

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Special Meeting – Budget Meeting #6**  
**October 22, 2013**  
**5:15 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Keith Ashby, Chair  
Jay Dunn, Vice Chair  
Kevin Greenfield  
Linda Little (arrived @5:17 p.m.)  
Patty Cox  
Tim Dudley  
Susanna Zimmerman

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Amy Stockwell, Auditor  
Lori Long, Probation  
Josh Tanner, S of A  
Judge Webber  
Rodney Forbes, Public Defender  
Mary Eaton, Recorder  
Steve Bean, County Clerk  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Chair Keith Ashby at the Macon County Office Building.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes of the prior meeting on 10/3/13 was made by Jay Dunn, seconded by Kevin Greenfield and motion carried 6-0.

*(Linda Little arrived @ 5:17 p.m.)*

**Budget Discussion**

Amy Stockwell reported that changes requested in response to the settlement of the AFSCME contract which affects, not only the AFSCME departments, but other departments that didn't take raises based on guidance have been distributed. She explained that some of the requests were very straightforward transactions where expenses were increased, but in other places, such as Probation, fine tuning of revenue was required. A couple of corrections and additions were made. All changes are explained in the reports. Kevin Greenfield stated that he understood the changes in the 3% and fringes, but with the budgets already approved to be passed on, should the budget come back if they are requesting more changes or additions of some things that were not there before. Amy said it would be completely up to the committee. She suggested they look at them individually, starting with Animal Control who corrected a fringes error. In the Auditor's budget, \$3,000 in training expense was added. The Circuit Clerk's changes were in response to the committee's requests and include shifting of payroll accounts. The County Board added in additional hearing expense. Probation adjusted revenue based on additional information on state funding and made technical changes by adding mental health court as a new department and added details in the grant fund. Everything else was raises. Keith Ashby asked Amy if she had discussed the changes with the departments. She confirmed and stated that she was submitting to the committee what the department heads had submitted to her.

Jay Dunn explained that he had added \$2,000 or \$3,000 to the Zoning Board of Appeals because he found out last week that more than likely Macon County is going to be getting 115

or more wind turbines next year and there was no way there was enough money in that line to take care of the Zoning Board hearings for siting. Each member gets \$75 and we will be lumping them together attempting to do several in one day, but it is still going to cost extra money to have those hearings.

Keith stated that there are two choices, either approve the budget as presented or have the individual office holders come back and explain their need for the additional expenses.

Linda Little said she kind of agreed with Kevin Greenfield in that the raises were expected, but said she would be interested in knowing why extra things are being put in along with the raises.

Amy reiterated that the effected departments where there are more than raises are Animal Control, Auditor, County Board and Probation. Everything else is clean.

Kevin Greenfield said that Probation is pretty much money in / money out. Amy agreed and said she was willing to withdraw the training if that would be a problem. Kevin asked how much it was. Amy said \$3,000 and is part of the Risk Control operation, but since she is also working on the insurance budget, she would have a longer discussion about that later. So, she said she would withdraw the request from her department. Kevin asked what the animal control was. Amy said it was a correction in fringes that they had missed earlier.

Motion to approve budgets as presented was made by Tim Dudley, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman, and motion carried 7-0.

Amy reported on the schedule saying that they are working on revenue in both the general fund and the LEST fund. The Administrative Departments still need to be done. Retirement, Social Security, Insurance, Self-Insurance, Bond Fund, Capital Projects Fund, the new vehicle fund and the department where Health Insurance is paid from are in process.

Amy handed out pictures of charts and explained that they depict 12 month rolling results. Sales Tax is down. LEST is down and Income Tax is up. One nice thing about the General Fund is that there are counter cyclical revenue sources. Property Taxes is one set of underlying economics and we are pretty sure EAV is going down. Sales Tax and Income Tax are the other 1/3 of revenue in the General Fund. Fee amounts are up, but transactions may or may not be up. In the last couple of years, all of those things in the general fund have varied based on different underlying processes and that has been good. In LEST, there is not the luxury of having multiple sources of income. At this point, expenses are going to have to be moved back from LEST into General for both 2013 & 2014. Amy said she is going back over this with the Sheriff to assure they have the right numbers.

Kevin Greenfield said that last year the levy was cut a million dollars. Linda Little said \$1.3 million. Kevin continued to ask that if they were to propose cutting the levy again, would she have the figures if the committee gave her the number of what they were wanting to cut the levy. Amy asked if he was wanting to cut the levy or maintain the current cut. Kevin said he was talking about not just maintaining, but cutting it again. Amy said the chances of that being feasible were quite low. Kevin asked Amy when she would have the numbers so the committee could make that determination. Amy said that is a crucial determination and every other number has to be in place to get that number. Kevin said that if they chose to do that, when

would be the last date available to do it. Amy said whenever you act on the budget. Everything else is preliminary. Linda asked it didn't have to be done before it goes on display. Amy said the display needs to be as accurate as possible, but amendments can be made on the floor to anything in the Display Budget.

Steve Bean said that levies have to be filed by the last Tuesday in the Clerk's office. Before, when additional information came forth, like one year when the City of Decatur did not drop the WalMart TIF which brought quite a bit of additional EAV into the system and the County Board decided to raise the levy to bring that forth. We've done it before and you can do the levy in the December meeting if you have to or you can make changes or amend it.

Steve stated that with people making Thanksgiving plans, it would be good to tell people that there is a possibility that we are going to have to be here for a special meeting. Amy said she would advise at the end of this week when she would have a schedule for them.

#### **CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

None

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Jay Dunn asked when the committee was thinking another meeting would be held and when the deadline date is. Amy said the deadline date is 15 days before the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Jay asked if that was for a special meeting at the end of November. Amy said yes and she would be in a much better position at the end of this week to give a firmer sense of her time schedule.

The next regular Finance Committee meeting is on November 4.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Linda Little, seconded by Patty Cox, motion carried 7-0, and meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham  
Macon County Board Office