present
John N. Lockwood	Present

All members were present.

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE O-12-21, ISSUANCE OF REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS BY THE FARMS OF NEW KENT (FONK) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA)

Before the Board for consideration was Ordinance O-12-21 approving the issuance of revenue refunding bonds by the Farms of New Kent (FONK) Community Development Authority (CDA). County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported Preston Hollow Capital, LLC (PHC) was requesting authorization from the Board for the refinancing of existing 2006 FONK Planned Unit Development (PUD) bonds. PHC Managing Director Ramiro Albarran as well as Mr. David Guy, Managing Partner of GS Companies LLC, were present to share information and answer questions. He turned the floor over to Mr. Albarran.

Mr. Albarran noted he had been before the Board many times and would keep his comments brief. He provided a short summary of what had happened in the FONK PUD in recent years. He reported the CDA had been in default for almost a decade and the accumulated debt was approximately \$120 million. He stated if it had not been for PHC's involvement, the development likely would have remained stagnant. PHC had purchased the outstanding bonds in 2017 and 2018 and had since satisfied PUD requirements including a new fire station completed in 2019 and a well completed in 2020. Other PUD requirements such as amenities had been accelerated in both Land Bays IV and V. In order to get development kicked off, they had also cleared up \$42 million in delinquent special assessments and funds had also been advanced to the Trustee to be sure special assessments were kept current. He announced this had been critical to reactivating development in Land Bays IV and V and a remarkable transformation had been seen in the last three to four years. PHC was on the cusp of coming to the County with plans and engineering diagrams for Land Bay IV commercial development. This would be critical for the support of a national grocer with whom they were on the verge of entering into a purchase and sale agreement.

Noting that the Board may not be aware of this, Mr. Albarran announced that PHC had not taken a penny from the bonds although they had every right to do so. He also stated they had every right to take the money from the sales but again, they had not taken one penny. Money generated by land sales totaling approximately \$17 million to date had been reinvested into the property. He noted PHC was asking for the Board's authorization for the

refinancing and there were a few points he wished to make in that regard. This project had been hampered by an outstanding bond default for some time. Progress of development now was putting the CDA in a position to clear up the vast majority of the default. PHC would add at least a 10% discount on the bonds being offered. The land owner would be the Trustee and would be a highly capitalized entity. PHC would be recommitting to the CDA to invest another \$10 million to capitalize the SPE (Special Purpose Entity – 2006 Trustee). He reported the SPE currently had \$2 to \$3 million available and other assets included the land that had been developed and was now ready for sale. A contract with D.R. Horton for 69 lots in Land Bay IV was in place. This would bring another \$5.5 million into the trust estate as a part of the capitalization. 97 lots in Land Bay V were almost ready for delivery to Ryan Homes with the first four model home lots scheduled to close soon. Capitalization for the Trustee from this transaction was expected to be \$25 to \$26 million. Mr. Albarran stated that he had been in this business more than 30 years and had never seen a SPE that would be as capitalized as this one would be. He again noted a portion of that would be the reinvestment of \$10 million previously mentioned. He also noted revenues coming into the SPE would be prioritized for repayment of the 2021 bonds. He closed by stating PHC had been a good partner and had done a lot to advance the project and was very excited about the prospects. PHC was asking for the Board's support and approval of Ordinance O-12-21 to allow them to start working with the CDA to move forward with the refinancing. He entertained questions.

Ms. Paige expressed appreciation for all that had been going on in the FONK. She reported she had spoken with PHC and Mr. Guy regarding an ongoing concern impacting residents of "The Groves" (formerly known as Four Seasons). Streets in this section had been private when initially developed and annual maintenance costs would be significant for residents. The former developer had worked for the streets to become public roads but had reached no agreement. There had been conversations with PHC and Mr. Guy regarding the possibility of PHC taking over this project and VDOT (Virginia Department of Transportation) had prepared a punch list of what was needed for the sidewalks and roadways to meet their standards. An agreement had been reached and she stated she would like that agreement to either be included as a part of this ordinance or as a separate agreement. She noted she wanted to have something to take back to her constituents indicating this work would be done. She also noted a \$7 million reinvestment (reported as \$10 million in today's presentation) had previously been mentioned and although she had asked where this money would go, she had received no information. She felt this information would put her constituents, New Kent County and the Board in a better light.

Mr. Albarran indicated PHC agreed totally that they would absorb 100% of the cost related to bringing the K. Hovian (KHOV) - Four Seasons community up to VDOT standards. He indicated they would seek reimbursement from KHOV but whether or not they received anything, they were prepared to absorb 100% of the cost. Mr. Albarran stated that the Board had his word as it related to this. He also noted it would still be necessary for the CDA to approve the transaction and there would be an opportunity to document this agreement. He questioned whether or not there was something that could be done today to amend the ordinance to reflect this agreement. Addressing Ms. Paige's comments regarding the \$7 million, Mr. Albarran noted \$7 million had previously been reported but the figure was now \$10 million. He indicated they would provide a list and noted the funds would include a deposit held by the SPE to build roads and the amenity center. The SPE had also hired architects related to the Land Bay IV amenity. The funds would go into hard improvements adding value for constituents. He added that no money would be coming into PHC's pockets until the 2021 bonds were repaid.

Mr. Lockwood asked if Ms. Paige was suggesting the Board wait for the list before moving forward so ordinance revisions could be made. In response, Ms. Paige asked County Attorney Brendan Hefty if the ordinance would need to be amended. Mr. Hefty noted the Board would be holding a public hearing after which they could either take action to approve the ordinance today or consider taking action at a future meeting. The Board could ask for the list and commitments in writing before taking action if that was their pleasure.

Mr. Evelyn opened the public hearing. There being no individuals wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Evelyn asked Ms. Paige if she wished to wait for additional information and push action to the June 14th meeting or amend the ordinance today. Ms. Paige stated that whether or not the Board pushed action to June 14th or approved the ordinance today, the CDA would still need to hold a public hearing. Mr. Hathaway reported it would not be necessary for the CDA to hold a public hearing but they would need to approve the bond documents.

Mr. Albarran acknowledged it was the Board's decision whether or not it took action today. He noted another step in the process would be the CDA's approval of the documents which would include memorializing the agreements mentioned by Ms. Paige. He asked the Board to consider approving the ordinance today to allow PHC to start the process with the CDA. He noted that a "yes" vote today would not mean the bonds had been approved and added that the documents to be approved by the CDA could memorialize the discussions of today's meeting. He noted the markets were strong and they were expecting to get a rate in the 3% to 4% range. He also noted the markets could be volatile and they didn't want to risk losing the opportunity to clear out this default that had existed for so long.

Mr. Stiers asked why the Board could not move forward with approving the ordinance today with an amendment.

Ms. Paige moved to adopt Ordinance O-12-21 approving the issuance of revenue refunding bonds by the Farms of New Kent Community Development Authority with the documents requested today to be included in the CDA before approval by the CDA.

Mr. Evelyn asked Mr. Hefty if the motion was sufficient. Mr. Hefty stated the motion would work and asked Ms. Paige if the documents referenced were an itemized list of how the \$7 million transfer to the land holding Special Purpose Entity was going to be spent and the commitment regarding taking the sidewalks and roads to VDOT specs. Ms. Paige confirmed and noted the figure was now \$10 million and that not only the sidewalks should be brought up to VDOT specs but also the roads to VDOT specs to be turned over to public roads.

Mr. Hefty asked Mr. Albarran and Mr. Guy for comments. Mr. Albarran suggested the motion should include "at our cost" in regard to the sidewalks and roadways. Mr. Guy also stated he wanted to make sure everyone understood where VDOT was in terms of Land Bay V. The sidewalks were not in the VDOT right of way and while PHC could fix them, the HOA may take over part of the sidewalk maintenance in the future. Ms. Paige agreed and noted VDOT had agreed to take the roads without sidewalks included. This still left a burden on residents for correction of the sidewalks and she expressed appreciation to PHC for relieving the constituents of this burden. Mr. Guy also suggested the CDA be instructed to move forward with holding a meeting so PHC could meet the proposed timeline.

The motion made by Ms. Paige was restated as follows: to adopt Ordinance O-12-21 approving the issuance of revenue refunding bonds by the Farms of New Kent Community

Development Authority and requesting, before approval by the Community Development Authority, a listing of expenditures to be made from the \$10 million in Special Purpose Entity funds and a commitment from Preston Hollow that at their cost, they will bring the sidewalks within Four Seasons up to VDOT standards and bring the roads within Four Seasons up to VDOT standards for acceptance into the state system for maintenance. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING MEETING SPACE

Mr. Evelyn noted it had been a long time since the Board had been able to meet in the County Administration Building and it was nice to be back. (The Boardroom had been closed due to HVAC replacement.) He expressed his appreciation to New Kent County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Brian Nichols and the School Board for allowing the Board to hold its meetings in the Historic Courthouse in the interim. He also thanked staff for their patience while working through this period of office relocations. Offices in the lower level of the County Administration Building were now temporarily located in the east wing of the Historic School and the former APEX building. Mr. Evelyn also reported the HVAC project was on schedule and on budget and the process had been going very well.

IN RE: SANITARY SEWER MODELING FOR BRICKSHIRE

Public Utilities Director Larry Dame reminded the Board they had briefly discussed issues with the sanitary sewer in the Brickshire community at the March Budget Retreat. The developer was planning to add 240 homes at the end of Kentland Trail and felt that a pump station in the area could be used with minimum modifications to accommodate this growth. Public Utilities felt otherwise and believed the County should hire a consultant to go through the system and make recommendations for what was needed before the next section of Brickshire was developed. He reported there had been issues with previous expansions in this community which had cost the Public Utilities Department in operational costs and he didn't think the original model was working very well for the County. He asked the Board to appropriate \$40,000 from the Utility Fund Balance to hire a consultant. He noted the housing market was hot, approximately 50 lots in Brickshire were currently under construction or for sale and the developer wanted to move quickly with the expansion.

Mr. Stiers reported he had spoken with the developer who was anxious to get started and suggested it would behoove the County to spend this money now to be ready for projects in the future. Mr. Dame agreed and noted it would prevent unforeseen situations that could arise once homes were under construction. He also reminded the Board that it had been necessary to update the Dairy Queen pump station several years ago at a cost of \$700,000 and he did not want Public Utilities to be in that situation again if the consultant determined the developer should expand the current pump station. Mr. Evelyn stated that given prior circumstances, he felt this was a great idea.

Mr. Tiller asked if the consultant said "A, B and C need to be done" and the developer said "NO" what would happen. Mr. Dame indicated the developer would not be able to build. He

indicated it had always been the practice that any necessary improvements were the responsibility of the developer. If the consultant said "A, B and C need to be done" that would be the requirements for the developer.

Mr. Stiers moved to appropriate \$40,000 from the Utility Fund to hire a consultant to prepare a model of the Brickshire Sanitary Sewer System. The members were polled:

Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS – ROUTE 618 PUMP STATION OUTAGE

Mr. Stiers asked for an update on a recent outage at the Route 618 pump station.

Public Utilities Director Larry Dame reported a well motor had gone out at the Route 618 pump station on Monday. A backup well was now being used and everything was up and running. Sydnor Hydro, Inc. was currently at the pump station pulling the pump and could take one to three months to receive a new motor. He also reported Sydnor had indicated it may be only a wiring problem but that remained to be determined. Staff was monitoring the situation and the SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system was also monitoring the wells. He hoped the repairs would be completed soon and noted he would keep County Administrator Rodney Hathaway informed.

Mr. Stiers asked if the decision to eliminate the pump station at Brickshire had any impact on this situation. Mr. Dame indicated it did not. Mr. Stiers asked him if he would state that. Mr. Dame indicated he would state that and reported he had been dealing with wells and water systems for almost 40 years and had pumped water much farther on smaller pumps. He noted so many things could go wrong and reminded everyone that although the pumps were insulated, they were in water. He added that fortunately backup systems were in place and reported Public Utilities had known the pump was out before anyone had noticed any issues with the water because staff had seen it on the SCADA system. He noted everything was working and there was nothing specific that had caused the outage.

IN RE: YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHARTER – RESOLUTION R-10-21

Before the Board for consideration was Resolution R-10-21 chartering the New Kent County Youth Community Service Committee. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported a resident had come to the County requesting the establishment of a Youth Community Service Committee. He had worked with the resident and Ms. Paige and had drafted Resolution R-10-21 for the Board's consideration. The purpose of the Youth Community Service Committee would be to provide a place where youth organizations and youth across New Kent County could come together to collaborate and provide volunteer resources for community service projects and events. Membership would be open to middle and high school students in grades 6 to 12 and would give them an opportunity to participate in civic, leadership and community service programs to help develop leadership ability and instill a commitment of community service and life-long civic responsibility. Membership would include three adults who would be responsible for organizing and guiding the group. The

County Administrator or designee would provide staff support to the Committee. District Supervisors would appoint up to three members who would not have to reside in the district from which they were appointed. Adults would serve three-year terms and youth would serve one-year terms. He reported Mr. Joe Swartout had suggested the formation of this Committee and he believed he would like to be appointed as one of the adult volunteers if the resolution was passed. He entertained questions.

Mr. Lockwood asked if this committee would be organizing youth who wished to volunteer for projects for the County or in coordination with non-profit groups or all of the above. Mr. Hathaway indicated it would be "all of the above" and noted the committee would be organizing events as well as assisting other organizations with events they were hosting.

Ms. Paige stated that she supported the young and the young at heart. She added that there were so few opportunities for youth to do public service and she believed this would be an awesome opportunity. She stated it had been a good decision when the Board had appointed youth to serve on the Clean County Committee several years ago. She had recently attended the graduation of one of these youth appointees and the parents had credited New Kent Public Schools and New Kent County for their daughter graduating with distinction and honors and appreciated that she was able to list service on a local government board on her resume. She stated the Board now had the opportunity again to be mentors and examples of leadership for youth through the adoption of this resolution.

Ms. Paige moved to adopt Resolution R-10-21 to Charter the New Kent County Youth Service Committee. The members were polled:

Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

Mr. Evelyn stated the Board would now move on to take action on a variety of budget related items. He noted that every year he stated that he didn't think the budget process could get any tougher but it did. Everyone had been through a lot this past year with COVID and he expressed appreciation to New Kent County Public Schools as well as to New Kent County staff for staying strong through the process. He noted he was thankful they could be sitting in this meeting without masks and also thanked his fellow Board members for their work on the budget. There had been many negotiations and he believed they had come to a resolution that would be good for all of the citizens of the County.

IN RE: FY22 TAX LEVIES ON REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY – ORDINANCE O-09-21
R1

Before the Board for consideration was Ordinance O-09-21 to impose tax levies on real and personal property for the 2021/2022 tax year in the County of New Kent, Virginia. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reviewed the ordinance and noted this ordinance would set the FY22 real estate tax rate at \$0.79 per \$100 of assessed value which was no change. The Bottoms Bridge Sewer/Water District Ad Valorem tax would be set at \$0.11 per \$100 of assessed value which was a \$0.02 decrease. All other tax levies remained unchanged.

County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported he had spoken with Mr. Tiller regarding item 9 in the list of levies which was the Bottoms Bridge Service District Ad Valorem tax. Mr. Tiller had requested that consideration be given to a further reduction down to \$0.10 per \$100 of assessed value which would be a \$0.03 decrease. Mr. Hathaway had worked with staff and cuts had been identified to cover this additional reduction. Each cent of Ad Valorem tax was generating approximately \$25,000. He stated that if it was the Board's will to adopt a \$0.10 ad valorem rate, to please state that in the motion.

Mr. Tiller moved to adopt Ordinance O-09-21 R1 as presented, to impose tax levies on real and personal property for the 2021/2022 tax year with the following amendment: ordinance Item 9 is amended from eleven cents to ten cents. The members were polled:

John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: AMENDMENT TO APPENDIX A – FEES OF NEW KENT COUNTY CODE – COURTS, PARKS & RECREATION AND REFUSE & RECYCLING – ORDINANCE O-10-21)

Before the Board for consideration was Ordinance O-10-21 amending Appendix A of the New Kent County Code (Fee Schedule) to change certain fees charged for County services (General Government Fees) under the authority granted in the Code of Virginia. Proposed changes had been reviewed and a public hearing had been held at the previous meeting. Proposed changes were in the areas of Courts, Parks & Recreation, Refuse & Recycling.

Mr. Lockwood moved to adopt Ordinance O-10-21 as presented, amending Appendix A – Fees (General Government Fees), of the New Kent County Code – Courts, Parks & Recreation and Refuse & Recycling. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATION OF FY 2021-2022 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - RESOLUTION R-12-21

Before the Board for consideration was Resolution R-12-21 to adopt and appropriate the New Kent County, Virginia Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Projects Budget. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported the total recommended Capital Projects Budget was \$2,869,450 and the resolution contained a breakdown of the fund distribution by department. This budget would be supported by several revenue sources including proffers and grants and a list of the various projects had been reviewed at previous meetings.

Ms. Paige moved to adopt Resolution R-12-21 to adopt and appropriate the New Kent County, Virginia Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Improvement Program. The members were polled:

Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATION OF FY 2021-2022 GOVERNMENTAL AND SCHOOL BUDGETS – RESOLUTION R-13-21 R2

Before the Board for consideration was Resolution R-13-21 R2 to adopt and appropriate the New Kent County, Virginia Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Governmental and School Budgets. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported a public hearing had been conducted, the prescribed period of time had passed (Code of Virginia 15.2-2506) and the Board was now being asked to take action to adopt the budget. The County budget totaled \$80,711,106 and among listed appropriations were a General Fund total of \$26,204,008, Debt Service Fund totaling \$8,223,468, a School Governmental Fund total of \$37,355,114 and a School Nutrition Fund totaling \$1,251,806. Mr. Hathaway noted the Board had received a request for additional salaries from the Sheriff's Office and approximately \$164,000 had been included in the resolution to address this request. The resolution also fully funded the New Kent County Public Schools' request of \$450,000. Final numbers for liability insurance had been received and was budgeted at \$85,000. The Sheriff's Office overtime line item had also been increased by \$58,219 as a result of the proposed salary increases. He noted these were the revisions made since the Board's last meeting and he entertained questions.

Mr. Tiller moved to adopt Resolution R-13-21 R2 to adopt and appropriate the New Kent County, Virginia Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Governmental and School Budgets. The members were polled:

Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

At the calling of Ms. Paige's name, she stated that she wished to address the Board before she cast her vote. She stated that she tried to vote so that when she left, she could leave with a clear conscience. She further stated that because she felt she could not, she had to vote "Nay."

Patricia A. Paige	Nay
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: AMENDMENT TO APPENDIX A – FEES OF NEW KENT COUNTY CODE – WATER/SEWER RATES – ORDINANCE O-11-21

Before the Board for consideration was Ordinance O-11-21 amending Appendix A of the New Kent County Code (Fee Schedule) to change certain fees charged for County services (General Government Fees) under the authority granted in the Code of Virginia. Proposed

changes had been reviewed and a public hearing had been conducted at the previous meeting. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported the proposed changes reflected a 1% reduction in water and sewer rates.

Mr. Tiller moved to adopt Ordinance O-11-21 as presented, amending Appendix A – Fees (General Government Fees), of the New Kent County Code – Water/Sewer Rates. The members were polled:

John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATION OF FY 2021-2022 PUBLIC UTILITIES FUND
BUDGET – RESOLUTION R-14-21

Before the Board for consideration was Resolution R-14-21 to adopt and appropriate the New Kent County, Virginia Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Public Utility Fund Budget. The proposed FY22 Public Utility Fund Budget totaled \$8,141,292 with \$7,170,025 of that being in the Water/Sewer Fund and the remainder in the Bottoms Bridge Utility Fund.

Mr. Stiers moved to adopt Resolution R-14-21 to adopt and appropriate the New Kent County, Virginia Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Public Utility Fund Budget. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: ADOPTION OF REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION – RESOLUTION R-11-21

Before the Board for consideration was Resolution R-11-21 declaring the Board’s intention to reimburse itself from the proceeds of one or more tax-exempt financings for certain expenditures made and/or to be made in connection with capital improvement project(s) for the County and the County school system. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway noted the Board adopted an annual reimbursement resolution enabling the County to move forward with Capital projects for which borrowing was anticipated and giving the authority to reimburse itself for preliminary expenses such as engineering. A list of projects eligible for reimbursement had been taken from the CIP (Capital Improvement Program) and was attached to the resolution as Schedule A. He reported no borrowings were planned for FY22 but noted this resolution would allow for reimbursements for work performed on a project prior to actual borrowing if borrowing were to become necessary.

Mr. Lockwood moved to adopt Resolution R-11-21 declaring the Board’s intention to reimburse itself from the proceeds of one or more tax-exempt financings for certain

expenditures made and/or to be made in connection with Capital Improvement Projects for the County and the County School System. The members were polled:

Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Evelyn noted the FY22 budget included \$5,500 raises for all public safety employees. He also noted \$100,000 had been included to conduct a salary study of all County positions but it had been decided to move the salary study up to this fiscal year. More information would be shared as it became available and department heads would be involved in the process. He also thanked his fellow Board members for another long budget season and noted everyone would be preparing for the next cycle in a couple of months.

Mr. Stiers thanked County Administrator Rodney Hathaway and others involved in preparation of the budget for working diligently to get a budget to the Board. He didn't agree with everything in the budget but noted he felt one of the greatest accomplishments was the increases for public safety staff. He stated he was not happy with the meals tax and did not think New Kent needed a meals tax. He added that constituents had told him numerous times that they didn't mind if taxes were increased if they could see where the money was going. He pointed out that due to the actions of this and the previous Board, construction had started on a \$35 million school without raising taxes. He stated this spoke highly of this Board and those before them who had planned ahead by setting aside funding so less money would need to be borrowed. He also noted some of the revenue from Colonial Downs had been used and he thought planning for this school had been a win-win for everyone. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Hathaway for his efforts in this regard.

Mr. Evelyn pointed out revenue generated by the \$0.02 increase in meals tax would be designated for capital projects which the community would be able to see. Mr. Stiers noted he and Mr. Evelyn had discussed this issue numerous times and they would never agree. He also pointed out the \$35 million school was being built without any meals tax revenue.

Ms. Paige thanked Mr. Hathaway and staff and specifically Financial Services Director Rebecca Guthrie who had participated in the budget process while on maternity leave, for all their efforts to make sure New Kent was as financially solid as it could be. She stated her "Nay" vote was not a disagreement with or lack of support for her fellow Board members and noted "sometimes visions change and at the end of the day we are still a united board." She further stated new policies would be in place regarding budget request procedures going forward. She added the issues she had were sometimes with the process and not the results. She expressed appreciation to County Administration including Mr. Hathaway and Assistant County Administrator Justin Stauder as well as all who had assisted to make sure solid CIP and General Fund budgets were provided.

Mr. Lockwood spoke on several topics.

- He thanked everyone who had helped to work with James City County to get the speed limit reduced on Route 30 in Barhamsville. He reported they had hoped for a 45 MPH

speed limit but a 50 MPH had been approved. This had taken a lot of effort and he expressed appreciation to everyone from James City County, VDOT and New Kent who had worked to get this done. He further reported two VDOT districts had been involved and he felt a good compromise had been reached. Although this wasn't a major change in speed, he was hopeful drivers would pay attention and reduce their speed.

- He also hoped drivers would pay better attention in general and reported a New Kent County fire truck had recently been hit on the interstate while stopped at the scene of an accident. He asked, how do you hit a fire truck with flashing lights, lane closures and other apparatus at the scene? He stated the only way this had happened was because the driver was been paying attention. He encouraged all to watch what they were doing.
- He also announced that Senator John Warner had passed away earlier that day and stated he felt Senator Warner was probably one of the last true statesmen in the Senate. He added that he had been an incredible man who had dedicated 30 years to service in the Senate representing Virginia.
- He reminded everyone that Monday would be Memorial Day. He noted the calendar was full of days celebrating remembrances but suggested none was more deserving of our attention than Memorial Day. He noted veterans did get to come home and hang up their uniforms, continue to grow and serve their communities but on Memorial Day those who did not get to come home and gave their all for our nation were recognized and remembered. He encouraged everyone when they were celebrating to remember they had that ability due to the men and women who had given their lives for our freedom.

Ms. Paige noted she had failed to express appreciation to Assistant Finance Director Larry Clark who had stepped in during the budget process during the absence of Ms. Guthrie. She thanked him for everything he had done and his commitment and dedication to excellence.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Public Safety Extension of Annual Leave Request

County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported he had received a request from the Sheriff's Office for the extension of use of annual leave per the Personnel Policy. Staff members were allowed to carry over a limited amount of leave based on tenure. Any leave above the limit would be lost if not used by the end of the fiscal year. Due to the pandemic and short staffing, it had been especially difficult for staff members in public safety to utilize leave. Although he had not received a request from Fire-Rescue, staff members in this department were in the same situation and he asked that they be included in this request. The policy allowed the County Administrator to approve an extension of up to four months in which to use the excess leave. Anything beyond four months required the Board's approval. He asked the Board to consider approving up to one year for public safety staff to use their annual leave. He noted if a staff member was to separate from New Kent County, any remaining carry over leave would not be paid out. He entertained questions.

Mr. Stiers moved to authorize a one year extension for the use of annual leave for public safety employees.

Ms. Paige asked if this would be included in the FY22 budget. Mr. Hathaway noted this would present no additional financial obligation on the County and would not be included in the FY22 budget. The excess leave would be managed through the County's leave system.

The members were polled:

Ron Stiers

Aye

John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried.

RiverStreet Networks June Meeting Date

County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported he had been working with RiverStreet Networks to set up a date for a follow up meeting to provide more detail on their proposal for a broadband network in New Kent County. He noted the morning June 18th had been suggested and stated he would like to finalize a date and time by the end of the week. He asked Board members to let him know their availability on this date. Ms. Paige and Mr. Lockwood both noted they had a conflict with the morning of June 18th but could meet that afternoon. All other Board members indicated they would be available the afternoon of June 18th. Mr. Tiller asked if a written plan would be provided at this meeting. Mr. Hathaway indicated a plan would be available and noted the purpose of this meeting would be to go over the fine details and discuss next steps.

IN RE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETINGS/ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Evelyn announced the Board's next regularly scheduled meeting would be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 14, 2021 and the next work session would be held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 30, 2021, both in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building.

Mr. Tiller moved to adjourn. The members were polled:

John N. Lockwood	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.