

June 19, 2017

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in a recessed session on Monday, June 19, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Commissioners' Room, 116 Adams Street, Plymouth, NC. Commissioners Johnson, Phelps, Sexton and Walker were present. Also present were Interim County Manager/County Attorney Curtis Potter, Clerk to the Board Julie J. Bennett and Finance Officer Missy Dixon. Commissioner Riddick was unable to attend.

Chair Walker called the June 19, 2017 meeting to order. Chair Walker thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

ADDITIONS: Commissioner Phelps added a Closed Session for Personnel pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11 (a)(6) (personnel). Commissioner Johnson added Appointment of DSS Board Member under Boards & Committees. Mr. Potter added a Closed Session for Attorney-Client Privilege pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11 (a)(3) (attorney-client privilege) to discuss the contract for curbside trash pickup. Mr. Potter also added an additional Budget Amendment.

BUDGET WORK SESSION: Mr. Potter discussed the Revised General Fund Revenues, Revised General Fund Expenses, the Draft Budget Ordinance and a revised summary page showing the total changes in each department from his recommended column to the current approved column. (See the right hand column of the document). Mr. Potter also discussed the Fee Schedule. (*Documents are attached to and hereby made a part of these minutes.*)

Mr. Potter stated that he removed the strategic planning money—it can be taken from economic development money if needed in the future. He also cut an additional \$776 from the County Manager's office. Mr. Potter said he also made cuts from the larger departments. Mr. Potter said that the Department Heads can ask that money be moved from one line item to another after the budget is approved.

Mr. Potter said that he did not get figures from the Fire Departments yet. Ms. Keyes said there is a meeting of the Fire Commission on Monday night.

The Board recommended funding the Health Department at the same amount as last year. \$197,905.

Commissioner Sexton asked if DSS was staffed appropriately for Washington County. He went on to say that other counties the same size as Washington County have less DSS employees. Mr. Hardison, DSS Director, said some counties retain their employees longer and they take on more responsibilities rather than adding more employees. It can't be "apples to apples" from County to County.

Mr. Potter said that funding of the SRO position may need more discussion. Dr. Jackson called Mr. Potter to ask the Board to consider funding one of the SRO positions which would be ~ \$51,000. Commissioner Phelps asked how long have SRO's been in the schools. Chair Walker said since 1990. Commissioner Phelps asked why the Commissioners are being asked to pay for the position. Dr. Jackson said they no longer receive 'safe schools money' from the State which funded the SRO's. Commissioner Phelps asked if the School Board has a plan to fund the

SRO's if the Board of Commissioners is unable to do so. Dr. Jackson said she is still working with the School Board—safety first. Their budget is tight also.

Commissioner Phelps asked Ms. Dixon if she could tell the Board what the school has spent their funds on. Ms. Dixon said the County gives them an allocation but do not know how it is spent. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Phelps asked Mr. Potter if the sales tax distribution could be used for funding the SRO. Mr. Potter stated that, yes, it could be.

Dr. Jackson said they have an SRO vacancy at PHS but have not said which school might not have an SRO or which one(s) would have to share. She feels they need all 4 officers.

Commissioner Johnson said she feels that the County is going to need to consolidate schools. Dr. Jackson said that topic has been brought up with the School Board. Commissioner Sexton said he remembers Dr. Davis had a plan for building a new school. Dr. Jackson said that it is being talked about and the School Board and they hope to meet with the Commissioners sometime in the summer to discuss this.

Discussion ensued as to how to pay for the SRO.

Chair Walker said what if the County paid half and the School Board paid half. The consensus of the Board of Commissioners was to pay half of the salary of an SRO. Dr. Jackson said she would relay that back to the School Board.

Mr. Potter said he got the tax rate to 86 cent which is a 5 cent increase plus the special 1 cent watershed tax. Mr. Potter said the overall budget would drop by the amount of the SRO salary if paid out of sales tax distribution and would not affect the tax rate. Changes can be made after the budget is adopted.

Commissioner Johnson said next year we might need to work on getting the “safe schools money” put back in the Board of Education's budget from the State.

Commissioner Sexton said he would like the \$3,000 saved from cutting the MTW Health Department's budget put it back in the Sherriff's budget. The Board agreed to put it back in the Sheriff's Vehicle Supplies.

Mr. Potter also mentioned the RDC mileage rate is now .50 per loaded mile and they would like to increase it to .55 per loaded mile. The consensus of the Board is to increase the rate to .55. It is not budget impactive. Mr. Potter will work on the contract with RDC.

The Board will meet again on June 26, 2017 at 5:00 pm in the Commissioners Room. Commissioner Johnson also moved her item regarding the DSS Board Appointment to June 26.

Mr. Potter went over Budget Amendment BA#2017-046 below.

Washington County
BUDGET AMENDMENT

To: Board of Commissioners

BA #: 2017 - 046

From: *Curtis Potter, Interim County Manager/County Attorney*
Missy Dixon, Finance Officer

Date: June 19, 2017

RE: General Fund/Washington County Schools Capital Outlay

Please authorize the finance officer to make the following budgetary adjustments:

| Account Code | Description | Old | + or (-) | New |
|---------------------|--|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 10-3990-000 | Appropriated Fund Balance-GF | (647,194.41) | (350,000.00) | (997,194.41) |
| 10-9800-986 | Transfer to Washington County Schools Capital Outlay | - | 350,000.00 | 350,000.00 |
| General Fund | | | | |
| 21-3990-000 | Appropriated Fund Balance-WC Schools Capital Outlay | (350,000.00) | 350,000.00 | - |
| 21-3980-000 | Transfer from General Fund | - | (350,000.00) | (350,000.00) |
| Balanced: | | (997,194.41) | - | (997,194.41) |

Justification:

To correctly book a transfer from the general fund to the Washington County Schools Capital Outlay fund 21. There was a Budget Amendment previously done where we were trying to preserve the history of the transactions that had taken place prior to the creation of the new fund 21 however, with the limitations of the software, this did not appropriately account for the transfer that needed to be made.

Approval Date: 6/19/17
Co. Mgr. Initials: CSP

Note: As a reminder, when the third number of an account begins with 3, this indicates that it is a revenue account. When the third number begins with a 4 or greater, this indicates that it is an expenditure account.

Initials:
Batch #:
Date:

Julie Walker Jr -
6-19-17

Commissioner Phelps made a motion to approve BA#2017-046 as presented above regarding Washington County Schools Fund 21. Commissioner Sexton seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Phelps asked Mr. Potter to bring back to the Board the Fund Balance Policy that Mr. Milazi had previously brought to the Board.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11 (a)(6) (personnel) and §143-318.11 (a)(3) (attorney-client privilege). Commissioner Phelps seconded, motion carried unanimously.

At 7:20 PM, with no further business to discuss, **Commissioner Sexton made a motion to recess the meeting to June 26, 2017 at 5:00 PM in the Commissioners' Room. Commissioner Phelps seconded, motion carried unanimously.**

Julius Walker, Jr.
Chair

Julie J. Bennett, CMC, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board