

BUDGET COMMITTEE

June 20, 2013

5:15 PM

PRESENT: William Armstrong, Charlie Bayless, Tom Bowers, Nancy Brown, Steve Chambers, Lawrence Hodge, Scott Sams and Harry Sisk.

The meeting was called to order by Harry Sisk.

Quorum present.

Buford Peters stated the Park and Recreation Board would prefer to remain a part of the County. Mr. Peters said Park & Recreation would have additional expenses to be an outside agency including an annual audit. He said the committee feels they can make the necessary changes to be in compliance with County Audit and remain a part of the County. Mr. Peters asked the Budget Committee to reconsider making Park and Rec an outside agency.

Finance Director Ingrid Deloach went over the cuts to other charges and travel by account. She said if the other charges line item is cut from the Planning Office's budget it will be a reduction of \$75,000. Mrs. Deloach stated the GIS System, Storm Water and Electrical Permits all come out of other charges. According to Planning Director Chris Schuettler, the Sheriff's Department and the Elizabethton Police Department use the GIS system. Mrs. Deloach cautioned the Committee that Carter County will not be eligible for Federal Grants if Storm Water is eliminated. Mrs. Deloach said the money received from electrical permits is flow through money that goes back out as an expense. Nancy Brown asked how much more training is needed for the Planning Office to have their certifications completed for Electrical Permits. Tom Bowers stated that will be discussed at the next planning meeting. The Planning Office is required to have annual certifications and did not reduce their travel. Mrs. Deloach said she has adjusted insurance lines to reflect the savings from the new contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield. She also said she made sure not to reduce insurance for vacant positions. Tom Bowers asked if the County could charge the City Police Department for use of the GIS System. Finance Director Ingrid Deloach stated she has not researched the issue but she assumes the County could charge the City Police Department for GIS services.

Chief Deputy Ron Street stated the Sheriff's Department has been asked if they could survive with the same level of funding as the current fiscal year. Chief Street said he has concerns about the increase in jail medical, maintenance on the jail, and prisoner clothing. He also recommended the Committee look at the Sheriff's Manual page 102 concerning building and maintaining a jail. Tom Bowers said Sheriff Mathes had indicated to him that his department could get by with no increase to his budget. Chief Street stated he reminded the Sheriff of the increases that had been overlooked. He said the only thing that got the Sheriff's Department through the current fiscal year is the staffing vacancies. Finance Director Ingrid Deloach went over the Sheriff

Department's budget request. Tom Bowers said he could see the need for an increase of \$67,367.44 in the Jail's budget to cover the cost of the new medical contract and increase in workman's comp insurance.

Motion was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Lawrence Hodge to increase the Jail Budget \$67,367.44 over fiscal year 2012-2013 funding. A voice roll call was as follows:

William Armstrong	Aye	Steve Chambers	Aye
Charlie Bayless	Aye	Lawrence Hodge	Aye
Tom Bowers	Aye	Scott Sams	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	Harry Sisk	Aye

All ayes. Motion carried.

Finance Director Ingrid Deloach went over the budget for each account in detail. Planning other charges was not cut due to the need for GIS, Storm Water and Electrical Permits. Tom Bowers said he can understand why Planning did not cut other charges but he feels they should cut \$1,300 to equal half of travel. County Trustee Randal Lewis did not feel he could cut travel or other charges. Mrs. Deloach said EMA is concerned about the County meeting its required funding match to receive funding from the State.

Motion was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Nancy Brown to reduce the budget for Planning by \$1,300. A voice roll call was as follows:

William Armstrong	Aye	Steve Chambers	Aye
Charlie Bayless	Aye	Lawrence Hodge	Aye
Tom Bowers	Aye	Scott Sams	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	Harry Sisk	Aye

All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Scott Sams to keep funding for Patrol at 2012-2013 funding. A voice roll call was as follows:

William Armstrong	Pass	Steve Chambers	Aye
Charlie Bayless	No	Lawrence Hodge	No
Tom Bowers	Aye	Scott Sams	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	Harry Sisk	No

Four ayes, three no and one pass. Motion failed.

Finance Director Ingrid Deloach reminded the Committee the County receives a 50% match from the City of Elizabethton for the Animal Shelter. Animal Shelter Director April Jones presented a letter to the Committee appealing their decision to remove her requested increase to make the Animal Control Position be made full time. Mrs. Jones said she feels the Animal Shelter can justify the increase for a full time Animal Control Officer. She noted in her submitted request there was no increase in pay per hour. Mayor Humphrey stated there is an urgent need in the community for a full time Animal Control Officer. Harry Sisk said the Animal Shelter's request will be considered at the next Budget Meeting.

Mrs. Deloach said the Agricultural Extension office is willing to make a cut if they are required to do so. However, the County will not meet the required percentage match to get funding from the State. Agricultural Extension will have to cut a position if their budget is reduced.

Motion was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Steve Chambers to keep funding for the Agricultural Extension at the 2012-2013 level. A voice roll call was as follows:

William Armstrong	Aye	Steve Chambers	Aye
Charlie Bayless	No	Lawrence Hodge	No
Tom Bowers	Aye	Scott Sams	No
Nancy Brown	No	Harry Sisk	No

Three ayes and five no. Motion failed.

Finance Director Ingrid Deloach said she contacted Veteran's Officer Sonnie Mottern to inform him the Veteran's budget needed to be reduced by half of travel. Mr. Mottern stated he felt comfortable cutting health and dental insurance from his budget. The reduction requested by Mr. Mottern totals \$8,235.45. Lawrence Hodge asked if the School Department could help with the budget any. Danny McClain stated the School Department presented a balanced budget. He added the School Department has cut many positions and he does not see anywhere else to cut. Nancy Brown asked how many positions the School Department has eliminated this year. Mr. McClain said they have eliminated approximately fifteen positions this year.

Motion to recess until Thursday June 27, 2013 at 5:15 PM was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Steve Chambers. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Christa Byrd

Harry Sisk, Approved for File