

VIRGINIA:

A FY 2018-19 Budget Work Session of the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors was held in the Administrative Building Board/Commission Meeting Room of said county on Thursday, April 19, 2018.

Members Present: William R. Lee, Chair
Jason D. Bellows, Vice Chair
Jack D. Larson, Board Member
Ernest W. Palin, Jr., Board Member
Robert S. Westbrook, Board Member

Staff Present: Don G. Gill, Assistant County Administrator and
Planning/Land Use Director
Crystal Whay, Building/Land Use Assistant

Mr. Lee called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

BUDGET CONSIDERATION

Consideration of Adoption of Proposed FY 19 Public Schools Budget

Mr. Lee stated that the proposed total amount for the FY 19 Public Schools Budget was \$16,859,039. He referred to an increase of \$45,000 in the salary for the Assistant Superintendent, Dan Russell, and asked Dr. Parker for an explanation.

Dr. Parker replied that the salary had been moved from one category to another.

Mrs. Barrack stated that, in the original budget, they had added another position. She stated that, with adding that position, the way they split Mr. Russell's salary needed to be changed. She stated that when they changed it, it moved more of his salary to the administration category and out of the instruction category. She stated that when they took the other position out of the budget, she didn't redistribute Mr. Russell's salary.

Dr. Parker stated that, in the past, Mr. Russell's salary had been split between the administration category and the instruction category because he was also the Special Education Director and the Director of Instruction. He stated that, in the original budget, they had proposed a position called Student Services Director, which would have taken over the Special Education Director position. He stated that, if that had taken place, then that portion of Mr. Russell's salary could not be counted in the instruction category and

would all have to be in the administration category. He stated that a portion could be moved back into instruction now.

Mr. Lee asked, if going forward, the salary would be split between the two categories.

Mrs. Barrack replied yes.

Mr. Lee stated so that everyone was on the same page, the proposed increase included a four percent pay increase for the teachers and a three percent pay increase for all other school employees.

Dr. Parker stated that the pay increase proposal for the teachers was a 4.1 percent adjustment in the scale, plus a step and three percent for everyone else.

Mr. Palin referred to the maintenance category and stated that there was an increase in electrical service of \$26,000 on page 47. He stated that water, sewer and telecommunications have also increased and asked for an explanation.

Dr. Parker replied that the telecommunications increase was due to a loss of funding from the e-rate discounts.

Mrs. Barrack referred to the electrical service increase and stated that if the Board looked at the FY 17 actual amount for that category, the proposed budget amount is just a small increase over that. She stated that for the water and sewer expenses, it was the same scenario with overall increases.

Mr. Palin referred to page 26 of the school budget under the category of Instructional Support-Other Director/Manager and asked if the figure was for additional personnel.

Mrs. Barrack replied that figure was also part of Mr. Russell's salary.

Mr. Palin asked for clarification because he was looking at an amount of \$76,436 dollars. He stated that he had the same question about the Improvement of Instruction category-Other Director/Manager and that it looked like an additional position.

Dr. Parker stated that they have not added any new positions, so it would seem to him that a position has been moved.

Mrs. Barrack stated that, in reference to the Instructional Support-Other Director/Manager question, there was a change with a position moved for the Testing and Behavior Support Specialist. She stated that in reference to the Improvement of Instruction-Other Director/Manager category, that was a change in Mr. Russell's salary when it was split into three different categories.

Mr. Lee referred to the Improvement of Instruction amount and asked if that was one employee's salary.

Mrs. Barrack replied that amount in the Improvement of Instruction category was a portion of Mr. Russell's salary and two other employees.

Mr. Palin asked if they were moving figures from one category to another, why would it increase the overall budget.

Dr. Parker replied that it would be a wash.

Mr. Palin stated that, if that was the case, why didn't he see any other category in which there was a reduction in the same amounts.

Mrs. Barrack stated that one of the coordinators had previously been paid out of several grants. She stated that there were small changes in those grant figures.

Mr. Lee asked about the pay increase for school board members.

Mrs. Barrack replied that was part of last year's budget and took effect in January. She stated that the new salaries changed on January 1st after the School Board elections.

Mr. Larson referred to his handout concerning last week's public hearing. He stated that he was taken with the comments made from the speakers in support of the school budget. He stated that the people demonstrated passion for the schools and he hoped that it would translate into accreditation for the schools. He stated that Bill Warren had provided some figures that he thought were startling and did not pass the "sanity check." He stated that he used the term "sanity check" because in Mr. Warren's figures, he had approximately \$2 million dollars plus, in the Lancaster County budget, that he claimed was being spent in non-school categories greater than Northumberland County's. He stated that was very alarming to him because Northumberland County was a bigger county by approximately 1500 people and was bigger geographically and you would expect that the cost of providing services, whatever they were, would cost more there. He stated that Mr. Warren's figures were not broken down in individual categories as far as the budget was concerned, so he went to the internet in the same way Mr. Warren said that he did to look for the information on Northumberland County. He stated that he compared the FY 18 budget spreadsheet for Lancaster County with the information that he researched. He stated that Mr. Warren was correct in his assumption that in many categories, Lancaster was spending more money than Northumberland and that should be a cause for concern for the entire Board. He stated that they need to find some efficiencies because it doesn't make sense and they need an explanation there. He stated that by the same token, the difference that Mr. Warren pointed out in the non-school categories, he had determined to be \$59,578 rather than the \$2,810,698. He stated that it disturbed him that those figures were presented because it was distorted and could make the argument that Lancaster County had a much more serious problem than it does.

Mr. Larson stated that the point he was trying to make was that he had been frustrated for a number of years about misinformation on various issues. He stated that the facts have to be known to make good decisions. He referred to the figure for Northumberland of \$17,848,096 and stated that he did not have time to research whether that figure included the school cafeteria fund or the textbook fund, but the figure of \$15,636,286 for Lancaster does not include it. He referred to the Superintendent's report and stated that he had always used it and, in his opinion, it was the official report, just the same as the audit figures were the official County figures and in looking at the Superintendent's report, the picture looked different than what Mr. Warren had presented. He stated that the cost per pupil was greater in Lancaster County than it was in Northumberland and has been. He stated that there were only six localities in Virginia that spend more per pupil than Lancaster County. He stated that he has been frustrated to hear citizens say that they can't be competitive with other localities when it comes to starting salaries for teachers, especially when he knew that the majority of the money being turned back from the schools was from the instruction category. He stated that he remembered the time that \$200,000 was taken out of the instruction category and placed in the administration category, so that the retiring Superintendent could be paid a lump sum retirement amount that was later found to be illegal.

Mr. Larson stated that he was not anti-schools and definitely not anti-teachers. He stated that they could not pay teachers enough in terms of what they have to deal with now. He stated that there was an affordability issue and they need to do the best they can. He stated that more work needed to be done to find the inefficiencies elsewhere and put the priority with the teachers and in the classroom.

Mr. Bellows stated that he did not quite follow Mr. Larson's document, but he thought that the biggest point Mr. Warren had been trying to make was the difference between the school budgets of Lancaster and Northumberland and not so much the overall budget. He stated that the point was taken on the fact that there was a big difference between some of the line items between Northumberland and Lancaster that probably need further discussion. He stated that he had handed his fellow Board members a document from the Commonwealth of Virginia. He stated that it contained the required local effort for every school district in the Commonwealth and what was required of them versus what is actually paid by localities. He referred to Northumberland and Lancaster and stated that both counties were pretty close. He stated that both counties invested approximately 65 percent over the required local effort. He stated that the real deficit in education spending for the Commonwealth of Virginia was in Richmond. He stated that he took the document and wrote next to the schools that were contributing the lowest amounts that were required above the local effort and added the composite index next to those. He stated that, from that exercise, it can be seen that the schools that Virginia has deemed the most needy are the least funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia. He stated that it pointed out that the state has really shortchanged education in general. He stated that Virginia's own schools, by its own formula, that have been deemed the most needy were not being funded appropriately by the Commonwealth.

Mr. Larson asked how should they deal with that.

Mr. Bellows replied that pressure needed to be put on our elected officials in Richmond to properly fund education to 2018 levels and not leave it at the 2007 level. He stated that localities across the Commonwealth were doing their part, above and beyond what they were required to do, but the state was not doing its part and the data showed it.

Mr. Lee referred to Mr. Larson's document and stated that there was a big difference between \$59,578 and \$2,810,698 and stated that people take that information seriously.

Mr. Larson stated that he interpreted Mr. Warren's report to state that Lancaster County provided a high level of funding for the other categories and spent more than two million dollars than a comparable county and it should have better balance towards its schools. He stated that if Mr. Warren's figures were correct, then he would be absolutely right, but they were not correct.

Dr. Westbrook referred to Mr. Larson's document and asked why the debt service line item for Northumberland County showed a zero.

Mr. Larson replied because they put the debt service figure in the interdepartmental category.

Dr. Westbrook stated that Lancaster's debt service amount was listed at \$1,984,191. He stated that it was difficult for him to be handed something at the last minute and try to figure it out on the spot. He stated that the Board was supposed to be voting on the school budget and when this information was given at the last minute, he did not think it was fair.

Dr. Westbrook stated that Mr. Larson was right about what happened in the past with the schools and one of the superintendents made out like a fat rat because the chairman of that school board authorized a check and none of that was done correctly, but that was the past. He stated that it happened several superintendents ago. He stated that the County has a history of the school division not being led effectively, but now, in his opinion, it is. He stated that they have a superintendent who was the right person for the job, along with his staff.

Dr. Westbrook stated that the composite index was completely unfair and there were better ways to do it. He stated that he did a study on the subject. He stated that the formula required certain school divisions to pay over one hundred percent of their school budget and those were the ones that were the richest. He stated that, instead of fixing the formula, the state said nobody should have to pay over eighty percent. He stated that in the five things that are looked at, the County was in the bottom half of all five things. He stated that in the areas of true value of property, the adjusted gross income, retail sales, number of students in school and the size of the localities' population, we were in the bottom half. He stated that we subsidize the rich areas like Fairfax and Loudon Counties.

Mr. Larson stated that he had been looking at Lancaster County's budget for eighteen years and every single year the instruction category has always had unspent funds. He stated that was one of the points he wanted to make.

Mr. Bellows stated that he thought it had been a transparent budget process. He stated that they were at a time where both boards were working together better than they ever have. He stated that he fully supported the proposed school budget.

Mr. Palin referred to the past superintendent that had been mentioned by Mr. Larson and Dr. Westbrook. He stated that he thought the past superintendent had been done wrong. He stated that he had worked beside the man and the superintendent very seldom took vacation time and had very few sick days over the entire time that he served. He stated that the amount of funds that he appropriated for himself were funds that were deserved and funds that he had already earned. He stated that the reason the superintendent was charged was on a technicality and that was that the budget director had put some forms under him to sign and he did not examine the forms very closely and one of those forms contained his incorrect vacation amount. He stated that he wished he had said something sooner, but he would not keep quiet on it now.

Mr. Lee stated that, at the presentation of the original school budget, in which Mr. Gill, Mr. Larson and himself attended, the pay raise for the school employees was two percent. He stated that the pay raise changed to the 4.1 percent with a later version of the budget. He stated that the initial budget with the two percent raise was the version that he thought was closer to what he had in mind. He stated that Mr. Palin had worked some numbers that he would like to share.

Mr. Palin stated that there was an instructional increase of \$377,529 and he proposed that amount be divided in half to cut it back to the two percent pay raise versus four percent. He referred to the instructional support category-other director/manager at the amount of \$76,436, the improvement of instruction category-other director/manager at the amount of \$88,998 and the non-instructional category-Assistant Superintendent at the amount of \$45,650 and stated that he would like all of those amounts eliminated. He stated that he had questions on the figure of \$7,500 for the School Board, but they had been answered. He stated that with the decreases that he had proposed, the appropriation for the school budget would be \$16,444,191, which was an increase of \$140,034 over last year's appropriation.

Mr. Palin made a motion to Appropriate \$16,444,191 for the FY 19 Lancaster Public Schools Budget.

Mr. Lee stated that his question was about the Assistant Superintendent's salary and the various categories he was paid out of.

Dan Russell, the Assistant Superintendent, stated that if some of those cuts were made, his salary would be cut out. He stated that the special education position had been cut and that category was reduced.

Mr. Palin stated that he did see the reduction in special education.

Mr. Russell stated that not only would his salary be affected, but a few others as well. He stated that if specific line items were cut, then specific people were going to be cut. He stated that, because of the grants the schools receive, they have to move amounts around from the different categories, often making employee salaries split into more than one category.

Ms. Thomasson stated that she wanted to address Mr. Larson's comments about the former superintendent. She stated that there was a totally new School Board and no one now was on the board back then and she thought it was unfair to mention it. She referred to the cost per pupil difference between Northumberland and Lancaster and stated that Northumberland had efficiencies because they have all three schools in one area and share teachers between those three schools. She stated that Northumberland's schools are newer buildings as well.

Ms. Thomasson referred to the School Board salaries and stated that twelve or fourteen years ago, the board was making what was just allocated for this year, and decided to cut their salaries in half for some reason. She stated that the current School Board decided that because they were working as much as three nights a week during the school session that they bring the salaries back up to what they were many years ago.

Ms. Thomasson stated that the unexpended instruction funds that Mr. Larson mentioned were for positions that did not get filled and this year they do not have unfilled positions, so that money will not be coming back. She stated that when the Board of Supervisors tries to cut the school budget, they can cut by a category, but not by a line item. She stated that if they decide to give their teachers a four percent raise, then they will. She stated that the Board of Supervisors can tell them the amount of money they are going to appropriate, but they can't tell the School Board how to spend it.

Mr. Larson stated that nobody was trying to tell the School Board how to spend the money and he was happy with giving the schools a lump sum.

Ms. Thomasson stated that this School Board has been very transparent with the budget. She stated that they needed to be trusted that they were doing the best they could for the schools and the children. She stated that the two percent increase for teachers would put the County so far behind and then people wonder why the schools are not accredited.

Mr. Palin stated that in the past, he had always supported public schools and their budgets. He stated that this year, the Board of Supervisors was trying to balance the budget and they have to be fair across the board to everyone that comes to them. He stated that he was only speaking for himself, but he could not honestly say that he would be willing to vote for the total amount that the School Board was requesting.

Mr. Palin withdrew his motion and stated that he was not ready to vote.

Mr. Bellows made a motion to approve the FY 19 Lancaster Public Schools Budget as presented.

Dr. Westbrook stated that he had been doing a lot of thinking about forming a philosophy of how we tax people in the County and what we give back to them with their tax dollars. He stated that it had to do with defining the purpose of government. He stated that the purpose of government, in his opinion, was to provide the services and perform the functions for the people that they cannot do for themselves individually. He stated that those key responsibilities, in his opinion, include public safety, which includes emergency care for fire and health and public schools, period. He stated that the County was mandated to do other things, such as support the court system. He stated that Mr. Gill was kind enough to list the requested funding for all non-governmental organizations that come before the Board. He stated that when they talk about meeting our other obligations, some of what was talked about was traditionally funding those things that, in his opinion, have no business being funded by the County. He stated that the Board takes taxpayer money and pays the fundamental responsibilities that they have and then there is money left over. He stated that each of those organizations that were helped by the County can raise their own funds. He stated that there was \$959,140 requested of the County from non-governmental organizations. He stated that each organization was worthy, but he did not believe it was the purpose of government to take from the taxpayers and give to an organization that can fund itself.

Mr. Lee referred to Mr. Bellows' motion and stated that he had more concerns now and needed more clarification, but the motion was on the floor to accept the school budget as is.

Dr. Westbrook stated that the Board of Supervisors should have structured these meetings in a way that would solve this issue in time for the schools to issue the teacher contracts. He stated that they had a joint meeting and had time to ask all of the questions. He stated that there has also been a public hearing on the subject. He stated that they needed to trust the School Board. He stated that they do not overspend and he was in support of Mr. Bellows' motion.

Mr. Bellows stated that the schools have done their due diligence and a budget was an outline and not everything single thing was going to be perfect. He stated that the proposed school budget has been through a community vetting process. He stated that he thought the budget should be approved as the School Board has presented it.

Dr. Westbrook stated that they had the right to look at the County's tax structure very closely and tweak it. He stated that this problem could be solved this year. He stated that he thought they should raise the tax on vehicles and real estate and raise the relief effort for those individuals who cannot afford their real estate tax. He stated that they had the authority to do those things. He stated that they were going by artificial restraints that

they could not raise taxes, because people could not afford it and that was incorrect. He stated that people could afford it and if they need help, they can get the help.

Mr. Bellows stated that Mr. Lee's budget proposal from last week with a two percent pay increase and level funding for most things, except for the schools was a good option. He stated that the County was currently having its reassessments on real estate and though they do not know how that will go, the real estate market has been improving. He stated that one would think that the reassessments may increase a little and that would help the County out. He stated that, in his opinion, if they went with Mr. Lee's option, the Board would be okay not to raise the taxes this year and also be close to the goal for the reserve fund by using those figures. He stated that the figures came out with approximately a \$250,000 shortfall, but that would fall well within the amount of nearly a half million dollars under budget that they have been coming in at for the last few years.

Mr. Larson asked that just so he was clear, the motion on the table was to approve \$16,859,039 for the FY 19 school budget.

Mr. Bellows replied yes, as the School Board presented it.

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| VOTE: | William R. Lee | Nay |
| | Jason D. Bellows | Aye |
| | Jack D. Larson | Nay |
| | Ernest W. Palin, Jr. | Nay |
| | Robert S. Westbrook | Aye |

Motion Failed: 2-3

Mr. Lee stated that he would like to meet again next week and the Board could bring any concerns to be worked out at that time.

Dr. Westbrook asked if the Board of Supervisors could approve the instructional category, so that teacher contracts could be offered.

Mr. Bellows stated that, if the instructional category was approved, they might as well approve the entire budget.

Dr. Westbrook stated that they continue to push back the time period and have had ample time to have any questions asked and answered.

Mr. Palin stated that he had made a motion earlier, but since then has found out more information and was not ready to cast his vote.

Ms. Thomasson stated that one of the things that was asked of the Board of Supervisors was if the schools could carryover any unspent funding. She stated that they could use some of that money for recruiting and training the teachers. She stated that she would like a vote on that subject.

Mr. Lee asked if she was speaking of the funds that would normally be turned back to the County.

Ms. Thomasson replied yes.

Mr. Lee stated that he thought she had said earlier that there would be no funds left over this year.

Ms. Thomasson replied that it would be a minimal amount, not like in past years.

Dr. Parker stated that the revenues amount listed in the school budget were based on the Governor's proposed budget, because they have nothing out of the General Assembly yet. He stated that there was \$75 million dollars in at risk add-ons that are taken out of both the House and the Senate version of the budget and added in lottery funding. He stated that his school district stands to lose up to \$280,000 in state revenue depending on what comes out of the General Assembly. He stated that was another reason why they wanted to carryover funds that had not been spent.

Dr. Westbrook stated that he had asked the Treasurer about placing the carryover funds in a VML fund, which has a good interest rate. He stated that he did not know whether it was her decision or the Board's decision about where those funds could be placed.

Mr. Bellows stated that he would like some more clarity about it before he made a decision on the carryover funds.

Mr. Lee and Mr. Palin agreed.

The consensus of the Board of Supervisors was that the next budget work session would be held on Monday, April 23rd at 6:00 p.m.

Consideration of Non-Governmental Requests

Mr. Lee stated that he thought they could come to a consensus about the volunteer fire departments. He stated that, in his opinion, they should be funded at the requested amounts.

There was a consensus that the volunteer fire departments would be funded at the requested amounts.

Mr. Lee stated that the next request was for the volunteer rescue squads at \$115,500.

Mr. Larson stated that the Board was being told that the County may have to purchase an ambulance for the Upper Lancaster Volunteer Rescue Squad. He stated that they might want to apply some of the requested funds towards the purchase of a new ambulance.

Mr. Gill stated that the Planning Commission was holding a public hearing on the Capital Improvement Budget tonight and the requested ambulance was one of those items.

Mr. Larson stated that they could approve the requested amount and adjust it during the appropriation process and that would be what he would propose.

Mr. Gill stated that they have applied for a grant for the ambulance and if the grant was approved, it would be an 80/20 split and the twenty percent would be paid with local funds.

There was no change made on the volunteer rescue squads request.

Mr. Gill referred to the next item, which was the Peninsula Emergency Medical Services Council. He stated that they correspond with regional response to disasters and it has been typically funded in the past. He stated that Chief McGregor would have to speak to this item on any details.

The consensus was to leave that item as it stood for now.

Mr. Gill referred to the Med-Flight request and stated that it was not funded last year. He stated that item was through the Chesterfield Emergency Services and they request money every year.

The consensus was to not fund the Med-Flight request.

Mr. Gill referred to the Free Health Clinic request and stated that they were asking for an increase of \$20,391. He stated that they were level funded last year.

Mr. Larson proposed either \$90,000 for the Free Health Clinic or as a compromise, level funding of \$100,477.

Mr. Bellows stated that he would support level funding for the clinic.

Mr. Palin and Mr. Lee agreed.

The consensus was to have level funding for the Free Health Clinic in the amount of \$100,477 for FY 19.

Mr. Gill referred to Bay Aging and stated that they were requesting level funding, as was Bay Transit.

Mr. Bellows stated that he would keep them as is.

Mr. Larson proposed a \$10,000 contribution for Bay Aging and a \$45,000 contribution for Bay Transit.

Mr. Palin stated that Bay Aging and Bay Transit help our lower economic class and he would not want to cut their contributions. He stated that both of those organizations do a lot for the County and some people use the service to get to work and other important things.

Mr. Lee stated that he understood what Mr. Palin was saying, but he was in agreement with Mr. Larson about the figures.

Dr. Westbrook stated that he did not know whether Bay Aging or Bay Transit has the ability to raise their own funds. He stated that no one wants to be unfair to people who need all the help they can get. He stated that it would be a good start to go with what Mr. Larson said and see how it goes.

The consensus was to fund \$10,000 to Bay Aging and \$45,000 to Bay Transit.

Mr. Gill referred to the request from Versability and stated that was the former Puller Center from the Middle Peninsula and they have been requesting \$2,000 every year. He stated that they were not funded last year.

The consensus was to not fund the Versability request for \$2,000.

Mr. Gill referred to the Legal Aid Works request of \$5,600 and stated that they have been level funded for several years.

Dr. Westbrook stated that Legal Aid Works had a balance sheet that showed quite a lot of money. He suggested that they not be funded.

The consensus was to not fund the Legal Aid Works request this year.

Mr. Gill stated that the next item was the Haven Crisis Shelter and they do a lot of work for battered women. He stated that they were requesting level funding of \$4,000.

The consensus was to fund the Haven Crisis Shelter for \$4,000.

Mr. Gill referred to the next item which was Virginia Quality Life, the parent organization that got the local YMCA started. He stated that the requested amount of \$10,000 was to be used for maintenance of the buildings.

Mr. Larson stated that he could not support the request from Virginia Quality Life. He stated that he wondered why some of the buildings' tenants were not being charged for a lease and the County should be done with it. He stated that they never knew how the money was exactly being used.

Dr. Westbrook stated that it was almost like double dipping. He stated that Virginia Quality Life came into being because several organizations had the same efforts being made to the community and those several organizations are already on the list that they are reviewing now.

The consensus was to not fund Virginia Quality Life for FY 19.

Mr. Gill referred to the Boys and Girls Club and stated that they have asked for a \$20,000 increase over last year's contribution of \$55,000.

Mr. Larson proposed that they fund the Boys and Girls Club the amount of \$35,000, which was the amount they initially received when they came into being. He stated that the organization has a very attractive balance sheet.

The consensus was to contribute \$35,000 to the Boys and Girls Club for FY 19.

Mr. Gill referred to the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce's request of \$1275 and stated that amount was for dues and some money for the annual Christmas parade.

Mr. Bellows suggested level funding for the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Westbrook stated that the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce was made up of the local businesses. He asked why does the County help them, instead of the business members.

Mr. Larson agreed.

The consensus was to not fund the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce for FY 19.

Mr. Gill referred to the request from Rappahannock Community College and stated that the request this year of \$7,242 was a reduction from last year's contribution.

The consensus was to fund the Rappahannock Community College's request for FY 19.

Mr. Gill referred to the request from the YMCA of \$75,000 and stated that has been the request every year since 2003.

Mr. Lee asked if the contract between the County and the YMCA had been reviewed.

Mr. Gill replied that he had reviewed the contract from 2003 and a good argument could be made that it was invalid.

Dr. Westbrook stated that, as he understood it, that agreement with the YMCA came about because the County did not have a Parks and Recreation Department. He stated that the YMCA was a national organization and well able to raise its own funds. He stated that he thought \$75,000 was excessive and the organization charges its members to use the facility. He stated that he thought the Board should start weaning the YMCA off.

Mr. Lee stated that the County budget was set at \$50,000 for Parks and Recreation and that was how the figure came about. He stated that the original contract was for \$50,000 and then it was increased to \$75,000 when the YMCA took over the Lively pool.

Dr. Westbrook stated that the County has just purchased land that would be suitable for new schools and a County park.

Mr. Palin stated that the YMCA does a lot for our young people.

Dr. Westbrook stated that it would continue to help the young people. He stated that the YMCA was a national organization and can raise its own money.

Mr. Lee suggested going back to the original amount of \$50,000.

The consensus was to contribute \$50,000 to the YMCA for FY 19.

Mr. Gill stated that the next item was for the Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library. He stated that there were two line items. He stated that the first item was the electrical expense of \$1400 for the County buildings across the road and the second item was for \$28,000, which included a \$25,000 contribution to the renovation of the Chilton House for a future museum/library. He stated that they have requested \$25,000 per year for three years for a grand total of \$75,000 towards the renovation costs of the Chilton House.

Mr. Bellows suggested level funding and put the \$25,000 item on the Capital Improvement Budget.

Mr. Larson stated that he thought more research needed to be done. He stated that he thought the organization had a lump sum payment at the end of five years for the Chilton House. He stated that no money has been put forward on it yet. He stated that the County could find itself in a position where the Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library doesn't raise the money to buy the building, then three years from now, they will use the \$75,000 from the County to buy the building and then all they will have is what is over there right now.

Mr. Gill stated that he did not think placing the museum request on the Capital Improvement Budget was appropriate because the County would not own the Chilton House.

Mr. Larson stated that was another good point.

Dr. Westbrook asked what was wrong with asking them to raise their own money and then possibly helping them out at the end.

The consensus was to fund the Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library's request at \$1400 for the electrical expense and \$3,000 for the additional contribution.

Mr. Gill referred to the Lancaster Community Library and stated that they were requesting level funding of \$112,995. He stated that they received an increase of \$10,000 in FY 18. He stated that the local contribution was tied into the state contribution with the library.

Mr. Lee stated that, in the supporting documentation, it reads that a cut in the County allocation to the library can result in the loss of funds of about \$100,000.

Dr. Westbrook stated that he had heard that if the County contributed \$100,000, then the state would contribute \$100,000, but he was not sure about that.

Mr. Bellows suggested level funding for the library.

Mr. Palin stated that he was in favor of level funding for the library and they serve all areas of our population.

Mr. Lee stated that the library serves a good diversity of citizens.

Mr. Larson stated that he received a solicitation to donate to the library yesterday and he will make a donation, but this was another example of an organization that can raise funds on its own.

Dr. Westbrook suggested an \$80,000 contribution.

The consensus was to level fund the Lancaster Community Library at \$112,995 for FY 19.

Mr. Gill referred to the Youth Club of Lancaster County, also known as Dreamfields, and stated that they were requesting level funding of \$10,000. He stated that all of the high school baseball and softball games are played there, as well as all of the little league activities.

Mr. Bellows stated that Dreamfields was a good investment and if the County had to pay for its own facilities, it would be in the millions.

The consensus was to level fund the Youth Club of Lancaster County in the amount of \$10,000 for FY 19.

Mr. Gill referred to the Virginia River Realm Branding item and stated that both Lancaster and Middlesex counties, along with the Town of Kilmarnock and the Town of Urbanna were partners in this effort. He stated that the annual requested amount has been \$25,000 since its inception.

Mr. Bellows stated that he supported level funding. He stated that it had been a very good initiative and was just starting to pay off.

Mr. Palin agreed.

Mr. Larson stated that the only problems he had with the request were that the businesses should be supporting this initiative more than they do and there should be more localities supporting it and they are not.

Mr. Bellows stated that the branding item was the only amount of money in the entire budget that they spend on marketing for the County and he thought it was a good expenditure. He stated that he agreed with Mr. Larson, that others should be involved, but the fact that they are not was their loss.

The consensus was to level fund the Virginia River Realm Branding at \$25,000 for FY 19.

Mr. Gill stated that the next item was a new item. He stated that the previous Board endorsed this concept and it was called Pamunkey Net Broadband. He stated that it was about getting the Pamunkey Indian Tribe into the broadband business. He stated that Indian tribes were able to tap into federal dollars that other jurisdictions cannot. He stated that the Middle Peninsula Alliance was pushing this effort and they have asked the counties of Lancaster and Richmond to join in. He stated that the prior Board of Supervisors wanted to do this and a \$4,000 donation was being requested.

Mr. Lee stated that it was his understanding that someone was supposed to make a presentation to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Gill stated that Liz Povar would be happy to speak to the Board on the subject.

Mr. Lee asked Dr. Westbrook how this would work with the broadband committee.

Dr. Westbrook replied that the committee had just met for the first time yesterday and were starting to get organized.

Mr. Bellows stated that he was okay with leaving the item in there, but he did not want to see the funds expended until they knew more about what the funds were being used for.

Mr. Larson stated that he thought it should come out of the budget completely. He stated that they were trying to make a point.

Mr. Gill stated that he could arrange a presentation for the Pamunkey Net Broadband, so the Board would know more about the subject.

The consensus was to table the request for the Pamunkey Net Broadband for \$4,000.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lee made a motion to adjourn the meeting to Monday, April 23, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

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| VOTE: | William R. Lee | Aye |
| | Jason D. Bellows | Aye |
| | Jack D. Larson | Aye |
| | Ernest W. Palin, Jr. | Aye |
| | Robert S. Westbrook | Aye |