

A WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEW KENT WAS HELD ON THE TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF MAY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, NEW KENT, VIRGINIA. THE CHAIRMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

IN RE: BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Chairman advised that the Board would consider the adoption of the proposed FY 1990-91 County Operating Budget and asked the Board for any comments regarding Ordinance O-17-90.

Mr. Robinson stated that he was not ready to give consideration to Ordinance O-17-90.

The Chairman then requested a general discussion of the proposed budget.

Mr. Robinson stated that there are several controversial issues that have been brought before the Board and the resolution of these issues will affect different people in different ways. He stated that the Board, Staff, and Agency Heads had all worked hard and long to establish the goals and priorities of the County, and have tried to make decisions to achieve those goals. Mr. Robinson stated that certain issues need to be addressed before making a decision on this budget. Mr. Robinson supported the School Board hiring an art teacher and the construction of a greenhouse at the high school. He supported full funding of the Fire Department request along with funding the request of the Heritage Library. He stated that the Library is a growing concern in the County. He stated he respectfully disagrees with some of the policies and actions of the Library and believes changes could be made for the Library to operate more efficiently. Mr. Robinson also expressed support to the New Kent Athletic Association to help sponsor recreation programs in the County. He stated that it is hard to say yes to the Library and Fire Department and not support the New Kent Athletic Association. Mr. Robinson also asked for the Board to consider setting aside \$100,000 in the Capital Improvements Fund to face necessary equipment purchases of the New Kent Fire Department. Mr. Robinson advised that all of these allocations would cost a total of \$175,000. He stated that the Board needed to reconsider the proposed budget and not budget through emotion or intimidation.

Mr. Ellyson stated that Mr. Robinson's points of concern were well taken. Mr. Ellyson expressed his disappointment over the School Board cutting the art teacher and greenhouse out of their budget, after the Board of Supervisors requested the School Board to reduce their \$9,000,000 budget by \$100,000. He felt the School Board was trying to make the Board of Supervisors look bad. Mr. Ellyson felt the School Administration is top heavy and he felt the budget cut could be taken out of Administration.

Mr. Boroughs said he had presented a shopping list of problems the County needed to address several years ago. He stated that he supported Mr. Robinson's proposals, but could not support any changes to the tax rate. Mr. Boroughs said he requested that the County Administrator's proposed budget not be cut, but it was and the Board needs to stand by it. He stated that he would love to see the art teacher and greenhouse for the school system and he supports the Fire Department. He stated that the school system had offered the Library a room at the school facility to use, which would have been at a lower cost to the County. Mr. Boroughs stated that he would not support any funds to the New Kent Athletic Association at this time. He believed the Athletic Association needed leadership. Mr. Boroughs stressed that he would not support a tax rate increase.

Mr. Ringley voiced his support of education, the Library, New Kent Athletic Association, and the Fire Department. He stated that residents of his district strongly supported education and recreation and do not support some of the budget cuts. Mr. Ringley advised that he could not support the proposed budget.

Mr. Boroughs suggested the Board meet with the New Kent Athletic Association Board and discuss financial problems and positive solutions to their problems. He suggested that the budget funding request be tabled for the Athletic Association.

Mr. Robinson stated he felt Mr. Boroughs was on point suggesting that it was time to review the financial responsibilities of groups and organizations, but the County needed to include the New Kent Athletic Association in the budget.

Following discussion, motion was made by Mr. Robinson to schedule another public hearing and advertise the budget to include a tax rate of \$0.78 per \$100 of valuation to specifically include additional funding for the greenhouse at the high school, additional funding for the art teacher at the primary school, additional funding of \$5,000 over what was proposed for the fire department to give them their requested amount for operation needs, \$100,000 additional amount to Capital Improvements recognizing that would be earmarked for fire department capital purposes for the future, an additional \$3,300 to the Library for funding of their needs, and \$5,000 set aside in the budget to be appropriated at a later date in 1990 to the New Kent Athletic Association. All other tax rates would remain the same.

Mr. Ellyson stated that he found the motion totally unacceptable, but if the majority of the Board wanted to raise taxes needlessly to fund frivolous areas other than requiring proven management of finances, then he requested that it be made perfectly clear why it's being done. That each agency that has asked for the funding, clearly earmark that it is being done for no other reason than to support these people, not fund this County.

Motion was defeated as follows:

Robert A. Boroughs	Nay
Paul C. Robinson	Aye
Richard S. Ellyson	Nay
E. David Ringley	Aye

Motion was made by Mr. Ringley to set aside \$5,000 for funding of the Fire Department, \$2.35 per capita for the Heritage Library, \$100,000 to the School Board funding, and \$6,000 to the New Kent Athletic Association, reducing Capital Improvement funding to \$102,786.

Mr. Ellyson stated that he would agree with Mr. Ringley's motion except for the \$100,000 to the School Board funding and that he would agree if \$50,000 is cut out of the Administration and put \$150,000 less the \$17,000 in instruction and \$17,000 in fixed charges to cover the greenhouse.

Mr. Ringley advised he would accept Mr. Ellyson's statement as a friendly amendment to his motion.

Mr. Robinson questioned the Board's plans for the Capital Improvement needs for the Fire Department. He discussed the equipment replacement needs and fund raising history of the Fire Department.

Mr. Ringley replied he had no answer or solution at this time. He stated he had been on this Board for three years and at the budget public hearing was the first time he became aware of the Capital Improvement crisis the County is facing regarding the Fire Department needs. He expressed that it is time for this Board and future Boards to start looking into the future as Mr. Boroughs has said with Capital Improvements. Mr. Ringley did not feel there was enough time left in this budget year to address the problem.

Mr. Robinson expressed concern that if the Board waited another year to address this issue, the Board would be two years behind the program.

Mr. Ellyson stated that the County has over \$1,200,000 in Capital funds after the allocations that have been made this year.

Following a discussion on fire department vehicles not being addressed in the Capital Improvements Plan, Mr. Hart explained that vehicles are not usually included in a normal Capital Improvements Plan, it is only that fire equipment vehicles are so expensive that they are usually considered capital.

Following this lengthy discussion, Mr. Ringley withdrew his motion.

Following a discussion of scheduling another public hearing and/or a possible budget work session, motion was made by Mr. Boroughs to adopt Ordinance O-17-90 as presented. Motion was defeated as follows:

Robert A. Boroughs	Aye
Paul C. Robinson	Nay
Richard S. Ellyson	Aye
E. David Ringley	Nay

Following some further discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to schedule a budget work session at the June 11th regular Board meeting at 7:30 p.m. to resolve the FY 1990-91 County Operating Budget.

Motion was made by Mr. Ringley to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried as follows:

Robert A. Boroughs	Aye
Paul C. Robinson	Aye
Richard S. Ellyson	Aye
E. David Ringley	Aye

H. Garrett Hart, III
County Administrator

E. David Ringley
Chairman