

The Amherst County School Board met for a joint meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, in the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Alan J. Wood, Chairman, Amherst County School Board
Patricia C. Massie, Vice Chairman, Amherst County School Board
Alan H. Bumgarner
W. Michael Henderson
Priscilla M. Liggon
Randy V. Summers

ABSENT: Elizabeth G. Gamble

PRESENT: Don Kidd, Chairman, Amherst County Board of Supervisors
David Pugh, Vice Chairman, Amherst County Board of Supervisors
Robert Curd
John Marks

ABSENT: Claudia Tucker

Mr. Kidd, Chairman of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors, called the meeting to order, asked Mr. Marks to give the invocation, and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Wood, Chairman of the Amherst County School Board, called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the December 16, 2014, School Board agenda.

Mr. Marks asked why the Amherst County Public Schools cannot get their own funding.

Mr. Kooch, a representative of Davenport & Company stated he hoped to answer the questions during the presentation.

Upon motion by Mr. Summers, seconded by Mrs. Massie and unanimously carried, the members of the School Board approved the agenda of the December 16, 2014, joint meeting between the Amherst County Board of Supervisors and Amherst County School Board.

Mr. Kidd asked for approval of the agenda with the changes he stated.

Mr. Pugh made a motion to approve the December 16, 2014 agenda of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors as amended. The motion was approved.

Mr. Kidd asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Mr. Frank Campbell, citizen, addressed the Board regarding the following:

- Supported the appropriation for roof replacement and repairs for schools
- Asked if real estate bills could be consolidated on one piece of paper instead of sending out multiple mailings
- Why are taxes not prorated for personal property in Amherst County

Ms. Cynthia Foulke, citizen, addressed the Board concerning why do residents outside of the Town of Amherst who are on town water pay twice the amount for water as the town residents pay. In

addition, why do residents have to pay for trash service when the service is not being utilized? Ms. Foulke stated the trash service for residents outside of the county was also twice the amount. Ms. Foulke shared with members of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors rate comparisons for water and trash rates.

Mr. Kidd introduced Mr. Roland Kooch and Mr. Ted Cole, representatives from Davenport & Company. Mr. Kooch and Mr. Cole presented information to the Boards regarding a detailed analysis of the Amherst County's existing tax supported debt profile.

The presentation included:

- Analyzing a series of key financial ratios to better understand the County's existing debt profile and future debt capacity
- Provided the county staff and Amherst County Board of Supervisors with a perspective on "affordability" of existing and potential future debt service
- Examined a series of peer comparatives to understand how the County's existing debt profile compares against national and Virginia counties
- Analyzed a series of energy conservation measures as they relate to the County's debt capacity and debt affordability
- Developed a series of alternatives related to funding the County's and Schools energy conservation measures
- How does the County pay for the debt.

The full Davenport & Company report is on file in the County Administrators Office.

Mr. Wood stated based on the information provided by Davenport & Company there was a financial model that shows how the Ameresco projects might be funded. Mr. Wood stated the Amherst County School Board would like the Amherst County Board of Supervisors to consider Option 3 of the Ameresco proposal. The model includes utilizing savings in energy as well as decline in future debt payments over the next several years to help pay for the projects.

Mr. Wood stated he attended the 5:30 p.m. work session earlier in the evening. There were many good questions asked at the work session and the questions need to be resolved before a final decision was made on the Ameresco projects.

Dr. Nichols expressed appreciation to the Amherst County Board of Supervisors for reviewing and considering the projects. Dr. Nichols stated the maintenance department would continue to make sure all of the maintenance services are completed on the equipment as recommended.

Mr. Kidd asked if Davenport & Company could address the question Mr. Marks asked earlier in the evening with regards to why Amherst County Public Schools cannot get their own funding.

Mr. Kooch stated most financial companies require the governing body to take action on the debt service obligations.

Mr. Pugh expressed concern in utilizing the general fund to balance the budget.

Mr. Curd asked if there was any benefit in paying the construction cost for the Goodwin Building from the General Fund.

Mr. Kooch stated paying for the construction at the Goodwin Building from the general fund would be a viable option if the Board of Supervisors wished to utilize those funds in that manner.

Mr. Pugh noted that Elon Elementary School's roof was not included in the Ameresco proposal.

Mr. Cocke stated the roof replacement for Elon Elementary School had not been included in the proposal.

Mr. Pugh stated he would prefer to complete the roof repairs and maintenance in a priority order instead of replacing all of the roofs at one time.

Mr. Kidd expressed appreciation to the Amherst County School Board for joining the Amherst County Board of Supervisors in the joint meeting.

No decision was made during the joint meeting on whether or not Amherst County was going to proceed with the Ameresco projects.

Upon motion by Mrs. Massie, seconded by Mr. Bumgarner and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.



Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk
Amherst County Public Schools



Alan J. Wood, Chairman
Amherst County Public Schools