

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
MAY 14, 2012**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a budget work session in the Community Room at the W.C. Witherspoon Memorial Library.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Dixon, Vice-Chairman
Bill Trueblood
Cecil Perry
Dr. William R. Sterritt
Gary G. White
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lloyd E. Griffin, III, Chairman (*Out of Town*)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Randy Keaton, County Manager
Rodney Bunch, Assistant County Manager
Sheri Small, Finance Officer
Karen Jennings, Clerk to the Board

Also present were members of the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education, the Superintendent, and school administrative staff. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Vice-Chairman Jeff Dixon.

1. BUDGET WORK SESSION:


School Board Chairman Mark Small thanked the Board for allowing the Board of Education to present its 2012-13 budget. He also thanked the Board for the QSCB funding that was provided for the HVAC system at Central School and the roof replacement for the Northeastern High School gymnasium. Superintendent Linwood Williams introduced Mr. Jim Agar, the new School Finance Officer, who provided everyone with a copy of the budget request for the schools. Mr. Agar outlined the current expense budget and the revenues available to fund the budget. He explained that due to the revenue shortfall, \$458,825 in additional current expense funds are being requested from the county. He reviewed the capital outlay budget request which totaled \$922,800, including priority 1, priority 2 and priority 3 projects. He provided a copy of the child nutrition program budget, however no county funds are being requested for this program. Commissioner Trueblood asked Mr. Agar the school system's current estimated fund balance. Mr. Agar responded that fund balance is estimated to be approximately \$2.6 million at the end of the current fiscal year and the school system has not proposed to spend any fund balance in the upcoming budget.

It was reported to the Board that bids will be opened tomorrow for replacement of the HVAC system at Central School and for the roof project at Northeastern High School.

The members of the Board of Education left the meeting at this time and the Board of Commissioners continued its budget work session.

County Manager Randy Keaton provided a revised budget summary including the numbers presented by the Board of Education today. He also presented a tax base estimate showing a 1.14% increase in property values including motor vehicles. He said this would result in approximately \$200,000 more in property taxes. With these changes, one penny of property tax will equal \$321,200. He reviewed several departmental budgets and explained the changes from last year's budget. Mr. Keaton advised the Board that it needs to make several decisions regarding the budget including: whether to use \$400,000 in capital reserve from the sale of property to help balance the budget and; whether to finance the \$234,000 cost for new Sheriff's Department cars or pay for them upfront. He said the overall increase in revenue is about \$500,000. He noted that as everyone can see, there is not enough money to go around, so the Board needs to soon make some decisions.

Motion was made by Gary White, seconded by William Sterritt to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.



CHAIRMAN



CLERK TO THE BOARD