

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

MARCH 23, 2021

At a Worksession of the Orange County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, beginning at 4:30 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Gordon Building, 112 West Main Street, Orange, Virginia. Present: James P. Crozier, Chairman; R. Mark Johnson, Vice Chairman; James K. White; and Lee H. Frame. Absent: Keith F. Marshall. Also present: Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator; Thomas E. Lacheney, County Attorney; and Alyson A. Simpson, Chief Deputy Clerk.

RE: IN-HOUSE COUNTY ASSESSMENT

Stephanie Straub, Assistant to the County Administrator, presented research regarding the potential establishment of an in-house Assessment Department. She reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, which included information on the following: data from comparable communities; staffing levels; operating budgets; assigned duties; physical inspection cycles; and reassessment cycles.

Discussion ensued among the Board regarding: the balance of duties and functions in an Assessment Department; the breakdown of physical inspections across the reassessment cycles; the "sticker shock" of citizens when waiting four to six years to implement physical and market changes; acceptable processes to conduct a reassessment; the need to be able to explain the reassessment process to citizens; whether a more automated way existed to conduct a reassessment; whether there was an ability to capture additional revenue with more frequent reassessments; use of building permit data to collect changes; the ideal number of staff necessary to conduct a reassessment; and understanding the minimum requirements of the Code of Virginia.

By consensus, the Board requested that staff gather additional information regarding the potential establishment of an in-house Assessment Department and present the information at a future meeting.

RE: ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the Board concluded its Worksession and continued to its Regular Meeting at 5:04 p.m.

James P. Crozier, Chairman

Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator