



## Alleghany County Board of Commissioners Budget Public Hearing 6-19-18 Minutes

Chair Mark Evans opened the called special meeting and explained the purpose was to hold a public hearing concerning the FY 2018-2019 budget. He then led the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation.

Chair Mark Evans opened the public hearing at 6:30 pm.

Roger Collins, 917 Ash Lane said he was opposed to a tax increase. He explained it would be a detrimental to the senior citizens on a fixed income and to the citizens of Alleghany County.

Jennifer Greene thanked the Board for their support in this three-year financial improvement program for the health department to get back on track. She explained that both Ashe and Watauga had approved their amount of support.

Seeing no other movement, Chair Mark Evans then closed the budget public hearing.

Chair Mark Evans called a five-minute recess at 6:39 pm. He then called the meeting back at 6:44 pm.

Chair Mark Evans reconvened the recessed meeting from June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Karen Evans explained the end of year budget amendments were to clean up the budget at the end of the year. #25 is for autopsy expenses.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve general fund budget amendment #25 in the amount of \$5,000. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

Karen Evans explained General Fund budget amendment #26 was for receiving more revenue and they are mandated to give a specific portion to go to local government television.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve general fund budget amendment #26 in the amount of \$18,198. Commissioner Tom Smith seconded. Vote 5:0

Karen Evans then explained General Fund budget amendment #27 and the school capital project fund #2

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve both general fund budget amendment #27 and school capital project fund budget amendment #2 in the amount of \$62,000. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Karen Evans then explained transfer facility fund budget amendment #2 for the increase of transfer of trash.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin made a motion to approve the transfer facility budget amendment # 2 in the amount of \$40,000. Chair Mark Evans seconded. Vote 5:0

The board discussed the fee schedule. Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve the fees schedules. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 5:0

The board then discussed the employee pay plan for year number three.

Commissioner Tom Smith made a motion to approve the pay grade. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Karen Evans explained for the part time study it was the hourly rate of the fulltime position minus the benefits.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to approve. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

County Manager Mike James explained the latest changes from the budget of \$5,000 for the architect study for the courthouse and the \$20,000 change for the deployed jailer.

Chair Evans directed the board back to the budget books and then moved through the TDA Fund and then discussed the transportation fund gas line and the capital purchase lines. Then the board moved on through the fairgrounds fund, soil and water fund where they discussed the Eco Enhancement Expenses line. Next, they moved to the drug fund where they discussed the large change which County Manager, Mike James explained it was from the seizures and large drug bust they participated in. They moved on to the Register of Deeds Enhancements Fund and County Manager Mike James explained a certain percentage of fees from the register of deeds office is put in this account to archive old record books and certain things. They moved on through the Library Memorial Book Fund, Revaluation Expenses Fund and the Board discussed the more frequent in-house revaluation. They moved on to the School Capital Fund and discussed it was money that passes through the county from sales tax. The board then moved to discuss the Transfer Facility Fund and then on to 911 expenses and discussed the equipment line.

Commissioner Tom Smith asked what percentage was in the fund balance. County Manager Mike James explained it was between 20 and 25%.

Chair Evans said once the audit comes back may not have to utilize a capital loan.

Chair Mark Evans asked the board if there were any questions on the budget ordinance. Commissioner Larry Prince said since the board has been through the budget line by line and discussed every item he felt comfortable making a motion.

Commissioner Larry Prince made a motion to approve the budget ordinance. Commissioner John Irwin seconded. Vote 4 (Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Tom Smith, Commissioner Larry Prince, and Commissioner John Irwin) :1 (Commissioner Bobby Irwin)

Chair Mark Evans thanked the board and all the staff for all their work on the budget. He asked to start the budget process about a month earlier next year.

Commissioner Tom Smith said this budget was difficult, but was proud to have worked with this board to complete this budget. He then thanked all the staff and Chair Mark Evans for his leadership through the process.

Commissioner Bobby Irwin thanked all the staff for their work on the budget. He noted his concern was with the SRO positions were not looked at the way he felt it should have been and hope with the state and federal budget coming the board will be able to look at more closely.

Commissioner Larry Prince said it was a good process to go through line by line and he explained how learning has changed his perspective on the county budget. He noted how much of the funding was mandated and nonnegotiable to the county budget.

Commissioner John Irwin explained he too lived on a fixed income and understood the pain with extra strain, but knows the county staff are just as concerned with the bottom line. He explained there are many places that payments are mandated. He thanked the board for their cooperation and healthy discussions throughout the process.

Chair Mark Evans said there was a lot of healthy discussion and a lot of different votes throughout the line by line process.

Commissioner John Irwin made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Larry Prince seconded. Vote 5:0

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest:

Lauren Linker  
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans  
Chair of the Board