

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS

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STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT

COUNTY OF STOKES

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DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

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JUNE 25, 2004

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a recessed budget work session (recessed from Wednesday, June 23, 2004) for the proposed Fiscal Year 2004/05 County Budget in the Council Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building), located in Danbury, North Carolina, on Friday, June 25, 2004, 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

County Manager Richard Morris
County Attorney Jonathan Jordan
Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

Others in Attendance:
Finance Director Julia Edwards
Assistant Finance Director Lisa Lankford
Mr. Jack Veit - Stokes Intern

Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order.

County Manager Jonathan Jordan 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.

Register of Deeds

Register of Deeds Kathy Young

Register of Deeds Kathy Young noted the following areas in the proposed Register of Deeds Budget:

- Presented statistical information concerning the Register of Deeds Office
- Presented statistical information concerning 2003 Salary Study for Register of Deeds performed by NC Secretary of States' Office
- Duties of the Register of Deeds' office
- Comparison of Register of Deeds' offices by similar and surrounding counties
- Comparison of Register of Deeds' offices by District III Association of Registers of Deeds
- Contractual Services
- Technology funds for computer and web page
- Revenue collected \$370,038.43 thus far this year
- Fees set by Legislature
- Requested consideration of proposed County Manager' budget for Register of Deeds

Planning Community Development

Planning and Zoning Director David Sudderth

Planning and Zoning Director Sudderth noted the following areas in the proposed Planning Community Development Budget:

- Justification for new radio
- Increased fuel costs
- Proposed 6 Planning meetings for fiscal year 2004/05
- Training for Code Enforcement Officer
- Salary Increase for Office Support position
- Increase for all employees instead of just Code Enforcement Officers- possibly merit

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to increase line item 100.3491.412 Cell Tower Revenue to \$10,000.

Commissioner Mabe moved to increase line item 100.3491.412 Cell Tower Revenue to \$10,000.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Tax Administration

Tax Administrator Wren Carmichael

Assistant Tax Administrator/Delinquent Tax Collector Cheryl Hill

Tax Administrator Carmichael noted the following areas in the proposed Tax Administration Budget:

- Supports Reclassifications as proposed by County Manger
- Motor Vehicle Appraiser required by the State
- Request reclassification for Motor Vehicle Appraiser to be effective July 1, 2004
- Justification for computer and printer
- Line Printer purchased this fiscal year 2003/04
- Request designated funding for line printer be used instead for filing cabinets needed for EMS billing
- Discussion of Delinquent EMS Billing

Tax Administrator Carmichael noted all revenue accounts for tax collections have surpassed last year's collections except for dog taxes and have collected \$330,694.72 as of June 25th over budget. A total of \$608,000 in revenue more than last year's collection.

Revaluation

Tax Administrator Wren Carmichael

Assistant Tax Administrator/Delinquent Tax Collector Cheryl Hill

Tax Administrator Carmichael noted the following areas in the proposed Revaluation Budget:

- Justification for Real Appraiser II reclassification
- Revaluation underway
- Savings for In House Revaluation estimated \$500,000

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to appropriate \$46,000 from the existing Revaluation Fund Balance and reduce the General Fund to \$112,137.

Commissioner Inman moved to appropriate \$46,000 from the existing Revaluation Fund Balance and reduce the General Fund to \$112,137.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff's Department
Sheriff Mike Joyce
Chief Deputy James Joyce

Sheriff Joyce noted the following areas in the proposed Sheriff's Department Budget:

- Justification for two requested patrol officers
- 13,500 incidents from communication
- Attempted to serve 8,662 legal papers for court system
- Population increased 27% since 1998 to 2003 without additional officers
- Robberies, larcenies, theft, etc. increased 47% from 2000 to 2003
- Arrests also increased from 1998 to 2003 by 31%
- Officers have made 230 charges over last 30 days
- Reclassification of Lieutenant position to Captain due to additional duties, fire arms instructor for department
- \$250,297 budgeted in salaries is reimbursed by School System
- Budget includes separation allowance for retired officers
- Estimated \$7000 for ammunition for officers to qualify
- Uniforms are in dire need for replacement
- OBJ Law Enforcement Grant has been dropped for counties under population of 80,000
- Increased gasoline prices and repairs to older patrol cars
- Deer (brush) guards are cost effective -paid by drug funding
- Justification for computers
- Justification for increase in undercover drug operations
- Requested to transfer \$4000 in travel (due to county vehicles used by officers for all travel) to auto supplies
- Sheriff Joyce detailed each expenditure and revenue line item explaining increase or decrease

Sheriff Mike Joyce concluded with comments supporting all reclassifications for officers except for himself.. Sheriff Joyce also requested if reclassifications were not available, a possible increase for the starting salary for recruiting new officers.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to accept the submitted corrected copy of the proposed Sheriff's Department Budget.

Commissioner Mabe moved to approve the submitted corrected copy of the proposed Sheriff's Department budget.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Jail

Jail Captain Craig Carico
Sheriff Mike Joyce
Chief Deputy James Joyce

Jail Captain Carico noted the following areas in the proposed Jail Budget:

- Justification for new Admin/Jailer/CPL/Evidence Manager
- New Domestic Laws impacting evidence management (firearms)
- Increase in jail population
- Requested increase in hourly rate for part time jailers
- Jail - 24/7 operation
- Within previous 19 months prior to budget -17 full time changes in personnel (total 18 full jailers); 20 part time changes in personnel
- Jail - 12 years old- replacement of worn parts and equipment
- Miscellaneous Services-medical expenses for inmates
- Requested a maintenance contract for jail locking system
- Estimate cost increase from ABL - meal cost for inmates
- Request for purchase of surplus van & van cell for inmate transportation
- Matching Grant application for automatic defibrillator
- Justification for laser printer and commercial washer

- Federal Inmate Program has produced in excess of \$1,070,000 in revenue in the last three years and ten months
- Captain Carico detailed each expenditure and revenue line item explaining increase or decrease

Captain Carico noted future expansion projects for the jail.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman McHugh moved to recess the budget work session until Saturday, June 26, 2004, at 9:00 am.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried (4-1) with Commissioner Joe Turpin voting against the motion.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Sandy McHugh
Chairman