

**MINUTES
KING WILLIAM COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC HEARING OF APRIL 6, 2020**

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors of King William County, Virginia, was held on the 6th day of April, 2020, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building via Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Greenwood called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The members were polled:

Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski – Vice Chairman	Aye
Supervisor, 3rd District: William L. Hodges	Aye
Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 1st District: Stephen K. Greenwood - Chairman	Aye

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

Supervisor Moskalski moved for the adoption of the agenda as presented; motion was seconded by Supervisor Hodges.

The members were polled:

Supervisor, 3rd District: William L. Hodges	Aye
Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski – Vice Chairman	Aye
Supervisor, 1st District: Stephen K. Greenwood - Chairman	Aye

PUBLIC HEARING – REVISED PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2021

1. Bob Shannon, of the 3rd District submitted a public comment prior to the meeting via email. See attachment A.
2. Robert Bruce, of the 3rd District submitted a public comment prior to the meeting via email. See attachment B.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED TAX LEVIES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020

There were no speakers.

ADJOURN

Upon motion of Supervisor Greenwood, second by Supervisor Moskalski, the meeting was adjourned by the following roll call vote:

Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski – Vice Chairman	Aye
Supervisor, 3rd District: William L. Hodges	Aye
Supervisor, 1st District: Stephen K. Greenwood - Chairman	Aye

COPY TESTE:

Stephen K. Greenwood, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

Olivia S. Lawrence
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Local Government should follow States lead

Amidst the startling economic fallout from this global health crisis comes the silver lining , if only elected officials have the wisdom and backbone to implement the needed changes.

The fall off in revenues that will be collected by government at every level in the coming years has led Governor Northam to order a hiring freeze and department/agency heads to look for cuts that can be made in the current budget year to offset what is going to be a revenue nightmare for Virginia. Not being a fan of the Governor I am onboard with this specific order. It is ridiculous while we watch the carnage occurring with the private sector to not also recognize the lingering impact this will have on a serious decline in taxes and fees collected by government at every level. That leaves then only two choices since King William can not run deficits or print money. The County Administrator must prepare for the Board's consideration the elimination of any position within county government that is non-essential. I could list more than a few. The Board must then follow through on recognizing that King William is going to experience the same declines , particularly in sales taxes collected and perhaps BPOL revenues, given that no business is immune to what is happening. Lean times are on the horizon and the Board must recognize they have two distinct stark choices, cut spending or openly share with the citizens just how they plan on making up the revenue shortfalls with increased or new taxes. No back room discussions---but transparency and disclosures done openly with the citizens who deserve no less.

Perhaps in the back of the Board's mind is the new real estate assessments that will be in place beginning January 1, 2021 as being their saving grace, bailing them out of the financial crunch they will face. If the current rate is left intact this will lead to a huge increase in homeowners real estate tax bill, at the same time these people are losing their jobs and watching their retirement/investment assets take a major league hit. It is a lose-lose proposition all the way around. At a MINIMUM the Board needs to lower the real estate tax rate (equalize it as they did in 2015) January 1 so that homeowners are not further hurt . Not to be overlooked is how real estate prices are likely to fall as a result of the broader economic fallout continues.

Others have observed that while private sector unemployment rises the public sector deserves to share in the pain. Essential and Non Essential are not merely words , they are realities that deserve serious consideration by our elected officials as we muddle through what is going to be a long tough slog. Let's all hope the Board sees the wisdom in taking their Leadership responsibilities seriously and begin the tough choices that need to be made. Raising taxes is not a consideration.

Bob Shannon Founder King William T.E.A Party (Taxed Enough Already)

Deputy Clerk

From: rbrucepix@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 10:22 AM
To: County Administrator
Cc: Deputy Clerk; RBRUCEPIX@aol.com
Subject: A comment for tonight's Tax and Budget Public Hearing

County Administrator: In keeping with information in the public notice printed in Country Courier News on 18 Mar and 1 Apr 2020, please ensure that this will be **"distributed to Board members and made part of the public record."** Sincerely, Robert "Sarge" Bruce, 91 Fairfield Lane., KW 23086 (District 3, Aylett).

Questions for King William's Budget Busters !

Virginia's economy is crashing,
but our County Government wants a
\$ 3.5 MILLION \$ INCREASE
IN SPENDING FOR 2020-21 !

KW already has one of the
HIGHEST REAL ESTATE TAX RATES
OF ANY RURAL VA COUNTY

So where will all this extra money come from?
**IT WILL COME FROM YOU, THE ALREADY OVERTAXED HOMEOWNERS
& BUSINESSES OF KING WILLIAM !**

- __ Since America is in a serious economic downturn, shouldn't KW government economize and make do with what it has ?
- __ What justifies ANY raises – much less 3% – for county employees ?
- __ Since KW has no real growth in residents, school enrollment, crime, emergencies, etc., what justifies hiring more employees ?
- __ Since new RE assessments are coming in 20% higher, why not deeply cut taxes to help hard-hit homeowners ?
- __ Why do \$ MILLIONAIRE “farmers” get tax breaks that homeowners and businesses don't ?
- __ How much Supplemental Spending will go “off budget“ again later in the year when folks aren't paying attention ?
- __ Where did the \$10 MILLION in Real Estate Tax overcharges go ?
- __ Since new Supv. Moren (Mangohick) campaigned on cutting taxes, isn't it time for him to keep his promise ?

A BoS “Budget Public Hearing” is scheduled for 7 pm April 6th
It will probably be canceled so mail your questions to
180 Horse Landing Rd. #4, King William, VA 23086; or FAX
to 804-769-4968; or email to countyadmin@kingwilliamcounty.us

King William T.E.A. Party's OPERATION WATCHDOG
volunteers paid for this public service warning.