

MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORK SESSION
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29138

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman J. Frank Daniel, Sr. called the Budget Work Session to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present were: Vice-Chm. J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Coun. Justin Anderson
Coun. Jones P. Butler
Coun. Wayne Grice

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

B. INVOCATION

Vice-Chm. Daniel 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.

Due to COVID-19, the following notice was placed at the beginning of the agenda:

Please note the council budget work session is open to the public, but seating will be limited for social distancing in response to COVID-19. You may also access the live stream of the work session by going to the county's website at www.saludacounty.sc.gov, click on the you tube box in the top right hand corner and click on the June 15, 2020 video.

D. BUDGET WORK SESSION

Vice-Chm. Daniel recognized County Director, Sandra Padget.

Ms. Padget informed Council as of the work session, after decreasing the statutory employer retirement contribution rate by 1.00% as notified by PEBA on June 10th, along with adjustments to salaries and insurance due to changes in personnel turnover, the budget was currently \$189,926.00 out of balance.

Coroner

The Coroner asked Council to reconsider the requested salary increase of \$7,000.00 for the Deputy Coroner.

General consensus of Council increased the salary by \$3,500.00 (add additional \$3,500.00 to line item #01); which increased line item #03 an additional \$907.00.

Maintenance

The Public Buildings Superintendent recommended having maintenance performed twice a year on all county HVAC units. The cost for all units would be \$8,280.00, but staff recommended only adding an additional \$3,000.00 due to maintenance being performed twice a year should reduce the amount that was currently being paid for maintenance and repairs to the units.

General consensus of Council was to add an additional \$3,000.00 to line item #28.

General Gov't. Buildings

Council was provided a letter from SaludaNow for consideration of a \$1,500.00 advertising package which included 150 public service commercials from July 2020 through June 2021. Consensus of Council was to see if there was a smaller package (Vice-Chm. Daniel, Coun. Anderson, Butler). (Coun. Grice was in favor of the package).

General consensus of Council for line item #62 to be increased to \$468,215.00, which was for the county's property and liability insurance. Staff informed Council the previous figure was an estimate from the insurance carrier, but the letter had since been received as to the county's yearly premium amount. This resulted in a \$1,818.00 increase.

IT

Vice-Chm. Daniel recognized IT Director, Mitchell Kneece.

Mr. Kneece informed Council he had received an updated figure in the amount of \$288.00 for the yearly Checkpoint software maintenance which would need to be added to line item #26.

General consensus of Council agreed to add \$288.00 to line item #26 for a grand total of \$39,689.00.

Mr. Kneece also informed Council the county computers were currently using Office 2013, but the mainstream support ended April 10, 2018, and the security support was extended for five (5) years. Mr. Kneece said the county had the traditional perpetual licenses which would cost approximately \$100,000.00 to upgrade all the computers. Mr. Kneece said to upgrade the perpetual licenses the county would deal with the following: the costs would have to be spread out over several years, some computers would have non secure software until the county had the funds to complete the license purchase, county computers would

IT (cont.)

have different versions of software when dealing with yearly updates, and by the time all licenses were purchased, it would be time to start the process over.

Mr. Kneece suggested to replace the perpetual licenses with a subscription plan that would allow the county to get all computers updated and on the current version of Office for approximately \$12,500.00 per year. Mr. Kneece said the subscription plan would allow access to all updates and to stay current with any upgrades and/or new versions that came out. Mr. Kneece said a five (5) year plan to do the perpetual licenses would be approximately \$20,000.00 per year and the subscription plan would be approximately \$12,500.00 per year.

Mr. Kneece requested an additional \$7,000.00 in line item #88 to apply towards the purchase the subscription plan for Microsoft Office.

General consensus of Council agreed to add \$7,000.00 to line item #88 for a grand total of \$55,521.00.

Sheriff

Vice-Chm. Daniel recognized Chief Deputy Toby Horne.

Chief Deputy Horne asked Council to reconsider the special ops equipment that the Sheriff's Office previously requested in the amount of \$2,620.80.

General consensus of Council agreed to add an additional \$2,620.80 to line item #71 for a grand total of \$7,901.00.

School Resource Officers (SRO)

For information purposes, Council staff informed Council the County and School District shared the costs for three (3) school resource officers and two (2) school resource officers were paid for with grants.

Library State Aid

For information purposes, Council staff informed Council line item #79 changed to \$47,607.00 due to the decrease in pensions. The total Library State Aid budget equals \$100,000.00.

Balancing of the Budget

Vice Chm. Daniel recognized County Director Sandra Padget.

Ms. Padget informed Council the rollover money from FY2019-2020 was estimated at \$400,000.00. Ms. Padget informed Council with the changes made to the budget in the work session, the budget was currently out of balance \$209,060.00.

Balancing of the Budget (cont.)

General consensus of Council to use \$209,060.00 from the FY2019-2020 roll money to balance the FY2020-2021 budget.

Heavy Equipment Reserve Account

General consensus of Council to transfer \$132,303.00 from FY2019-2020 roll money to the Heavy Equipment Reserve account needed for the lease payments.


County Buildings Reserve Account

General consensus of Council for the balance of the FY2019-2020 roll money be transferred to the County Buildings Reserve account which was approximately \$58,637.00.

E. **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Coun. Grice, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was approved to adjourn the budget work session at 6:35 P.M. (In Favor: Vice-Chm. Daniel, Coun. Butler, Grice). (Opposed: Coun. Anderson).


Karen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council


J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Vice-Chairman

June 23, 2020
Date Approved