

MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORK SESSION
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017 at 6:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29138

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Donald E. Hancock called the Budget Work Session to order at 6:30 P.M.

Present were: Chm. Donald E. Hancock
Coun. Jones P. Butler
Coun. J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Coun. D. J. Miller
Coun. Gwendolyn C. Shealy

Also present were: County Director, Sandra G. Padgett
Clerk to Council, Karen T. Whittle

B. INVOCATION

Coun. Butler delivered the invocation.

C. PUBLIC INFORMATION

It is noted by the Clerk herein, that in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the budget work session was given to the local news media and properly posted, to include the county website.

D. BUDGET WORK SESSION

Roads and Bridges

Roads and Bridges Superintendent, Billie Corley met with County Council and gave an overview of the department and their responsibilities. Mr. Corley informed Council the roads and bridges employees had not had a pay grade increase since 2001.

Mr. Corley addressed a budget request for three new trucks in the amount of \$92,693.00 due to the age and high mileage of three trucks currently in the roads and bridges fleet. Mr. Corley informed Council the County would be receiving funds from NRCS for partial reimbursement of materials used to repair roads and bridges after the 2015 flood. Mr. Corley said as of March 20th, the amount of funds were to be \$31,404.00 and requested those funds be used towards the purchase of the new trucks.

Mr. Corley discussed the year, make, and condition of the department's equipment and informed Council the motor grader lease would be up for renewal in Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Auditor

Auditor Memmus Forrest met with County Council and referenced his letter explained budget requests.

Mr. Forrest informed Council the request for the QS1 software Dealer Affidavit Program would be more beneficial to Saluda County in the FY17-18 budget than as listed in the five year capital plan. Mr. Forrest reviewed the program with Council and discussed its benefits for the County and taxpayers versus the current procedure and issues of handling dealer affidavits.

Mr. Forrest informed Council to follow laws concerning the Homestead Act, agricultural land/building values, and rollback taxes and the effect they would have on the counties if passed. Mr. Forrest also informed Council fee-in-lieu of tax agreements would be reported under Gasby 77 through the Auditor's office.

Public Buildings

Public Buildings Supervisor, Steve McAlister met with County Council and addressed line item #28 (building repairs/equipment) of the general government buildings account (public buildings). Mr. McAlister addressed maintenance of county owned buildings, equipment, grounds, and property.

Mr. McAlister requested two additional employees to be cross trained to perform maintenance duties and keeping of the grounds.

Magistrate

Chief Magistrate, Joyce Shults met with County Council and reviewed her budget requests. Ms. Shults addressed increases for the following accounts:

- #10 office supplies – due to cost of printer cartridges
- #15 travel – training for three clerks to obtain certification hours each year and one clerk to attend a three day conference; conferences and training for both Magistrates to attend and receive certification hours, and the Chief Magistrate would attend in state training to receive certification hours and not obtain certification hours through attending the national conference (Chief Magistrate paid all expenses to national conference due to the county does not pay national conference expenses)
- #21 telephones – request 2 cell phones for Chief Magistrate and Magistrate due to on call 24/7
- #66 translation services – required to provide translation services for bond hearings and court procedures

Ms. Shults requested pay grade increases for the clerks in the Magistrates office.

Ms. Shults requested a new video system to be used for trials in the Magistrate courtroom due to the current system not functioning and currently having to use a laptop computer. The quote provided for the new system was \$5,181.35. (Also see 5 year capital plan).

Magistrate (cont.)

Ms. Shults also addressed the need for the replacement of carpet on the stairs, upstairs lobby, and offices.

5 Year Capital Plan

Ms. Shults addressed the following in the five year capital plan:

- video conference system for bond hearings (Magistrates would perform the bond hearing in their courtroom and inmates would remain in secure facility)
- painting of offices
- new carpet if not approved in FY17-18 budget

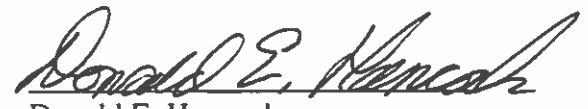
Council asked Ms. Shults to obtain pricing for the video conference system for bond hearings and to ask the vendors if they could do this system and the video system for trials as requested in the FY17-18 budget request.

Ms. Shults said the five year capital plan requests were dependent upon if the County decided to build a new jail facility/complex that would house the Magistrates Office.

E. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the budget work session at 8:10 P.M.


Kayen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council


Donald E. Hancock
Chairman

May 8, 2017
Date Approved