

Windsor, North Carolina
June 18, 2020
RECESSED MEETING

The Bertie County Board of Commissioners RECESSED their budget work session on June 15th inside the Commissioners Room, 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was hosted partially in person, and partially via Zoom (conference call). The following members were present or absent:

Present: Ronald “Ron” Wesson, District I
Greg Atkins, District II
Tammy A. Lee, District III
John Trent, District IV
Ernestine (Byrd) Bazemore, District V (**Zoom**)

Absent: None

Staff Present: County Manager Juan Vaughan, II.
Finance Director William Roberson

Staff Present (Zoom): Clerk to the Board Sarah Tinkham
Maintenance Superintendent Anthony Rascoe
Water Superintendent Ricky Spivey
EFNEP Agent Kathy Copeland
Clerk of Court Vasti F. James

Thadd White of the Bertie Ledger-Advance and Cal Bryant of the Roanoke-Chowan News Herald were present from the media via Zoom.

RECONVENE

Chair Wesson **RECONVENED** the meeting.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHT SUMMARY

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to allocate \$1,000 to the Aulander Peanut Festival instead of the originally proposed \$500. Commissioner Bazemore **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Commissioner Trent made a **MOTION** to allocate an additional \$2,220 to the NC Forestry Service. Vice Chair Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Chair Wesson made a **MOTION** to include funding in the MCC allocation for distance learning. There was no second and the motion failed to progress to a vote.

Commissioner Atkins noted concerns with the cutting of Emergency Management's budget, but the Board has agreed to increase funds to some special appropriations.

Vice Chair Lee reminded the Board that the additional \$2,000 in funding being requested by the Tri-County Airport Authority was a one-time request for furnishing the new airport terminal building.

Commissioner Bazemore reiterated her concerns about the Maintenance Department's budget being cut during a pandemic and hurricane season.

County Manager Vaughan discussed the projects that were cut from the Maintenance Department during the proposed budget. There was a lengthy discussion before Commissioner Bazemore made a **MOTION** to increase the Public Building's budget by \$59,798. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Commissioner Atkins made a **MOTION** to revert the Historic Hope Foundation's allocation back to \$15,000. Commissioner Trent **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

There was also a request for County Administration to research fees for solar panels for solar farms in surrounding counties.

County Manager Vaughan inquired if the Board would like to see the proposed changes discussed in today's work session before adopting the budget.

Chair Wesson made a **MOTION** to conditionally approve the proposed FY2020-2021 Budget pending the discussed changes. Commissioner Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Thus, the following adjustments were made to the budget:

Amount	Line Items Reduced	Board Recommended	Board Approved
\$20,800	MCC-Capital Outlay	\$52,300	\$31,500
\$5,000	Historic Hope	\$20,000	\$15,000
\$36,698	Sheriff – Group Insurance Expenses	\$250,765	\$214,067
\$62,498	Total		

Amount	Line Items Increased	Board Recommended	Board Approved
\$500	Aulander Peanut Festival	\$500	\$1,000
\$2,200	Forest Service	\$125,062	\$127,262
\$26,000	Contracted Service – Grass Cutting	\$2,000	\$28,000
\$22,113	Public Buildings – Salaries & Wages	\$284,124	\$306,237
\$1,691	Public Buildings – FICA Matching	\$24,161	\$25,852
\$7,113	Public Buildings – Group Insurance	\$60,684	\$67,797
\$2,881	Public Buildings – Retirement	\$40,926	\$43,807
\$62,498	Total		

ADJOURN

Commissioner Atkins made a **MOTION** to **ADJOURN**. Commissioner Lee **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Ronald Wesson, Chairman

Sarah Tinkham, Clerk to the Board