

At a budget worksession of the Orange County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, March 4, 2014, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Gordon Building, 112 West Main Street, Orange, Virginia. Present: S. Teel Goodwin, Chairman; Lee H. Frame, Jr., Vice Chairman; Shannon C. Abbs; James P. Crozier; and James K. White. Also present: R. Bryan David, Interim County Administrator; Thomas E. Lacheney, County Attorney; Glenda E. Bradley, Finance Director; and Alyson A. Simpson, Chief Deputy Clerk.

RE: BUDGET WORKSESSION

RE: LETTER OF INTEREST REGARDING OPPORTUNITY FOR BROADBAND GRANT

R. Bryan David, Interim County Administrator, explained that the County had recently learned of a grant opportunity through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for rural broadband access. He explained that this grant, known as the Connect America Fund (CAF), could provide an opportunity for Orange County to be part of the FCC's initiative to expand broadband availability across the Nation. Mr. David requested that the Board of Supervisors authorize staff to send a letter of interest to the FCC, which would be non-binding and would provide that Orange County was interested in participating as an eligible and unserved area.

Discussion ensued among the Board regarding: partnership with a commercial carrier; how much the grant could potentially fund; whether or not the broadband service could tie-in with the existing and new system; and an update on the whitespace broadband initiative.

By consensus, the Board authorized staff to send a letter of interest to the FCC regarding the Connect America Fund grant opportunity for broadband with the understanding that the Board would ratify approval of the letter at their next Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2014.

RE: GENERAL DISCUSSION REGARDING FY15 BUDGET

R. Bryan David, Interim County Administrator, indicated that this meeting was intended to provide an opportunity to the Board to initiate discussion regarding the initial presentations of the School Board budget and County Administrator's Recommended Budget. He opened the floor to the Board for questions and/or discussion.

Discussion ensued among the Board regarding: justification for the additional Landfill Collections Driver position; the rationale behind the decrease in funding for the Cell #2 Expansion project; how to finance long-term, large Capital Projects - pay-as-you-go vs. debt service; the discipline of the current Board - how that could not be controlled in the future, but mechanisms could be established to help; per capita spending; the breakdown of the increased requests for funding in terms of how much each increase attributed to the proposed tax rate increase; and the actual net revenue of a one-cent increase on the tax rate.

Further discussion ensued regarding: the potential for lease-purchase of vehicles for the Sheriff's Office; grant funding and phasing of the Road Safety System CIP project; the next budget worksession; and when the tax rate had to be established in order to advertise.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Frame moved, seconded by Mrs. Abbs and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. Ayes: Abbs, White, Goodwin, Crozier, Frame. Nays: None.

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S. Teel Goodwin, Chairman

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R. Bryan David, Interim County Administrator