

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WAS HELD ON THE 15TH DAY OF MARCH IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IN NEW KENT, VIRGINIA, AT 8:30 A.M.

IN RE: CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order.

IN RE: ROLL CALL

Thomas W. Evelyn	Present
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Present
James H. Burrell	Absent
Ron Stiers	Present
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Present

All members were present with the exception of Mr. Burrell who had a prior commitment.

IN RE: HISTORIC SCHOOL USE

Chairman Davis announced that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the feasibility and ramifications of renovating the Historic School buildings to use as classrooms.

Mr. Evelyn explained that he had concerns about the request for a third elementary school at a cost of \$28 million, an estimate that did not include the land or site work and could impact the real estate tax rate by eight to ten cents. He spoke about the increased use of mobile classrooms (at a current cost of \$85,000 each) that did not address overcrowding in the cafeterias. He suggested that the County look at renovating both of the Historic School buildings as classrooms for fourth and fifth graders (between 400 and 500 students), which would keep the County from having to build another school in the near future.

Mr. Davis commented that Mr. Evelyn's recommendation made sense, but reminded that the School Board, and not the Board of Supervisors, was responsible for building schools.

Mr. Evelyn advised that he had talked with all of the School Board members individually, as well as the Superintendent, and everyone seemed receptive to the idea. He spoke about the importance of all parties working together in order for this to happen. He reported that he had mentioned the option at a recent District One community meeting and there had been a very positive response.

Mr. Davis asked about the cost to renovate the buildings for classrooms. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway advised that he hoped it could be done for under \$10 million. Mr. Evelyn reminded that there were already funds allocated for renovation of the buildings and he was hopeful that this work could be done with little or no tax impact to the citizens.

Mr. Davis reminded that a portion of one of those buildings was under renovations for office space for the School Board. Mr. Evelyn offered some alternatives, including some empty office space in the Maidstone development that would be less expensive than new construction.

Mr. Davis asked about plans to move the Heritage Library into a building on the Historic School campus. Mr. Evelyn agreed that the County needed to help the Library find new space, but he felt classroom space was a priority.

Mr. Stiers described an empty building for sale on South Courthouse Road, right at the New Kent / Charles City line that could accommodate a joint library for both counties. He indicated that there was a contract on the building that might not close because of financing. He remarked that something needed to be done for the Library before its current lease expired in January 2015.

It was confirmed that the proposed renovation for classroom space would not affect the Annex, which currently housed Parks & Recreation and the Virginia Cooperative Extension offices. Parks & Recreation Director Kim Turner reported that converting the Historic School buildings would not negatively impact her operations.

Following discussion, there was consensus for Mr. Evelyn and Mr. Hathaway to meet with the School Board at its upcoming meeting to discuss the matter.

The Board was reminded that it was scheduled to have a joint meeting with the School Board at its work session on March 27, at which time a deed adjusting the boundary line between the Historic School campus and New Kent Elementary School was scheduled for consideration.

IN RE: CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Tiller moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711A.7 of the Code of Virginia for consultation with legal counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
James H. Burrell	Absent
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried. The Board went into closed session.

Mr. Evelyn moved to return to open session. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
James H. Burrell	Absent
Ron Stiers	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

Mr. Tiller made the following certification:

Whereas, the New Kent County Board of Supervisors has convened in 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 Board that such closed session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

Now there be it resolved that the Board hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open session requirements by Virginia law were discussed in closed session 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 Board.

The Chairman inquired whether there was any member who believed that there was a departure from the motion. Hearing none, the members were polled on the certification:

James H. Burrell	Absent
Ron Stiers	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Stiers distributed information on Student Transportation of America, Inc., a company that contracted with schools nationwide to provide bus service and guaranteed a savings of between 10% and 12%. He indicated that he had provided the information to the School Superintendent. He noted that New Kent currently spent \$2.2 million on student transportation and remarked that the County needed to seriously look at this as a way to cut taxes.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Evelyn moved to adjourn the meeting. The members were polled:

Ron Stiers	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
James H. Burrell	Absent
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.