

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUDGET HEARING MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2013

At a budget hearing of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, June 17, 2013 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Floor Conference Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski, the following members were present: Joseph Sheffey, Chairman; Charles Bopp, Vice-Chairman; Andy McCready; Ranny O'Dell; and Dean Pratt. Also present were Peter Huber, County Administrator; Robert Hiss, Assistant County Administrator; Diane Newby, Finance Director; and Barbara Duncan, Receptionist.

1. Welcome and Introduction

Mr. Sheffey called the meeting to order and welcomed Board members and County staff to the meeting. Mr. Sheffey advised the purpose of the meeting was to conduct a public hearing on the proposed budget for the next fiscal year and address budget concerns and other matters. Mr. Sheffey also advised based on the state code, adoption of the budget would take place only at the June 24th meeting.

2. Introduction

Mr. Huber introduced Danny Wilson to the Board as the new Zoning Administrator. Danny was welcomed by the Board and staff and will begin full time employment on July 15, 2013.

3. Budget Public Hearing

Mr. Huber advised of recommended changes to the advertised budget including an increase of \$92,070 in the school budget in order to provide the remaining local match to fund a 2% raise increase for teachers. He advised the current budget had been looked at and a reduction of \$47,000 was found due to an over estimation of the cost of insurance to cover the Line of Duty Act. He advised the school board had reduced their own budget significantly in order to give the 2% pay increase to the teachers and were requesting the remaining \$92,070 from the Board of Supervisors and that this could be funded by the \$47,000 L.O.D.A. reduction along with \$45,000 coming from contingency. This will reduce the contingency funds to approximately \$170,000.

In another change, Mr. Huber recommended moving \$50,000 previously earmarked for school cameras to be used for other County capital projects such as replacing the roofs at Dublin Library and the cottage on the grounds of the old Draper Elementary School. This recommendation is based on a reduction in the cost to the Schools of replacing the PA system at the high school from a budget estimate of \$185,000 to a bid price of \$85,000.

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Mr. Sheffey added that it is not often that the county has a chance to get additional funds from the state so the matching funds had to be applied to the budget in order to receive the state's offer.

Mr. Huber provided copies of revenues and expenditures and stated this had been a difficult budget year facing increased costs, addressing building maintenance needs, and capital needs. He added that the proposed budget will address some of the building maintenance needs that have been accumulating. He further stated that in past years the CIP was the first target for cuts in order to reach a balanced budget and this is beginning to show in a number of ways. He further stated he appreciated the Board's willingness to address capital needs.

Mr. Sheffey suggested that these new modifications/adjustments in the recommended budget be approved by the Board since they differ from budget as originally advertised.

A motion was made by Andy McCreedy to accept the modifications to the budget, seconded by Mr. Bopp. Mr. McCreedy stated that raising taxes this year set a course to not raise taxes next year. Thus, money programmed in our budget money necessary to cover the school system for the second phase of the Affordable Healthcare Act in FY 2014-15 would need to be reduced by the \$92,070 transferred in the 2013-14. He further stated the board was pleased we are able to work with the schools to make the 2% raise to the teachers possible.

Voting Yes: Mr. McCreedy, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Bopp, Mr. Pratt
Voting No: None

Mr. Sheffey opened the hearing for public comments on the proposed \$80.8 million budget. Mr. Sheffey stated no action will be taken tonight and the budget will be voted on at next week's meeting. There were no public comments and he thanked the board for their work on the budget.

Mr. Sheffey closed the public hearing, thanked the staff and noted that the Board of Supervisors will vote on the budget at the next regularly scheduled meeting on June 24, 2013.

4. Other Matters

Peter Huber announced a press release on funding of school resource officers for the middle schools noting that Greg Brown had worked with Claire Collins to obtain these funds. It was also noted that Dr. Brown is looking into whether this is for one officer split between the two middle schools or one officer per school and that the award letter is expected soon with more specifics.

Mr. McCready stated this is a good example of partnering the grant writers, county and the school board together to work toward receiving this funding.

Robert Hiss added agencies working together results in getting those things in the community that would help the youth of our county and it is great to see this funding for the resource officers. Currently there is only one resource officer at the high school.

5. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. McCready, seconded by Mr. O'Dell and carried, the Board adjourned its budget hearing. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Monday, June 24, 2013 beginning with a Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. and the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., with said meeting to be held at the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW in the Town of Pulaski.

Voting yes: Mr. McCready, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Bopp, Mr. Pratt.

Voting no: None.

Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman

Peter M. Huber, County Administrator