

Special Meeting
Thursday, May 18, 2023
9:00am
Chowan County Public Safety Center
305 West Freemason St.
Edenton, NC

Present: Chair Bob Kirby, Commissioners, Ron Cummings, Chris Evans, Larry McLaughlin, Alex Kehayes and Ellis Lawrence.

Commissioner Tray Taylor was absent.

Staff present County Manager Kevin Howard, Finance Officer Cathy Smith and Board Clerk Susanne Stallings.

This meeting was recorded. A copy of the meeting audio is in the meeting file labeled May 18, 2023.

Chair Kirby called the meeting to order.

The Board reviewed the following budgets, any further discussion or changes are noted under each budget:

Mr. Howard provided the Board with handouts and updated information regarding the following (a copy of all handouts noted are in the meeting file labeled May 18, 2023).

Library

Librarian Jared Jacavone provided the Board with a Powerpoint presentation on the budget request from the Library. It was noted the Manager's recommended budget includes all the requested items.

Public Schools

School Superintendent Dr. Michael Sasscer provided a Powerpoint presentation on the school system budget request for FY 2023-24. He discussed legislative salary increases as proposed for the upcoming fiscal year. He noted that the local current expense trends from 2009-2010 has averaged an 0.84% increase. He noted that the Current Expense increase amount requested for the school system is \$1,322,647. The base budget for current expense is \$3,786,322. He stated the increases are related to cost of business increases, increasing local supplements and expansion requests. He noted that due to decreased ADM there have been reductions in state funding for full time employees and he noted how the school system plans to address staffing shortages through attrition. He stated that reasons for the need for additional local funding include technology needs and a desire to remain competitive with teacher salaries and local supplement. He provided a chart that compares Chowan County's local supplement to

neighboring county supplements. Dr. Sasscer provided detail on the school capital request which is an increase of \$710,370 from the previous year request. The Board discussed the school fund balance and Dr. Sasscer noted that \$400,000 of the fund balance is budgeted for the upcoming year. It was noted that the fund balance is about \$2 million.

A copy of the Powerpoint presentation is in the meeting file labeled May 18, 2023.

The Chair recessed the special meeting noting the meeting would resume at 1:30pm.

Special Meeting
Thursday, May 18, 2023
1:30pm
Chowan County Public Safety Center
305 West Freemason St.
Edenton, NC

Present: Chair Bob Kirby, Commissioners, Ron Cummings, Chris Evans, Larry McLaughlin, Alex Kehayes, Tray Taylor and Ellis Lawrence.

Staff present County Manager Kevin Howard, Finance Officer Cathy Smith and Board Clerk Susanne Stallings.

Commissioner Taylor joined the meeting

At 1:48pm Chair Kirby called the budget work session back to order

Water Fund

Water Department Director David Tawes discussed the requested items in the budget for the Water Fund.

Social Services (DSS)

The Board reviewed the DSS Budget request which included two additional positions for Medicaid Expansion. The Board discussed DSS salaries and asked that the Interim Director, Ms. Cheri Blount provide the Board with a salary comparison with neighboring county social service departments.

Elections

Register of Deeds/Land Records

Central Maintenance

Health Department Building

Ag Building

Northern Chowan Community Center

DF Walker

Purser Maintenance Shop

Public Safety Center

Jailers House

Courthouse

Jail

Swain

Senior Center

Building Inspections

The Board asked Mr. Howard to compare permit fees with neighboring Counties to ensure the fees are similar.

Medical Examiner

Animal Control

Animal Shelter

The Budget includes a salary increase for the Director and converts a part-time position to full time.

Signs Septic

Adjourn

Being no further business, Chair Kirby declared the work session adjourned.

Bob Kirby, Chair

Board Clerk Susanne Stallings

Special Meeting
Thursday, May 18, 2023
1:00pm
Chowan County Public Safety Center
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Edenton, NC

Present: Chair Bob Kirby, Commissioners, Ron Cummings, Chris Evans, Larry McLaughlin, Alex Kehayes, Tray Taylor and Ellis Lawrence.

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

Sheriff Edward Basnight was also present.

Closed Session

Commissioner Cummings moved to go into closed session in accordance with NCGS 143-318-11 (a) (6) personnel. Chair Kirby asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

The minutes of the closed session are sealed.

Commissioner Evans moved to come out of closed session. Chair Kirby asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Adjourn

Commissioner Kehayes moved to adjourn. Chair Kirby asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Bob Kirby, Chairman

Susanne Stallings
Clerk