

At a worksession of the Orange County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, September 27, 2016, beginning at 4:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Gordon Building, 112 West Main Street, Orange, Virginia. Present: Lee H. Frame, Chairman; S. Teel Goodwin, Vice Chairman; R. Mark Johnson; James K. White, and James P. Crozier. Also present: Kurt L. Hildebrand, Assistant County Administrator for Operations; Thomas E. Lacheney, County Attorney; and Alyson A. Simpson, Chief Deputy Clerk.

RE: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM, CONSOLIDATED E-911 DISPATCH AND FACILITY, AND FIBER OPTICS/RURAL BROADBAND INITIATIVE CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

As members of the Financial Policies Subcommittee, Supervisors White and Johnson provided an update to the Board regarding the capital projects related to public safety and broadband and the corresponding financing considerations.

Supervisor White explained that discussions regarding the proposed projects had been taking place for the last several months, beginning initially with the discussion of refinancing and restructuring the 2007 debt, but continuing with the consideration of additional debt to fund the new projects. The proposed projects had been divided into four (4) Master Projects: LMR Emergency Communications System (radios); Dispatch Consolidation and Modernization; Fiber Network; and Public Safety Facility. He added that the current funding proposals were in compliance with the Board's Financial Policies and were possible to complete within the County's current revenues and assets. Mr. White noted that the projects were planned with current cost estimates, but there would be a date certain when the numbers had to be finalized.

Supervisor Johnson indicated that considerable time had been spent trying to understand and determine what components of each project were absolutely necessary. He added that conservative cost estimates were used, but there was no doubt that future decisions would have to be made regarding expenditures.

Discussion ensued among the Board regarding: whether or not the financing considerations allowed for maintenance of capital projects in future years; upcoming decreases in debt service; and the use of cash on hand.

Staff provided a comprehensive review of each of the four (4) Master Projects and their respective sub-projects, explaining what each component entailed and indicating cost, timing, and work to-date.

Discussion ensued among the Board regarding: the set-up of the separate dispatch centers; whether or not law enforcement response time was affected by the separation; how each project was expected to be funded; enhancements in field reporting for deputies; the governance and direction of employees in a consolidated dispatch center; in-house radio management; integration with the Schools' radios; fire suppression options in the public safety facility; redundancy in the various systems; how the existing facilities would be utilized once vacated; flexible uses of the EOC location; and affordability.

On the motion of Mr. Crozier, seconded by Mr. Goodwin, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the Board authorized staff to do those things necessary to proceed with securing financing for the Public Safety Communications System, Consolidated E-911 Dispatch and Public Safety Facility, and Fiber Optics/Rural Broadband Initiative capital projects.

Ayes: Johnson, White, Goodwin, Crozier, Frame. Nays: None.

RE: ADJOURN

The Board concluded its Worksession and continued to its Regular Meeting at 4:57 p.m.

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Lee H. Frame, Chairman

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R. Bryan David, County Administrator