

Budget Committee
November 13, 2012
5:15 p.m.

PRESENT: William Armstrong, Charlie Bayless, Tom Bowers, Nancy Brown, Steve Chambers, Lawrence Hodge, and Harry Sisk.

The meeting was called to order by Harry Sisk.

Motion was made by Steve Chambers with a second from Tom Bowers to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Lawrence Hodge to approve the October 8, 2012 minutes. Motion carried.

Property Assessment Discrepancies: Ronnie Taylor, Property Assessor, presented two parcels that had been identified with property assessment discrepancies. These properties had been incorrectly taxed with structures that were already taxed to another parcel. Mr. Taylor requested that the listed taxpayers be reimbursed the funds they had inaccurately paid which total to \$873.98.

Motion was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Charlie Bayless to refund the identified taxpayers the amounts overpaid with funds coming from Fund Balance. Motion carried.

Recycle Program Performance Bonuses: Joel Street presented an incentive program that he believes will grow the Recycling Program operated through the Solid Waste Department. Through this program employees classified as custodians or cafeteria personnel in the county, county schools, and city schools would receive a bonus if the revenue from the sale of recycled materials grows over a designated base amount. Mr. Street proposed that bonuses be awarded if growth over a \$50,000 base is recognized. He stated that only 35% of the growth figure would be available to provide bonuses and that the employee and employer paid benefits would also have to come from said amount.

Motion was made by Lawrence Hodge with a second from Nancy Brown to approve the Performance Bonus Program for a one year trial basis. Motion carried.

Engineering for Parking Lot at Annex: Mayor Humphrey requested that \$15,300 be allocated from the Litigation Tax Reserve for Courthouse and Jail Maintenance to fund the engineering of

the new parking lot located at the Annex. He stated the parking lot construction was part of the original agreement with the city and that no construction drawings had been completed to date.

Motion was made by Charlie Bayless with a second from Nancy Brown to approve the transfer of funds from the Litigation Tax Reserve-Courthouse and Jail Maintenance to cover the cost of engineering. A voice roll call vote was as follows.

Bill Armstrong-Aye
Charlie Bayless-Aye
Nancy Brown-Aye
Lawrence Hodge-Aye
Steve Chambers-No
Tom Bowers-No
Harry Sisk-Aye

Motion carried with five (5) ayes and two (2) nos.

Animal Control Officer: Mayor Humphrey requested that the current Animal Control Officer be promoted to full-time status to satisfy the growing need in the County. Much discussion was made as to the staffing needs and current employee statuses.

Motion was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Steve Chambers to table the item until the 13-14 Budget process. A voice roll call vote was as follows.

Bill Armstrong-No
Charlie Bayless-Aye
Nancy Brown-No
Lawrence Hodge-No
Steve Chambers-Yes
Tom Bowers-Yes
Harry Sisk-Yes

Motion to table carried with four (4) ayes and three (3) nos.

Elevator Maintenance Contract: This item was pulled until the next meeting where bids can be evaluated and contracts reviewed.

Animal Shelter Security System: Mayor Humphrey presented a bid tabulation sheet for a security/fire alarm system for the newly constructed animal shelter. The Mayor noted this was not included in the turn-key contract that was recently approved for the Shelter's construction. He stated that the security system, paint, and landscaping will be in addition to the construction contract. He also pointed out that the funds for the security system will come from the designated monies available with the City of Elizabethton for construction.

Motion by Nancy Brown with a second from Charlie Bayless to approve the security system bid. Motion carried.

Inmate Healthcare Services: Ingrid Deloach reported that negotiations had been held with Southern Health Partners. The newly negotiated contract was for \$422,100 annually. Mrs. Deloach stated this contract would be effective December 1, 2012. This would require \$36,225 to be added to the Medical Services line item to finish the 12-13 Budget Year.

Motion was made by Charlie Bayless with a second from Lawrence Hodge to allocate funds to cover the contract from the General Fund Balance with the Sheriff making every effort to recoup the funds within his budget so that the General Fund Balance could be restored. Motion carried.

Homeland Security Grant Purchases: EMA Director Andrew Worley requested that the purchase of Records Management software and hardware be purchased for the Sheriff's Department through the 2010 Homeland Security Grant.

Motion was made by Nancy Brown with a second by Charlie Bayless to approve said purchase through the Homeland Security Grant. Motion carried.

General Fund 101 Amendment #3: Motion was made by Bill Armstrong with a second from Charlie Bayless to approve General Fund 101 Budget Amendment #3 with 13 items. Motion carried.

General Purpose School Fund 141 Amendment #3: Motion was made by Charlie Bayless with a second from Steve Chambers to approve General Purpose School Fund 141 Amendment #3 with 2 items. Motion carried.

Federal Projects Fund 142 Amendment #3: Motion was made by Lawrence Hodge with a second from Tom Bowers to approve Federal Projects Fund 142 Amendment #3 with 2 items. Motion carried.

East Tennessee Foundation Grant: Mayor Humphrey advised the Committee that the Jail Garden had received a \$1,500 grant from the East Tennessee Foundation to purchase tools, seeds, etc. The Mayor stated he has a \$1,200 check which represents 80% of the grant that will be funded up front, and that the remaining 20% will be reimbursed upon project completion.

Motion was made by Charlie Bayless with a second from Nancy Brown to approve the East Tennessee Foundation Grant for the Jail Garden. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Auction Proceeds: Captain Tom Smith requested that the funds received from the recent surplus auction be reserved for the upgrading of firearms. He advised that Craig's Firearms is currently offering to accept trade-in weapons for a \$250 credit. This would require that the Sheriff's Department contribute \$159 towards each weapon purchased. Captain Smith requested that \$10,790 of the auction proceeds be reserved for said upgrading.

Motion was made by Lawrence Hodge to approve said reserve. Motion failed for lack of second.

Public Comments: Mr. McKinney spoke on the Rabies Law.

Motion was made by Tom Bowers with a second from Steve Chambers to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Ingrid Deloach

Harry Sisk, Approved for File