

**Emergency Meeting  
Tuesday, June 14, 2016  
Chowan County Public Safety Center  
305 West Freemason St.  
Edenton, NC  
9:00am**

Present: Chairman Jeff Smith Commissioners John Mitchener, Greg Bonner, Keith Nixon, Emmett Winborne and Alex Kehayes.

Staff present: County Manager Kevin Howard and Clerk Susanne Stallings.

Commissioner Ellis Lawrence was absent.

**Fireworks Display Request**

Sheriff Goodwin provided the Board with a request to display fireworks to the property adjacent to Hicks Field belonging to Edenton Chowan Schools. He stated that the Edenton Steamers would like fireworks and have booked him for four times during the season. He provided the documentation including his site plan. He stated that the Steamers will purchase an event rider policy and he will provide that to the fire chief at the time of inspection.

Chief Forlines stated that he will have to view all certificates and documentation at the inspection.

The Board discussed the minimum insurance policy required.

Commissioner Lawrence moved to approve the request for Dwayne Goodwin perform fireworks displays for the Edenton Steamers during the times on the schedule provided and provide the fire chief with all required documentation to include a \$1 million liability insurance policy. Chairman Smith asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

**Adjourn**

Commissioner Bonner moved to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Smith asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

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Jeffery Smith, Chairman

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Susanne Stallings, Clerk

**Special Meeting – Budget Work session  
 Tuesday, June 14, 2016  
 Chowan County Public Safety Center  
 305 West Freemason St.  
 Edenton, NC  
 (Immediately following the Emergency Meeting)**

Present: Chairman Jeff Smith Commissioners John Mitchener, Greg Bonner, Keith Nixon, Emmett Winborne and Alex Kehayes.

Commissioner Ellis Lawrence was absent.

Staff present: County Manager Kevin Howard and Clerk Susanne Stallings.

Chairman Smith called the Budget special meeting to order.

Mr. Howard presented the Board with the following budget amendment

**BA1516-018**

Account Code	Description	Old	+ or (-)	New
12-5310-352-00	Maintenance & Repair Equipment	15,000.00	(6,874.70)	8,125.30
12-5310-510-00	Capital Outlay Equipment		6,874.70	6,874.70
				-
<b>Balanced:</b>		<b>15,000.00</b>		<b>15,000.00</b>

Mr. Howard noted this was needed because a network switch knocked out DSS already. He stated the switch had to be replaced immediately to get DSS up and running. He stated the monies to replace the switch are coming from maintenance and repair of equipment to capital outlay.

Commissioner Winborne moved to approve the budget amendment. Chairman Smith asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

**FY 2016-17 Proposed Budget worksession**

The Board reviewed the proposed budget and made the following changes:

DSS

Commissioner Kehayes moved to adjust the DSS Budget from a \$30,000 reduction to \$25,660. Chairman Smith asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

## Schools

The Board discussed the School Current Expense request.

Commissioner Winborne stated he felt the schools could find the monies within their budget to fund the supplement for teachers.

Chairman Smith stated he agreed with Commissioner Winborne he stated that Chowan's funding per pupil is higher than our neighbors.

Commissioner Mitchener stated his concern with asking the schools to spend all of their fund balance.

Chairman Smith stated that the fund balance held by the school is county taxpayer money. He stated the monies given to the schools by the state and federal government have to be returned if they are not spent.

Commissioner Kehayes discussed the percentage of funding to the schools of their total budget. Federal money (7%), State money (74.6%) and County (17.3%). He stated his concern with the school system having to request funding from the County because the State may delay adopting its budget. He stated that 80% of the total school budget is unknown.

Commissioner Bonner stated he would like to see the teacher supplements restored. He stated the County gave raises to other departments. He stated that a 1% increase to the supplements is not unreasonable.

Commissioner Mitchener stated his concern with the lack of AIG teachers.

Commissioner Kehayes stated his concern with the total monies spent on athletics. He stated he understands that athletics keep children in schools to graduate but he feels this should not be a priority when there are students who want to graduate that are not involved in athletics. He stated his concern is with the school's priorities.

Commissioner Nixon stated his concern with the tax rate in Chowan being second highest. He noted the schools will realize an additional \$20,000 this year in fines and forfeiture monies.

Commissioner Bonner stated he would always support the schools and law enforcement as his top priorities.

Commissioner Mitchener stated he would like to see all of the capital and current expense funded in the budget.

Board members discussed the Superintendents remarks regarding his satisfaction with the County's appropriation for capital needs.

Chairman Smith called for a five minute recess, after five minutes he called the meeting back to order.

Commissioner Mitchener moved to increase the current expense appropriation to the schools by \$372,000.

Chairman Smith noted this will be a 2.75 cent increase.

Chairman Smith asked for all in favor, the motion failed (1-5 Nixon, Smith, Bonner, Kehayes and Winborne).

Commissioner Nixon stated he felt the tax increase should be kept smaller.

Commissioner Winborne agreed with Commissioner Nixon.

Commissioner Nixon moved to increase the current expense appropriation to the schools to \$3,550,000 (increase of \$11,000 over manager's recommendation). He stated that the schools will recognize additional revenues in fines and forfeitures.

Chairman Smith asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Commissioner Nixon moved to keep the tax increase to 1.5 cent and allow the manager to make the budgetary adjustments and bring it back to the June 20, 2016 meeting. Chairman Smith asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

#### **Budget Meeting Summary (from Dry Erase Board)**

Manager's Recommended Tax Increase - **\$543,688 or 4 ¢**

**Board voted 06/14/16 – to allow 1.5¢ tax Increase, Manager must locate approx. \$16,000**

FY 16/17 Fund Balance Appropriation **\$525,069.81**

FY 15/16 Fund Balance Appropriation **\$390,850**                      Increase of \$134,219

Highlight of increase cost is \$281,811 in Salaries and Health insurance

<b>SAVINGS</b>	
EMS Driveway	\$14,500.00
IT	\$20,000.00
Phone System	\$50,000.00
Tax Software	\$37,000.00
Central Communications S	\$2,599.00
Jail	\$50,903.00
BOC Departmental Supplie	\$6,000.00
Buildings	\$20,000.00
Planning	\$25,000.00
Sheriff car	\$25,000.00
EM Vehicle	\$30,000.00
AC Truck	\$15,000.00
Recreation	\$15,000.00
DSS	\$25,660.00
EMS	\$80,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$416,662.00</b>

<b>Additions</b>	
Maintenance Mowing Con	\$31,130.00
BOC Travel	\$450.00
Library	\$15,000.00
Retirement	\$33,300.00
School Current Expense	\$11,545.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$91,425.00</b>

**Total Reduction from proposed tax increase \$325,237**

### **Adjourn**

Being no further business Commissioner Nixon moved that the meeting be adjourned. Chairman Smith asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

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Jeffery Smith, Chairman

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Susanne Stallings, Clerk