

HARTSVILLE/TROUSDALE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: BUDGET HEARING #4**

DEPARTMENTS: ELECTION OFFICE, HIGHWAY FUND 131, SCHOOLS FUND 141

**MINUTES**

MAY 13, 2021 | 6:00PM | TC COURTHOUSE

Members Present:

Dwight Jewell  
Gary Claridy  
Ken Buckmaster  
Jerry Ford

T. Bubba Gregory  
Landon Gulley  
Richard Harsh  
Rachel Jones

Gary Walsh  
Mayor Stephen Chambers

Members Absent:

Shane Burton  
Bill Fergusson

Others present:

Amy Thomas, CCFO  
David Nollner  
Richard Johnson

Steve Paxton, AoE  
Clint Satterfield, Dir of Schools  
Angie Williams, Schools CCFO

Bill Scruggs, Highway  
Peggy Taylor, Highway CCFO  
Chris Gregory, Media

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Dwight Jewell. This meeting will be reviewing the proposed budgets for the Election Commission, Highway Fund 131, and General Public Schools Fund 141.

This budget contains a "bonus payment" for the departments in 101, 111, 116, and 118 in order to switch our payroll schedule from Current to Accrued. This change in systems will also allow us to move to a Monday-Sunday schedule and move to direct deposit for County employees. Revenue amounts will change after the certification of the penny value. For estimates we are using 1¢=\$25,685 for General and 1¢=\$5,466 for Urban Services.

**101-51500 Election Commission \$125,367**

Function proposed at \$18,341 less than previous year.

Following up from night 3. The Committee asked for the Elections Office to come in to review their budget. The Committee had a question over the 106 Deputies line item. There will not be any elections during this budget, but there will be preparations for the upcoming August 2022 election.

Mr. Paxton would like to hire a permanent part time deputy for the office at 20 hours/wk so there would always be someone in the office. This will allow for someone to be trained in the election office day to day activities. Will also allow for back up when Mr. Paxton may need to be out of the office. This will be a posted position for the public to apply. Hours would be based on the hired personnel and what their schedule would allow. This position would be used during early voting.

Some costs are also due to the upcoming August 2022 election that need to be done before July 2023.

Motion by Richard Harsh to approve the office assistance. Second by Gary Walsh.

**Motion Carried**

### **131 Highway Fund**

Bill Scruggs was on hand to go over the Highway Fund. For Property Taxes, 0.06¢ was moved from the Solid Waste Fund 116 in order to meet with the 5yr average of Maintenance of Effort.

The clerical personnel line item has increased due in preparations for Ms. Taylor to retire and the need to train a replacement. Ms. Taylor plans to retire December 2022. Landon Gulley asked about the Maintenance of Effort requirement. There is a 5yr average for maintenance of effort on the Revenue side. Those items are the local revenue items.

The \$100,000 that is annually allotted to the Highway is in the Urban Services Fund 111. This is for the paving and asphalt work on roads within the Urban Service district. This amount is separate from the Highway Fund 131.

Motion to approve the Highway Fund 131 budget as presented made by Landon Gulley,  
Second by Richard Harsh. **Motion Carried**

### **141 General Purpose Schools**

Dr. Satterfield presented the budget for Fund 141.

Local revenue was set by the Budget & Finance Committee in March. These were based on revenue forecasts. This budget is a "status quo" budget. No new positions have been added. Local option sales tax should continue to increase. They will use the increase to assist the compensation of the noncertified personnel with a 3% raise. This is estimated at about \$47,000. The April BEP estimate was given in early May this year. There is a 4% salary component increase within the BEP funding. There is a calculation that the state Board of Edu does in order to disperse this increase to certified personnel. The local Board of Edu will take this data to disperse to their employees.

Positions that were budgeted but not filled in FY21 due to COVID, will be filled for the upcoming 2022 school year.

ESSR funding has come through and has been used for PPE, cleaning supplies, and other preventive measures for COVID. At least 22% of these funds must be used toward academic learning. A portion may be used for deferred maintenance. This funding has also been able to cover some expenses and allowed for the overall deficiency in the net change to slow down for the fund. This funding has very specific guidelines on how it is and is not to be used. Appropriations of the American Recovery Plan funding have been made, but the schools have not applied for the draws from the Treasury. Chairman Jewell read over his notes from a recent Comptroller meeting discussing the use of the American Recovery Plan funding.

One major expense that will be funding is the technology for the earlier grades of K-2. Students in these grades will receive a touch pad this summer that will be used in the coming school year.

Motion made by T. Bubba Gregory to approve the Schools Fund 141 budget as presented, second by Jerry Ford. **Motion Carried**

Adjourned at 7:05pm. Motion by Gary Walsh.