

BUDGET MEETING

June 2, 2016

6:00 PM

PRESENT: Robert Carroll, Sonja Culler, Ross Garland, John Lewis, Buford Peters, L.C. Tester and Ronnie Trivett.

The Budget Meeting was called to order by Sonja Culler.

- **Carter County Trustee:** Mr. Randall Lewis came before the committee to request that they reconsider his budget request. Mr. Lewis stated that the amended request is something his office really needs. He asked Mrs. Christa Byrd to chime in on the issue of keeping the part time position after losing an employee from being able to work the front due to new CTAS internal control policies. Mrs. Byrd stated that the this new clerical person is not going to be a full time person that comes in every day from 8 am to 5 pm, but she will come in when needed. The only reason that Mr. Lewis wants to make her a full time position is to keep us from wavering the 29.5 hours a pay period average that would make her jump into full time anyway. According to Mrs. Byrd, the big insurance increase due to this clerical personnel is budgeted just to show that the County did reserve money for medical insurance although this person has stated they will decline the insurance.

Motion was made by Ronnie Trivett, second by L.C. Tester to **reconsider Trustee budget request**. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	No

Six ayes, **motion carried**.

Motion was made by Ronnie Trivett, second by L.C. Tester to **approve Trustee budget with funding of \$345,584.93**. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	No
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	No

Five ayes, **motion carried**.

- **Mayor's Budget:** Mayor Leon Humphrey came before the committee to request that they reconsider his budget request. Mr. Humphrey made a comment that the committee needs to look at the bigger picture of economic development. Mr. Humphrey stated that the current commission has worked diligently on trying to bring new business to Carter County. Mayor stated that we need a new economic development committee for the county now that the memorandum of understanding with Carter County Tomorrow has been passed to close this organization. Mr. Humphrey made a request that he will be trying to get the commission to pass joining the new Regional Economic Partnership organization that will be in full compliance to help bring our economic development growth forward. This new organization will have an 11 member board with no funding, which will require a person from each county to handle all their own documentation. Mr. Humphrey stated that what he originally requested was probably unreasonable as far as the committee believed therefore he is presenting a

new request for the committee to consider. Ms. Sonja Culler had a few concerns that she made public. Ms. Culler believes that this new request of doing away with your secretary and adding other salaries and wages means that you are creating a new position that needs to be approved by full commission. Mr. John Lewis made comment that he spoke with Mayor Eldridge who stated that this new economic position under the mayor's office will work. Mr. Ronnie Trivett believes that we should give the mayor this request for a one year trial run. Mayor Humphrey stated that all counties want to emulate the growth that Nashville has been able to produce and believes his new proposal will allow Carter County to move in that direction. Mr. Humphrey stated that Washington County and Elizabethton are going to be joining this organization.

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by Ronnie Trivett to **reconsider Mayor's budget**. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	No
L.C. Tester	No	Robert Carroll	Aye

Five ayes, **motion carried**.

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by Robert Carroll to **approve Mayor's budget** with funding of \$201,052.34. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	No
L.C. Tester	No	Robert Carroll	Aye

Five ayes, **motion carried**.

- **Planning:** Mr. Chris Scheuttler requested that the budget committee reconsider his request for the addition of \$20,000 to add a full time position. He stated that this new position will be for code enforcement. The person who will be taking this new role has all the necessary testing and paperwork to begin enforcing code from day one.

Motion was made by Buford Sanders, second by L.C. Tester to **reconsider Planning budget**. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	No
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

Seven ayes, **motion carried**.

Motion was made by Buford Peters, second by L.C. tester to **approve Planning budget** with funding of \$297,347.17. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	No	John Lewis	No
Ronnie Trivett	No	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	No

Four ayes, **motion failed.**

Motion was made by Robert Carroll, second by John Lewis to **cut all County budgets by the amount they turned into fund balance last year.** A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	No
Nancy Brown	No	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	No	Sonja Culler	No
L.C. Tester	No	Robert Carroll	Aye

Two ayes, **motion failed.**

Fair Labor Standards Act: Finance Director, Christa Byrd made mention that a new federal mandate has been passed that will increase the minimum salary for any overtime exempt employee to \$47,476. If we have any overtime exempt employees who do not make this minimum salary will start to accrue comp time. After the employee reaches 100 hours of comp time that employee will have to start being paid for their comp time or asked to stay at home and take their time off. Mrs. Byrd recommended that all departments affected should take this situation to their direct committee for an approval of which steps they should take. The budget committee believed that the best thing to do would be to go ahead and budget for the increases in all employees who will be affected by this new federal mandate.

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by Buford Sanders to **reconsider Rescue Squad budget.** A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	No	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	No

Six ayes, **motion carried.**

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by Sonja Culler to **approve Rescue Squad budget** with last years approved funding of \$330,000. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	No	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	No	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	No

Four ayes, **motion failed.**

Motion was made by Sonja Culler, second by Ross Garland to **approve Rescue Squad budget** with a funding of \$270,000 with \$160,000 being put into reserve until after EMS task force delivers report. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	No	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	No	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	No

Four ayes, **motion failed.**

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by Nancy Brown to **consider FLSA new federal mandated raises in this budget.** A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, **motion carried.**

Motion was made by Ronnie Trivett, second by L.C Tester to **approve the addition of the new FLSA salary increase to Accounts and Budgets budget.** A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, **motion carried.**

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by L.C Tester to **approve the addition of the new FLSA salary increase to Planning budget.** A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, **motion carried.**

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by L.C Tester to **approve the addition of the new FLSA salary increase to Animal Shelter budget.** A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, **motion carried.**

Motion was made by Buford Sanders, second by John Lewis to **reconsider Rescue Squad budget one last time**. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, **motion carried**.

Motion was made by Buford Peters, second by L.C. Tester to **approve reserving \$100,000 for Rescue Squad budget until EMS task force report**. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	No
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

Seven ayes, **motion carried**.

- **Rescue Squad:** Terry Arnold asked to come before the committee one last time. Mr. Arnold thanked the committee for approving some additional funding. Mr. Arnold also stated that he will give back any excess money not used out of the one-time addition of \$160,000 that was added to his budget last year.

Motion was made by Buford Sanders, second by Nancy Brown to **approve the addition of the new FLSA salary increase to Solid Waste budget**. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, **motion carried**.

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by L.C. Tester to **approve Solid Waste budget with a funding of \$895,962.41**. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, **motion carried**.

Motion was made by Ross Garland, second by Nancy Brown to **approve Miscellaneous budget** with a funding of \$365,635.08. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, motion carried.

- **EMA:** Mayor Humphrey asked the committee to consider lumping the EMA director, Gary Smith, into the new FLSA federally mandated increases. Finance Director, Christa Byrd stated that this raise is only for overtime exempt employees, but the mayor can request the committee to just give Mr. Smith a salary increase. Mayor Humphrey stated that the normal salary for EMA directors is approximately \$45,000. Mayor Leon Humphrey also stated that we are extremely lucky to have Gary Smith fill the EMA director role.

Motion was made by Nancy Brown, second by Danny Ward to **approve the addition of the new FLSA salary increase to Highway Department budget.** A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by Nancy Brown to **approve Highway Department budget** with a funding of \$4,115,367.04. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by Ronnie Trivett, second by L.C. Tester to **approve General Purpose School budget** with a funding of \$40,096,825. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	Aye

All ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by John Lewis, approve to reserve the money from Debt Service to buy land. Mr. Lewis withdrew this motion. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Motion was made by Robert Carroll, second by Ronnie Trivett to leave money from paid note in Debt Service budget. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	No	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	No
L.C. Tester	No	Robert Carroll	Aye

Four ayes, motion failed.

Motion was made by Nancy Brown, second by L.C. Tester to approve leaving 21 cents in debt service to balance and leave no surplus. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	No	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Aye	Robert Carroll	No

Six ayes, motion carried.

Motion was made by John Lewis, second by Nancy Brown to approve changing tax rate to 2.433. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	No	Ross Garland	No
Nancy Brown	No	John Lewis	Aye
Ronnie Trivett	No	Sonja Culler	No
L.C. Tester	Absent	Robert Carroll	Aye

Two ayes, motion failed.

Motion was made by Buford Peters, second by Nancy Brown to approve leaving tax rate at 2.45 and giving Carter County and School Paraprofessionals a 3% raise - with the exemption of all FLSA mandated raises. A voice Roll Call was as follows.

Buford Peters	Aye	Ross Garland	Aye
Nancy Brown	Aye	John Lewis	No
Ronnie Trivett	Aye	Sonja Culler	Aye
L.C. Tester	Absent	Robert Carroll	No

Five ayes, motion carried.

- Christa Byrd made comment that if we approve the above motion that we will have to go back in the future years and possibly raise the tax rate to square up for the raises.

Sonja Culler said the Budget Public Hearing will be in June 20, 2016 at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Kennedy

Sonja Culler,

Approved for File