

POST AGENDA

PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Tuesday, June 3, 2014

The Pike County Board of Commissioners held its Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex, at 79 Jackson Street, Zebulon. Vice-Chairman Powers convened the meeting, and Commissioners Carol Bass, Tamra Jarrett, and James Jenkins attended. County Manager John Hanson, County Attorney Tom Morton and County Clerk Jo Ann Wrye were also present. (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2)) Chairman J. Briar Johnson was unable to attend the meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER..... Vice-Chairman Tommy Powers**
2. **SILENT INVOCATION.....Vice-Chairman Tommy Powers**
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.....Vice-Chairman Tommy Powers**
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - (O.C.G A. 50-14-1 (e) (1))**

Motion/second by Commissioner Bass/Commissioner Jenkins to approve, motion carried 4-0.

5. SECOND READING OF THE FY 2014-15 BUDGET

County Manager Hanson presented the Board updated copies of the FY 2014-2015 budget which included changes from the 1st reading of the budget, insurance figures based from open enrollment and corrected budget notes. County Manager Hanson noted that from the reduction of the budget, \$50,000.00 was rolled into Maintenance and Repairs for the Road Department, but he will need the Board's approval for it to stay there.

Commissioner Bass asked why the budget showed \$67,000.00 in the Recreation Department's Impact Fee. County Manager Hanson explained when recommendations were made at the Budget Workshop, we asked the Recreation Department to start using Impact Fees for the items they wanted to repair. County Manager Hanson said the other alternative, if that amount is not included in the budget, would be for the Recreation Department come before the Board to present what they needed for each project. Commissioner Bass stated it would be best to do it that way instead of approving a blanket amount in the budget, that way the county manager would know about the cost and the Board can address it each time it comes up.

Motion/second by Commissioner Bass/Commissioner Jarrett to remove \$67,753.00 from the Recreation Department's Impact Fees, motion carried 4-0.

There was discussion regarding the county paying for the State Bar Fee for the Chief Magistrate Judge and her part-time judge. County Manager Hanson presented to the Board documentation showing no requirements by state law that the Chief Magistrate be an attorney (O.C.G.A. 15-10-22), the second piece to that (O.C.G.A. 15-10-23.1) is we are to provide monthly expenses which is a minimum of \$200 per month per Magistrate for their expenses, and he stated we far exceed that amount in the way we fund the Magistrate Office. Additionally, the third piece he provided to the Board was the Office of the Attorney General, State of Georgia, Opinion No. 83-53, item number two on the second page asked if the magistrate must be an attorney, it clarified there is no requirement that the magistrate be an attorney. However it did state for the office of chief magistrate or magistrate, or both, including membership in the State Bar of Georgia, could be imposed by local law. County Manager Hanson said there are two pieces to that, which he has discussed with County Attorney Rob Morton, local law could be on a state level, but there is no legislation that states a magistrate must be an attorney and the Board of Commissioners does not require the magistrate to be an attorney, therefore the Board is not required to pay the State Bar

fees. Commissioner Jarrett stated the Board has not legislated the magistrate be an attorney and does not think they should pay those fees. Commissioner Bass stated she agrees with Commissioner Jarrett in that they have not required the judge to be a member of the bar and does not think they need to require one now. Commissioner Bass noted we do not pay for Tom or Rob Morton's State Bar Association fees. Commissioner Bass said the Board does need to give the magistrate the training needed to run the Magistrate Office, but not to pay for her being an attorney. Commissioner Jarrett stated that is almost validating they want an attorney and they have not legislated for that, another Board may do that in the future but it has not happened yet.

Motion/second by Commissioner Jarrett/Commissioner Bass to not add those fees to the Magistrate Court budget, motion carried 4-0.

County Manager Hanson stated he, Commissioner Jenkins and Commissioner Jarrett met with Kevin Teate of the Recreation Authority and gained an understanding of their operation and some of the things that impacted them historically. He said what he took away from the meeting more than anything is their opportunity to raise funds where other departments do not have that opportunity. The only recommendation County Manager Hanson had for the Recreation Department budget is to add a 2% increase for their employees like the rest of the county employees. Commissioner Jenkins said it would not be that much, Commissioner Jarrett stated it would be \$3200. Commissioner Jenkins said he was fine with the previous cut, but he would like to include the 2% raise, he said they have been cut so much from \$400,000 to \$280,000. He commented they can do some things to help that department rather than the burden be placed on the county, tax payers come out there and spend money and they can use that to benefit that department. Commissioner Jarrett stated they gave bonuses in the past and does not think that sits well with other authorities or departments when no one else gets additional money and thinks if they go along with the 2% raise and nix the bonuses that will be more palatable with the people. Commissioner Powers commented the bonus was just a onetime thing. County Manager Hanson said the way it was explained to him is that they had furlough days when other department did not take furlough days and the bonus that was given was the amount the furlough days added up to.

Motion/second by Commissioner Jenkins/Commissioner Bass to keep the Recreation Department's budget the same, but add the 2% raise, motion carried 4-0.

County Manager Hanson stated he met with three of the IDA members along with Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Powers. He said the meeting was a good candid meeting discussing mainly the cut to their budget. Commissioner Powers commented it was the best meeting he has ever attended. The Board agreed the IDA's budget will stay as discussed at the 1st reading.

There was discussion about Department 42, Public Works Department. County Manager Hanson stated the line item that was increased by \$50,000 was the Paved and Unpaved Roads. Commissioner Jenkins had a question about where the lease payments regarding John Deere and Caterpillar went to and County Manager Hanson stated it went to John Deere Finance and to Cat Financial for Caterpillar. Commissioner Jenkins asked for clarification of the difference in the amounts paid from last year compared to this year. County Manager Hanson explained part of that was allocated differently in the past and are now broken down by interest and principle. Commissioner Jenkins also wanted to know the length of time the equipment is leased and the total cost. County Manager Hanson stated he would check into that for him. Commissioner Bass asked if what they see on the spreadsheet will be the actual monthly payments and County Manager Hanson stated it was.

Commissioner Jarrett noticed that the position of Paving Superintendent was still in the budget at \$35,000. County Manager Hanson stated that is because Todd went with one position instead of two in his department, he would rather have the money to get someone with paving experience to help with the paving of the roads. The person they hire will also be a Heavy Equipment Operator as well as a Paving Superintendent.

There was discussion regarding the Public Works operating hours and Commissioner Bass asked if the schedule of 4 days a week, 10 hours a day contributed to being behind on the road repair and thinks we need to be open to 5 days a week if things don't get better. County Manager Hanson stated with the allocation of the people being put in Public Works and beginning of paving projects, Todd will have to reschedule some things; he has talked with Todd about that.

Commissioner Jenkins noted there is not a whole of things we can do any better than prep these roads. He said this county, as opposed to the others that don't have the money, they are fighting to stay above water, and we have controlled everything thanks to County Manager Hanson and everybody's work. He stated if we can change the appearance of these roads what more can that say about Pike County. County Manager Hanson agreed stating it is our first contact for most of our citizens daily and they are either going to say they need to get someone out there and fix their road or thank them for a job well done.

Commissioner Bass asked about the uniforms being furnished for the Public Works Department and County Manager Hanson said Todd thinks he could possibly do away with the uniform service all together. Todd has had a few people approach him about buying clothes for the workers in Public Works, he is checking into that.

The Board is good with the amount for Public Works including the \$50,000.

There was discussion about the Library and the possibility of reducing their budget by \$3,840 for cleaning fees and the county provides someone to clean the Library. Commissioner Jarrett noted for the record that she loves libraries and is a big advocate of the library but we need to be more efficient.

Motion/second by Commissioner Bass/Commissioner Jarrett to cut the Library budget by \$3,840 for cleaning fees and let the county provide someone to clean the Library, motion carried 4-0.

Discussion about the Resource Officers in the Sheriff's Department and County Manager Hanson said the price was reduced to \$62,000 which included salary, benefits, worker's comp, health insurance, etc. He stated he is working with the Sheriff, Tracy and County Attorney Rob Morton regarding the agreement.

Motion/second by Commissioner Jenkins/Commissioner Bass to approve 2nd Reading with changes, motion carried 4-0.

County Manager Hanson mentioned to the Board the paperless system was reduced by \$6500 from the last reading. The system will cost \$4900 per year with no setup fee and we were given three different products we can use that would cost less than \$200 per tablet.

The Board thanked County Manager Hanson for the hard work he has done on the budget.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second by Commissioner Jenkins/Commissioner Bass to adjourn at 8:15 p.m., motion carried 4-0.

County Manager Hanson informed the Board that elected officials and constitutional officers will get a 1% raise January 2015.