At a regular public meeting of the Southampton County Board of Supervisors held in the Commons at Southampton High School, 23350 Southampton Parkway, Courtland, Virginia on October 27, 2020. 6:00 p.m. Meeting live streamed and archived on the County website.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT
Dr. Alan W. Edwards, Chairman (Jerusalem District)
William Hart Gillette, Vice Chairman (Capron District)
Christopher D. Cornwell, Sr. (Berlin/Ivor District)
Carl J. Faison (Boykins/Branchville District)
Dallas O. Jones (Drewryville District)
Lynda T. Updike (Newsoms District)
Robert White (Franklin District)

SUPERVISORS ABSENT
None

OTHERS PRESENT
Michael W. Johnson, County Administrator (Clerk)
Lynette Lowe, Deputy County Administrator/Chief Financial Officer
Susan Wright, IT Director
Beth Lewis, Planning Director
Nora C. Atkins, Administrative Assistant
Richard E. Railey, Jr., County Attorney
Josh Wyche, Sr., Southampton County Sheriff, and deputies

OTHERS ABSENT
None

Chairman Alan Edwards calls the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and says, welcome, people, to the Southampton County Board of Supervisors' October meeting. It's good to see so many people here. Let's now arise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.

Chairman Edwards says, can we now have a volunteer from the audience that would lead us in a short invocation? A short prayer to lead the meeting, anybody?

Mr. Warren Simmons comes forward.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you, sir.

Mr. Simmons gives the invocation.

Chairman Edwards says to the Board, gentlemen, we'll entertain a motion. We've got to make a little switch in the program tonight.

Supervisor William Hart Gillette says, I move that we make one change in the agenda by moving the item 12c. Again, this item which is covering the CARES Act funding. I make a motion that we do so.

Supervisor Robert White says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, second. Any discussion? [No response.] All in favor say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE

Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, motion accepted. We will move that up. This is 12C, the CARES Act Funding (update 10/27/2020). And I'll turn that over to Mike [Johnson] and invite our sheriff who is here tonight.

Sheriff Josh Wyche comes forward.

Chairman Edwards says, we want to get you guys back out on the road protecting us, okay?

Sheriff Wyche says, that'll be fine. Good evening, Mr. Chairman, all the Board members, and to the citizens that came out to tonight's meeting. I'm Sheriff Josh A. Wyche, Sr., and I would like to address the Board in reference to the current CARES Act funding on tonight's agenda. After some discussion with the County Administrator, Mike Johnson, and Supervisors Gillette and Cornwell of the 452 Committee, I understand that they will be presenting the plan to the Board tonight for suggestions on spending the remaining fund awarded to the county through the Community Cares federal CARES Act. Of particular interest to me and to my deputies is allowing funds to extend its hazardous pay for essential county workers. I'm here tonight on behalf of the deputies seated in this room – standing in this room – and those who were not able to make it to speak in favor of all those allocations of these funds as hazardous pay. These men and women have worked throughout the pandemic – answering calls for service, responding to motor vehicle accidents, enforcing traffic laws, making arrests, and keeping the peace in Southampton County. They did all this on a 24-hour per day, 7-days a week basis, while many other government agencies and business either closed completely, closed to the public contact, or allowed their employees to begin working from home. Health officials say, "Don't travel unnecessarily." Our deputies are stopping reckless drivers on Route 58 from states all over the country.

Sheriff Wyche continues, health officials warned against being around large groups. Our deputies are responding to fights in progress with a group of onlookers, estimated to be 80 persons. We are warned to avoid unnecessary contact with people, visiting friends and family. I definitely responded to citizens' homes all over the county to settle disputes and disturbances and to investigate burglaries, larcenies, and other crimes. Our deputies have been providing the same quality around-the-clock coverage and responsibility they did before the pandemic began to affect the Commonwealth of Virginia. This is what the citizens of our county expect, and it is what they deserve. Our deputies have done this without a complaint, normally putting themselves around people in a situation where they are vulnerable to coming in contact with COVID-19 and taking the disease home to their families and becoming ill themselves. Private businesses and other government agencies began distributing hazardous pay this year after realizing the sacrifices that some employees were making on a day-to-day basis that they face in order to keep those businesses and government agencies running during the pandemic.

Sheriff Wyche says, this hazardous pay is an excellent way to show support to our men and women that have kept this county running, by showing up and doing their jobs every day even when others have had the option out. This will be an incredible morale booster, doing what can only be described as a very difficult year. This hazardous pay will be coming from the federal grant fund that has already been awarded to Southampton County and will have to be returned by December 30th if it is not used. Our agency has received much love and support from the community. We were served all year long in the form of donations of snacks, drinks, meals, cards, and even a simple thank you for what you do from the occasional person we encounter in our daily travels. This vote for hazardous pay is a way for the Board to say thank you to these deputies and other who were qualified, and I encourage you to do so. Please vote yes to this proposal for hazardous pay when this will be presented later in tonight's meeting. Thank you.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you, Sheriff.

Sheriff Wyche says, thank you.

Chairman Edwards asks, anybody have any questions? [No response.] Thank you very much, sir. Okay, this amounts to the CARES Act funding of a maximum of $158,400 will be used to provide hazard pay for 108 full-time employees and 48 part-time. And I will turn that over to Mr. Johnson if he'd like to add anything.

Mr. Mike Johnson says, thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you all know, Supervisors Gillette and Cornwell have been meeting with county departments and agencies since, I guess, June/July. They met on a number of occasions to try to develop a plan for use of the federal CARES Act money. You all may remember back in August, you approved to plan for the use of a majority of that money. The total amount of money granted by the federal government to Southampton County was a little more than $3 million. Of that $3 million, $225,500 in round numbers is appropriated to the six towns in Southampton County. You all appropriated $1.65 million to Southampton County Public Schools back in August, the majority of which was used by the school system to assist with virtual learning. You also set aside $600,000 for Southampton County Fire and Rescue. You've got a breakdown in your packet tonight on how much each volunteer fire department and rescue squad has received. A majority of that money is used for a replacement of self-contained breathing apparatus units. There is one ambulance that's being purchased by Courtland Volunteer Rescue Squad in that amount as well. You set aside $100,000 back in August for business grants. That grant program is still open. Franklin-Southampton Economic Development is administering that program and accepting the applications. I think that closes out this Friday. We set aside $75,000 for purchase of PPE and building modifications of county buildings. And then you set aside a little more than $26,000 for telework purchase of laptop computers and those kinds of things for employees that have the ability to do that.

Mr. Johnson continues, that left in round numbers about $400,000 and the committee indicated that they would come back to you all tonight at your October meeting with a plan for the use of that last $400,000. So you see it tonight in the packet. There are really five things on the list. The first one is the purchase of security cameras for the Southampton County office center and the Community Development building to assist with contact tracing. The second is for some plumbing modifications in the Department of Social Services to allow them to install a washer and dryer to be used to launder foster children's clothes when they bring foster children in through that agency. Also on the list is funding for the Sheriff's Office to purchase some thermal scanners, laptop computers, and fogging equipment for disinfection. And then there's also two school buses on the list at the cost of $217,000.

Mr. Johnson explains, what the Sheriff was referring to is the hazard pay for the essential hazard duty employees. Dr. Edwards hit on this a minute ago. The hazard pay would be provided $1200 one-time pre-tax payment for 108 full-time employees that qualify as essential hazard duty employees. There would be $600 one-time payments for 48 part-time employees that also qualify as essential hazard duty. $300 for 61 full-time employees that do not qualify as essential hazard duty employees but have been working through the pandemic nonetheless, and then $150 for 3 part-time employees that do not qualify as essential hazard duty employees. It's important to recognize that hazard duty employees are defined as people who perform essential functions deemed necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Southampton County citizens. The functions of their duties must be provided face-to-face. The workers do not have the ability to isolate themselves or assure adequate social distance from other employees or the public due to the nature of their assigned tasks. The purpose of hazard pay is intended to recognize the jeopardy and peril that these county employees have encountered while performing their duties during the pandemic. The total amount of funding that would come from the CARES Act that Dr. Edwards mentioned a minute ago is $158,400 and that covers all of those employees defined as hazard duty employees. For the employees that are not hazard duty employees, the funding would come from your unappropriated general fund reserve that would amount to a maximum of $18,750. So with that, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to offer that as the recommendation from the committee and seek your consideration and a motion to approve the recommendations that I've just outlined. And there's also at your places tonight a resolution which authorizes the hazard pay for county employees who perform work during the COVID-19. And then, thank you.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you. Does anybody have any questions? [No response.] Do I hear a motion from the Board?

Supervisor Dallas Jones says, I so move.

Supervisor Carl Faison says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, there is a second. I don't think this needs any further discussion. [To Sheriff Wyche and the deputies] You guys are worth a lot more than $158,000 and we appreciate every one of you.

Chairman Edwards says to the Board, all those in favor of the motion say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards says, opposed? [No response.] It is passed.

Supervisor Jones says to Sheriff Wyche and the deputies, thank you all.

Audience applauds the sheriff and deputies. Most of the deputies then exit the meeting.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, I guess we are ready to get back to the regular meeting here. The next thing on the agenda is the Citizen Comment period. If you would like to speak on any county business, just come forward and give your name and address.

Ms. Orris Lane comes forward and says, good afternoon, everyone. My name is Orris Lane. I live on 26315 Shady Brook Trail. You've seen me before. I'm the person who's concerned about the traffic going down 671, and I had the pleasure of going to the Citizens Transportation board meeting the first of the month. It was a very informational meeting. I enjoyed it very much. Mr. Michael Johnson was very helpful to me in understanding things about what's going on in my county. There are three other areas that have concerns such as mine. And he gave us a lot of PowerPoints and prints and everything that was associated with those areas. I thank him for that. But I had to inform my residents of what I'm doing, so I sent them out a second letter, and I would like to read that second letter if you don't mind.

Ms. Lane continues, it says that at the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee meeting that was held on October 1st, this committee recommended that the Board of Supervisors put a "No Thru Truck" designation on Shady Brook Trail. This recommendation will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at their next regular meeting on October 27, 2020 at 6:00 in Southampton High School. Before the Board may consider the recommendation, state law requires them to advertise and hold a public hearing. On October 27, Mr. Johnson, county supervisor, will be seeking the Board's approval to schedule the required public hearing on Thursday, November 24, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., also in the high school. Following that public hearing, the Board may adopt an official resolution making the formal request to VDOT. At that point, VDOT has nine months to study and respond to the formal request.

Ms. Lane says, first, I would like to thank the members of the Board of Supervisors this night to show continued support for this campaign. I also asked them if they would like to speak, please do so – I'm thinking that some of our residents are in the audience tonight. I would also like to thank Mr. Russell Holt and Mr. Charles Andrews of Shady Brook Trail for attending the CTAC meeting and speaking on this matter. I would also like to thank Mr. Robert Barrett for sending the letter to the committee. The presence of these residents and the continued emails and telephone calls from citizens to Mr. White, who is our Supervisor, helped to move this campaign to the next level. In addition, I would like to thank the members of the CTAC board for listening to us and recommending to present to the Board of Supervisors. Those members were Mr. Steve Walton (I believe he's the Chairman), Randolph Cook, Ash Cutchin, Keith Davis, Matthew Gillette, and Robert White. Again, thank you for your much support coming to help decrease the number of transfer trucks traveling through 58 and 671. And I also mentioned that Mr. White for the White Trucking Company informed the board that his trucks would no longer be driving down 671. So that has decreased the volume of trucks going down our highway. And tonight, I would like for you to please vote unanimously that we have the option of those trucks continuing on 58 and not going down 671. Thank you.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you. Anybody else?

Supervisor White says, I just want to say that it's 650 not 671.

Ms. Lane says, I'm sorry. It's 650.

Supervisor White says, we've got to keep 671 open.

Ms. Linda Simmons comes forward and says, good evening. I'm Linda Simmons from Southampton Parkway. I just want to add to the commendation that was received for Josh and his workers for the pandemic and what they did. In addition to that, they earned every penny that they would get on this just from what they worked taking care of the highway 58 corridor during what was and has and still remains to be a terrible time. I know that at the onset of the tornado we immediately went into shock. And within 3 hours, I was aware beyond myself that there were deputies and rescue personnel, well instantly – 30 minutes after the tornado. At our back door, but all around the corridor, the sheriff's office was working. And I don't know how many days and nights I looked out and they were never gone. So I don't know if anyone else has recognized that, but I would like to take this time to say thank you to them. I should have done it before. We've been a little busy, but we'll be busy for a long time. But it was just inexplicable to look out my window night after night after night, and blue lights were going all night long at every business in either direction that I could see, protecting part of Southampton County. It did something to us that we can't explain to know because we were the only residents out there, to see those blue lights protecting us. And I would like to say thank you to all of them at this time.

Chairman Edwards asks, thank you. Would anybody else like to speak?

Ms. Donna DeGroat comes forward and says, thank you, Board of Supervisors for hearing me, and giving me some of your time. My name is Donna DeGroat and I own the 460 Café and Farmer's Market. And I love what I do. Since COVID-19, businesses have been closing because government has not been our friend – small businesses right now to our local government. When the stimulus check came out, some small businesses thought they were going to be able to get through the COVID-19. That was until the local government decided to put our stimulus checks in their pocket without any notification and freezing accounts. I remember years ago that I heard Ronald Reagan say something like this (this is a quote), "The most terrifying words in the English language are that of *I'm the government and I'm here to help.*" I never understood that until right now. I know big businesses are the fuel for this country. The small businesses are where it started. They are the backbone. And I just don't understand why we are going through a pandemic in our country, and why our local government is not willing to work with us instead of taking from us. I just really don't understand that. Thank you all for your time. God bless.

Chairman Edwards says, anybody else?

Mr. Warren Simmons comes forward and says, I'm Warren Simmons, 27511 Southampton Parkway. I've got a couple things I'd like to speak on tonight. First is I'm glad you approved the money for the Sheriff's Department. I wish it was more. When I looked at this money – when I listened to Mr. Johnson talk about the money that was spent and how it was allocated. They [the Sheriff's Department] got less than $200,000 to charge into COVID, but everybody else got about $3 million to stay away from it including the teachers and school administrators who got about $1.6 million to not teach. And I noticed today, I heard that they got a two-hour delay at school because, you know, the fog, when the sheriff and all, they're working in the fog and wrecks and people can get run over real easy. That's why they deserve more.

Mr. Simmons continues, another thing I'd like to talk about is the $3000 you spent a couple of months ago, I believe it was, and that was to hold an auction on a piece of property out near Enviva. When I think about that piece of property, it's only suited really for industrial development which is what you want. We've had some anguished citizens a few months ago that were fussing because they were afraid because industry was coming back into that area. And they said, "Nobody's going to live here. We don't want to live here." So we're not worried about people building a house there, and we're not worried about a commercial business being there. The only people that can come there really is industry, and that's what we want. So why are we paying $3000 a year to reserve it when the only people who are going to buy it is an industry and these people won't sell? So we could spend that $3000 a lot better if we used it to make this area a little more appealing to business.

Because, you see, when you think about a business, you think about a light industry. When the citizens think about a business, they're thinking about another grocery store, drugstore, or some business like that. And until we kind of clean up our act, nobody wants to come here. When you ride through our business areas, there's trash everywhere, the grass is not cut. Some of the businesses there, we don't make them keep their places neat. There's just nothing that appeals to anybody. And if we don't have more industry, we don't have more tax revenue and nothing can get better without it. So we need to put our money somewhere else.

Mr. Simmons says, we've got 5 new employees out on the Cheroenhaka – is that how you say the road name? And I wondered when we first employed them what they were going to be doing, because we just don't have that many building permits. But there's a lot of opportunity for them – like I said, there's a lot of cleanup and neatness needs to go on that they can be checking on. But I had a conversation with a roofer back a couple of years ago, maybe when they were roofing this building and some of the other schools. This school was 25 years old and the roof, the paint on the roof, was supposed to be guaranteed for 40 years and we've replaced it. We spent over a million dollars. This roofer was telling me, "You're going to have the same problem in a few years." He said, "You know why?" He said, "Because they're doing the same thing they did the last time." He said the county has nobody on that roof making sure that materials are like they are supposed to be, what's being put down is like it's supposed to be. So you're going to have the same problem all over again. So we need some maintenance people in this county. We seem to have a lot of teachers. We seem to have a lot of administrative people. But we need some maintenance people looking after our buildings so we can make minor repairs before they become major repairs and it costs us a lot of money. I think there's a lot about what's happened with the courthouse. And it's happening in our schools and all our buildings. So that's the things that we need to be looking into. That's what I have to say tonight, and I appreciate your time.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you. Anybody else?

Mr. Glenn Updike comes forward and says, I'm Glenn Updike, Newsoms. So I would just like to follow up or comment, to follow-up on Warren's comments. I have witnesses. I haven't been there, but I've been told by many people that the roofs are leaking in the new school. Why in the world are we sitting back, not making the roofer guarantee the work on the roof? This is going to cost the county a fortune if we don't make the businesses that deal with the county live up to their obligations. The second thing is that it's frustrating because the people in the county don't realize that the school superintendent got a $30,000 raise. Where is the oversight? Already getting paid $175,000. This is unrealistic and we should have some oversight. I know you say you think you shouldn't be telling the school board how to spend their money. What an abuse. This money could have been spent on children, other parties that need it, instead of gouging the taxpayer.

Mr. Glenn Updike continues, this is my concern for every citizen of this country, you better get out and vote on Tuesday. You saw what happened last night. Because, as far as I was concerned, there was great joy when the judge was appointed to the Supreme Court. But at the same time, I look and listen. You realize that neither one of our senators voted, but they represent you and I and the people from the state of Virginia. Yet they put up their hands and walk away and make no comments. I would much rather have them say, stand up and say, I vote no. But to stay there, to have it both ways, leads to public discrimination. All these years, who has been discriminated against more than any group? And that is the Christian. That's the only comment the Democrats have brought up to deny her the office of the Supreme Court. No group has ever been persecuted as much as the Christian. And when you deny her the highest, as far as I'm concerned, the highest office in the United States, a Supreme Court nominee because they're Christians. It makes you really sick. And I've again come back to say, not only did they not have the guts about it to stand up and say no, they had the responsibility to represent all the people in the state. That's ridiculous. It looks like in this day and time, the only thing political officials or parties want is to get elected, get the big money, and worship – again, worship their parties instead of morals of life of our country. If we don't stand up now and say enough is enough, we might as well stay here all night talking about different things. But when they stack your Supreme Court, and then they can pass rules and regulations that we don't like and overturn rules that they don't like. Our democracy is gone. You look around, the biggest on the internet, Google, denied information that they knew was right. They should say, "Well, we're not going to allow it to be published on the internet." We're going to lose everything from the public's right to speech to you name it.

Mr. Updike says, it's sickening to have this occurring, and when the government says you can allow an abortion until birth. And with the baby involved, we'll just lay him on a table and see if he's going to live. What kind of morals are we living in? What kind of people are we becoming, thinking that if you hit a dog, you're going to be charged with a misdemeanor? Or if you are a policeman and trying to arrest somebody, they're going to be charged instead of the criminal? So what I'm saying is, you better get out and vote. This is not an election for individuals to govern our country, this is an election to save the Constitution of the United States. So if you've got any influence, get the people out, save our Constitution. Because it affects every single person in this world, not only in the United States and in the county. So that's all I'd like to say. You all have got a lot of influence and as influential people, you can express your opinion by voting.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, is there anybody else?

Mr. Charles Andrews comes forward and says, good evening, my name is Charles Andrews. I reside at 26200 Shady Brook Trail. I would like to echo what Ms. Lane said about the trucks on Shady Brook Trail. A lot of Hazmat trucks are coming down that road. They shouldn't be coming down there. Whether they go as thru-trucks or not, in the Hazmat regulations it states that populated areas, back roads, things like that they are supposed to avoid. It doesn't matter if they have hardtop or rock. I'd like to thank Robert White for having his trucks not coming down the road anymore. And I hope you guys will help push this through for No Thru Trucks coming down Shady Brook. Thank you.

Chairman Edwards says, all right. Anybody else? [No response.] Last call. [No response.] If there is nobody else, we will close the Citizens Comment period. [No response.] Thank you all. All right, the next thing on the agenda is approval of the minutes of the September meeting. Does anybody have any changes in those minutes? [No response.] If not, they'll stand approved as read.

There is no opposition from the Board.

Chairman Edwards continues, okay. Next is #3, Highway Matters. We have two recommendations from the Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee. The first one is concerning the roundabout lighting project, and the second one is the restricting thru-trucks on Shady Brook Trail. I'll take the roundabout project first. Would anyone like to comment on that?

Supervisor Lynda Updike says, I have a comment. I don't think we have the money to do that. I think it should be a state project not a county project. It needs to be left. At this point, I don't think we need to finance that.

Chairman Edwards asks, any further comments? Do we want to look at this and see what the actual price is? What do you desire on this?

Supervisor William Hart Gillette says, I wasn't in attendance at that meeting [CTAC]. Mr. Johnson, could you give a comment on the discussion concerning recommendations to fund this project?

Mr. Johnson says, I'll be glad to, Mr. Vice Chairman. And Mr. White was also in that meeting. He may have some comments to add. As you all know, we submitted the Courtland roundabout lighting project through the VDOT Smart Scale application process this summer. That particular project was screened out of the process very early by VDOT as not being eligible because it did not meet what is called a V-Trans need. So at the CTAC meeting back on October 1st, we were discussing that and members of the CTAC were sharing their disappointment with that project that they prescreened that out. And the question was asked – are there any other potential revenue streams that might fund that project and that project might be eligible for? And Mr. Catlett was at the meeting. He indicated that day that the only other VDOT funding mechanism that he was aware of that was potentially a source of funding for this project is the revenue sharing program. The revenue sharing program is basically a dollar-for-dollar march, basically 50/50 local/state. The estimated cost of the project, Mr. Edwards, the preliminary cost number in round numbers is about half a million dollars. The construction is slightly more than $400,000. So when you figure in the cost of the design and the contingency at this point, I think a safe estimate is in that $500,000 range. So it would equate to a commitment by the county of about $250,000 dollars. CTAC discussed it briefly and I think it was Mr. Cutchin that made the motion that he indicated that was the equivalent of about a cent and a half on the real estate tax rate and he'd be glad to pay that to get the roundabouts lit. That's one person's opinion. But anyway, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously. So I'm passing this on to you for your consideration. The revenue sharing process really doesn't start until next spring, so you

really don't need to make a decision tonight, but it's something for you to think about. But we would need to begin work on preparing that application sometime shortly after the first of the calendar year, so certainly by no later than your January meeting we need to know or have some direction from you all if you want to pursue that as a source of funding.

Supervisor Gillette asks, well, the question that I have, will that option go away if no action is taken prior to January? Does that option go away and would not come up again in a future year? And my thinking is personally I'm concerned about the payment schedule that's going to be affected with future borrowing that this council is going to have to do – like the courthouse and some other expenditures or some other settlement of the payment for the roofs and some other items. And I'm a little hesitant to go along with the recommendation. I realize that a unanimous vote is a pretty strong support from the advisory committee. At the same time, I think this board needs to take into consideration future debt that we're going to have to incur, and we're not going to have any options out of that when the time comes. So I prefer to table it. I don't know about the lighting. Has there been some accidents or anything of that nature that would maybe cause the lighting to be of concern to the public?

Mr. Johnson says, there have been some accidents that I'm aware of. I have not actually seen the accident report, but I am aware of at least one occasion I saw wheel tracks that went straight across the roundabout and into the area where the storm water retention pond is on the other side. That has been several months ago. It is dark at night and if you are not familiar with it, I'm sure it can be confusing. To get back to answer the question you had, Mr. Gillette, the revenue sharing program works on a two-year cycle that alternates with the Smart Scale program. So if we should not apply in the spring of 2021, the opportunity would present itself in the spring of 2023. That is the cycle for that.

Supervisor Gillette says, I'm of the opinion that maybe we need to defer this. I'm not debating maybe the need, but at the same time, I think there are other priorities that are certainly going to impact the real estate taxes in this county. And they are going to be coming up in the not too distant future. I think the timing of this is a little awkward for me as a supervisor. And when I'm presented with the timing aspect of it, I'm in favor of waiting.

Supervisor White says, I would agree with you.

Supervisor Faison says, I would agree with that, too. We have funding needs and we can't address this right now.

Supervisor Cornwell says, I do agree with our fellow Board members. I do think for the time I can see that they need to be lit. I think that would be a benefit for the citizens of the county, but I can't make myself comfortable with spending $250,000 towards that end at this point in time. I am in favor of deferring it for now.

Supervisor Updike says, I'm wondering if we improve the signage there with reflecting signs so you can see that you're coming up on something.

Supervisor Jones says, I agree with everyone here.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, I guess it seems a general consensus that we'll table this for now and see what the financial situation looks like in the future. Okay, we have another matter. This is requesting VDOT to restrict thru-trucks on Shady Brook Trail. You have a map to everything in your packet there.

Supervisor White says, yeah, that's something that CTAC's been working on for the last couple of meetings, and I don't see where there's any problem at all for trucks or trucking companies to go around Shady Brook Trail. Actually, I mean it's going to make it safer – the trucking companies also because if you cut through there from 671 to 58, you've got to go across four lanes of traffic with, you know, loaded traffic trailers with no kind of lighting or anything. Anyway, I make the motion that we move forward with the recommendation.

Supervisor Cornwell says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, the second, okay. The recommendation is seconded that we refer this for advertisement with the public hearing for the November meeting. Any further discussion? [No response.] All those in favor say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed, no. [No response.] The ayes have it. Okay, Highway Matters, Areas of Concern. Does any Supervisor have any concern for the roads or property that runs in their district?

Supervisor Gillette says, I'd just like to thank the highway department. As far as the growth of the grass in the median, they took care of that promptly and I appreciate it.

Supervisor Cornwell says, I had the opportunity last week to speak with one of our area superintendents regarding the road that we've discussed here previously in addition to the work orders submitted by myself and some other citizens, he was able to provide a lot of insight to me that I was able to pass on to the citizens of my district. And some that included was that of the 120 or so active VDOT work orders in that particular district, the Capron district, upwards of 40 of those are in my district. He gave me a little bit of the breakdown on the roads from 460 to Seacock Chapel, Unity Road where there were 10 work orders alone, Black Creek Road, Tucker Swamp Road over to Ivor Road. And just today I've received numerous emails and phone calls regarding the multiple problems that are ongoing on New Road, and there's still currently seven work orders that they're aware of on that particular stretch of road. So they're working on it. The message there is: they're aware of the problems because the work orders have been submitted. They're trying to do everything they can to as expeditiously as possible to get to those concerns. They do prioritize their repairs based on safety, so even if your request came in first and something else of a more pressing matter came in after, their priority is the one that lends itself to the biggest safety risk to drivers who travel up and down the roadway.

Chairman Edwards says, yes, thank you. Anybody else?

Supervisor Updike says, I talked to Ben Bryant a couple of weeks ago with my list.

Chairman Edwards asks, Mr. Jones?

Supervisor Jones says, no.

Chairman Edwards asks, Mr. Faison?

Supervisor Faison says, no.

Chairman Alan Edwards says, all right, it seems like we've got everything here. We will move on to #4, the Monthly Reports. And I'll just go through these and jump in if you have anything. Sheriff's Office, Animal Control, Cooperative Extension, Treasurer's Office.

Ms. Cindy Edwards says, yes, I'd like to report.

Chairman Alan Edwards says, surely. You're welcome.

Ms. Cindy Edwards says, okay. As far as Real Estate, the percentages are up from 99.72% last month to 99.76%. We've collected $67,654.30 in October. As far as the Personal Property, the percentages are up from 97.89% to 98.08%, and we've collected $94,876.92 in October. As far as Solid Waste, the percentage is up from 83.07% to 84.47%. We've collected $87,617.08 during the month of October.

Ms. Cindy Edwards continues, I would like to speak to collections, again to the fact that I turned it over to a collection agency, something that had never been done before, and it is bringing in money. While I'm standing here, I would like to say you all heard a comment, you know, tonight on the Public Comment period about collections on taxes. I don't know if you all know or not, but I will make you aware. A meals tax is considered a trust tax. Our report is due the 20th of the month following the date of collections as well as the fees that you collected for that meals tax the previous month. The pandemic was not going on in 2016. So collection of taxes is what I took an oath to do. I'm going to do that to the best of my ability with all the options I have. So I did want to bring that forward. I know people are using the pandemic as a reason for not paying their personal taxes out there as well as solid waste fee. A dime has not been collected on it since 2012 when it was assessed by the Board that was serving at that time. Turning it over to collections has brought in money. With the courthouse updates that we have coming up, and everything else that seems to be price increase, price increase coming before the Board. Again, collections is what I took an oath to do, and I feel like the more that I collect, maybe that will help us from having to keep increasing. Southampton County is the highest tax in the state of Virginia, the highest county tax. And I look around and I think people have been more aware, more conscious of it lately. As I travel to other localities, I look around and see what other localities have, you know, what's in their county. And then I see how much we're taxing our citizens. And in our county, I'm not seeing that we got anything so much better and beyond, and in some cases it's not as good as other localities. So I'm trying to be very conscientious on collecting, and I hope the Board's going to be very conscientious on spending. Thank you.

Chairman Alan Edwards says, thank you. Any questions? [No response.] Thank you very much.

Chairman Edwards continues, okay, Community Development. Solid Waste Quantities. Personnel. Mr. Johnson?

Mr. Johnson says, just a couple of items, Mr. Chairman. We had two employees hired during the month:

- Karl Boone in the Sheriff's Office, effective October 1, annual salary $39,598
- Edgar Wright III, effective October 5, in the Department of Utilities, annual salary $30,418

Mr. Johnson continues, we had one employee to separate during the month: Mark Howell in the Sheriff's Office, effective October 6.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, thank you. All right, we'll move on to #5, Financial Matters, the bills. Does anybody have any questions about the bills?

Supervisor Updike says, I had two questions. Where did the plotters go that we bought? I think they were $2,000 a piece. And under data processing, the environmental amounts, $15,000. What was that $15,000 under data processing?

Mr. Johnson responds, I tell you the plotters, Ms. Updike, went to the Department of Community Development.

Supervisor Updike asks, both of them?

Mr. Johnson says, yes, ma'am. I think so.

Ms. Lynette Lowe says, there was only one plotter. It was split between Inspections and Planning.

Supervisor Updike says, and the other question on data processing, there was an environmental charge of $15,000. I just wondered what that was.

Mr. Johnson says, Susan [Wright] is sitting right there. She can tell you.

Ms. Susan Wright says, I think it's Esri.

Supervisor Updike asks, what?

Ms. Wright says, Esri, which is our GIS, 911.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, is everyone satisfied? Any other questions? [No response.] I guess we will entertain a motion to pay our bills.

Supervisor White says, so moved.

Chairman Edwards asks, second?

Supervisor Faison says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, being no further discussion, all those in favor say aye.

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed no. [No response.] Let's pay the bills.

The Board of Supervisors approved the motion to pay the bills in the amount of $2,103,823.55 to be paid by check numbers 202450 through 202900 with a voice vote recorded as follows:

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards says, okay, #6. We have a new appointment on the Planning Commission in the Franklin district. I'll turn that over to Supervisor Robert White.

Supervisor White says, yes. Tammy Connolly decided, well, she's having a hard time driving at night. She was the one that had taken my place when I got elected to the Board. But anyway, she decided pretty much that she didn't want to have to drive to these meetings at night. So I talked to Brad Turner. And he's a good guy, a business owner in Southampton County. I want to make a motion to appoint him to the Planning Commission for the Franklin district.

Chairman Edwards says, do we have a second?

Supervisor Cornwell says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, Brad Turner, okay.

Supervisor Cornwell says, I had the occasion to speak with him. I've known Brad for a long time. I had the time to talk with him a little bit about the possibility of serving us in this capacity, and he's excited about it. I think he'll do an excellent job.

Chairman Edwards asks, is he aware of the certification regulations to be certified within two years?

Commissioner Cornwell says, yes.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, all right. Now, any further discussion? [No response.] All those in favor say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed, no. [No response.] The ayes have it. All right. #7, Remarks from the Western Tidewater Free Clinic, Mr. Bob Hayes. Welcome, Mr. Hayes.

Mr. Bob Hayes says, thank you. Good evening, Mr. Chairman, Board of Supervisors, and staff. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you. My name is Bob Hayes, and I'm a board member for the Western Tidewater Free Clinic and I'm representing them tonight. On behalf of our patients and our community, we want to thank the county for their support of $20,000 for our fiscal year 2020 and 2021. This budget amount will provide comprehensive care for 16 Southampton County patients. And they can visit our center for center for 210 appointments. The council of Southampton County has supported the clinic since our inception in 2007, and during the 13 years that we've been operating, you have donated $146,250 to us, and we really appreciate that. Since our opening in 2007, we provided care to over 6,100 patients. Those patients have had 175,000 appointments for medical, dental, mental health, and pharmacy services. Patients have received over 271,000 free medications for prescriptions at a retail value of $51 million. 8% of those patients have come from Southampton County. Our current costs per patient per year we estimate at $1200 and the cost per visit we estimate at $95. We have a fiscal year of July to July. From January 2020 to June 2020, 78 patients have come to us from Southampton County. They have visited us 385 times for services that we provide. Patients have received over $65,000 during that time of services, and if you put a value, I mean $65,000 worth of medication. For the value of services that they received, it would be $47,000. We also have been affected by COVID-19, and we had closed afterwards from March until the first weekend in May. Since June and July, we started seeing our patients trending up again, and we're just about back to normal service. We're very proud of our staff at the clinic. We've had very minimal absenteeism, and we have not had any cases as of today. The pandemic has caused our volunteers at the clinic to just about stop, and we saved a lot of money by the use of volunteers. However, we now see some of them coming back, so we hope that continues. We have one volunteer on our board from Franklin-Southampton, and that is Dr. Sharon Sheffield. We really do appreciate your investment in the Western Tidewater Free Clinic. Every dollar that you invest in us, we turn into seven dollars. So that's a real good investment for the money that you give us. I invite you to come down and visit our place in Suffolk. It's safe to come down. And please continue to support our efforts. Thank you very much for your support over the years. I'll be glad to answer any questions about the clinic that you have. Thank you very much.

Chairman Edwards asks, any questions for the gentleman?

Mr. Hayes says, thank you for your time.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you.

Supervisor Gillette says, excuse me, if I might. Private donations, any word that you could give us regarding private donations.

Mr. Hayes says, yes. You can go on our website and make private donations, and we do get donations from Southampton County. I think we've gotten somewhere in the neighborhood of $30,000 from Southampton County through donations, private donations.

Supervisor Gillette asks, and your website is?

Mr. Hayes replies, westerntidewaterfreeclinic.com. Any other questions? [No response.] Thank you for your questions. Thank you for your help.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you, sir. Okay, we move on to #8. We've got two Public Hearings. We'll let Ms. Lewis, the Secretary of the Planning Commission, come up and lead us through those two hearings.

Supervisor Gillette says, excuse me. I would like to say welcome back.

Ms. Beth Lewis says, thank you very much. We are very glad to be Southampton County employees full-time. Tonight you have two public hearings for our Voluntary Agricultural and Forestal districts. In case the people in the audience don't know what that is, it's like a conservation easement that property owners choose to install on their property. That limits the use of their property to agriculture, forestry, and open space for the term of the district and that is generally 10 years. And these are voluntary. You have to apply for them. And Southampton County now has 38 Voluntary Agricultural and Forestal districts and about 170,000 acres are now in Voluntary Agricultural and Forestal districts through the county. They are spread from north to south, east to west. Some are larger than others, but they all start with at least 200 acres and grow from there.

Ms. Lewis continues, the first one you have tonight is the applicant is Joan Rice. This is an addition to the Little Texas Voluntary Agriculture district. The property is located at the southeast corner of Little Texas and Whitehead Roads. It is 282 acres. It has a zoning designation of A-1 and a Comprehensive Plan designation of agriculture/forestry/open space and residential. The property is currently being used for commercial agriculture and forest production. In the required public hearing after the Planning Commission acting as the Advisory Committee discussed this and they gave it a unanimous recommendation of approval. There were no speakers at the meeting. I will be glad to answer any questions.

Chairman Edwards says, any questions for Ms. Lewis? [No response.] Okay. Then we'll open the Public Hearing on the addition to the Little Texas Agricultural and Forestal district. Anyone like to speak concerning that? [No response.] If not, then we'll close the public hearing and entertain a motion.

Supervisor Updike says, so moved.

Supervisor White says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, motion to approve that. Any further discussion? [No response.] All those in favor of approval to that say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed, no. [No response.] It is unanimous. The second one is an addition to the Twelve Oaks Agricultural and Forestal district. Ms. Lewis?

Ms. Lewis says, this property is located at the southeast corner of Wakefield and Berlin Dory Road. The applicant is Betty P. Beale. The property address is 12023 Wakefield Road in Sedley. It is 175.51 acres. It is a little too small to be its own Voluntary Agriculture and Forestal district but it is a couple hundred feet too far to join the Twelve Oaks district to be within one mile. But the general statutes provide that if a local governing body finds in consultation with the Advisory Committee or Planning Commission that the parcel is not part of the core or within one mile of the boundary of the core, and contains agriculturally and forestally significant land, it can join a nearby district. This property is a Century farm and it's part of the USDA CREP Program. It is in the Tree Farm Program. And it is used for agriculture/forestry and is less than 200 feet further than one mile from the Twelve Oaks district. The Planning Commission acting as the Advisory Board and the Planning Commission acting as the Planning Commission decided that this property did meet the requirements of being agriculturally and forestally significant land. The property owner says the property has been owned by a member of the Pond family for over 100 years. There's a two-story wood structure home built in 1908 in which the applicant resides and a one-story wood structure was built in the 1950's. The property is 31.84 acres of cultivated land, 9.63 USDA CREP Program acreage, and 134 forest acres. It significantly impacts wildlife preservation, growth of agricultural products for sale, and is a member of the Tree Farm Program. The Planning Commission had its public hearing, and we can honestly recommend it.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you. Okay, we will open the Public Hearing on the Twelve Oaks Agricultural and Forestal district, applicant Ms. Betty Beale. Is there anybody who would like to speak on that? [No response.] If not, we will close the Public Hearing and entertain a motion.

Supervisor Cornwell says, so moved.

Supervisor Updike says, second.

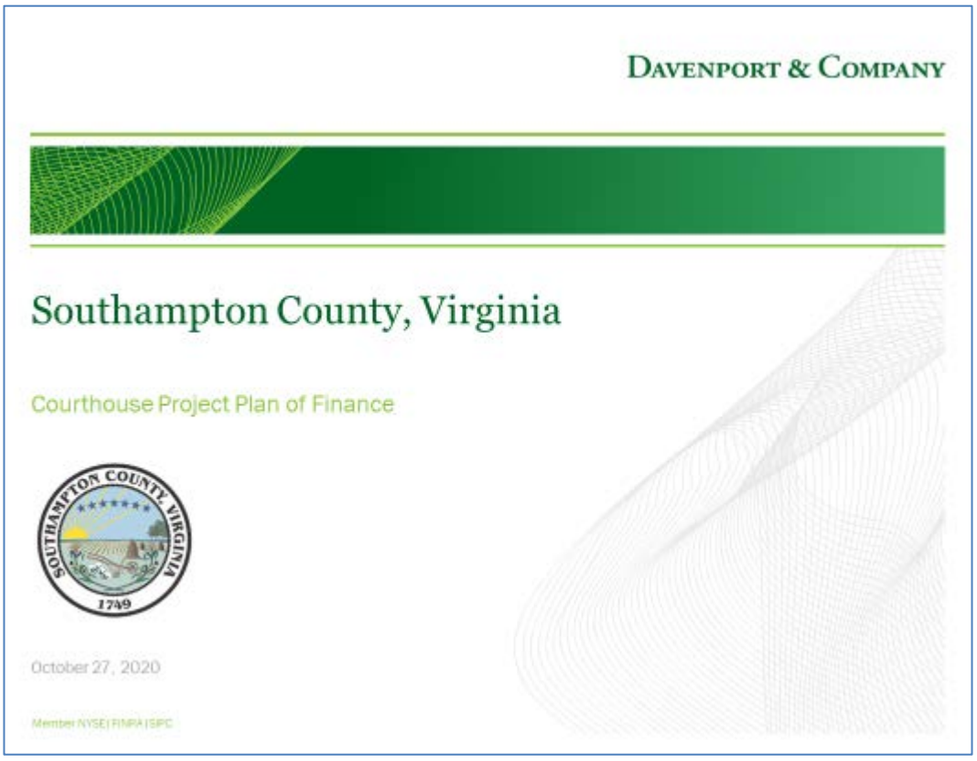
Chairman Edwards says, we have a motion to approve that and a second. All in favor say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed, no. [No response.] The recommendations of the Planning Commission on both of those have been passed tonight. Moving on to #9, Financing Strategy for Courthouse Renovation. The first thing you will see is the Southampton County School Roof Projects (Financing Series 2019A). Mr. Johnson, do you have anything to add to that?

Mr. Johnson says, not any more than what's in your agenda, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Rose will be talking about the permanent financing of both of those projects tonight.

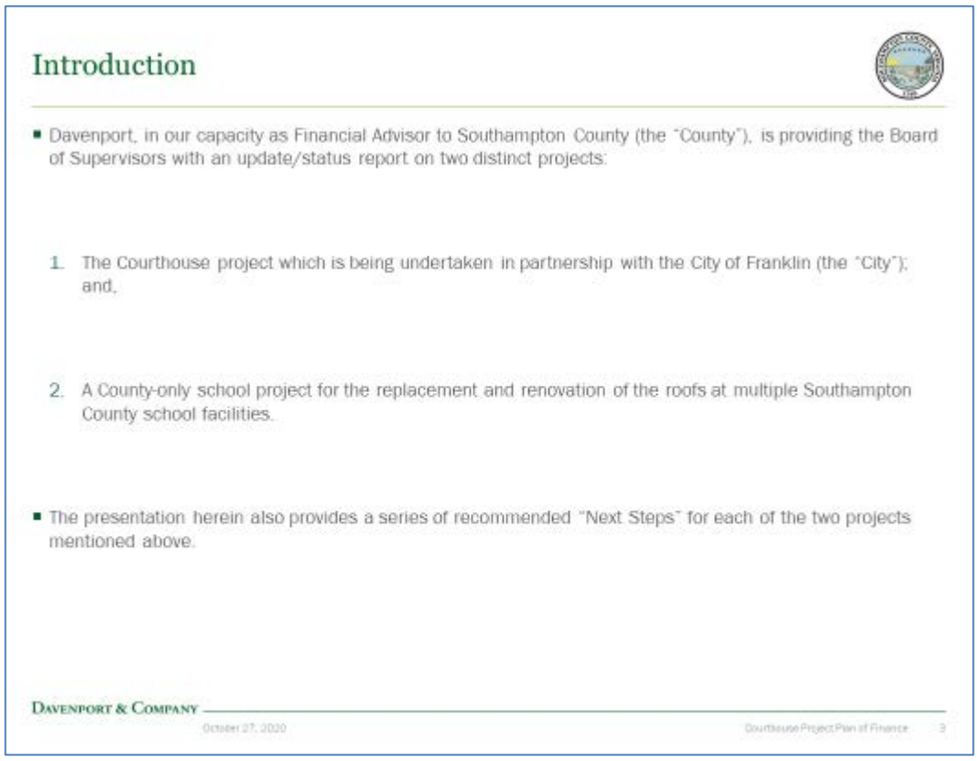
Chairman Edwards says, all right, this is Mr. David Rose that I had earlier. He's going to give us a rundown on county financing.



Mr. David Rose says, thank you, Dr. Edwards, members of the Board. I'm David Rose, it's a pleasure to be back here. I have a hard copy of this as well. This is a fairly in-depth presentation, so I will move as quickly as possible. I would say that we're not here asking for you to make any actions this evening, rather to hopefully educate the Board and the citizens and whatever else you deem necessary with the hope that something will move forward at the next move. Okay, I could start then, Mr. Chairman, again I've been fortunate to work with the county now for probably about 25 years from Richmond. I manage Davenport and Company. So I appreciate this opportunity to be back.



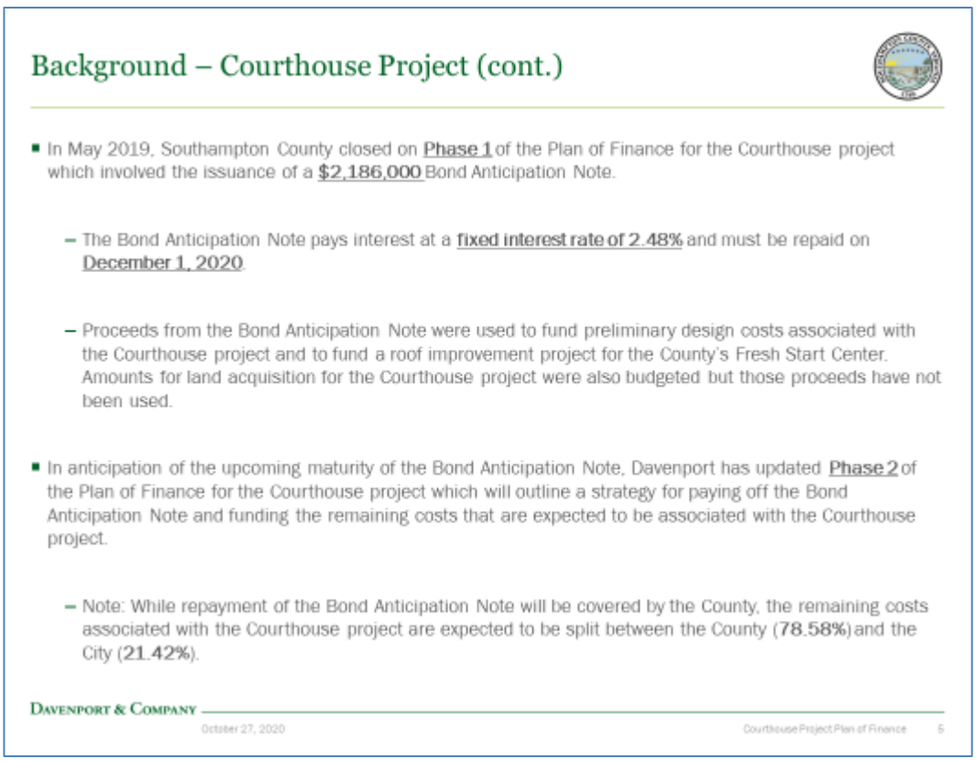
Mr. Rose continues, again, the Table of Contents. I won't belabor that, but again, everything I'm going to talk about is there. Anything else you need to let me know. If there's some things I can't answer, certainly I will make sure I try my best to give you all some answers through Mr. Johnson.



Mr. Rose says, sort of a background, Davenport is serving as your financial advisor. And as I said, you probably knew that I've had a good fortune to do that probably about 25 years, possibly longer. But again, this is something that I have been in front of you and the city of Franklin on several occasions as this has evolved. We recognize this is a joint project in many ways. We're also going to talk this evening about the school facility financing that has already had some inner funding that we did some 20 months ago. Just an update there. Finally we're going to talk about some Next Steps as I mentioned so there'll be a schedule with that.

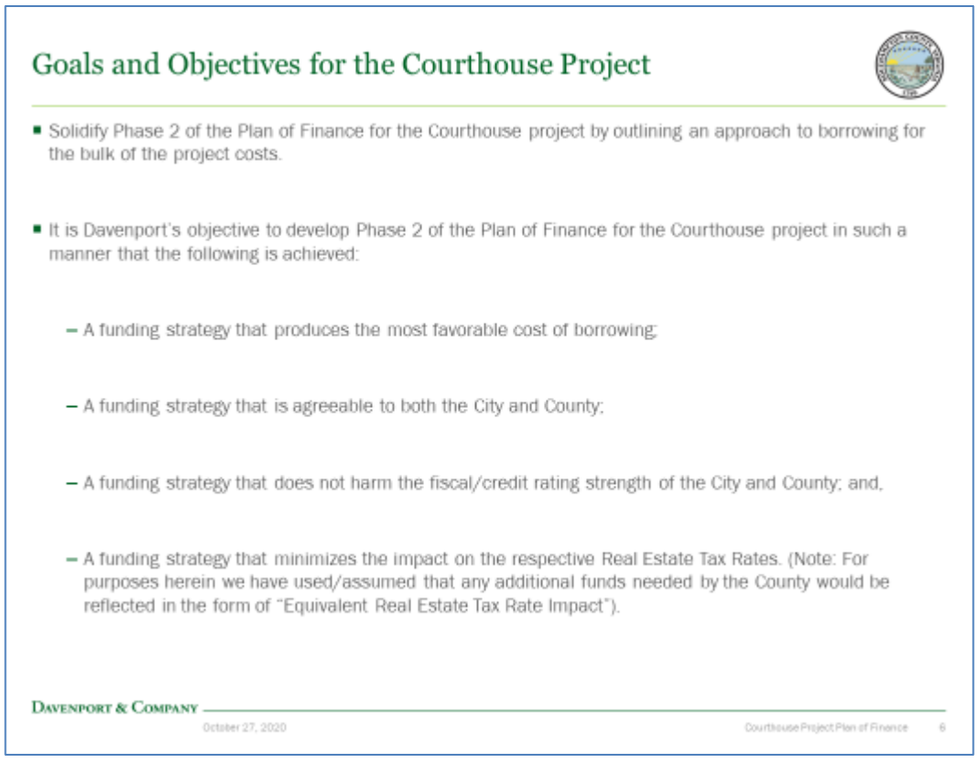


Mr. Rose says, a bit more background. We began this project from our work some four or five years ago, back in 2016. We looked at a series of strategies, and so we developed back in February of 2019 a two-part strategy – Phase 1 and Phase 2. The first stage is called Interim Financing, and I presented that and you approved that, and that has worked well for us so far. We are now in the mode where some of that interim financing is coming due in December, so we need to take some actions. We're going to talk about the actions that we want to be working on and doing with Mr. Johnson and your staff. And then secondly, Phase 2, The Long-Term Financing. We're going to talk a little bit about the recommendations tonight.

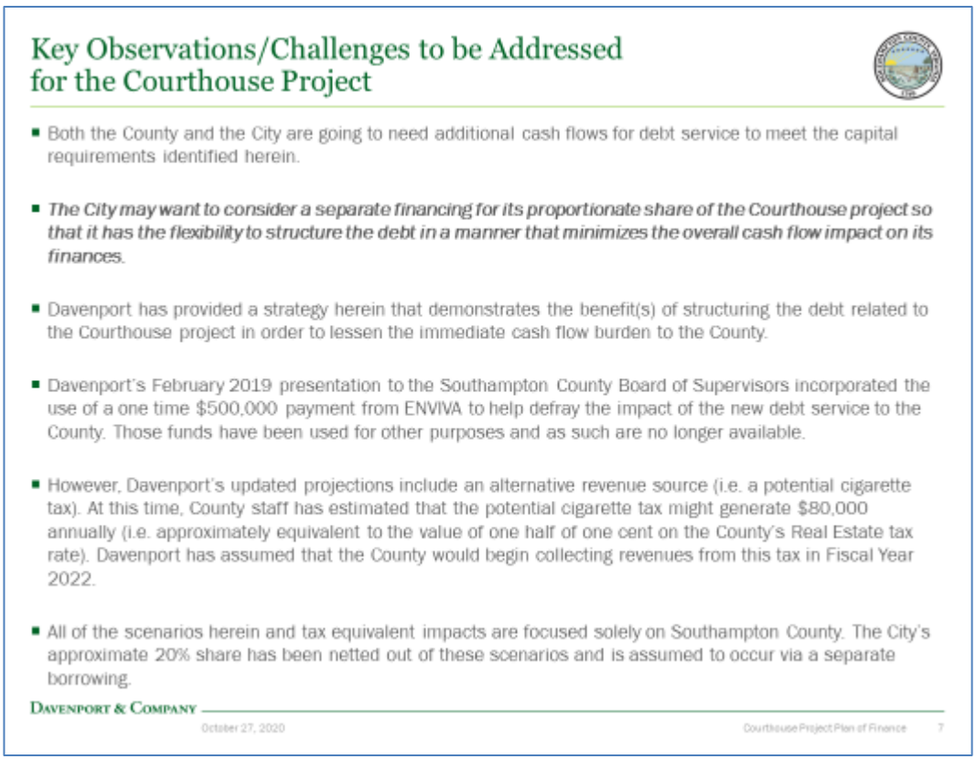


Mr. Rose continues, so with all of that said, back in May of 2019, for Phase 1 of the Interim Financing, we did slightly under a $2.2 million bond anticipation note. That simply means is that the financing we did was slightly below 2.5% which looked very positive at the time, and that has to be repaid by December 1 of this year. So as I mentioned a moment ago, that's something we've been planning for. The county has the necessary resources to do that with some of the unspent proceeds and some of your available fund balances. So come December 1, that will occur. And then

we are looking at Phase 2, which is essentially taking care of a permanent financing for the bulk of that courthouse project. We understand that it's going to be paid for essentially almost 80% for the county and a little over 20% for the city. You can see both percentages right there which were provided to us.



Mr. Rose explains, so with all of that being said, we've tried to talk about with your staff and legal counsel what is the most strategic way to come up with Phase 2, what is the most cost-effective way, what works for the cash flows, and what you want to be moving forward on this project with the schedule there at the moment. And also how do we make sure that you enjoy right now a very solid credit rating, that we do no harm to that credit rating, and then finally the last bullet point (sort of where the rubber meets the road), that is how do we do all this and make it affordable for your budget, effectively for your citizens. So what we're going to talk about a little bit this evening is the impact, the cash flow impact, on the borrowings that are going to be necessary. And we want to tie it back to the equivalent Real Estate Tax Rates. So what I mean by that is you may come up with any series of dollars, but we're going to equate it to what you were to have to have a certain impact on the real estate tax rate. That's the way we want to show it to you. I think it's going to make some sense a little bit later. That's something I've always done with you over the years, to show you what is the equivalent impact on the county going forward in subsequent budgets.



Key Observations/Challenges to be Addressed for the Courthouse Project

- Both the County and the City are going to need additional cash flows for debt service to meet the capital requirements identified herein.
- *The City may want to consider a separate financing for its proportionate share of the Courthouse project so that it has the flexibility to structure the debt in a manner that minimizes the overall cash flow impact on its finances.*
- Davenport has provided a strategy herein that demonstrates the benefit(s) of structuring the debt related to the Courthouse project in order to lessen the immediate cash flow burden to the County.
- Davenport's February 2019 presentation to the Southampton County Board of Supervisors incorporated the use of a one time $500,000 payment from ENVIVA to help defray the impact of the new debt service to the County. Those funds have been used for other purposes and as such are no longer available.
- However, Davenport's updated projections include an alternative revenue source (i.e. a potential cigarette tax). At this time, County staff has estimated that the potential cigarette tax might generate $80,000 annually (i.e. approximately equivalent to the value of one half of one cent on the County's Real Estate tax rate). Davenport has assumed that the County would begin collecting revenues from this tax in Fiscal Year 2022.
- All of the scenarios herein and tax equivalent impacts are focused solely on Southampton County. The City's approximate 20% share has been netted out of these scenarios and is assumed to occur via a separate borrowing.

DAVENPORT & COMPANY

October 27, 2020 Courthouse Project Plan of Finance 7

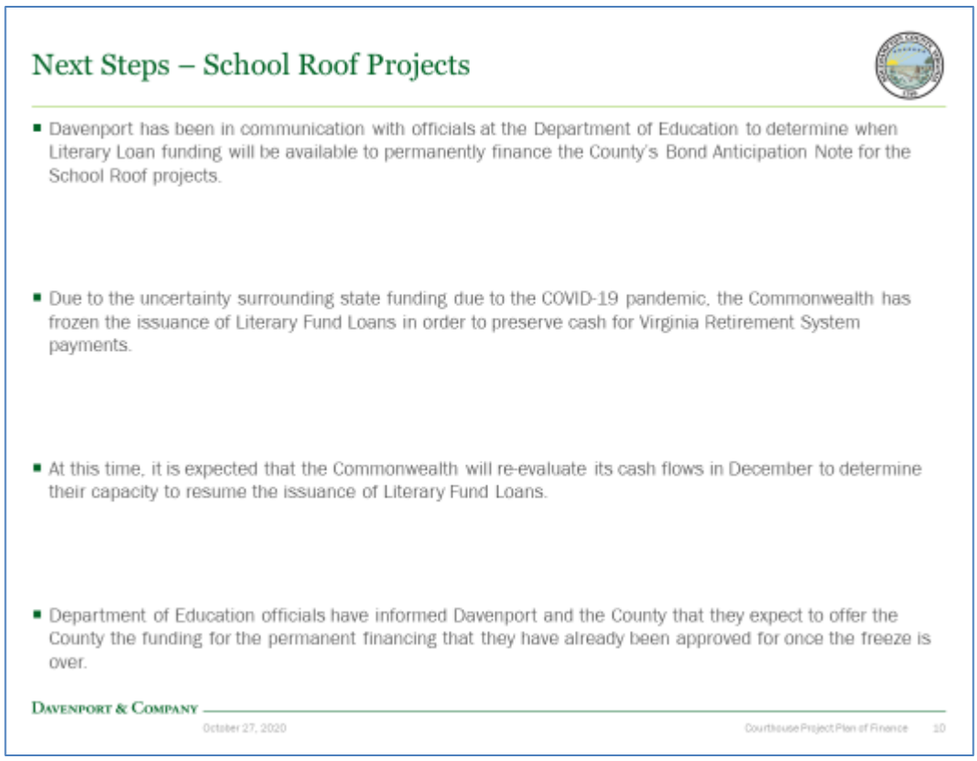
Mr. Rose continues, so all of that being said, we have recommended that the county and city pursue separate financings for this projects. There's a number of reasons, but they include the way in which the city can go about borrowing this money is a little different than you. I worked with the city for a light amount of time actually. I worked with the city starting in 1989, so I guess I'm not sure how many years that is, I guess that's 31. So we recommend that the city borrow separately. They have, I understand through Amanda [Jarratt], that has been acceptable to them. This puts less burden on you. It also gives you more decisions as to how and when you want to do your financing and any changes you might want to make in your financing down the road. So independence works for you. What the city will simply have to do is come up with their share of money at the time that the bids are back and they're acceptable and we anticipate that to be sometime next summer. So in that timeframe, Mr. Johnson can correct me or amend that. We'll show you that schedule in a few moments. The other thing is when we started looking at this project back in 2019, we incorporated a one-time payment some $500,000 from Enviva. We understand that dollars have used in some other projects or purposes I should say, so that has not been factored into this latest analysis. What have been factored in is the $80,000 a year estimate from a potential cigarette tax that is roughly a half of a cent on the real estate tax. So again, we are saying that if real estate tax of one penny is roughly $160,000, this would be about half a penny worth for support of or benefit to the overall cash flows for the county.



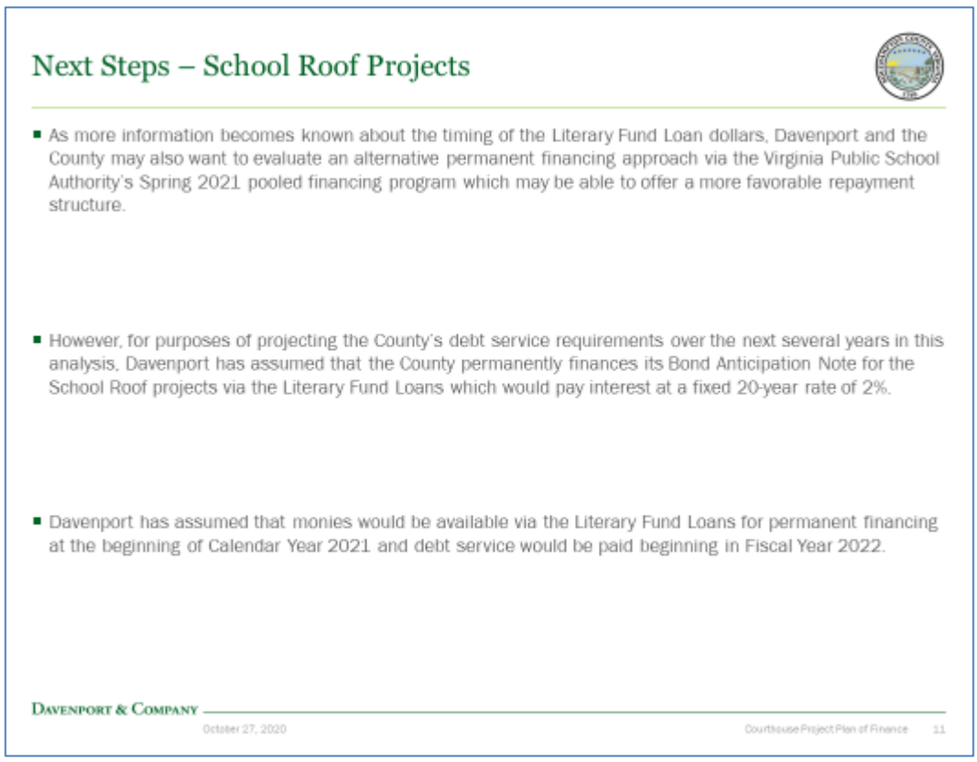
Next Mr. Rose says, so I mentioned a moment ago that the timetable is there, but the actual amount that we're estimating the project to be is $20 million. That was provided to us. Footnote there – if I'm correct in assuming that it includes design, furnishings, fixtures, equipment, and the cost of some temporary facilities for the courts while they're under construction. That being said, on Spring of '21, we expect the county to have some of the documents for construction completed. And then the bond is Summer '21, construction bids are received. Hopefully, they will be acceptable moving forward. And therefore Late Fall/Early Winter of '22 would be construction completion. So if I said that right, Mr. Johnson, everything flows from there. So having said that, let's just stop for a moment, Mr. Chairman. We could presumably wait until next summer to borrow the monies; however, in my appendix that we put together, interest rates today are at upwards of 60-year lows. So our recommendation is that we know we're going to need the bulk of these monies, and why wait when we can secure highly favorable interest rates? Which frankly, when I started working with you on this project back in 2016, the interest rates we were assuming back then were in the 4 to 5% to 6% range. Today I will tell you we are looking at potentially locking in an interest rate, if things hold, at under 3% fixed rate, so literally half the interest rate levels that we were looking at back in 2016. And interest rates then were pretty favorable, so this would be something that is considerably lower than anything we could ever contemplate. You may recall I was in front of some of you last year doing some refinancings for the county, solely because interest rates have come down. You've got a good credit rating and we are able to lower the payments on your debt. So while things are going good, as they say, we like to jump in and take advantage of that.



Mr. Rose says, so all of that there, let me turn for the moment to the school roof project. It's separate and apart from the courthouse project, of course. But back in that Spring of 2019, we not only borrowed some interim funding to allow you to move forward with the project and again, that was for some roofs at the school facilities. I think it was for slightly under $6 million. What we then did simultaneously was to apply for Literary Loan Funds from the Department of Education, and that carries a known 2% interest rate when we get those dollars. You may remember when I said it takes several years for us to get those dollars, but we're able to, under the state program, move forward on an interim basis and begin going. And then when the state comes up with the monies, we basically pay off that interim loan, which is at roughly 2-1/2% and lock into 2%. Well, that being the case, we have, if you would, until December of '22, so another two years until that interim funding comes due. We purposely did that because we know it takes literally a very long time, several years to come. However, the state has told us we're at the very top of their list, but they put the funding on hold while all of this COVID has occurred. In my forty years, I've seen the state slow down or hold this list or freeze it, if you would, about five times. So it's happened before, it will happen again. But what we're thinking is that we've got another couple years of the interim funding.



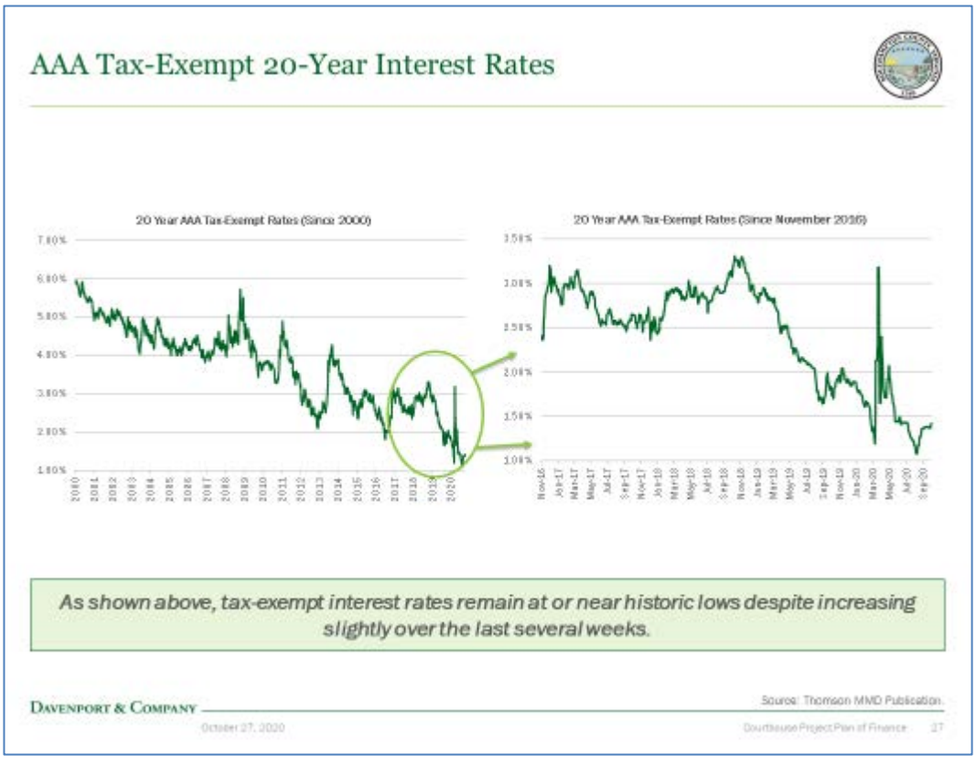
Mr. Rose continues, but what we also want to introduce to you is the idea that while rates are so favorable, the state does a twice a year program for the Virginia Public School Authority in the springtime. And it is possible, given where rates are today, if the rates basically hold where they are or close, we may recommend that we apply for the Virginia Public School Authority, pay off that Literary Loan anticipation note, and then just convert to the state's Virginia Public School Authority 20-year program because we think we could do that at about 2% as well. There's no penalty to do that. It's very flexible. And so we most likely will be talking to you come January about improving some resolutions or what have you to allow us to apply to the other state program. Both of them are tied into the Department of Education. They work collaboratively, and we represent them anyway. So this is something that we have done before and I would like to be able to do this, frankly because the 20-year funding of that is even more flexible in terms of repayment than the Literary Loan program. So, to be continued. I know I'm throwing a lot at you, but from our perspective all of this is just potentially better views as opposed to problematic situations. Just more positive while rates remain very positive.



Mr. Rose says, so I don't know if there's much more to be said about that except that we have taken a very conservative approach to ensure that debt repayment for the school project permanent repayment would start in FY '22. It may be FY '23, but we purposely acted as if it starts in FY '22 to show you what happens if there's even more pressure on the county when we combine the school repayment with the courthouse. And we'll see all that in a few moments.

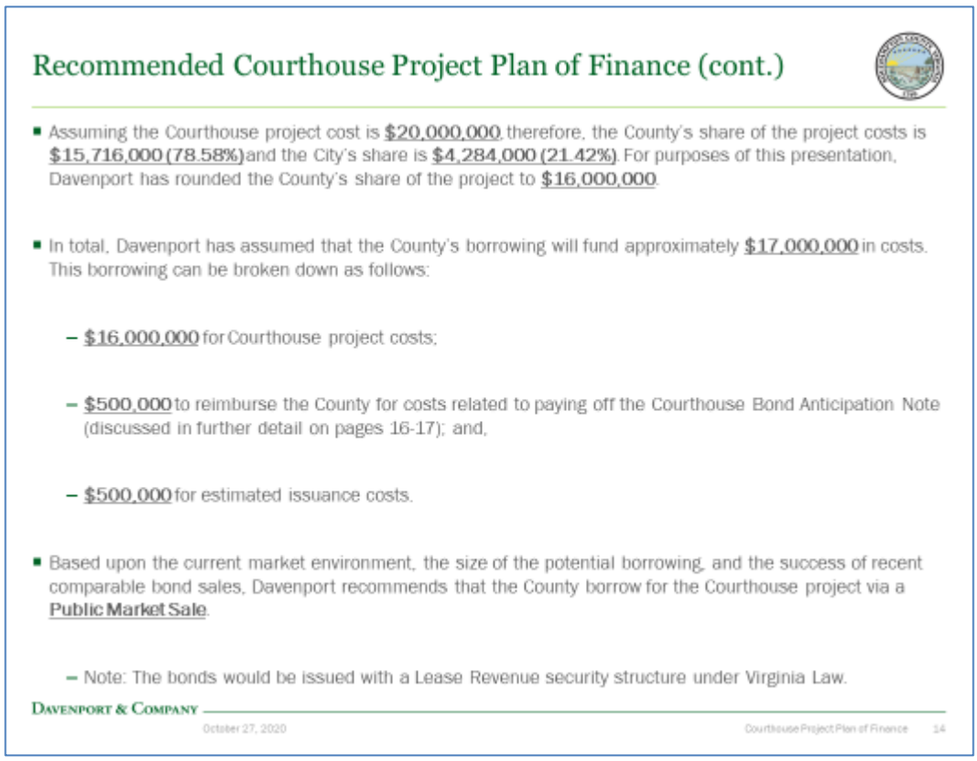


Mr. Rose explains, now turning to the courthouse project and our plan of finance. As I mentioned, in Appendix A is some charts that show you the 50-year lows in interest rates.



Mr. Rose continues, it really is something that I am quite surprised, which is not common in my background. But I think even if it were I would say, I'm surprised to know that when I started this business, permanent 20-year rates were upwards of 14, 15, 16% and now permanent 20-year rates

are in the 2% rate. So again, better lucky than smart, I guess we'll try to take advantage of that. I hope it stays in that range,



Mr. Rose says, so as I mentioned earlier, if indeed the project estimate that was provided to us is at $20 million, what that basically means is that your percentage share is roughly $15.7 million, the city shares about $4.3 million. So we took the liberty of rounding off and saying your share, that is roughly $16 million. On top of that, what we've done here is to look at the funding of about $17 million per year. That $16 million for the courthouse project and another half million to reimburse the county for the bond anticipation of monies that you've already spent, which basically tie back to certain project that I'll show you some details on, some school related things, and then finally an estimated issuance cost of about a half a million. So all told, what people see are based upon at $17 million issue which is very much commensurate with the way in which we've borrowed for you in the past when we had some of these bigger projects. I would point out that it's doable because of a Public Market Sale. We've done that before with the county. And we need to go through the Industrial Development Authority. That's a conduit that's required by Virginia law. It would be a lease arrangement. And if indeed, the county is amenable to this approach, we would come back to you next month, subsequently even in December possibly, to give you the actual details of the structure of all that.

Key Characteristics of a Public Market Sale

- The key characteristics of a Public Market Sale can be summarized as follows:
  - Davenport, in consultation with County staff, would prepare a Credit Rating Package for the National Credit Rating Agencies;
  - The Bonds would be sold based upon the County's credit rating(s) (The County currently holds an issuer credit rating of AA- by S&P);
    - Note: The County will likely obtain a credit rating from Moody's in addition to S&P for the bonds;
  - A public offering document is prepared by Bond Counsel on behalf of the County;
  - The Bonds are sold as a series of bonds to the investing public at prevailing interest rates;
  - Interest rates are fixed for the entire term of the loan;
  - The interest rate and eventual cost of the funds to the County would not be determined until the day the bonds are sold in the Primary Market; and,
  - The County would be able to prepay or redeem the bonds that mature after the first 10 years of the loan with minimal or no penalty.

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Mr. Rose continues, but in the meantime, I just want to give you the highlights of this. And that is the bonds will be sold in a public market. It would be based off of the county's AA range rating by Standard and Poor's. We would also look to Moody's. Those are the two big national credit rating agencies. And your ratings there are considered very solid, very strong. And that's great ratings. You don't see in any difference in that because, again, you are very solid as a county in terms of paying your bills and having your fund balances. All of those are very good.

2019 Courthouse Project Bond Anticipation Note Repayment Strategy

- As mentioned previously, the County's Courthouse project Bond Anticipation Note matures on December 1, 2020.
- Below, Davenport has summarized the dollars that are expected to be available to repay the Courthouse Bond Anticipation Note at maturity.

2019 Courthouse Bond Anticipation Note Repayment Strategy		
Courthouse Bond Anticipation Note Par	$	2,186,000
Current Unspent Proceeds	$	1,923,723
Less: Expected Future Spending (Between Now and December)		(250,000)
Net Proceeds Available for Redemption	$	1,673,723
Par to Be Repaid from Fund Balance	$	512,277
Less: Fresh Start Center Roof Project Costs*	$	(50,000)
Use of Fund Balance Reimbursed from Bond Proceeds	$	462,277

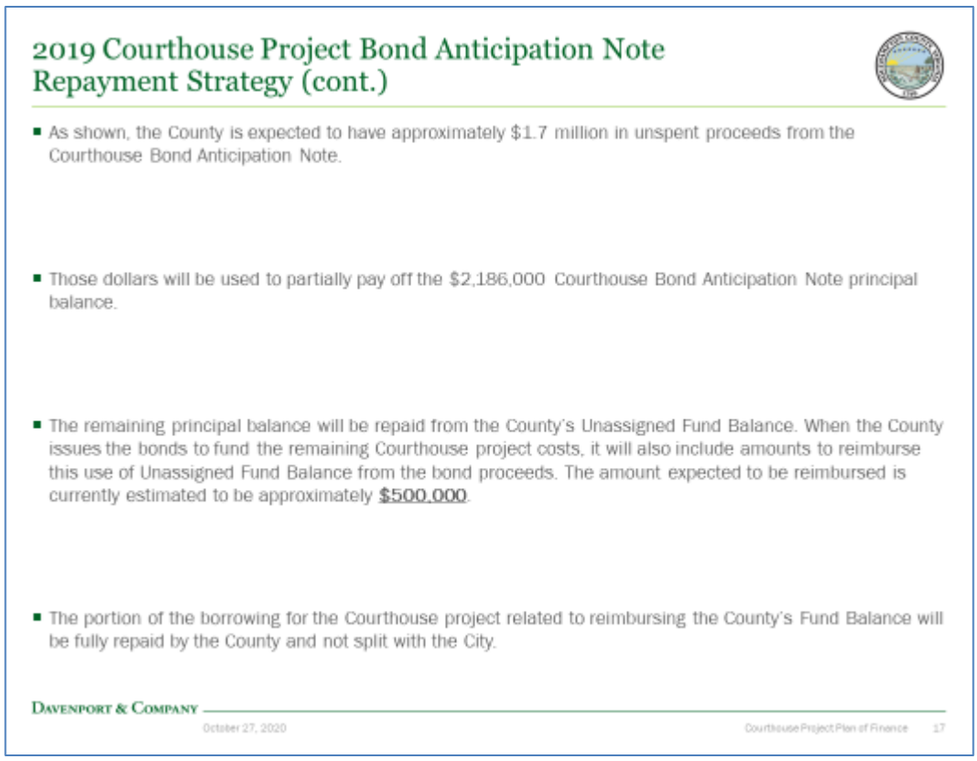
For the purpose of this analysis, Davenport has rounded the Use of Fund Balance Reimbursed from Bond Proceeds to $500,000.

*Note: The Courthouse BAN also funded the Fresh Start Center roof project. Davenport has assumed that this would not be permanently financed as part of the Courthouse borrowing.

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Mr. Rose says, so this $17 million, we are showing you for the moment, the interim funding, that bond that we did at $2.1 million. There's about $1.9 million right now of unspent proceeds. It's expected another quarter million that will be spent. So when we're, in effect, to pay off on this note, we think there will be about $1.6 million still available. There will be another half million dollars, if you would, that will be needed and that will come from the fund balance. And then some of that also will go to the Fresh Start Roof Project.



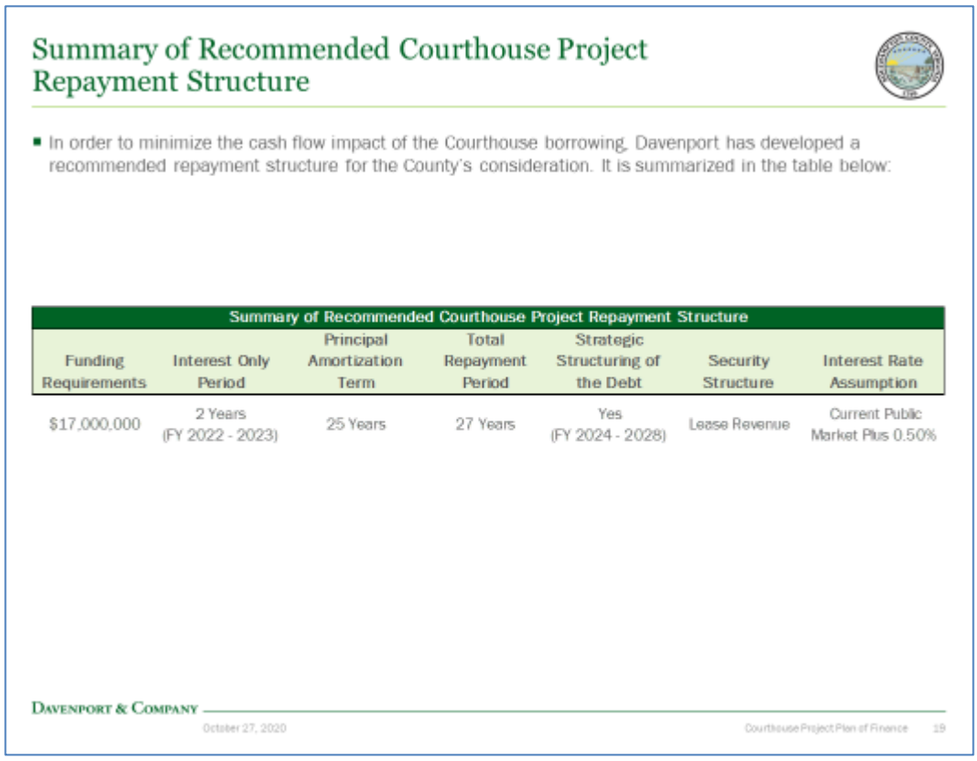
2019 Courthouse Project Bond Anticipation Note Repayment Strategy (cont.)

- As shown, the County is expected to have approximately $1.7 million in unspent proceeds from the Courthouse Bond Anticipation Note.
- Those dollars will be used to partially pay off the $2,186,000 Courthouse Bond Anticipation Note principal balance.
- The remaining principal balance will be repaid from the County's Unassigned Fund Balance. When the County issues the bonds to fund the remaining Courthouse project costs, it will also include amounts to reimburse this use of Unassigned Fund Balance from the bond proceeds. The amount expected to be reimbursed is currently estimated to be approximately $500,000.
- The portion of the borrowing for the Courthouse project related to reimbursing the County's Fund Balance will be fully repaid by the County and not split with the City.

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Mr. Rose continues, so when all is said and done, we will need about a half a million dollars from the fund balance. And when we do the permanent financing, we will reimburse ourselves. That's a lot to throw at you tonight. But suffice it to say that about $17 million borrowing will include reimbursing the county's financing, That's something that we have done for you as well. That's a pretty typical thing to do as you're getting ready to go into permanent funding. So we do all of that.



Summary of Recommended Courthouse Project Repayment Structure

- In order to minimize the cash flow impact of the Courthouse borrowing, Davenport has developed a recommended repayment structure for the County's consideration. It is summarized in the table below:

Summary of Recommended Courthouse Project Repayment Structure

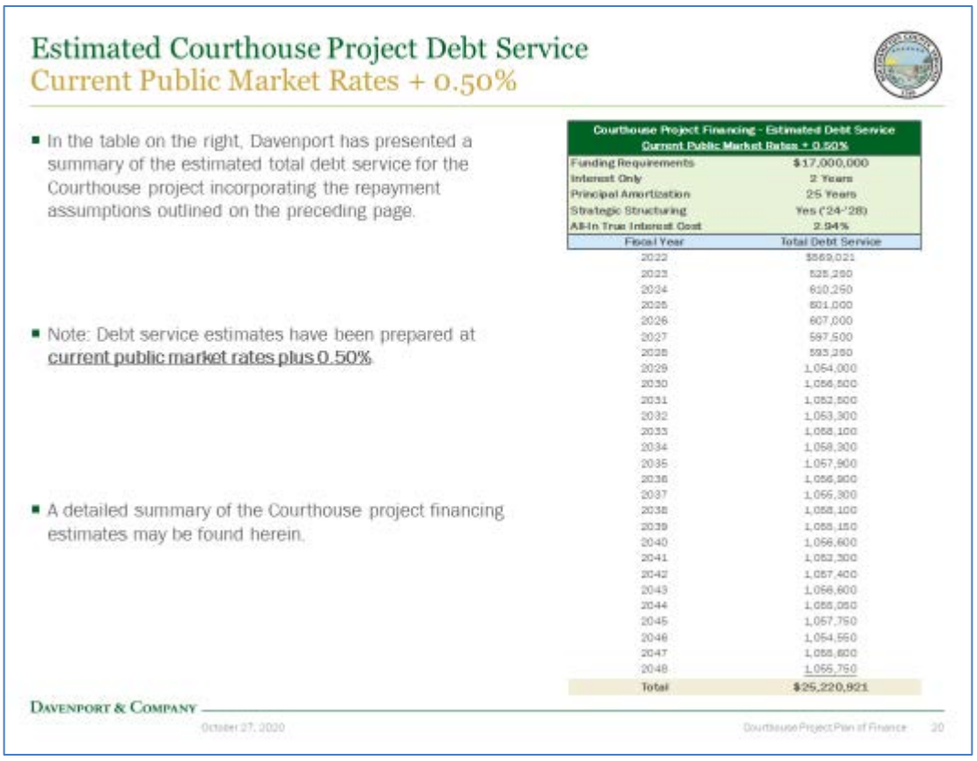
Funding Requirements	Interest Only Period	Principal Amortization Term	Total Repayment Period	Strategic Structuring of the Debt	Security Structure	Interest Rate Assumption
$17,000,000	2 Years (FY 2022 - 2023)	25 Years	27 Years	Yes (FY 2024 - 2028)	Lease Revenue	Current Public Market Plus 0.50%

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Mr. Rose says, I just jumped ahead. We're then going to show you what is the impact to your budget by all of these moving parts all the timetables that we've shared. So here's what the structure would look like. We're thinking about borrowing $17 million. Interest only for two years, FY '22 and '23, with the theory that's the timing at which the project is being developed, being constructed, and opening. And therefore rather than making all the payments immediately, we allow that to be an interest-only period. And then we would repay that debt level, basically level, over 25 years. A little bit of structuring a couple of those years early on, then by and large it's going to be levelized over

25 years. This structure would be what we call a release revenue. We've done that before. And, of course, what we've done here to be conservative is we've assumed an interest rate of where it is today plus we've added a half percent to that. So again, rates as a whole, the cash flows, and the impact would be even less than what I'm about to show you.



Estimated Courthouse Project Debt Service
Current Public Market Rates + 0.50%

- In the table on the right, Davenport has presented a summary of the estimated total debt service for the Courthouse project incorporating the repayment assumptions outlined on the preceding page.
- Note: Debt service estimates have been prepared at current public market rates plus 0.50%.
- A detailed summary of the Courthouse project financing estimates may be found herein.

Courthouse Project Financing - Estimated Debt Service Current Public Market Rates + 0.50%	
Funding Requirements	$17,000,000
Interest Only	2 Years
Principal Amortization	25 Years
Strategic Structuring	Yes ('24-'28)
All-In True Interest Cost	2.94%
Fiscal Year	Total Debt Service
2022	$569,021
2023	625,250
2024	610,250
2025	601,000
2026	607,000
2027	597,500
2028	593,250
2029	1,064,000
2030	1,056,500
2031	1,052,500
2032	1,053,300
2033	1,058,100
2034	1,058,300
2035	1,057,900
2036	1,056,900
2037	1,055,300
2038	1,058,100
2039	1,055,150
2040	1,056,600
2041	1,052,300
2042	1,057,400
2043	1,056,600
2044	1,055,050
2045	1,057,750
2046	1,054,550
2047	1,055,600
2048	1,055,750
Total	$25,220,921

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Mr. Rose continues, on the flip side, who's to say that when we go to the marketplace and you go up more than half a percent. I'll do that as well. We just want to show you the order of magnitude. So on the right-hand side, this is what the cash flows would basically look like. We will be repaying a balance. It's hard for me to see, but I think it's about $25 million on $17 million borrowing. I will tell you when I first started the business back around 1980 and we were doing let's say a $17 million borrowing, the interest would be basically another $17 million if not more. Now today, we're talking about the $17 million borrowing and the interest is about $7 million. So again, it's a small fraction of where it was because again, the interest rates are so much lower. That interest rate that we are using right now is about 2.94%, so again that is half a percent above where the market would be today. So the thing about it, it is possible if we were able to go to the marketplace tomorrow – which we can't do for lots of reasons, we've got a lot of mechanics to get done – we literally would be locking in a fixed rate at below 2-1/2% which again hard to fathom, so instead we've added 50 basis points. That may or may not be enough, maybe more than enough. But again, that's what we've done.



Estimated Southampton Real Estate Tax Equivalent Impact
Current Public Market Rates + 0.50%

Estimated Southampton Real Estate Tax Equivalent Impact	
Courthouse Costs Financed	$16.0 Million
Estimated Fund Balance Reimbursement	$0.5 Million
Estimated Cost of Issuance	$0.5 Million
Total Financing Needs	**$17.0 Million**
Interest Only Period	2 Years
Principal Amortization	25 Years
Total Borrowing Term	27 Years
Strategic Structuring of the Debt	Yes (2024 – 2028)
Estimated All-In True Interest Cost	2.94%
Estimated Southampton Real Estate Tax Equivalent Impact (Upfront in 2022)	**0.90¢**

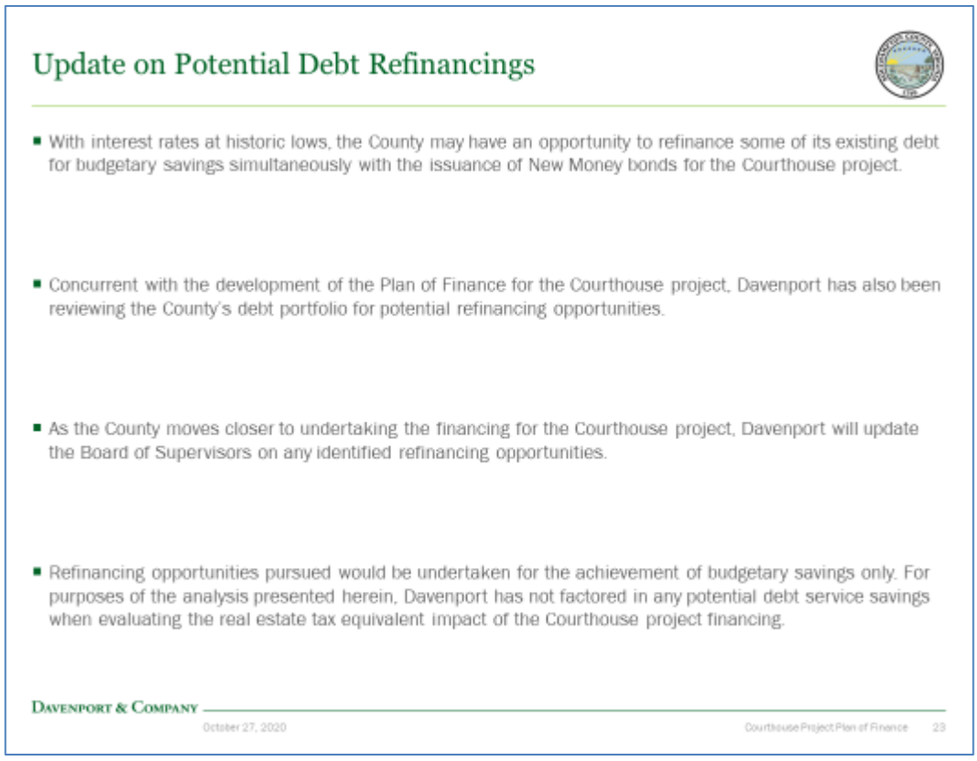
Note: Equivalent Real Estate Tax Impact assumes a penny value of $163,162 and the availability of a future cigarette tax (estimated to be approximately $80,000 in annual revenue).

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Mr. Rose says, so what does it all boil down to if we do that? And this is the very bottom, the equivalent impact to Southampton County for the fiscal year starting in ’22. We would need less than one penny equivalent impact to make all this work. And I want to underscore that. That is, if we have $80,000 equivalent of monies available annually from the cigarette tax. If that occurs, then we need a little less than one penny, which is again as I mentioned, about $160,000. So nine-tenths of that and we will round off, take a little liberty here, and say we need about $150,000 additional dollars from your overall budget on an annual basis at least in the first several years. We don’t need it every year, but for the first several years, we’re going to need that additional monies. Now, I’m happy to answer any questions. I’ll stop for a second. I want to add a few more things if I could.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you, Mr. Rose. Are there any questions? [No response.]



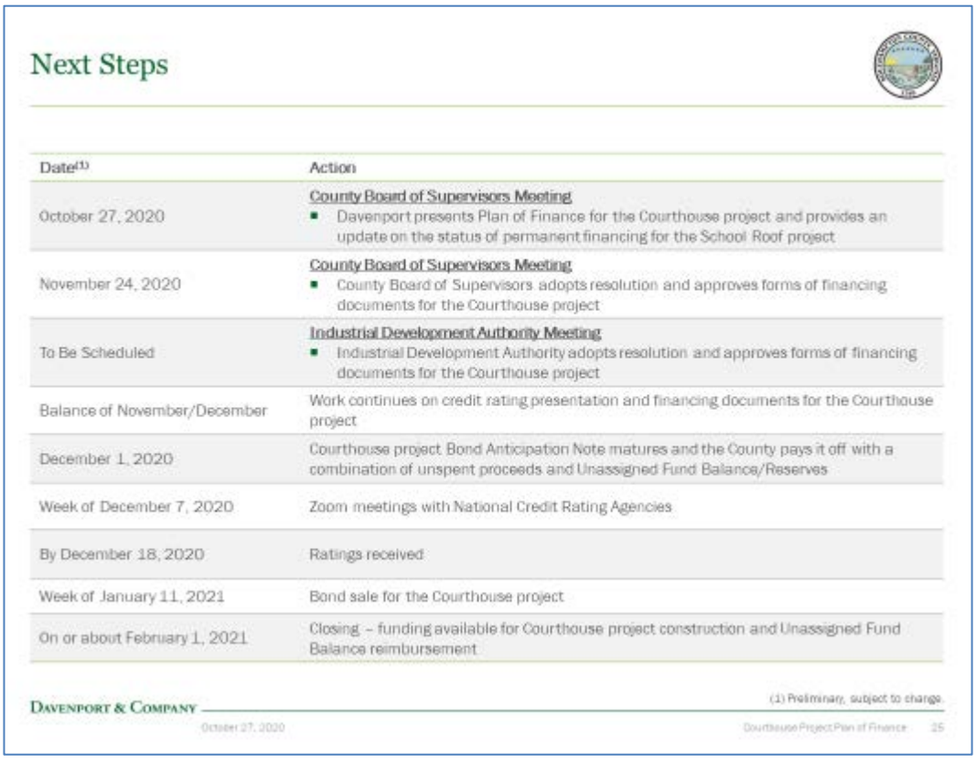
Update on Potential Debt Refinancings

- With interest rates at historic lows, the County may have an opportunity to refinance some of its existing debt for budgetary savings simultaneously with the issuance of New Money bonds for the Courthouse project.
- Concurrent with the development of the Plan of Finance for the Courthouse project, Davenport has also been reviewing the County’s debt portfolio for potential refinancing opportunities.
- As the County moves closer to undertaking the financing for the Courthouse project, Davenport will update the Board of Supervisors on any identified refinancing opportunities.
- Refinancing opportunities pursued would be undertaken for the achievement of budgetary savings only. For purposes of the analysis presented herein, Davenport has not factored in any potential debt service savings when evaluating the real estate tax equivalent impact of the Courthouse project financing.

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Mr. Rose continues, okay. So there's some other positives that could possibly be there that could even work against even needing the equivalent of that work plan. And that is some potential debt refinancings. You may know, as I mentioned earlier, we've been in front of you, I've been in front of you to talk about refinancings in the past, talked about it multiple times. When I talk about refinancings, I'm talking about simply taking higher interest rates and exchanging them to lower interest rates. Not talking about extending any debt, not talking about any of that. Just simply, if you are fortunate to have a mortgage, someone says to you, you have let's say 20 years left on your mortgage. Your mortgage rate is 6% and someone says to you that you can refinance it at 5% and still have 20 years to go, you go ahead and do that. That's what we're talking about here. We have looked at your debt portfolio, and there are some opportunities right now. You'll notice I'm not putting numbers to any of them. Our thinking is that we will come back next month in November at your board meeting and talk a little bit closer about what those refunding opportunities might look like. They may go away. They've not been factored into any of your cash flows purposely. But there are some opportunities here. So again, that could further work against the equivalent of one penny. And again depending upon what the ultimate borrowing rate is, it could also work favorably against that nine-tenths of a penny. But on the flip side, it's also possible that rates go up more than a half percent. Let's say they go up a whole percent. That nine-tenths of the penny will be a little bit higher. So again, we could give you an order of magnitude, and I think the order of magnitude for the citizens that would be the most likely. We'll need about the equivalent of one penny to make this project work based upon all the key assumptions.



Next Steps

Date(1)	Action
October 27, 2020	County Board of Supervisors Meeting ▪ Davenport presents Plan of Finance for the Courthouse project and provides an update on the status of permanent financing for the School Roof project
November 24, 2020	County Board of Supervisors Meeting ▪ County Board of Supervisors adopts resolution and approves forms of financing documents for the Courthouse project
To Be Scheduled	Industrial Development Authority Meeting ▪ Industrial Development Authority adopts resolution and approves forms of financing documents for the Courthouse project
Balance of November/December	Work continues on credit rating presentation and financing documents for the Courthouse project
December 1, 2020	Courthouse project Bond Anticipation Note matures and the County pays it off with a combination of unspent proceeds and Unassigned Fund Balance/Reserves
Week of December 7, 2020	Zoom meetings with National Credit Rating Agencies
By December 18, 2020	Ratings received
Week of January 11, 2021	Bond sale for the Courthouse project
On or about February 1, 2021	Closing – funding available for Courthouse project construction and Unassigned Fund Balance reimbursement

(1) Preliminary, subject to change

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In conclusion, Mr. Rose says, so the last page here is just Next Steps. With your blessing, we would like to be back at November 24 to ask you to approve the necessary resolutions for the courthouse project. We will then meet with the IDA and have them take the necessary actions. The balance of that in November and especially December, we would do a variety of things, including talking to the rating agencies. That right now is preliminarily set for the week of December 7. We would like to get ratings back before Christmas and then, if possible, move forward as early as the middle of January which is typically a lighter calendar for borrowing. It's usually a good time. Who knows again what's going on in the world? It's uncertain. But the thinking would be we could lock money in in that week of January 11th, I think, or about the 15th or thereabouts, and then could be closing on or about February 1. And then as I mentioned, I would most likely be talking to you in a January meeting for your blessing for applying to the VPSA for Literary Loan monies. It's a possibility again we'll be working closer with this path over the course of the next six to eight weeks on that. That, Mr. Johnson, I hope that I've said this in a way that's nothing too confusing for you all to digest. Thank you.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you. Any questions?

Supervisor Cornwell says, what would it typically cost to facilitate the refinancing of existing debt, what we currently have, and what would have to be a lower interest rate and is there a threshold? I know what it is for residential stuff you know, but at this scale what is the threshold for it being worth it or not?

Mr. Rose replies, yes. So typically best practices, short of some other considerations, is a net present value after the cost of issuance of 3%. That's typically what the industry has been. Having said that, it's possible, depending on how many years are left in some of the pieces of debt, that we may suggest that if we can get any savings, things that are really – not just saying three, four, five, six years to go – it's worthwhile. At the same time, though, if there's some debt that's out there for probably a decade or longer, we're going to most likely suggest that we hit that 3% threshold. That's what we recommend.

Chairman Edwards asks, any other questions?

Mr. Rose says, that's a lot to digest. I can tell you that.

Supervisor Gillette says, am I assuming that the layover window is directly tied to public policy and the election?

Mr. Rose replies, I don't know. I just don't know what's going to happen. I don't think anybody does, if that's the question. It's anybody's guess.

Supervisor Gillette says, yes, I understand that.

Mr. Rose replies, I mean I think that from our perspective, we used to say that the closer you can get to where we are today, hopefully the less things can move. I will tell you, I remember back in April Fool's Day, 1987. It was a bad day and a good day. So, all right. And from April 1 to June 10th or 15th, just that roughly 10 weeks, interest rates went from let's say here – I'm talking to you about 2-1/2%. They went from the equivalent to 2-1/2% to 5%. He lost 2-1/2% percentage points in 10 weeks. And then in that October was when the stock market crashed, which really was the first big crash since that was back in 1929. That was back in '87. So again, 10 weeks, I'm talking about 10 weeks. Anything, especially after an election. Who knows? Now I will say this. If it appears that the markets went up like that or even close to that, even if you approve what you do in November, we will be talking about whether or not it makes sense to wait a few more months. Because remember, as you're moving forward, you don't need those dollars basically until sometime this summer. So we may have to think about some maybe other strategies. And that's where it gets a little tricky because there's no right or wrong. But hopefully we're not in that mode and I would say this. Even if rates go up by 1% or 1-1/2%, which wouldn't feel good. It's still, relatively speaking, so much better than anything we had estimated, going back to 2016 and before that. The other thing is we would set up the debt – we always do anyway – that we could refinance this down the road if rates came down again. So we will not lose that opportunity. So that would be the thinking is to try to think ahead.

Supervisor Gillette says, it would appear to me, if things hold, we'd be in the best position to be in.

Mr. Rose agrees, yes, absolutely. It'd be a very, very good position to be in.

Chairman Edwards asks, any other questions? [No response.] Thank you, Mr. Rose.

Mr. Rose says, thank you, Chairman Edwards. I appreciate it. With your blessing, we'll be back in November.

Chairman Edwards says, okay. Thank you very much. We'll see you next month. All right, we're going on to the first reading of an ordinance amendment. Everybody has that in your agenda packet. $10 to $20 for the defendant. And you have the ordinance in there and the only thing we have to change is to scratch out the 10 and put 20 in there. Anybody have any comments? [No response] Anything to go on with that? [No response.] If not, we'll entertain a motion on that to set it up for a Public Hearing.

Supervisor White says, so moved.

Supervisor Gillette says, I'll second that.

Chairman Edwards says, all right. Motion to take up to the Public Hearing and second. Any further discussion? [No response.] All right, all those in favor say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed, no. [No response.] The ayes have it. We will go to the Public Hearing with that. All right, the Capital Funding Requests. Boykins Fire Department and Rescue Squad wants $105,000. Money we already have put away. Mr. Johnson, you want to say anything about that?

Mr. Johnson says, not much more to add. You can see, Mr. Chairman, they've done an addition to their building and also recently purchased a piece of apparatus.

Chairman Edwards asks, Supervisor Faison, would you like to handle that, sir?

Supervisor Faison says, I move that we approve the capital funding request from the Boykins Fire Department and Rescue Squad for $105,000.

Chairman Edwards says, thank you. Second?

Supervisor Jones says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, all right. All those in favor of that motion say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed, no. [No response.] We have approved it. The second one, Courtland Fire and Rescue Squad, wants $14,000. That's my district, and I would be totally in favor of granting that $14,000. I'll make a motion.

Supervisor Faison says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, we have a second. Any discussion on that? [No response.] All in favor say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed, no. [No response.] We give $14,000 to the Courtland people. [Motion carried.] Okay, Project Updates. The first one is the Relocation of the Department of Community Development. Ms. Lewis, do you have anything to say about that?

Ms. Beth Lewis says, we are all completely moved in with the help of Ms. Wright's department, Ms. Edward's department, Ms. Lowe's department. All our pieces of equipment seem to work with each other on a fairly regular basis. We have citizens come in every day to get permits and request inspections and seek help for all their development concerns. The inspectors are busy. Southampton builds about 60 brand new homes a year, each one requiring between 10 and 15 inspections and that's just new homes. The Enviva project is going on. The Birdsong Peanuts project is finishing up. And our staff is busy every day. And we keep our helpers busy, too, making sure all the pieces work together. Last week it was taking apart the credit card machine and unplugging all the cords. So it's just how it is when you move into a new place. But we're very grateful to these Southampton County employees, and we're very grateful for all that help and assistance. Thank you.

Chairman Edwards says, we're all happy that you like your new location.

Ms. Lewis says, yes, and people can find us.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, thank you. Moving on, Courthouse Renovations. Do we need anything further on that? [No response.] Do you want to bring up any further questions that haven't been covered tonight?

Supervisor Gillette says, Mr. Johnson, do you have any comments on that last meeting that we had with Glavé and Holmes? If not, I've got one or two.

Mr. Johnson says, I will just briefly comment, Vice Chairman. Overall the project is on schedule, under budget. So far, so good. We're still early. We're working hard to try to keep it that way. The architects are looking at a couple of alternatives right now to further reduce costs based on the exterior aesthetics. I got some information late this afternoon from the architect on that, and we'll be sharing that meeting with Mr. Gillette and Mr. Cornwell in the next few days and we will give you feedback on that.

Supervisor Gillette says, thank you.

Chairman Edwards asks, anything else?

Supervisor Gillette says, I don't think so. I don't know if it would be worth a note to let you know what we had asked for during that meeting, which was to look at an alternative covering on the back walls which would be unseen there. And I asked Supervisor Jones for some input on that and he was quite helpful. The chief judge went along with the request. So I saw that as a positive aspect in that he said it did not matter to him. And also there were some architectural changes in the back side of that building and even on the side facing the jail. Sheriff Wyche and they regarded the false windows I guess you call them. We didn't see a need going to the expense of putting those in the building since they added nothing to the use of the building. And he was in agreement to take those actions. And those were two things that we were looking at re-costing for us in the estimate. I didn't know if the rest of the Board was aware of that, but that was a positive response from the chief judge, I thought.

Chairman Edwards says, okay.

Supervisor Cornwell says, on what Mr. Gillette said regarding the chief judge and his comment on our courthouse, he simply stated he didn't care what it looked like as long as it was functional for his needs and the circuit court he is just as happy as he can be.

Chairman Edwards asks, does Supervisor Jones have anything to add?

Supervisor Jones says, no.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, anything further on that? [No response.] We've already covered the CARE Acts funding. And the Insurrection Trail Project. Ms. Updike, you've been very instrumental in that. Could you comment?

Supervisor Updike says, I think I sent everybody a report. But the sidewalk and parking lot project has been awarded and will soon be underway. The Smart phone app and interactive map are fine and the contract will be signed and returned this week. The trail has been laid out and the signage

has been approved. The brochure is underway. We have historic lighting fixtures ready to be ordered. And the interior, we've been working on that. So we're moving along and it's all covered through grant money.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, thank you. Anybody have any questions? [No response.] We'll move on to #13, Matters from the Commissioner of Revenue. We have two matters that have come up. Anybody like to speak on those requests? Well, the first request is the amendment of Section 1579 of the Southampton County Code which would eliminate the need for annual filing of personal property tax forms by individuals. Businesses and farmers would still have to file. This change would be permanent unless the Board changes its mind. Any discussion on that?

Supervisor White says, I think it would save the county a lot of money in the mailing of them. It would save us, what – 15,000 a year? I believe so. I think it's a good idea.

Chairman Edwards asks, are you making the motion that we go for that?

Supervisor White says, yes, sir. I so move.

Chairman Edwards asks, is there a second?

Supervisor Faison says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, second by Mr. Faison. Any further discussion? [No response.] Then we will vote on that. All those in favor of advertising that for public hearings say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE
Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, opposed, no? [No response.] The ayes have it. The second request requires the amendment of Section 1594 of the Southampton Code which would extend the three-year filing cycle for elderly handicapped exemptions by one year only. The full filing requirements would resume in January 2022 and every three years or after. Anybody have any comments on that one?

Supervisor Updike asks, so you're just lifting it up and then back to three years again?

Chairman Edwards says, yes, evidently it won't be permanent.

Supervisor White also asks, so it will just add a year to it and then it will go back the way it was?

Chairman Edwards, yes, that's the way I read it. Is that right, Mr. Johnson?

Mr. Johnson replies, that's correct. And she's really doing this based on the fact that we're in the midst of a pandemic. This is not a great time to require people to bring in a lot of extra paperwork, so she's just asking to defer that for one year and then get back on that three-year cycle starting next year.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, Board, we need a motion to advertise that for the next meeting.

Supervisor Faison says, so moved.

Supervisor Gillette says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, and we have a second okay. All those in favor say aye.

Alan Edwards	AYE
William Hart Gillette	AYE

Christopher Cornwell	AYE
Carl Faison	AYE
Dallas Jones	AYE
Lynda Updike	AYE
Robert White	AYE

Chairman Edwards continues, all those opposed, no. [No response.] The ayes have it. We will advertise that for the next meeting. We're down to Miscellaneous. The SBA Disaster Assistance. Anybody have any questions about that? [No response.] If not, we'll move to B, Recommendation from the Planning Commission for Gateway Signs. I think that's a good idea.

Supervisor Updike says, something that says "Welcome to Southampton."

Chairman Edwards adds, "All right, spend some money here, then go home."

Supervisor Updike says, yeah, that's right. I think it would be six [signs] was the recommendation. I would start with two.

Chairman Edwards asks, where would you put them, ma'am?

Supervisor Updike responds, coming in on 58 from either –

Chairman Edwards says, from 35?

Supervisor Updike says, yes.

Chairman Edwards asks, let's see. Mr. Johnson, how do we set that in motion?

Mr. Johnson answers, well, what we would suggest is we get some cost estimates for you and we'll build that into the budget process next year so we have some firm numbers to give you.

Supervisor Updike adds, and then decide where we will place them.

Mr. Johnson says, correct.

Chairman Edwards comments, all right. So we'll put that into a motion, if that's okay with everybody. I think it would be nice.

Supervisor Updike continues, I do, too. And while we're putting up signs maybe we can clean the trash out of the ditches. And litter is our biggest crop, sometimes.

Chairman Edwards says, it is one of our biggest crops.

Supervisor Updike says, that tornado went through and there's so much debris that we can't even mow there.

Chairman Edwards says, you know, I went to Maine one time and the signs on the road said, "Littering, First Offense $5000." Okay. We don't see anything here, we didn't see it nowhere.

Supervisor Updike says, we need to do something.

Chairman Edwards says, yes. We need to ask the Sheriff's Department to get more active in that. I know we've done that every year.

Supervisor Updike says, or community services or somebody.

Supervisor White asks, what is the fine for littering now? Do we even have one?

Mr. Johnson says, we do. Our fine is the maximum that the state code allows.

Supervisor White says, okay.

Chairman Edwards says, okay.

Supervisor Gillette says, when was the last time anybody in Southampton County was convicted of littering? Can anybody remember that, I can't?

Supervisor Updike, I can't. I know somebody threw out a lot of tires one time. And they got him.

Supervisor Gillette says, can I ask Sheriff Wyche a question?

Sheriff Wyche says, sure.

Supervisor Gillette asks, have you issued a summons for littering and have it dismissed?

Sheriff Wyche responds, yes. Sometimes it is dismissed and sometimes not. But I would say the majority of the time –

Supervisor Gillette, it is dismissed.

Sheriff Wyche says, yes. But I still tell them to write them.

Supervisor Gillette says, have we had any recently? Say, within the last 12 months?

Sheriff Wyche says, last year, I think we had four or five.

Chairman Edwards asks, is it difficult to prosecute anybody for that?

Sheriff Wyche says, it's not difficult to prosecute. You put it before the court and the court makes a judgment whether or not. It's up to the judge.

Chairman Edwards says, well, thank you for your service. And I think the Board would appreciate if you guys got tough on that. You certainly have the capability to do it.

Supervisor Faison says, I have something to ask Sheriff Wyche. What kind of attention do you give to littering?

Sheriff Wyche says, what brings it to our attention is nine times out of ten, people will throw things out the front. And you can stop them and write the summons then. So anytime I go down the road and I see it on the road, but I didn't see it happen and there's nothing I can really do about that.

Supervisor Updike says, over my way, it's garbage bags. People are going to the dump and they blow out of the back of the pickup.

Sheriff Wyche says, with garbage bags like that when we get a call, we do go and try to see if you can find some information in it that will lead us back to the owner.

Chairman Edwards says, all right, thank you. Late Arriving Matters. Are there any late arriving matters?

Mr. Johnson says, I've got one, Mr. Chairman. I received an email today from Ms. Jarratt requesting a joint meeting between you all and Franklin City Council. She noted that the last joint meeting was held about a year ago prior to the onset of the pandemic, prior to several of their council members taking their seats this past July. She's asked just for me to make you all aware that they're interested in meeting. And if you all are amenable, I'll be glad to coordinate dates and preparation of an agenda with Ms. Jarratt.

Chairman Edwards says, okay, go ahead and process that.

Supervisor Cornwell says, Mr. Chairman, if I can insert one thing while everybody is here. I think I would be remiss if I didn't at least mention tonight and discuss the recent passing of Carolyn Modlin. She was an anchor of this community. She served as mayor. She served as a teacher. She served our children and being on the school board. And it's a significant loss to our community here to have

her passage from us. I just wanted to mention that and offer our condolences as a Board to her family and the community.

Chairman Edwards says, okay. Thank you.

Supervisor Updike says, I have one thing. We keep hearing these new roofs are leaking. Is anybody looking into that?

Chairman Edwards says, that's a good question.

Supervisor Updike says, I don't want the schools to mildew or mold.

Supervisor Cornwell says, we're not quite certain yet it they are yet, but we are. Obviously the short answer. We're working on trying to get some answers to these questions. Hopefully we will be able to report and vote on this at an upcoming meeting. We're hearing the same thing – that they're still leaking.

Chairman Edwards says, and whom are we working on to get to the answers? I mean, who do we go to?

Supervisor Gillette says, is there a warranty on that roof?

Supervisor Cornwell says, I believe Mike [Johnson] has been in contact with Dr. Shannon. We started at the top where those answers to the questions such as warranty information can be obtained because she has the keys to that information, you know – what did the contract say? What was provided? What's covered? What kind of warranty does it have? And I think she'll be able to get us that information.

Mr. Johnson says, and yeah, the short answer is the roofs are under warranty.

Chairman Edwards says [to Supervisor Updike], are you satisfied with that?

Supervisor Updike shrugs and says, that's a loaded question for now.

Chairman Edwards says, I frankly would like to hear something back from them about that. I am hearing about problems.

Supervisor Updike says, people keep telling me the roofs are leaking. Whether they are or not, I don't know.

Chairman Edwards says, I've gotten two calls from people who live in this environment here who said that the leaks are a problem. I therefore would like to hear an answer on that. We've already replaced almost $6 million worth of roofs. What's going on if we have problems?

Supervisor Updike asks, can we add it to the agenda for the next meeting?

Supervisor Cornwell asks, can we request a report from them?

Chairman Edwards says, yes. I think that would provide us an update on the project. And have somebody, a representative from the school, come and give a presentation to the Board and answer those questions.

Supervisor Gillette says, well, I think that would be in order if Mr. Johnson could coordinate that with Dr. Shannon.

Mr. Johnson says, I will be glad to make the request.

Chairman Edwards asks, is everybody okay with that? [Board responds positively.] Is anybody not okay with that? [No response.] We have a consensus, Mr. Johnson. Okay, anything else? [No response.] Motion to adjourn?

Supervisor Jones says, so moved.

Supervisor Faison says, second.

Chairman Edwards says, we are adjourned. Thank you.

With no additional business and with no opposition from the Board, the meeting is adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Dr. Alan W. Edwards, Chairman

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Michael W. Johnson, County Administrator (Clerk)