

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met in recessed session (recessed from the June 4, 2003 meeting) in the Council Chambers of the Administrative Building, located in Danbury, North Carolina, on Thursday, June 5, 2003, at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman Sandy McHugh
Vice-Chairman John Turpin
Commissioner Howard Mabe
Commissioner Leon Inman
Commissioner Joe Turpin

Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Inman delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman McHugh opened the meeting by inviting the citizens in attendance to join the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

WORK SESSION-PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2003/04 COUNTY BUDGET

The Board discussed the proposed budget by the following departments:

Governing Body

Increase due to property/liability and worker's compensation Group Insurance- Budgeted 8 retirees for upcoming year Discussion of criminal background checks for employees.

Motion: Commissioner Inman moved to approve the motion to require all new applicants (includes all part/full time positions) effective July 1, 2003 to submit a criminal background check at their expense with their application.

Second: Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The County Attorney will present the legal issues concerning criminal background checks at the June 23rd meeting.

Health Insurance

Social Services, Health, Home Health, King Clinic, and Senior Services has insurance line item in their budgets in order to receive reimbursement funding.

Administration

Professional Services- Cost Allocation Plan.
Advertising is for job vacancies and Board of Commissioners public notices.

Finance

Increase in professional services due to audit contract and GASB#34 implementation cost

Tax Administration

Revenue of tax collections can only be used by the prior year's percentage per audit-96.01%
Collection of all taxes -103% over budget at present date = \$414,313
Revaluation has separate budget-decreasing staff
Tax Administrator -been at minimum salary grade since appointment

Mapping/GIS

Elimination of land records specialist position
Discussion of on line services provided by Mapping/GIS

Legal

Discussion of full time position versus contracted services by outside attorney
Majority of services-DSS-but staff attorney was used by all other departments
Commissioner Joe Turpin would seek proposal from outside attorney for services

Superior Court

Third courtroom in lower level to be used in September 2003.

Elections

Discussion of new mandates for voting polls
Voting machines after 2004 election will be obsolete

Budget greater in years with General Election

Register of Deeds

Part time employee to be hired in upcoming fiscal year 2003-04
Technology fund to be used for web page and personal computer

Public Buildings

Discussion of telephone system for county-leasing versus buying
Discussion of mowing services by county employees
Discussion of property being rented by county-economic development
Possibly of moving economic development back to Danbury

Information Systems

Equipment- Computer need for upgrades for network
Discussion of license agreements- different departments

Vehicle Maintenance

Discussion of county vehicles maintained by department
Discussion of County Sale
Buying of oil in 50 gallon barrels for cost savings

Sheriff's Department

Pay off of employee retiring with thirty years – supplement separate allowance
Increase in fuel cost
(2) new bailiff/transportation positions – 50% in Sheriff's Dept. and 50% in Jail
New positions will decrease vacation and holiday accruals for current employees
New safety officer – supplemented by federal grant for (3) three years
Discussion of advertising on county cars

Jail

Restructuring of jail personnel to cover shifts more efficient
(2) Jailers to jail shift supervisors
(2) New jail positions
Increase of 3% meal cost and medical cost
(2) New bailiff/transportation positions – 50% Sheriff's Dept. and 50% in Jail
Need for new camera equipment for security
Need for additional space for housing more federal inmates for greater revenues

District Resource Center

Grant received for additional remodeling to existing facility

Emergency Communications

Additional telecommunicator to save part time employees with overtime

Emergency Management

Increase part time accounting clerk from 10 hours to 14.50 hours per week

Fire and Rescue

Discussion of Mountain Rescue & Fire Association being moved from Service District Fund
Equipment for fire investigation
Emergency responder decontamination equipment for hazmat team

Medical Examiner

Constantly increasing each year

Emergency Medical Services

Additional (3) new full time positions to help relieve accruals of vacation and holiday time
for existing employees-cut overtime and part time salaries
Ambulance in capital reserve
Mattress and box springs replacement for all stations
Two employees definite retiring this fiscal year and possibly three
Discussion of fees owed by rest homes for EMS Services
Need for new technology of heart monitors on ambulances
Discussion of EMS facilities

Animal Control

Discussion of citizens being able to inquire if requested who complained to Animal Control
concerning pet incidents
Boarding fees increase

Solid Waste Collection

Increase fees to \$52 per ton for contractors, cost of removal and a flat fee of \$5.00 for others
All sites open 6 days a week 7 am to 7 pm
6 new green boxes

Water coolers at all the sites

Discussion of scrap tires –using tractor trailers at local businesses-revenue for County

Recycling Center

No funding-no revenue ever received recycling

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Mabe moved to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Sandy McHugh
Chairman