

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 30, 2017 – 5:30 PM
117 DICK STREET, 5TH FLOOR, ROOM 564
SPECIAL MEETING – FY18 BUDGET WORK SESSION
MINUTES

PRESENT: Commissioner Glenn Adams, Chairman
Commissioner Charles Evans, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Michael Boose (arrived 5:50 p.m.)
Commissioner Jeannette Council
Commissioner Charles Evans
Commissioner Jimmy Keefe
Commissioner Larry Lancaster
Amy Cannon, County Manager
Melissa Cardinali, Assistant County Manager
Tracy Jackson, Assistant County Manager
Sally Shutt, Assistant County Manager
Rick Moorefield, County Attorney
Vicki Evans, Finance Director
Deborah Shaw, Budget Analyst
Heather Harris, Budget Analyst
Bob Tucker, Accounting Supervisor
Ivonne Mendez, Financial Specialist
Jeffrey Brown, Engineering and Infrastructure Director
Jerod Roberts, Solid Waste Director
Kellie Beam, Deputy Clerk to the Board
Press

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. DEPARTMENT POSITION REQUESTS

Chairman Adams called on Amy Cannon, County Manager, who stated she would begin the work session with a review of department position requests. Ms. Cannon stated of the 60 positions requested, 29 were recommended.

Sheriff's Office:

Ms. Cannon stated 13 new positions were requested that are fully County funded for a total cost, including salary and fringe benefits, of \$737,639. Ms. Cannon stated none of the positions were recommended in the budget.

Animal Control:

Ms. Cannon stated 8 full time positions were requested for a total cost, including salary and fringe benefits, of \$356,444. Ms. Cannon stated none of the positions were recommended.

Health Department General:

Ms. Cannon stated the total request was for 30 positions and of the 30 positions requested, the 10 public health nurse positions were not recommended.

Jail Health:

Ms. Cannon stated 16 positions related to the jail health program were requested and recommended; however, if the Health Department does not provide jail health after July 1, the positions will be removed.

Care Coordination for Children / Pregnancy Management:

Ms. Cannon stated 4 nurse positions were requested which are funded by Medicaid and currently filled on a contractual basis. Ms. Cannon stated in order to increase continuity and productivity in the clinics, the positions are being moved to full-time. Ms. Cannon also stated there are no additional costs for these 4 positions.

Department of Social Services:

Ms. Cannon stated the request was for 9 positions; 2 for Medicaid eligibility positions funded by Cape Fear Valley Health System and 7 positions for Medicaid and Adult Services. Ms. Cannon stated the recommendation is to replace 7 new Medicaid workers with 9 time-limited positions. Ms. Cannon also stated there are no additional costs to the County and no increase in total staffing.

Commissioner Keefe referenced the 25.02% change in Pregnancy Care Management and asked the reason for the change and whether it was being contracted out. Melissa Cardinali, Assistant County Manager, stated these are contractual positions and if the positions were not filled the entire year, the actual expense would be significantly less than what was funded in the budget. Ms. Cardinali explained the actual does not always drive the budget and the budget is the amount available when a program is operating at 100%. Ms. Cardinali further explained those positions are Medicaid funded and if they are not filled it is not because funds are unavailable.

3. DEPARTMENT SUPPLEMENTAL REQUESTS

Ms. Cannon reviewed new vehicle requests stating departments requested a total of 31 new vehicles, 21 of which are recommended at a total amount of \$900,018. Ms. Cannon stated there will also be cost sharing with the Department of Social Services in the amount of \$46,018. Ms. Cannon stated more departments requested new vehicles but upon learning of the FY18 budget challenges, withdrew their requests. Questions followed about vehicles for the Sheriff's Office, who receives vehicles and hybrid vehicles.

Ms. Cannon stated departments requested replacement or additional capital outlay items which were mostly for small equipment. Ms. Cannon stated the total requested from the General Fund was \$1,134,292 of which \$775,762 has been recommended. In response to a question posed by Commissioner Keefe, Ms. Cannon stated technology replacements will be worked into the capital financing model that will be brought back to the Finance Committee in August. Ms. Cannon explained each year there will be networking and switches that will be end-of-life and need to be replaced so efforts are to pull those costs out of the operating budget and place in a capital replacement fund.

Ms. Cannon reviewed maintenance and renovation requests and stated departments with building or carpet related requests submitted them to and worked with the Engineering Department. Ms. Cannon stated the total requested was \$1,090,900 and \$1,054,700 has been recommended. Commissioner Keefe asked which requests were required versus which requests were desires, what type of review was conducted and whether the Sheriff's Office and court system funds were used or whether County funds were used. Mr. Brown explained the review process and the assistance his department provided to come up with a budget numbers. Mr. Brown stated the court system has requested their maintenance and renovations for the past three to four years, and there have been some changes to the jury seating in Courtroom 4A which have been problematic for jurors. Mr. Brown stated there are also some issues with noise from the HVAC system and the projector and screen used for displaying evidence for the jury. Mr. Brown further stated evidence stored at the Sheriff's Annex has been damaged over time and requires insulation and installation of HVAC with duct work to control the temperature.

In response to an additional question from Commissioner Keefe, Mr. Brown stated all requests were reviewed and the library has requested replacement carpet for the past two to three years. Ms. Cannon stated now that the process for maintenance and renovation requests has been formalized through the Engineering Department, it gives her greater confidence that these requests are not for luxury items but for items that are needed when they are recommended by the Engineering Department. Ms. Cannon stated the County has major carpet replacement that needs to be done in several departments, not only because they are worn but also because of issues such as trip hazards.

Commissioner Boose inquired about the demolition and building of a new structure at the Sheriff's outdoor range. Mr. Brown stated both modular units at the outdoor range are used as training classrooms and are in very poor condition. Mr. Brown stated the recommendation is to remove the two modular units and replace with a classroom building that will meet the needs of the Sheriff's Office.

4. PROPOSED FEE CHANGES

Ms. Cannon conducted a review of fee changes and stated Tax Administration's fee increases for maps reflect the current cost of materials to print the maps. Melissa Cardinali, Assistant County Manager, stated revenue at the proposed fee amount is estimated at around \$3,800 annually. Commissioner Faircloth asked whether raising the fee for the collection of taxes for the municipalities had been looked at. Ms. Cannon stated a change has not been made in several years but it will be explored, especially for Fayetteville. Heather Harris, Budget Analyst, stated the cost for the collection of taxes is less than \$100,000 a year.

Ms. Cannon stated the Register of Deeds proposed fee change is per general statute for deed of trusts and mortgages that was effective October 1, 2016.

Ms. Cannon stated the library and Sheriff's Office are eliminating some of their current fees, and Solid Waste is restructuring fees to find a balance between services and the commercial and residential side. Jerod Roberts, Solid Waste Director, responded to questions about efforts to balance fees so commercial fees will help offset user fees. Mr. Roberts also explained flat rate fees that are in place in the event of scale failure, which is a highly unusual event.

5. COMMUNITY FUNDING

Ms. Cannon called attention to community funding for agencies that provide services to the community that are aligned with the County's strategic plan and stated no new requests were funded. Ms. Cannon also stated funding for each current agency was reduced by 15%.

6. OTHER ITEMS / QUESTIONS

Chairman Adams stated the public hearing on the FY18 proposed budget and budget work session is scheduled for Monday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Approved with/without revision:

Respectfully submitted,

Candice H. White
Clerk to the Board