

Minutes
Budget Workshop
Sumter County Council
Monday, June 11, 2007, 5:00 p.m.
Sumter County Council Chambers
13 E. Canal Street – Sumter, SC

COUNCIL PRESENT: Vivian Fleming McGhaney, Eugene Baten, Artie Baker, Larry Blanding, Jimmy Byrd, Charles T. Edens, and Roland Robinson.

STAFF PRESENT: Mary W. Blanding, Pam Craven, Lorraine Dennis, Angie Graham, Latham Harris, Robert Harden, Gary Mixon, Verna Moore, William T. Noonan, and Sheriff Anthony Dennis.

PUBLIC PRESENT: One member of the public was present.

MEDIA PRESENT: The Item: Leslie Cantu

CALL TO ORDER: Chairwoman, Vivian Fleming McGhaney, called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Chairwoman McGhaney gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All in attendance repeated the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Chairwoman stated that she would entertain a motion concerning the agenda; prior to Council approving the agenda, the Clerk asked Council to consider rearranging the agenda by discussing the items in the order of their workbooks instead of how they are listed on the agenda sent by the Clerk.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda with the rearrangement of items to be discussed as cited by the Clerk to Council and listed below.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Preliminary Discussions On School Districts' 2007-2008 Budget

The County has received the minimum required effort for the two school districts.

- ◆ School District #17 -- \$20,002,395
- ◆ School District #2 -- \$18,030,488

The County always deducts the Merchants Inventory, Fee In Lieu Of Taxes and Manufacturer's Reimbursement from the funds collected. Therefore, for School District #17, mills needed for EIA is 7.4 mills and the mills needed to meet the EIA requirement for School District #2 is 4.3.

The value of the mill for School District #2 is \$124,100 and \$144,100 for School District #17. Mrs. Craven stated that if the County applies the state "cap limitation" the County is only allowed to increase School District #2 mills to 139.1 instead of 140.0 which is a decrease of \$11,690.00. School District #17, maximum would be 135.1 instead of 135.0 a small increase of \$14,410.00

Minutes of Budget Workshop

June 11, 2007

Page 2

Mrs. Craven also informed Council about the State Law listed in Title II, Chapter 11, Section 11-11-159(7)

Operating millage levied in a county for alternative schools, career and technology centers, and county boards of education whether or not levied countywide or on a school district by school district basis in a county also is considered school operating millage to which the reimbursements provided for in this school apply.

Also, she stated that in this same section number (8) Reimbursements to a school district under this subsection shall be considered in the computation of the required Education Improvement Act maintenance of local effort.

It was noted the current 2.4 mills that currently funds the Sumter County Career Center cannot be moved into the general operating budget for the County because it is assigned to funds collected for the Career Center.

Council asked that the following questions be provided to them:

- ◆ How will Sumter County Career Center be funded for 2007-2008; is it already included in the overall funding for the two school districts?
- ◆ If the Career Center funding is already included in the overall funding for the two school districts, what can be done with the 2.4 mills that have been listed in the County's budget if the mills remain in the budget?

Another question asked for the staff to answer is as follows:

- ◆ Will the County be able to use the funds from the capital sales tax to pay off debts from capital purchases or expenses due to construction, etc.?

Other Funds Relating To The 2007-2008 Fiscal Year Budget.

The Administrator provided Council members with a binder entitled "Sumter County Other Funds." The funds included in this document are as follows:

Accommodations Tax	Development Board	Library 2005 Bond	Sumter county CDC
"C" Funds	Grants	Orthophotography	Sumter County Drug Unit
Capital Improvement	Greenhouse Runaway Shelter	Program Income	Title IV D
County Bonds	Hospitality/ Accommodations Fees	School Dist. 17 Debt Service	Victims Assistance
County Water District	Infrastructure Fund	School Dist. 2 Debt Service	Wedgeifeld Statesburg Rural Water
Crystal Lakes Golf	Landfill Project	Shiloh Water Project	Sex Offender Registry
Delinquent Tax Collection	Detention Center Services	Solid Waste Fund	Solicitor

Continued Discussions On The 2007-2008 Fiscal Year Budget

Angie Graham stated that on May 22, 2007, the expenditure figure was listed as \$45,984,620 and the total revenue figure was listed as \$45,686,321.

The following changes have been made to the budget since May 22, 2007:

1. Clerk of Court – 3 part-time Baliffs (Add \$36,000)
2. Sheriff – 4 Deputies – Salary Adjustments (30hr/25 wk) (deduct \$334,299)
3. EMS Patient Fees (Add \$100,000)
4. State Shared Revenue (Add \$200,000)

Totals as of June 11, 2007 – Expenditures \$45,986,321 and Revenue - \$45,986,321

Mrs. Pamela Craven provided Council members with the projected general obligation bond debt, amortization schedule for the new bond, and the capital requests for fiscal year 2007-2008. The new bond will be or \$7,600,000 (\$3,000,000 for youth park, \$2,600,000 for landfill, and \$2,000,000 capital equipment purchases). Originally it was \$1,500,000 for capital equipment, however, Council agreed to give the new growth money to the First Service Contract. Therefore, the lease purchase arrangements out of the budget for the two fire districts and place the capital in the bond.

Capital Equipment Requests

The Administrator and the financial staff provided Council members with a Fiscal Year 2008 Budget/Capital Matrix. Mrs. Craven informed Council to pay the capital equipment off in one year will require 7.5 mills.

Council asked for the Administrator and the Financial staff to provide them with an amortization schedule of three and five years to pay off the capital equipment.

Capital Improvement Funds

Mrs. Craven stated that the Financial staff, along with the Administrator, have developed a proposed priority list for Capital Improvement Projects. However, she asked Council members to review the Capital Improvement Projects list and prioritize the projects as Council sees fit.

Chairwoman McGhaney stated that an absolute priority for the County is to accommodate some space for the Explorer Firefighter Program at the DuBose Station.

Reconsideration Of Former Action On Diamonds Project Budget Request

Councilman Blanding asked for this matter to be placed on the agenda. He asked council members to reconsider its former action on this matter which caused this item to be deleted from the proposed budget. The Diamonds program originally asked for \$30,000; however, Councilman Blanding asked the Chairwoman to call for a motion this matter.

ACTION: MOTION WAS MADE BY Councilman Blanding, seconded by Councilman Baten, and carried by Council to allow for the Diamonds Program to be granted \$20,000 in the 2007-2008 budget year. Council members Baker and Edens voted in opposition.

Minutes of Budget Workshop

June 11, 2007

Page 4

It May Be Suggested To Hold An Executive Session To Discuss Contractual Or Personnel Matters Or Receive A Legal Briefing From The County Attorney.

No executive session was held.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Based On The 2007 Estimated Assessed Values, the value of a mill is as follows:

County Ordinary	\$260,050
District #1	41,400
District #2	105,100
City	112,900
School District #2	124,100
School District #17	144,100
District #50	300

ADJOURNMENT

After all business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Blanding, Clerk
Sumter County Council

cc: Sumter County Council
Mr. William T. Noonan
Mrs. Pam Craven
Mrs. Angie Graham