

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA) OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
) STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
COUNTY OF STOKES) DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
) JUNE 20, 2005

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a budget work session (recessed from the June 15, 2005 budget work session) in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, June 20, 2005 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman John Turpin
Vice-Chairman Leon Inman
Commissioner Sandy McHugh
Commissioner Joe Turpin
Commissioner Jimmy Walker

County Personnel in Attendance:
County Manager Richard Morris
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins
Finance Director Julia Edwards
Assistant Finance Director Lisa Lankford

Chairman John Turpin called the budget work session to order.

County Manager Rick Morris delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman John Turpin opened the budget work session by inviting the citizens in attendance to join the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT -GOVERNING BODY-PROPOSED 2005/06 BUDGET WORK SESSION

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following additional information concerning the proposed Fiscal Year 2005/06 budget:

- o Description of county services provided by CenterPoint
- o Justification for Piedmont Triad Partnership from Economic Development Director Ron Morgan
- o Justification for Pilot View Resource Conservation & Development from Charles Anderson
- o Memo from DSS Director Jan Spencer estimating county, state, and federal funding for possible in-house attorney
- o Newspaper article concerning impact fees for school construction

The Board continued discussion concerning the Hope Ridge/CenterPoint services currently being provided to the County.

Suggestive Tax Rate

Chairman John Turpin polled the Board declaring an estimated tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year 2005/06. The Chairman received the following:

- o Chairman John Turpin - Revenue Neutral
- o Vice Chairman Inman - Desired to have revenue neutral, but realistically seeing a possible \$.60-\$.62- maybe \$.59
- o Commissioner Joe Turpin - Revenue Neutral
- o Commissioner Walker -Constant tax rate to meet immediate needs to serve the citizens - preferably \$.59-\$.62
- o Commissioner McHugh - Desired to have revenue neutral, but to be responsible-around \$.61

Financing vehicles in proposed budget

Commissioner McHugh suggested to the Board to finance all the following vehicles proposed in the County Manager's recommended fiscal year 2005-06 budget:

- Ambulance
- Sheriff's vehicles
- Animal Control vehicle
- Jail Van and assembly
- Public Building vehicle
- Bookmobile

COLA

The Board discussed the proposed COLA included in the County Manager's recommended budget.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved that the COLA included in the County Manager's recommended budget be given as a one-time bonus.

Commissioner Walker seconded the motion.

The Board considered the pros and cons of including the COLA as a one-time bonus.

Commissioner Walker withdrew his second with Commissioner Joe Turpin withdrawing his motion.

Discussion of Departmental and Outside Budget Request

Administration

The Board discussed the following:

- Elimination of the requested new position (Adm/Benefit Clerk)
- Elimination of longevity increase
- Elimination of COLA

Animal Control

The Board discussed the following:

- Possible increase for dog tax licenses
- Financing the recommended vehicle purchase

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to increase the dog tax licenses to \$10.00.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion failed (2-3) with Chairman John Turpin, Vice Chairman Inman, and Commissioner Walker voting against the motion.

Commissioner McHugh moved to transfer the \$8,000 allocated as revenue from Capital Reserve back to Capital Reserve and finance the full amount of the animal control vehicle.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Arts Council

The Board discussed the following:

- Arts Council revenue

Commissioner McHugh moved to increase the Arts Council revenue to \$25,000 thus reducing funding from General Fund to \$55,509.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded the motion.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of increasing the Arts Council's projected revenue.

The motion carried 3-2 with Vice Chairman Inman and Commissioner Walker voting against the motion.

Contingency

The Board discussed the following:

- Merit program moved to Governing Body's budget to reduce budget amendments having to be done during the fiscal year

- Contingency and Leave cost remaining at \$100,000 each

Cooperative Extension

The Board discussed the following:

- Contractual Services
- Equipment-Non Capitalized

Commissioner Joe Turpin reiterated the amount of time being exhausted reviewing each department and outside request.

Debt Service

The Board discussed the following:

- County's debt service
- State's recommended debt service for the County
- G O Bonds

District Resource Center

The Board discussed the following:

- Positive impact for the County

Economic Development

The Board discussed the following:

- Advertising line item
- Possible elimination of ½ of recommended funding for Advertising =\$18,125

Elections

The Board discussed the following:

- Reclassification of Election Assistant to Deputy Election Director
- Possibility of moving voting places from schools

Emergency Communications

The Board discussed the following:

- Offset revenue by billing municipalities for communication services
- Reinstatement Emergency Medical Dispatch
- Part time starting pay being \$7.28 increasing to \$9.28 after 200 hours
- Increase in budget from previous years

Emergency Management

The Board discussed the following:

- Collection revenue
- Value of Office Assistant II in collection of revenue
- Billing of private insurance

Emergency Medical Services

The Board discussed the following:

- Ambulance fees
- Delinquent Ambulance fees
- BLS and ALS services
- Privatization of EMS
- Increase in fee schedule

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to recess the budget work session until Wednesday, June 22, 2005 at 6:00 pm.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to recess the budget work session until Wednesday, June 22, 2005 at 6:00 pm.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

John M. Turpin
Chairman