



MINUTES
Board of County Commissioners Meeting
Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:00 PM
Pender County Public Assembly Room

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Fred McCoy
Jacqueline A. Newton
Jerry Groves
Wendy Fletcher-Hardee
Brad George

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Andrews, County Manager
Trey Thurman, County Attorney
Patrick Buffkin, Staff Attorney
Lexi Stanfield, Clerk to the Board
Allen Vann, Assistant County Manager
Other Staff and Members of the Press and Public.

1 CALL TO ORDER SPECIAL MEETING

Chair Newton called to order at 4:00pm.

2 BUDGET WORK SESSION

2.1 Fleet Budget

Jeremy Drummond, Facilities Director, appeared before the Board and presented in a follow up as to the Fleet budget as requested by the Board at a previous budget work session. Drummond discussed the results of County Staff work to analyze the current and projected use of County-owned vehicles and the establishment of a County motor pool. The Board held a general discussion on the Fleet budget. Chair Newton thanked Drummond for his time and efforts involved in the budget process.

3 FOLLOW UP FROM PREVIOUS BUDGET WORK SESSIONS

3.1 Department of Elections

Gregory Jackson, Board of Elections Director, appeared before the Board and presented in a follow up as to the Board of Elections' budget as requested by the Board in a previous budget work session. Jackson discussed the Board of Elections' budget request and staffing needs. The Board held a general discussion on the Board of Elections' budget. Chair Newton thanked Jackson for his time and efforts involved in the budget process.

3.2 Veteran's Services Office

Michelle Leach, Veteran's Services Director, appeared before the Board and presented in a follow up as to the Veteran's Services budget as requested from the Board in a previous budget work session. Leach discussed revisions to the Veteran's Services budget request and term plans to increase availability of service to the County's veterans. The Board held a general discussion on the Veteran's Services' budget. Chair Newton thanked Leach for her time and efforts involved in the budget process.

3.3 Holly Shelter Shooting Range

Dee Turner, Parks and Rec Supervisor, appeared before the Board and presented in a follow up as to the Holly Shelter Shooting Range budget as requested by the Board from a previous budget work session. Turner discussed the details of the Holly Shelter Shooting Range budget request and background related to the agreement with the State of North Carolina (Wildlife Resources Commission) for the operation of the shooting range by the County. The Board held a discussion on the shooting range budget emphasizing the need for the shooting range to operate, to the extent possible, without need to rely on County general fund monies. Chair Newton thanked Turner for her time and efforts involved in the budget process.

3.4 Countywide Radio Station

Tommy Batson and Sarah Taylor, Emergency Management Director and EM Specialist, respectively, appeared before the Board and presented in a follow up as to the EM Countywide Radios' budget as requested by the Board in a previous budget work session. Batson and Taylor discussed the Countywide Radio's budget request and plans to coordinate the updating of radios across the County departments. The Board held a general discussion on the Countywide Radio's budget. Chair Newton thanked Batson and Taylor for their time and efforts involved in the budget process.

3.5 Pender County School District Funding

County Manager Andrews and Finance Director Blue presented to the Board in a follow up as to the Pender County Schools budget, as requested by the Board at a previous budget work session. Andrews and Blue noted certain recommended revisions that would provide additional resources to meet the Schools' facility requirements. Mrs. Blue also explained that the balanced budget would include a line item for the additional revenue which would be dedicated to and in equal amount of a reserve fund for school bond debt service.

3.6 Summary of Proposed Recommended Budget Changes and Monetary Impacts

David Andrews, County Manager, appeared before the Board and presented as to the overall Budget, changes made in response to the Board's comments and direction at previous Board meetings, and the timing and process adopting the County FY 23-24 budget at a regular Board Meeting on June 5th, 2023. The Board held a general discussion on the overall budget. Chair Newton expressed that this year's budget development process was one of the smoothest she could recall and thanked Andrews for his time and efforts involved in the budget process.

4 MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION AS PER NCGS 143-318.11(3) CONSULTATION WITH THE ATTORNEY

Moved by Wendy Fletcher-Hardee, seconded by Fred McCoy

Motion to go into Closed Session as per NCGS 143-318 (3) Consultation with the Attorney at 5:45pm.

CARRIED.

5 MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

5.1 Return to Open Session

Moved by Brad George, seconded by Fred McCoy

Motion to return to Open Session.

CARRIED.

6 ADJOURNMENT

6.1 Adjourned at 6:57pm.

Moved by Brad George, seconded by Fred McCoy

Motion to adjourn.

CARRIED.