

YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Yadkin, State of North Carolina, met in a Special Session in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Yadkin County Human Services Building located at 217 East Willow Street, Yadkinville, NC on Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 7:00pm.

Present were:

Chairman Kevin Austin
Vice Chairman David Moxley
Commissioner Gilbert Hemric
Commissioner Marion Welborn
Commissioner Frank Zachary

Staff present: County Manager, Aaron Church; Deputy County Manager/Finance Officer, Lisa Hughes; and Deputy Clerk to the Board, Tanya Gentry.

INVOCATION led by County Manager Aaron Church.

CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Austin at 7:03pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Chairman Austin.

ADJUSTMENTS TO/ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Chairman requested moving the County Manager's Report of the Proposed FY13-14 Budget to after the Public Hearing. The Board discussed it. **Commissioner Welborn made a motion to adopt the Agenda with the requested change. Commissioner Zachary second.**

Vote: 5/0.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing on Proposed FY13-14 Budget

Chairman Austin opened the public hearing at 7:06pm. The following speakers addressed the Board:

Dr. Wayne Matthews, of East Bend, addressed the Board on behalf of the Yadkin Center of Surry Community College. He thanked the Board of Commissioners for having a good working relationship with the College and for the support the Board has shown the College. The College appreciates it and is looking forward to another good year.

Peggy Boose, of Boonville, addressed the Board. She is concerned about the 10 eliminated Human Services Health Department positions she sees in the proposed budget. She doesn't believe the department can operate efficiently with that loss of personnel. She distinctly remembers the Board saying that no one would lose their job when the merger happened. So how can we have 10 eliminated positions with no one losing their job. She is also concerned that the County did not budget enough funds for seniors. Last year extra money in the amount of \$41,000.00 was set aside for Meals on Wheels and medical transportation. This year there was not any additional funds set aside for those programs. Her question is why. YVEDDI didn't know about the sequester when they submitted their budget request. The Board gave YVEDDI \$11,000.00 more than they requested but YVEDDI is still getting a \$29,000.00 cut in the end compared to the total funds they received last year. The sequester has cut needed funding for seniors. Her argument is not about the provider YVEDDI, it is about the seniors who are in need and have no other options. She is concerned that a home bound senior might go hungry or not be able to get to their doctor's office. People are important. She believes more should have been done for seniors in this budget year. She is going to continue to fight for those who cannot fight for themselves for as long as she can.

No further speakers came forward. Chairman Austin closed the public hearing at 7:15pm and thanked everyone for their comments and attendance.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Proposed FY13-14 Budget

County Manager Aaron Church addressed the Board. The recommended budget was prepared in compliance with the LGC Budget and Fiscal Control Act. It is balanced. The recommended property tax remains the same at \$0.69 cents per \$100.00 of valuation. The budget increase is approximately \$187,000.00. County Manager Church went over the revenue projections. This budget recommends eliminating 9 positions and 1 contracted Dentist position. Four of the eliminated positions are in the Dental Clinic. The Dental Clinic is not operating because the County has not been able to find a dentist to operate it since the last dentist left. The Processing Assistant position that is being eliminated became vacant when that employee was transferred into the Tax Office. The Northwest positions are not really County positions. Those positions are paid through Northwest Community Care and the work they do is for Northwest Community Care. One of those positions is vacant. The remaining Northwest employees will be placed somewhere else by Northwest Community Care. This budget does not recommend any new positions or reclassifications. This budget recommends a 1.5% Cost of Living Increase. Positions that are vacant or become vacant will remain frozen. The County Manager can unfreeze a position if it is justified using the justification system that is in place. County Manager Church went over the expenditures for FY13-14. He went over the significant changes in this budget. A pay adjustment is recommended for part-time paramedics. This budget increases part-time intermediate paramedics pay from \$11.81 to \$12.01 an hour and it increases part-time paramedics pay from \$12.88 to \$14.01 an hour. Another significant change is narrowbanding for Communications. The projected cost of narrowbanding is \$1.5 million. The consolidation of Human Services has continued to save the County money and has reduced the duplication of services.

County Manager Church went over some cuts he would like to make to the proposed budget. He recommended reducing Debt Service by \$95,000.00, reducing Non-Departmental by \$60,000.00, and reducing Personnel by \$139,138.00. When he compared the previous pay for performance numbers against what was budgeted for Personnel he found that too much money had been budgeted for FY13-14 and he feels that the County can safely do a 1.5% reduction across all departments.

BOARD ACTION

Consider Proposed FY13-14 Budget

The Board discussed the recommended budget. The Board was pleased with the additional \$294,138.00 cut to the budget that was recommended tonight and discussed passing that savings on to the citizens by reducing the property tax rate. **Commissioner Zachary made a motion to adopt the budget ordinance as presented with a 67.9 cent property tax rate for the fiscal year 2013-2014; decreasing Debt Service by \$95,000.00; decreasing non-departmental by \$60,000.00; decreasing each departments salaries to total a reduction of \$139,138.00; decreasing property tax revenue by \$292,450.00; and reducing fund balance appropriation by \$1,688.00. Commissioner Hemric second.**

Vote: 5/0.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Zachary thanked all the staff who contributed to the budget preparation. We are a little ahead of schedule this year. It is good to get it done.

Commissioner Moxley stated appropriating approximately \$1.5 million from fund balance still leaves the fund balance healthy and allows the Commissioners to reduce the property tax rate by 1.1 cent. This is a good budget.

Commissioner Welborn stated the County's fund balance needed to be reduced to assist the County with getting funding from the USDA. This budget reduced fund balance and allowed the Commissioners to give back to the citizens by lowering the property tax rate. He thanked Peggy Boose for her concern for the citizens.

Commissioner Hemric thanked all the staff who worked on the budget. They did a good job.

Chairman Austin thanked the staff for a great job. This is a well thought out budget. He addressed the comments made by Ms. Boose. This Board has a great relationship with YVEDDI and the other service providers in this County. The Board has proven it is concerned in meeting the needs of the citizens through elderly programs, social services, the medical clinic, and other services that the County provides. The County's appropriation to YVEDDI was what YVEDDI requested and the County will continue to work with them to meet any need they have.

Commissioner Welborn made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0.

Tanya Gentry

Prepared by Tanya Gentry
Deputy Clerk to the Board



Kevin Austin, Chairman
Yadkin County Board of
Commissioners

6/17/13

Date approved by the
Yadkin County Board of Commissioners