

Budget Worksession, Monday, March 30, 2026, 8:30 AM Government Center Smith
West Room

ROLL CALL:

Jeffrey Slaven
Chris Kincheloe
Steve Grepps
Gerald Garber
Scott Seaton
Carolyn Bragg
Timothy K. Fitzgerald County Administrator
Jennifer M. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator
Misty Cook, Director of Finance

ABSENT: Mike Shull

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting
of the Augusta County
Board of Supervisors held
on Monday, March 30,
2026, at 8:30 AM at the
Government Center Smith
West Room, and in the
250th year of the
Commonwealth...

1. FY2026-27 Budget

FY2026-27 BUDGET

The County Administrator, Deputy County Administrator and Finance Director presented an overview of the FY2026-27 Budget. The Board reviewed projected revenues, capital allocations and expenditures by Departments. The Augusta County Board of Supervisors met with representatives of the Augusta County School Board including Dr. Kelly Troell, School Superintendent; and Melissa Meyerhoeffer, who presented an overview of their FY2026-27 Budget. The School Board has a balanced budget to present. A short list of priorities was presented as well, but the top priority was to increase the approved 2% COLA to 3% COLA for school employees. The state budget is still unknown. If the state approves their share of a 3% increase the shortfall is \$480,846.00. If the state does not approve the 3% the shortfall is \$1,008,640.00.

The Board continued discussion on the FY2026-27 budget and made the following amendments to be advertised:

Recommended budget-General Fund

\$152,706,699

Work session revisions:

Expenditures

Schools increase 2% COLA to 3% COLA (if the state matches 3%)*	\$	480,846
F&R Capital allocation	\$	764,154

*Board consensus was to fund the shortfall for the 3% COLA for School staff. The current state budget is unknown at this time. These figures assume that the state will pay their share of the 3% raise. If the state does not, these figures will be adjusted for the County to cover the entire shortfall \$1,008,640.00. In this case the F&R capital allocation would be reduced to \$236,360.00.

\$ 1,245,00

Revenues

\$0.15 increase M&T	\$	465,000
\$0.05 increase PP	\$	480,000
\$0.15 increase in Bus PP	\$	300,000

\$

1,245,000

Total Advertised Budget-General Fund

\$153,951,699

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2. Closed Session

CLOSED SESSION

On motion of Mr. Kincheloe, seconded by Mr. Garber, the Board went into closed session pursuant to:

1. the personnel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1)

[discussion, consideration or interviews of (a) prospective candidates for employment, or (b) assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific employees]:

1. County Administrator
2. County Attorney

2. the real property exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(3)

[discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body]:

1. Zapton Building in downtown Staunton – 111/113 S. Augusta Street

3. the legal counsel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.23711(A)(8)

[consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter]:

4. Zapton Building in downtown Staunton – 111/113 S. Augusta Street

On motion of Mr. Garber, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, the Board came out of Closed Session.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Grepps, Bragg and Seaton

Nays: None
Absent: Shull

Motion carried.

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The Chairman advised that each member is required to certify that to the best of their knowledge during the closed session only the following was discussed:

1. Public business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements, and
2. Only such public business matters identified in the motion to convene the executive session.

The Chairman asked if there is any Board member who cannot so certify.

Hearing none, the Chairman called upon the County Administrator/ Clerk of the Board to call the roll noting members of the Board who approve the certification shall answer AYE and those who cannot shall answer NAY.

Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Grepps, Bragg and
Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Shull

Motion carried.

The Chairman authorized the County Administrator/Clerk of the Board to record this certification in the minutes.

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3. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Garber moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, the Board adjourn subject to call of the Chairman.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Grepps, Bragg and
Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Shull

Motion carried.

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Minutes approved by the Board on Wednesday, April 22, 2026. The signed minutes can be reviewed in the County Administrator's Office.

Chairman

County Administrator