

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 17, 2019
Chowan County Public Safety Center
305 West Freemason St.
Edenton, NC
9:00am

This meeting was recorded. A copy of the recording is in the meeting file labeled April 17, 2019.

Present Chair Patti Kersey, Commissioners Bob Kirby, Greg Bonner, Ellis Lawrence, Don Faircloth, Larry McLaughlin and Ron Cummings.

Staff present County Manager Kevin Howard, Finance Officer Cathy Smith

Board Clerk Susanne Stallings was absent.

Call to Order

Chair Kersey called the special meeting to order.

FY 2019-20 BUDGET WORKSESSION

Mr. Howard reviewed historical trends of the budget for fiscal years 2014 through 2020.

The following handouts were provided and are in the meeting file labeled April 17, 2019.

- General Fund Expenditures by Department
- General Fund Budget Revenue Growth
- General Fund Budget Expenditures Summary

Commissioner Faircloth left the meeting at 10:05am.

Board members discussed fund balances and end of year expenditures on capital that was not budgeted using unspent monies.

The Board discussed school fund balance and upcoming capital needs for the school system including the construction. The budget request from the school has not been entered into the budget. The Board discussed referendum requirements for the construction of a new high school or renovation.

Mr. Howard stated that since 2014 when the Board chose to not go revenue neutral. He stated that the Board did not set a tax rate to make up for the lost revenue. He stated 77-78 cents is where the tax rate needs to be to maintain the current obligations. He stated that there were additional revenue losses including the loss of rent from the Town for the Police Department and Medicaid hold harmless monies. He stated that two of the positions in the proposed budget will not be carried into future fiscal years because they are training under employees and when the employee retires there will not be another person.

Chair Kersey discussed her concern regarding the regional tax rate and the impact on economic development and growth.

Mr. Howard stated that he can show the spending regionally in certain departments (education, public safety).

The Board discussed the process going forward. It was decided due to scheduling conflicts the next meeting on April 23, 2019 will only be for the purpose of the webinar. The next budget meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2019.

Being no further business, Chair Kersey declared the meeting adjourned.

Patti F. Kersey, Chair

Susanne Stallings, Clerk