

**16. CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF FY 2010 BUDGET**

In order to stay on schedule with your adopted FY 2010 budget timeline, it is necessary that you reach consensus today on a draft FY 2010 budget for publication for public comment on May 18, 2009.

It is my understanding from your previous discussions that you have reached consensus on publication of a total budget of \$56,885,219 as illustrated in the initial draft budget of April 8. I further understand that the sole change to the initial draft budget that you'd like to make prior to publication is to increase the proposed personal property tax levy from \$4.00 to \$4.50 per \$100 of assessed value and to reduce the transfer-in of unappropriated general fund reserve funds by a corresponding amount.

While it does not impact publication of the draft budget, as a related matter, I further understand that it is your intention to:

- 1) Consider immediate adoption of a 2% transient occupancy tax (agenda item 9);
- 2) Consider placing a 4% food and beverage tax on the November 2009 general election ballot for consideration by the Southampton County electorate (agenda item 11);
- 3) Consider increasing other fees associated with growth and development (agenda item 14);
- 4) Direct the County Administrator to meet with local power companies and state legislators to discuss their willingness to append Southampton County to the list of counties authorized by state statute to impose a solid waste disposal fee; and
- 5) Reserve the option to consider semiannual tax collection in Fiscal Year 2011.

**MOTION REQUIRED:** If the Board is so inclined, a motion is required to direct the County Administrator to publish the draft budget (with the one change described above) and associated tax levies in the Tidewater News, and solicit public comment on May 18, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.