

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
January 3, 2017
5:15 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jay Dunn
Kevin Greenfield
Greg Mattingley
John Jackson
Tim Dudley
Debra Kraft

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rachel Joy

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Josh Tanner, S of A
Rodney Forbes, Public Defender
Carol Reed, Auditor
Ed Yoder, Treasurer
Pat Berter, Probation
Lt. Jon Butts, Sheriff's Dept
Mary Eaton, Recorder
Mike Baggett, State's Attorney's Office
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Greenfield, at the Macon County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve minutes of prior meeting, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 6-0.

CLAIMS

Motion to approve the report of the finance claims as presented made by Mr. Jackson seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS –

Audit Sub Committee –no report

Auditor –

Macon County Board Cleanup Resolution for FY16 Economic Development Corporation of Decatur and Macon County Marketing and Branding Program

Ms. Reed explained that the program is funded by a grant from the Howard Buffett Foundation and just started at the end of last year. It was budgeted for this year, not really knowing what they were going to spend. They ended up spending more and now an additional \$75,000 is needed in revenue and expense. The initial balance was \$1,069,000 and right now it is down to \$601,000. It goes for another year and a half.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Omnibus Resolution Approving Budget Cleanup for FY16

Ms. Reed explained that most of the budgets have been gone through and many of them need to have some budget amounts moved from one category to another since salaries cannot be mixed

with other services lines. The money is in the budgets, but in the wrong place. This is just a cleanup. The attachment shows the transfers being requested. This was put into one resolution rather than having each office holder come with separate resolutions.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 6-0.

Board of Review –

Mr. Tanner reported that they will be done probably in February.

Supervisor of Assessments

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Reappointment of and Contract with the Supervisor of Assessments

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 6-0.

GIS –

Mr. Tanner reported that there have been no complaints since the site was taken back from a vendor. It is now being handled internally. There was a pretty significant cost savings. It's been up and running just over a year and there have not been any real complaints.

Treasurer –

Macon County Board Resolution to Execute Deeds to Convey Property on which Taxes were Delinquent

Motion to approve placing the resolution on the consent calendar of the agenda for the January 12, 2017 Macon County Board meeting made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Jackson, and the motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Granting a Permanent Easement for the Purpose of Maintenance of Lines

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Ms. Kraft, seconded by Mr. Dunn and the motion carried 6-0.

CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS –

Mr. Dudley reported that there are suggestion boxes on each floor of the County Building and every once in while there is a suggestion. He said he wanted to bring one up. It is to the attention of the Treasurer's office.

He read the complaint:

So, I wonder – does anyone ever look at these? If so, there is a problem that needs to be looked into. When I take my deposits to the Treasurer's Office, I stop and say hello to everyone. I notice today that Ed Yoder's granddaughter is sitting at a desk. I assume she is being paid to sit at the desk. I don't understand why. Nothing is going on in that office this time of year. I have never seen extra help in the Treasurer's Office this time of year. Why, if there is no money and we are going to have to try to pass an increase in tax, do we have someone related to the Treasurer sitting at a desk looking at a cell phone and likely being paid. If the Treasurer can do this and he's supposed to take care of the money, do we not really have a money problem?

Mr. Dudley asked Mr. Yoder for his comments. Mr. Yoder asked why the complaint wasn't signed saying that anyone can write that. He said that he did have people taking vacation days off and there are times that employees do not physically have something in front of them that they are working on for the whole timeframe they are in the office. It is strictly temporary, part-time. He said he had been able to use Jessica for a very few days in December. He said he didn't know what else they wanted him to say. He went on to say that he didn't know who likes to put that stuff out there. They could at least sign it.

Mr. Dudley said he understood and that he did not like anonymous stuff either.

Mr. Yoder asked where they wanted to start nit picking at. He said he has walked around to other offices and there are times when people are not physically busy. He asked to have "busy" defined. There are a lot of things that she (Jessica, Mr. Yoder's granddaughter) does and we are all guilty of using our cell phones during the day for what may not be work related.

Mr. Dudley said the general understanding of the Finance Committee, or at least he understands extra help for the summer when the tax bills are coming in and the office is running crazy, but the question here is, is there a need for extra help this time of the year when it is not tax season. He said he thought they might be making some kind of a suggestion of nepotism. He said not him personally, but if it's being questioned, it is the Finance Committee and the Board's duty to address it. The question is, he told Mr. Yoder, do you feel the need to hire part time help this time of the year. Mr. Yoder confirmed that there are certain days that he needs part time help, but she is not here now and she could come in, but he had told her that she was not needed this week. She is very qualified to do what she does in that office. He said he could look around at the county payroll and was sure that he could find a lot of people that are related to other people. He asked where the committee wanted to go with this. He said he could come up with a list if they wanted one. He asked again, where they wanted to go with this. She is good at done what she is doing. Whoever wrote this is just a little "pissy" person who has their own little problems and when someone appears to be doing well, they want to nit pick at you.

Mr. Jackson asked how many total hours were being talked about. Mr. Yoder said it is strictly part time, probably, during that timeframe, anywhere from 4 to 5 hours a day if that and she wasn't even coming in 5 days a week.

Chair Greenfield asked if it was just through the holiday season. Mr. Yoder confirmed saying that there are times when he is down to 2 people during the holiday season and normally there are five of them. He clarified that when he said 2 people, he means two in the Treasurer Office beside himself. He would make 3. That is mainly when he had her coming in. He said he does have her working on other things. Whoever came in and filled that out just caught her at whatever she was doing at that point of time. It wasn't like she was going to just sit there for 5 to 6 or 7 hours playing on the phone. He said he would not let that happen.

Mr. Dunn asked if she only works when someone is absent. Mr. Yoder said, yes, in most cases. At this time of the year it is the slower timeframe in the Treasurer's Office and that is when most of the employees that work there take their vacations. They try to avoid everything possible to not take it during tax collection season unless they get sick or something. That can always happen.

Ms. Kraft asked if Mr. Yoder's granddaughter is a permanent, part time employee or just as needed. Mr. Yoder said she is strictly part time as needed. There are no benefits there or anything.

Chair Greenfield explained that everyone is aware of the county's finances. Mr. Yoder agreed. Mr. Greenfield went on to say his recommendation to all office holders would be that if they can get by without part time help unless it is a time of dire need, they should do their best to not use it and if it is used, they better be able to account why.

State's Attorney

Macon County Board Resolution Designating the Illinois State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor as its Agent to Administer the Operation of Appellate Offices and Process Appellate Cases for Macon County During FY2017

Mr. Baggett explained that this is the annual resolution to appoint the Appellate Prosecutor to be our special prosecutor as well as to handle appellate cases. It has been appropriated for during the regular budget process.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Amending the State's Attorney's FY2017 Grant Fund Budget (Child First Center) to Accept New Grant

Mr. Baggett explained that this is a new grant from the Ulrich Foundation and this would be money in / money out for counseling services for juvenile victims.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Dudley, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 6-0.

Probation

Macon County Board Resolution Approving an Additional Drug Court Probation Officer

Mr. Berter explained that they had been fortunate to receive some money through the Macon County Sheriff's Department through the Howard Buffett Foundation through the At Risk services. Another Drug Court Probation Officer would be hired. Currently there are 61 in the program. The desire is to raise that number up and in order to do that, another probation officer would be needed to help with it. With the Drug Court Program, there have been 76 individuals graduate. Out of that, only 9 have committed a new offense and one of those was a traffic offense. The success rate for the graduates is very high. Right now there are 15 individuals on the waiting list. Out of those, 5 are in the county jail. If we could get that officer in, we could alleviate some of the jail overcrowding.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Mattingley, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 6-0.

Sheriff

Macon County Board Resolution to Submit a Public Question Regarding the Specialty County Retailer's Occupation Tax for Public Safety

Lt. Butts explained that this is the same resolution that the County Board was asked to approve last year so the question could be placed on the November 8, 2016 ballot. He said that they are asking that the resolution question be placed on the April 4, 2017 ballot for reconsideration by the voters of Macon County.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Agreement between Macon County Sheriff's Office and Illinois Liquor Commission for Fy17

Lt. Butts explained that this is an agreement with the Illinois Liquor Commissioners. They came in and provided training for the officers that were interested. There is a shortage of Liquor Commissioners to perform liquor inspections at the establishments throughout the county. The agreement would be between every establishment outside the City of Decatur which would include all the villages and non-incorporated areas. There are 54 different places where deputies would inspect and the county would be reimbursed. He said they have received the funds from the state. Each inspection pays \$75 and a check for \$4,050 has been received.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Ms. Kraft, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Chair Greenfield asked what an inspection consists of. Lt. Butts explained that it takes about ½ hour. They had a full day of training that was at no cost to the county. The deputies came in. The training room was used. It is good for the county as it educates the officers more on the liquor license issues, it builds relationships with the owners, etc... They go in and make sure the place is clean, the license is visible and up to date, the bartender is qualified, the taps are clean, etc. It is an overall inspection, but the paper is then forwarded to the Liquor Commission and they sign off on it. Our deputies, since they've been through the training, are able to determine if the liquor license should be suspended or if they are in good standing with the Liquor Commission. It builds valuable networking with the

Illinois Liquor Commission, the owners and employees of the places being inspected. The motion carried 6-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations for FY16 Sheriff's Budget

Lt. Butts explained that with the new Collective Bargaining Agreements that are in place for both the sworn officers and Correctional Officers, there is a sick time buyout. Last year was the first full year for this where the officers can purchase sick time off the books. The deputies are 15 years and the Command is 8 years that they have to be with the office. They can buy time off the books and it saves the county when the officers retire from having a spike where the county would be responsible for that spike. Numerous officers took advantage of that and an additional \$85,000 is needed to be re-appropriated because the sick time buyout did not have enough funds in it to cover the end result when the FY16 budget was closed out.

Mr. Jackson asked the Auditor if this is now accrued for. Ms. Reed said it is in the budget this year, but they had not allowed enough for it last year. Lt. Butts said the same amount was put in as was put in last year, but for the first year it was unknown how many people would take advantage of it and a lot more did than was anticipated. Chair Greenfield added that now we would be off the hook with IMRF. Lt. Butts said it is the idea that the officers that are eligible are taking advantage of it so that in the end, their sick time will not be on the books. It will be a lesser price now than it would be when they retire.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Mattingley and the motion carried 6-0.

Recorder

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations for Recorder Automation Fund in the FY16 Budget

Ms. Eaton explained that when she had prepared her budget last year on the payroll lines in the general, the full amount was not put in and the rest of the amount was being taken out of automation. It didn't get switched over in payroll, so at the end of the year it showed the line was real short. It was budgeted in the personnel line and that is what this transfer is for plus some new computers that were purchased for employees. The old ones were 7 years old. Ms. Reed added that there is extra revenue in Recorder Automation this year which covers the extra expense she is asking for.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation to approve made by Mr. Dudley, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 6-0.

CLOSED SESSION - None

NEXT MEETING – Monday, January 30, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Jackson, the motion carried 6-0, and meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m. Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office