

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND CALLED MEETING HELD

MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2014 AT 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Budget and a Called Meeting on Monday, June 16, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the White County Administration Building. Present at the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Edwin Nix, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Michael Melton, Finance Director Vicki Mays, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy. Commissioner Holcomb was not in attendance.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

Mr. Melton presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Budget (see attached presentation). The General Fund Budget presented was balanced at \$15,960,533.00 and the Special Funds Budget totaled \$4,135,553.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for public comment.

Ms. Nancy Duggan, 158 Running Deer Road Cleveland, GA – Ms. Duggan spoke on behalf of the “Friends of the Library” regarding the continued decrease in funding from the State for the purchase of library materials and the need for funds. She stated that the organization was requesting \$3,000.00 from the County in order to purchase library materials.

Ms. Annette Dixon, 1280 Bahn Innsbrook Helen, GA – Ms. Dixon requested that the Board consider the additional funding for library materials due to the lack of State funding in this area. She expressed the importance of public libraries to the community.

Ms. Liz Albright, 19 Beaver Point Lane Cleveland, GA – Ms. Albright asked the Board to re-exam the County Budget in an effort to provide some additional funding to the Libraries for the purchase of materials.

Ms. Lynn Kent, 696 Asbestos Road Cleveland, GA – Ms. Kent spoke about how helpful the local library had been to her and her husband when the relocated to the area about five (5) years ago – requesting that the Board consider additional funding for the libraries.

Mr. Michael Humphrey, Library Program Manager, explained that the State’s contribution formula to local libraries was changing to a more staff oriented funding than materials oriented funding – with no materials funding having been provided by the State in over two (2) years.

Chairman Turner reviewed the current operational funding level which the County provides to the Libraries totaling approximately \$292,000.00 per year.

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Mr. Humphrey stated that a request had been submitted to the City of Cleveland and the City of Helen for a contribution of \$1,000.00 for materials as well – with the City of Cleveland currently contributing \$4,500.00 per year for operations of the Cleveland Branch and the City of Helen contributing approximately \$70,000.00 per year for operations of the Helen Branch

Chairman Turner stated that in the upcoming 2014 SPLOST – there is \$100,000.00 dedicated to the Library. Mr. Melton stated that he would look into whether these funds could be used for materials.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to provide \$3,000.00 in additional funding for materials for the White County Libraries in the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget.

Mr. Melton presented two (2) options for administering the 3% merit increase (as approved at the June 2, 2014 Meeting) in the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget, based on the current Classification / Compensation System which establishes merit increases in 2.5% increments. The first option would require the establishment of a “new” class / comp system and an “old” class / comp system – with all employees receiving the merit increase to be placed on the new system and all employees not receiving the merit increase being placed on the old system. The second option applied a .5% cost of living adjustment to the current class / comp system and allowed for the 2.5% merit increase based on performance.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to administer the 3% increase in the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget based on option two as presented – applying a .5% adjustment to the entire class / comp system and allowing for merit increases at 2.5% and based on employee performance evaluations.

Mr. Melton presented an addendum to the current contract with Advanced Disposal for the operation of the White County Transfer Station. He stated that the agreement would extend the contract to July 1, 2020 under the current terms and conditions, with Advanced Disposal agreeing to construct restroom facilities at the Transfer Station at their cost under the supervision / approval of White County.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to approve the contract extension with Advanced Disposal for the operation of the White County Transfer Station until July 1, 2020 under the same terms and conditions of the current contract with the addendum specifying that Advanced Disposal will construct restroom facilities at the Transfer Station under the supervision of White County – with building permit fees being waived for the project.

Mr. Melton presented a renewal of the White County Emergency Medical Services contract with Northeast Georgia Physician’s Group for a two year term with no change in the current annual rate (\$800,000.00).

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Mr. Scott Masters, Director of Emergency Transport at Northeast Georgia Health Systems. Spoke about the changing models within health care and specifically within emergency medical services. He stated that within the next two years there would be enough information to develop new models for delivering emergency medical services.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the contract for renewal of the White County Emergency Medical Services contract with Northeast Georgia Physician's Group for a two year term with no change in the current annual rate (\$800,000.00).

Mr. David Murphy, Director of Public Safety, presented a proposed automatic aid agreement with Lumpkin County which would provide increased service to White County residents (by Lumpkin County) in the Town Creek area and would provide increase service to Lumpkin County residents (by White County) in the Turner's Corner area.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the Automatic Aid Agreement with Lumpkin County as presented.

Mr. Melton presented bids received on heating & air system repairs at the Allen Mauney Community Services Building for the replacement of a 7.5 ton unit and a 10 ton unit – with the low bidder being Complete Comfort.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to approve awarding the contract for replacement of two heating & air units at the Allen Mauney Community Services Building to Complete Comfort in the amount of \$18,140.00 to be paid from contingency.

Mr. Melton presented the only bid received from the seal, advertised bid process for the stage renovations at the White County Parks YMCA Gym. The one bid received was submitted by Scroggs & Grizzel Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$31,651.00 (with add-ons \$35,457.00). He stated that the Board had previously approved \$20,000.00 for the project; however the bid for the complete project did come in substantially higher than the individual quotes on each section of the project which had been obtained by the YMCA.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to table the vote on this project for thirty (30) days.

In considering the appointment of Mr. David Sills to the White County Water Authority, as recommended by the Upper Chattahoochee Resource Conservation Council, Commissioner Nix stated he would abstain due to being the Director of the Water Authority and Commissioner Bryant stated he would abstain since he is on the Water Authority Board of Directors; therefore there was not a quorum available to vote on the appointment and the issue was tabled until the June 23, 2014 meeting.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to table the remaining board appointments (YMCA, Building Authority, and

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Region 1 Behavioral Health) until the June 23, 2014 meeting in order to discuss a schedule for interview the applicants.

There was a consensus that the issue of considering a possible resolution for the land use referendum for the November 2014 ballot would be tabled until June 23, 2014 for further discussion in preparation to have any issues to be on the ballot to the Elections Superintendent by July 20, 2014 for ballot preparation.

Commissioner Goodger discussed that the Cleveland City Council would be further considering the issue of approving for Quillian's Street to be one-way in keeping with the Freedom Park Project on Tuesday, June 17, 2014 – he would update the Board on the City's decision.

As a matter of discussion, it was clarified that within the application process to use Freedom Park there is a section in which the sponsoring organization can ask for applicable rules of use, as previously established by the Board of Commissioners, to be waived for their event.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes of the June 16, 2014 Public Hearing and Called Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 23rd day of June, 2014.

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

s/Travis C. Turner

Travis C. Turner, Chairman

s/Terry D. Goodger

Terry D. Goodger, District 1

s/Lyn Holcomb

Lyn Holcomb, District 2

s/Edwin Nix

Edwin Nix, District 3

s/Craig Bryant

Craig Bryant, District 4

s/Shanda Murphy

Shanda Murphy, County Clerk