Board of Supervisors

John A. Marks, Jr., Chairman
District 5
David W. Pugh, Jr., Vice-Chair
District 4
Claudia D. Tucker, Supervisor
District 2
L. J. Ayers III, Supervisor
District 3
Kenneth M. Campbell, Supervisor
District 1

County Administrator
Dean C. Rodgers

County Attorney
Ellen Bowyer

AMHERST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTES – April 21, 2016

AGENDA

April 21, 2016
Amherst County High School – Gymnasium
139 Lancer Lane
Amherst, Virginia 24521
7:00 p.m.

I. **Call to Order**

II. **Approval of Agenda**

III. **Remarks by the Chairman of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors**

IV. **Presentation by the Amherst County Administrator**

V. **Public Hearing - Proposed FY17 Budget and real property tax rate increase**

VI. **Adjournment**

MINUTES

At a special meeting of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors held at the Amherst County High School on Tuesday, the 21st day of April, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., the following members were present:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

PRESENT: John A. Marks, Jr. Chairman
David W. Pugh, Jr., Vice-Chair
Claudia D. Tucker, Supervisor
L. J. Ayers, III, Supervisor
Kenneth M. Campbell, Supervisor

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: County Administrator Dean C. Rodgers and Executive Administrative Assistant Regina Rice.

VII. **Call to Order**

Chairman Marks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

VIII. **Approval of Agenda**

By motion of Chairman Marks and with the following vote, the Board approved the Agenda for April 21, 2016.

AYE:	Mr. Marks, Mr. Pugh, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Ayers and Mr. Campbell
NAY:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

IX. Remarks by the Chairman of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors

Chairman Marks welcomed all to the meeting.

Chairman Marks provided instructions on the procedure of the meeting:

- The County Administrator will present the budget.
- A Public Hearing will follow to receive comments from the citizens.
- Citizens will be given the opportunity to speak and their names called in order as listed on the sign-up sheet.
- Speakers are asked to provide their name and address.
- Speakers shall limit their comments to three (3) minutes.
- Speakers shall refrain from making any personal remarks to Board members.

Chairman Marks stated that once all citizens had an opportunity to speak, the Public Hearing would be closed.

X. Presentation by the Amherst County Administrator

Mr. Rodgers expressed appreciation to all in attendance and spoke on the budget with the attached slide presentation:

COUNTY OF AMHERST FY2017 PROPOSED BUDGET AND TAX INCREASE

(See Attachment 1)

XI. Public Hearing - Proposed FY17 Budget and real property tax rate increase

Chairman Marks opened the Public Hearing.

The following persons came forth and spoke:

<u>Proponents:</u>

Ms. Megan Lucas, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance addressed the Board and thanked Board members for looking at capital investments for Amherst County.

Mr. Bill Robertson, EDA member, addressed the Board and stated he was in favor of the one cent tax to help with expanding businesses and the strategic plan.

Mr. Kenny Kinnier, EDA Treasurer, addressed the Board and spoke on the EDA financial history.

Mr. Don Manley, EDA member, addressed the Board and advised the one cent tax increase can help businesses stay and grow in Amherst County and a prospective incubator to help small business get started.

Mr. Mike Russell, EDA member, addressed the Board and stated that new business attraction has been a low priority. The EDA has been restricted by funding for a long time and the one cent will make us more competitive and assist businesses.

Mr. Calvin Kennon, EDA member, addressed the Board and stated that Amherst County is seeing profound changes with CVTC cutting jobs and the population getting older and declining. Mr. Kennon said there is a need to redirect to a positive course and the goal of the EDA is to help businesses stay as well as attracting new businesses.

Mr. Bill Peters of Amherst, Virginia, addressed the Board and stated for approximately ten years the County has been neglecting many things and he favors the $0.05 tax increase. Mr. Peters thanked the EDA for coming forward and was thankful to have Mr. Dean Rodgers as the county's administrator. Mr. Peters believed that $0.05 was not enough and that the County will have to come up with more tax increases in the future. Mr. Peters said he will not sit back and allow public services to deteriorate.

Mr. Barrie Buck addressed the Board and explained that businesses in Madison Heights have taken a big blow when the by-pass came through. Mr. Buck said with CVTC closing and the loss of jobs, the County needs to do something. He is in favor of the tax increase and especially money for the EDA.

Mr. Ken Althouse of Amherst, Virginia, addressed the Board and stated he is a 100% in favor and supports the one cent increase earmarked for the EDA. Mr. Althouse said the County is 30 years behind in economic development issues and would want the EDA to be part of the future budget process and to plan annually.

Mr. Herb Hicks of the Monacan Nation addressed the Board stated he participated in one the focus groups sponsored by the EDA. Mr. Hicks commented that this will be wonderful for the County. Mr. Hicks said he owns a business in Reston and anticipates bringing the home office back to Amherst County.

Ms. Suny Monk of Amherst, Virginia, addressed the Board and thanked Mr. Rodgers for the "best budget lesson". Ms. Monk stated she supports the five cent real estate tax increase and sees this as an investment. Ms. Monk said she is passionate about Amherst and this tax investment is only a piece of the bigger picture. Ms. Monk said this is a small investment to ask each citizen to make but will have big returns.

Mr. Derin Fore of Amherst, Virginia, addressed the Board and stated he supports the five cent real estate tax increase. Mr. Foor said he opened a business a year ago, took a risk and now is celebrating his second year. Mr. Foor said he is here to stay.

Ms. Lynn Cabell of Amherst, Virginia addressed Board and supported the $0.05 tax increase.

Mr. Eldon Bradley of Amherst, Virginia, addressed the Board and thanked all Board members for looking at the EMS service system closely, volunteers, and initiating a new system to get money to purchase the new fire trucks and ambulances. Mr. Bradley said Volunteer Fire and Rescue really appreciates what the Board of Supervisors is doing.

Mr. David Emmer, Amherst, Virginia, addressed the Board stating he is in favor of the $0.05 tax increase.

<u>Opponents:</u> None.

Chairman Marks closed the Public Hearing.

Chairman Marks thanked all for attending and for their comments.

Chairman Marks advised that the Board of Supervisors will meet on April 29, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the School Board room to set the final tax rate and adopt the budget for FY17. Chairman Marks encouraged all to attend this meeting

XII. Adjournment

By motion of Supervisor Ayers and with the following vote, the Board moved to adjourn.

AYE:	Mr. Marks, Mr. Pugh, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Ayers and Mr. Campbell
NAY:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

John A. Marks, Jr. 5/17/16

John A. Marks, Jr., Chairman
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

Dean C. Rodgers, Clerk

Meeting Date: April 21, 2016

ATTACHMENTS

County of Amherst

FY 2017
Proposed Budget
and Tax Increase

Overview

- Budget Priorities
- Budget Process
- Revenue
- Expenses
  - New in FY17
- General Fund
- Proposed Tax Increase

Important Facts

- Employees: 245 (incl PT and constitutionals)
- Board, comsn, committee, council mbrs: 50+
- Parks: 6
- Trails: 2
- Fire/EMS stations: 7
- Libraries: 2
- Convenience (trash) centers: 4
- Trash disposal sites: 4
- Landfill
- Structures: 13
- Winton Golf, Swim & Events Club

Important Facts

- Services:
  - Police
  - Fire & Rescue
  - Courts
  - Elections
  - Trash disposal
  - Parks & Recreation
  - Planning & Zoning
  - Building permits & inspections
  - Tax assessment & collection
- Departments:
  - Administration
  - Accounting
  - Purchasing
  - IT
  - HR
  - Legal
  - Maintenance
  - Public works/grounds

Important Facts – NOT County

- Education: 7-member Board
  900 employees
  10 schools (incl PVS)
  $46.9M budget
- Social Services benefits
- Health Department services
- Roads are VDOT responsibility
- Water & Sewer rates are set by ACSA
- Constitutional officers' salaries & mgt

Budget Development Priorities

School Infrastructure

Keep landfill open

Maintain Public Safety

Local match to state directed raises

Correct manpower deficiencies

Minimize draw on General Fund to balance

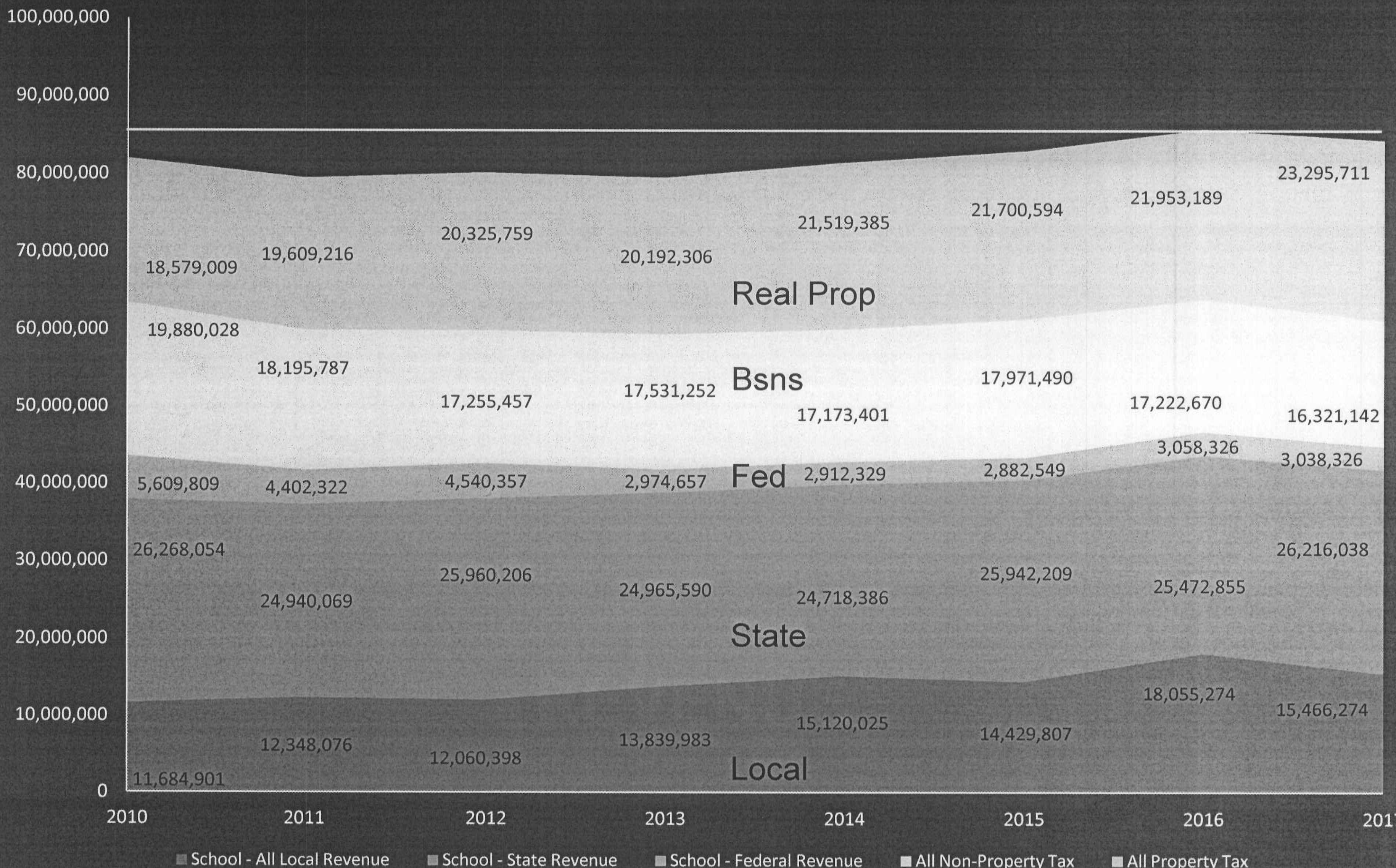
Budget Development Process

Anticipated Revenues
- Operating Expenses
- <u>Prioritized Needs & Wants</u>
= Shortfall
- Cut Wants, Forgo Needs
- Find Savings
- <u>Find Revenue</u>
= Balanced Budget

REVENUE

	FY16	FY17
ALL PROPERTY TAXES	21,953,189	23,295,711
All Other Revenues:		
LOCAL SALES & USE TAXES	6,942,200	6,980,148
PERMITS FEES AND LICENSES	156,600	148,600
FINES AND FOREITURES	19,400	19,400
USE OF PROPERTY AND INTEREST	100,901	110,966
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	1,341,098	1,404,898
MISCELLANEOUS	61,750	72,800
RECOVERED COST	142,276	136,776
NON CATEGORICAL AID	2,385,018	2,377,018
SHARED EXPENSES	2,391,771	2,445,385
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE,OTHER STATE REVENUE	1,041,667	1,104,265
FEDERAL REVENUE	722,975	655,824
OTHER CATEGORICAL AID	372,975	385,109
REVENUE TRANSFERS	1,544,039	479,953
All Other Revenues Total:	17,222,670	16,321,142
TOTAL SCHOOL STATE , FEDERAL, OTHER LOCAL	48,955,358	46,889,710
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE	88,131,217	86,506,563

REVENUE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Local
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19,880,028
18,195,787
17,255,457
17,531,252
17,173,401
17,971,490
17,222,670
16,321,142
5,609,809
4,402,322
4,540,357
2,974,657
2,912,329
2,882,549
3,058,326
3,038,326
26,268,054
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25,960,206
24,965,590
24,718,386
25,942,209
25,472,855
26,216,038
11,684,901
12,348,076
12,060,398
13,839,983
15,120,025
14,429,807
18,055,274
15,466,274
School - All Local Revenue
School - State Revenue
School - Federal Revenue
All Non-Property Tax
All Property Tax

Expenses

Proposed FY17 Budget Summary - July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

	Adopted	Proposed
EXPENDITURES	FY2016	FY2017
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS	181,865	191,265
GENERAL FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATION	1,762,039	1,876,738
BOARD OF ELECTIONS	193,561	197,745
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION - COURTS	625,827	628,208
LEGAL SERVICES	773,437	792,894
LAW ENFORCEMENT	3,871,333	3,865,153
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES	2,246,357	2,553,739
CORRECTION AND DETENTION	1,680,500	1,555,000
BUILDING SAFETY & INSPECTIONS	205,158	196,799
911 AND OTHER PROTECTION	1,823,429	1,772,452
COMMUNITY	40,000	59,422
SANITATION AND WASTE REMOVAL	1,552,571	1,385,044
MAINTENANCE BLDGS & GROUNDS	844,966	805,651
PUBLIC HEALTH & MENTAL HEALTH SVCS	334,646	337,501
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	2,979,976	3,006,705
COMMUNITY COLLEGE/EDUCATION	106,773	206,763
RECREATION	332,366	348,858
MUSEUM	47,509	48,406
LIBRARY	731,267	735,039
PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	556,488	758,073
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	8,500	8,500
EXTENSION AND OTHER SERVICES	83,275	85,995
INTERNAL & DEBT SERVICES	1,320,121	3,442,919
LOCAL TRANSFER TO SCHOOLS	16,873,895	14,757,984
TOTAL NON-SCHOOL	**39,175,859**	**39,616,853**
SCHOOL	**48,955,358**	**46,889,710**
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	**88,131,217**	**86,506,563**

New in FY17 - Schools

- Level funding from last year
  - $2M debt service moved into County budget
- $23.6M infrastructure upgrades (10 schools)
- $432K in County budget for maintenance
  - to create $610K maintenance fund for schools
- Add'l school bus added to County budget
- Maintenance Fund is 'committed'
  - Annual leftover funds retained by schools and allowed to grow separately from County budget

New in FY17

Supplemental (of 35)

1. 3 new EMTs
2. EMT part-time wages
3. 2% Constitutional raise
4. Salary adj for lowest pd
5. Full-time receptionist
6. Full time HR coord
7. Finance Director

$461,150

Capital (of 24)

1. School roofs & HVAC
2. Landfill expansion
3. 911 Dispatch software
4. Monelison fire engine
5. Ladder truck
6. Voting machines

$27,948,000

Unobligated General Fund in FY17

Balance on 30 Jun 2015	$15,692,714
Less 15% mandatory reserve (FY16)	$ 5,876,379
Less committed funds	$583,953
Less assigned funds	$4,304,398
Less expended this year	$ 587,250
Current balance available into FY17	$4,340,734

Proposed Real Estate Tax Increase 5¢ / $100

2¢ - School roofs & HVAC

1¢ - Landfill expansion

1¢ - Staff shortfalls

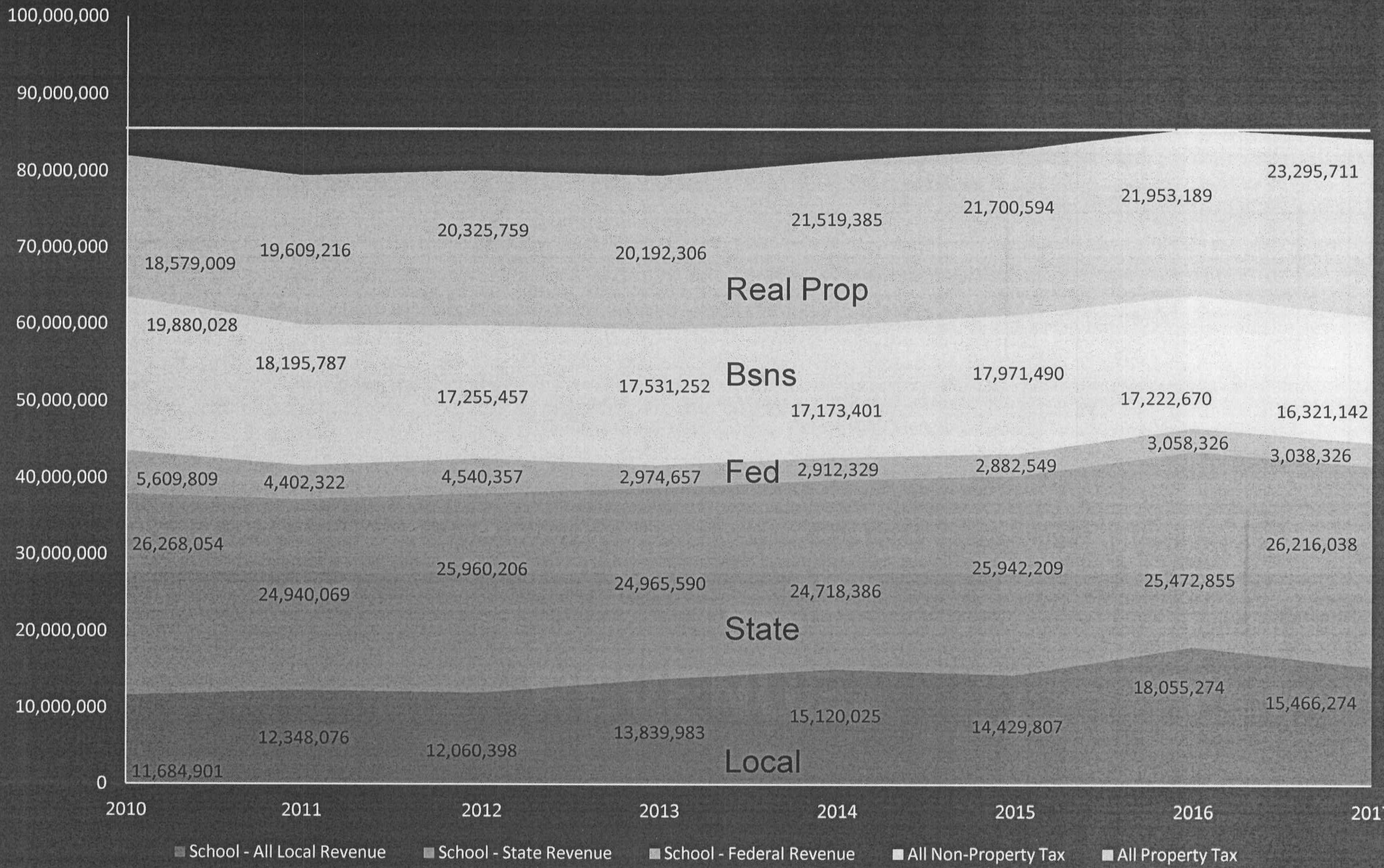
-- 3 EMTs

-- EMT PT wages

1¢ - Economic development

5¢

REVENUE



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2010
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Real Prop
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19,609,216
20,325,759
20,192,306
21,519,385
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21,953,189
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State
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24,940,069
25,960,206
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26,216,038
Local
11,684,901
12,348,076
12,060,398
13,839,983
15,120,025
14,429,807
18,055,274
15,466,274
School - All Local Revenue
School - State Revenue
School - Federal Revenue
All Non-Property Tax
All Property Tax

The Value of a Penny in Terms of Local Tax Revenue

Tax	FY17
Real Estate	$227,741
Personal Property	$20,340
Machinery & Tools	$10,205

Individual Cost of Proposed Real Estate Tax Increase

		.56 Annl	.61 Annl	Semi Increase	Monthly Increase
Avg Home	$117,234	$656.51	$715.13	$29.34	$4.89
Median Home	$142,200	$796.32	$867.42	$35.58	$5.93

Tax Rate Comparison

Locality	Real Estate	Personal Property	Combined Rates
Amherst County	.61	3.45	4.06
Appomattox County	.60	4.60	5.20
Bedford County	.52	2.35	2.87
Campbell County	.52	4.45	4.97
Nelson County	.72	3.45	4.17

Proposed Budget Summary

- Local funds for Education remains level w/ increases for
  - An additional bus, maintenance & infrastructure upgrades
  - A policy and committed fund to grow for the future
- Additional County manpower
  - For public safety and essential staff functions
- Decreasing use of General Fund to balance
  - Reliance on conservatism in estimating revenues
- Tax increases only for necessary costs
  - Schools, landfill, public safety; other manpower from cost reductions
  - Penny for economic development is focused on solutions/future
- Maintains adequate Fund Balance for unanticipated & emergency needs, and for future strategic uses

Backup Slides

Capital Projects in FY17

Department	Project	Amount
School District	10 roofs & HVAC systems	$23.6M Loan
Planning	Train Depot Phase III	$400K grant & match
Administration	Admin Building Extension	$2.1M existing bond funds
Recreation and Parks	Riveredge Park Phase II	$250K grant & match
Public Safety	Trucks & Software	$1.685M unobligated GF
Registrar	Voting machines	$163K unobligated GF
Public Works	Landfill expansion	$2.5M loan
Purchasing	Learning Lane	$265K unobligated GF

Wants & Needs

(Top 10)

Supplemental (of 35)

1. 3 add'l paramedics
2. EMT part-time wages
3. Computer firewall
4. Backup server
5. Full-time receptionist
6. Merit incr for lowest pd
7. Volunteer PPE
8. Firehose replacement
9. Grounds tractor&trailer
10. Staff PPE

$441,654

Capital (of 24)

1. 911 Dispatch software
2. Landfill expansion
3. Monelison fire engine
4. 8 school busses (2)
5. Courthouse sidewalk
6. Replacement ambulance
7. Courthouse parking lot
8. Library windows/doors

$5,188,776

Local Expense Projection

	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17
Total Expenses	$36,616,041	$37,059,256	$39,288,043	$39,175,859	$39,616,853
Schools	$15,243,617	$14,416,197	$15,853,979	$16,873,895	$14,757,984