

BOOK 32**VIRGINIA:**

At a continued meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Amherst County held at the Administration Building thereof on Thursday, the 6th day of March, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at which the following members were present and absent:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

PRESENT:	Mr. V. Wood Mr. L. Parrish Mr. D. Kidd Mr. R. Vandall	ABSENT: Mr. C. Adams
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Chairman Wood called the meeting to order.

IN RE: AGENDA

Mr. Vandall moved approval of the agenda with addition of a closed session under Virginia Code Sect. 2.2-3711.A.1 for discussion of personnel issue.

AYE: Mr. V. Wood, Mr. L. Parrish, Mr. D. Kidd and Mr. R. Vandall

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. C. Adams

IN RE: BUDGET WORKSHOP

The Board proceeded with workshop for 2008-2009 county budget and proceeded with department presentations.

Commissioner of Revenue - Linda Byers/Debbie Habel

Ms. Byers presented information regarding tax relief for the Board's consideration. The \$50,000 income is at its maximum allowed without the locality going before the General Assembly and asking for an increase. The total amount of assets a person can have in order to qualify is currently at \$100,000 which could be increased to \$200,000. Dependents living in a household have to report income however; the first \$6,500 of their income is exempted and could be increased to \$10,000. The maximum relief amount is \$400.00 which is set by the local governing body. It appears that next year if the amount of assets is not increased from \$100,000 there will be a lot of people that currently qualify for tax relief will not because of the new real estate assessments.

Mr. Vandall moved to increase the maximum asset amount for tax relief to \$150,000 and the maximum amount of relief to \$500.00.

There was a discussion on the motion.

Mr. Vandall amended his motion to increase the maximum relief amount to \$600.00

AYE: Mr. V. Wood, Mr. L. Parrish, Mr. D. Kidd and Mr. R. Vandall

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. C. Adams

There was a general discussion with Ms. Byers regarding the existing impact of the land use rates on the County's revenues and participants in the program. There was information presented concerning land use values of surrounding jurisdictions.

There was a Board discussion and consensus to communicate to the C.O.R. that they believe that there should be an increase in the land use values.

Habitat for Humanity

Craig Cassell of Habitat for Humanity met with the Board and presented a request for their land inventory to be exempted from real estate taxes.

December 2006 through June 2007

Lot 28, Buffalo Ridge	\$36.08
Lot 13, Montrose Heights	\$ 4.88
Lot 2-A Pendleton Drive	\$20.90
152 Church Street	\$34.13
Lot 49D N. Coolwell Road	\$ 1.40
Lot 8 Buffalo Ridge	\$35.75
Lot 4 Wesleyan Circle	\$26.00
Rucker Street	<u>\$11.38</u>

TOTAL \$ 179.52

June 30 through December 31, 2007

Lot 28, Buffalo Ridge	\$36.08
Lot 13, Montrose Heights	\$ 4.88
Lot 2-A Pendleton Drive	\$20.90
152 Church Street	\$34.13
152 Church Street	\$34.13
Lot 8 Buffalo Ridge	\$35.75
Lot 4 Wesleyan Circle	\$26.00
Rucker Street	\$11.38
152 Church Street	<u>\$ 5.67</u>

TOTAL \$270.24

There was a Board discussion and consensus that real estate taxes should not be exempted, but that a contribution be considered to the organization in an amount deemed appropriate in consideration of available funds.

PACMS – Carolyn Fitzpatrick

Carolyn Fitzpatrick presented a budget appropriation request in an amount of \$9,954.00.

There was a Board discussion and consensus to request that the County Administrator draft a letter to the County's state legislature requesting additional state financial support for this organization.

GLTC – MICHAEL CARROL

Michael Carrol met with the Board and presented a request for continued funding of bus services within the southern portion of the County.

Housing Foundation – Glenn Sullivan

Glenn Sullivan and Troy Cash presented a budget funding of \$40,000.

Advertising

The County Administrator presented budget advertising requirements to the Board for consideration and current communications concerning the status of state General Assembly considerations.

There was a Board discussion of real estate tax dates to be advertised and strategies to be implemented for reducing County budget expenditures.

The Board took a short lunch break.

The County Administrator provided further tax revenue data.

IN RE: CLOSED SESSION

Mr. V. Wood moved to go to closed session to discuss (1) personnel matters pursuant to § 2.2-3711.A.1, of the Virginia Code Section:

§2.2-3711.A.1 – Discussion or consideration of the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body.

This was seconded by Mr. Kidd and approved with the following vote:

AYE: Mr. V. Wood, Mr. L. Parrish, Mr. D. Kidd, and Mr. R. Vandall

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. C. Adams

Mr. Kidd moved to come out of closed session, seconded by Mr. Parrish and approved with the following vote:

AYE: Mr. V. Wood, Mr. L. Parrish, Mr. D. Kidd, and Mr. R. Vandall

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. C. Adams

Mr. Wood moved the closed session resolution, seconded by Mr. Parrish and was approved with the following roll call vote:

Mr. V. Wood	AYE
Mr. L. Parrish	AYE
Mr. D. Kidd	AYE
Mr. C. Adams	ABSENT
Mr. R. Vandall	AYE

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Amherst County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Amherst County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the Amherst County Board of Supervisors.

Any member who believes that there was a departure from the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii) shall state the substance of the departure that, in his judgment, has taken place. (If any member cites a departure, his statement shall be recorded in the minutes.)

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Parrish, seconded by Mr. Vandall and with the following vote, the Board of Supervisors adjourned until 10:00 a.m., March 11, 2008 in the County Administration Building Board of Supervisors room.

AYE: Mr. V. Wood, Mr. L. Parrish, Mr. D. Kidd and Mr. R. Vandall

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. C. Adams

Vernon L. Wood, Chairman
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

Rodney E. Taylor, County Administrator