

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
MAY 6, 2019**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, May 6, 2019 in a continuation of the recessed budget work session that was held at 3:00 PM. The meeting was held in the Community Room in the W.C. Witherspoon Memorial Library.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Dixon, Chairman
Lloyd E. Griffin, III, Vice-Chairman
Cecil Perry
Frankie Meads
Charles H. Jordan
Sean Lavin
Barry Overman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Sparty Hammett, County Manager
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney
Sheri Small, Finance Officer
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Dixon reconvened the meeting at 4:35 PM.

1. LANDFILL/SOLID WASTE/TRANSFER STATION BUDGET:

Chairman Dixon explained that the proposed budgets for the Landfill, Solid Waste, and Transfer Station have been reviewed and approved by the Solid Waste Committee.

County Manager Hammett said one of the major things that we need to account for in next year's budget is a major increase in recycling costs. He estimated a \$70,000 per year budget impact. Staff looked at different ways of offsetting the cost and came up with a \$3 increase in our tipping fees, which will take us from \$66 to \$69 per ton, which will generate \$124,110 in revenue. The reason why they went with the tip fee is that as a rule it will not impact our citizens. It will impact our commercial haulers. Even with the increase to \$69, we are still below the area average. The surrounding county average is \$71.38. Dare is at \$73.15. Currituck is at \$73. The Perquimans, Chowan, and Gates Landfill (Albemarle Regional Solid Waste Management Authority) is at \$68.

Solid Waste Director Brad Gardner said for a long time the County was able to make money off of recycling or it was no cost. We were able to give it away and in turn we would not have to pay a solid waste fee. Each year Pasquotank County creates approximately 1,000 tons of recyclables. Bay Disposal accommodated the County for a very long time, but China no longer wants America's recyclables (especially the contamination). America has had to clean up its recycling act. He noted that Pasquotank County has never had a load rejected. He praised our site attendants.

In December, Bay Disposal came to us and said effective December 1 they were going to have to start charging the County \$125 per ton for recyclables. Staff negotiated that number down to \$75 per ton. The Beach is paying \$125 per ton. Currituck is paying \$120 per ton. The Perquimans, Chowan and Gates Landfill is paying \$115 to \$125 per ton. He noted that we are on a month-to-month basis with them. He estimated a cost of \$1,500 to \$2,000 per week to process recycling. He hopes this is a temporary thing, but nobody in the industry sees an end on the horizon. It takes a lot of equipment, plus shipping and trucking. He said they are trying to be creative and as efficient as possible with recycling. He said his budget includes a walking floor trailer and a new commercial recycling collection truck so that loads can be consolidated so when we send it off to market we are sending heavier loads, with fewer people and fewer vehicles. He said there have been conversations about creating a regional recycling warehouse. He stated that he is hesitant to go down that route. The closest current facilities are in Greenville and Hampton Roads.

When asked about the increase in the proposed budget from last year, Mr. Hammett said the Solid Waste and Water Department budgets include the compensation study impact. He noted

that staff is not doing that with any departments other than the two enterprise funds. The compensation study will be implemented in other departments next year.

Finance Director Sheri Small stated that \$440,000 was budgeted in the Landfill Fund Balance for the Wellfield Site.

Commissioner Perry called for the question, seconded by Sean Lavin. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Cecil Perry to move forward to include in the overall county budget the proposed budgets for Landfill, Solid Waste, and the Transfer Station as presented, with the \$3 increase in tipping fees. The motion carried unanimously.

2. WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET:

County Manager Hammett stated that the proposed Water Department budget is balanced and includes no fee increases, a \$100,000 allocation for a Water and Sewer Masterplan Study, and implementation of the Compensation Study.

Water Superintendent David Smithson provided an update on the RO Well Sites.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Sean Lavin to approve the Water Department proposed budget for inclusion in the overall county budget.

The work session was adjourned at 5:15 PM.