

At the budget work session of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 11:00 AM, in the Giles County Administration Office, 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg, the following were present unless noted absent:

Richard McCoy	Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
Paul "Chappy" Baker	Vice-Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
Jeff Morris	Central District
Perry Martin	Eastern District
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Western District
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
Catherine Ballard	Finance Director - Absent
Richard Chidester	County Attorney
Missy Bray	Board Secretary

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. McCoy called the work session to order.

## **BUDGET WORK SESSION**

Mr. McKlarney outlined anticipated revenues and expenditures of the draft FY 2022 budget. He presented information on the cost for a proposed increase to custodial salaries given the recent increase in the minimum wage. Members discussed options and cost, and they concurred with the proposed increase in custodial salaries as outlined.

Members discussed possible changes in the recreation portion of the budget, and Mr. Martin provided usage numbers of the park at Newport as well as the intended uses for the potential funding increase. Mr. McKlarney gave an overview of other parks and their improvements. Members discussed if it would be best to add funding or move the funding to balance out that portion of the budget. Mr. McKlarney advised an increase to that section, and he would not suggest taking funding from other parks. Mr. McCoy suggested looking at some type of usage formula for future funding. Members concurred that Newport Park should be brought up to the same level as others such as Pembroke. Mr. McKlarney reported Mountain Lake is going to be getting grants park improvements, and Mr. Todd Robertson has indicated he would match those grants. Members discussed decal fees as well as the possibility of using CARES Act funding to assist first responders with lost revenues. Mr. McKlarney indicated he should receive guidelines for the funding soon and will send a summary out to members.

## **SPLIT PRECINCT LEGISLATION**

Mr. Chidester reported the General Assembly had made changes to the Code in an attempt to discourage split precincts, and he indicated the legislation does not mention towns at all. He outlined current precincts and related ELECT had sent out information to the local Registrar, Ms. Donna Altizer, that any precinct which has county and town voters is considered split. Mr. Chidester provided information on a conversation he had

with the office, which resulted in he and Ms. Altizer recommending a letter be sent to the State Board of Electors explaining the County's stance on the guidance and there being no need for a waiver. Mr. Chidester provided a copy of the letter and requested approval for the letter to be sent to the State Board of Electors.

***Mr. Baker motioned to approve sending the letter to the State Board of Electors as presented. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris***

## **VDOT PROJECTS**

Mr. McKlarney indicated Mr. David Clarke has asked if the county would be willing to procure the environmental on some of the pending projects. The county would procure for the environmental, then bill VDOT for the costs. Members discussed aspects of the environmental reviews and concurred that Mr. McKlarney could move forward with it. Mr. McKlarney indicated Mr. Clarke had hinted at looking at other options for the low water bridge on Patteson Ford, so the bridge would not have to be maintained in the future. He advised he will let members know more on that as it develops. Members discussed options. Mr. McKlarney stated the estimated cost to repair the bridge is \$2 million and replacement cost is estimated at \$21 million.

## **LINK PROPERTY**

Mr. McCoy related the Link property would be coming back to the Planning Commission relating to the changes at the trailer court. He indicated Mr. Link would like to see what the possibility is of changing it so people would not be driving through the existing lot. Mr. McCoy requested members waive the permitting fee for the change, due to the current permit being recently issued and paid. Members discussed the issue and request.

***Mr. Martin motioned to waive the fee for Mr. Link's zoning permit in regard to the changes to the previous permit. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris***

Mr. John Ross provided members with documents to review for the next meeting relating to the Newport zoning map and public utilities definitions and uses.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATOR**

Mr. McKlarney reported the funds are in the budget for the emergency services coordinator if member choose to hire someone, adding the salary would be somewhere in the \$60,000 range. Members discussed the position, the need for it, and the responsibilities and roles of the position. Mr. McKlarney noted needed improvements that could be made with someone in a full-time position.

***Mr. Baker made a motion to advertise and hire for an emergency services coordinator. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris***

## **ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2021, at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

**APPROVED:**

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**Chair**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk**