

HARTSVILLE/TROUSDALE COUNTY METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

MARCH 21, 2022 | 6:00PM | TC COURTHOUSE

MINUTES

Members Present: 11/12

Beverly Atwood
Ken Buckmaster
Shane Burton
Gary Claridy
Bill Fergusson

Jerry Ford
T. Bubba Gregory
Richard Harsh
Rachel Jones
Gary Walsh

Dwight Jewell, Comm Chair
Mayor Stephen Chambers
Amy Thomas, CCFO

Members Absent: Landon Gulley

Others in attendance: Commissioners Mary Ann Baker, Richard Johnson, and Lesley Overman; IDB members Bryan King, Scott Graves, Leah Petty, Robert Thurman, and Seth Thurman; County Attorney Branden Bellar, and IDB legal counsel Elliot Benson.

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Dwight Jewell. Quorum was determined with 11 present / 1 absent.
2. Minutes from the February 22, 2022 meeting was reviewed. Minutes were approved as presented.
3. County Trustee Report / Financial Summary – February 2022
The Committee reviewed the February 2022 Trustee Trial Balance and Fund Financial Summaries.
No concerns were noted.
Motion by Gary Claridy to accept the February 2022 financial report; second by Shane Burton

MOTION CARRIED

- 4. Budget Amendments
The Committee reviewed all the proposed budget amendments.

101 – COUNTY GENERAL

Table with 4 columns: ID (2022-101-33), Description (ARPA Bonuses), Currency (\$), and Amount (240,526)

Appropriating funding from the American Recovery Plan for the approved bonuses to qualifying employees. The amount includes bonuses for all general funds (101, 111, 116, 118) and only the 101 TCRS amount. The ARPA funding cannot contribute to pension plans, this amount is being pulled from the property tax received line item.

Motion to recommend to HTCC by Richard Harsh; second by Beverly Atwood. MOTION CARRIED

Table with 4 columns: ID (2022-101-34), Description (LGSF: Playground Equipment), Currency (\$), and Amount (36,611)

Amount based on a quote from Miracle to repair the equipment for Trey Park Playground. This should take care of all maintenance for the current playground equipment.

Motion to recommend to HTCC by Beverly Atwood; second by Bubba Gregory. MOTION CARRIED

Table with 4 columns: ID (2022-101-35FB), Description (Sheriff Increase), Currency (\$), and Amount (49,571)

Fund Balance Draw: Increase per Committee meeting on March 17, 2022. Request for \$2/hr for each position within Sheriff department.

Motion to approve by Beverly Atwood; second by Bill Fergusson. MOTION CARRIED

Hand Raise Vote | 7 yes, 1 no, 2 abstain, 2 absent

111 – URBAN SERVICES

Table with 4 columns: ID (2022-111-04FB), Description (Sheriff Increase), Currency (\$), and Amount (6,898)

Fund Balance Draw: Increase per Committee meeting on March 17, 2022. Request for \$2/hr for each position within Sheriff dept

Motion to recommend to HTCC by Ken Buckmaster; second by Beverly Atwood. MOTION CARRIED

Hand Raise Vote | 7 yes, 0 no, 3 abstain, 2 absent

118 – AMBULANCE SERVICES

2022-118-02FB	EMS Pay Increase	\$	32,690
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Fund Balance Draw: Funding the approved pay increase for EMS Medical Personnel.

Motion to recommend to HTCC by Ken Buckmaster; second by Beverly Atwood. **MOTION CARRIED**
Hand Raise Vote | 10 yes, 0 no, 2 absent

131 – HIGHWAY

2022-131-01	ARPA Bonuses	\$	52,198
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Fund Balance Draw: Appropriating funding from the American Recovery Plan for the approved bonuses to qualifying employees.

Motion to recommend to HTCC by Jerry Ford; second by Bubba Gregory. **MOTION CARRIED**
Hand Raise Vote | 9 yes, 1 no, 2 absent

141 – GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOLS

2022-141-09	Strategic Compensation Bonuses	\$	138,207
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BoE 38: Budget amendment necessary to accurately distribute annual 2020-21 strategic compensation bonuses into proper expenditure categories. Dr. Satterfield was not present to clarify the movement of funds.

Motion to recommend to HTCC by Jerry Ford; second by Richard Harsh. **MOTION CARRIED**
Hand Raise Vote | 10 yes, 0 no, 2 absent

2022-141-10	ARPA Bonuses	\$	190,473
2022-141-11	ARPA Bonuses – TCRS portion		9,316

BoE 39/40: Appropriating funding from the American Recovery Plan for the approved bonuses to qualifying employees.

Motion to recommend to HTCC both ARPA amendments by Bubba Gregory; second by Beverly Atwood.

MOTION CARRIED
Hand Raise Vote | 11 yes, 0 no, 1 absent
Rachel Jones came in late to the meeting.

5. American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Spending
 A. Review ARPA Bonus Amounts

FUNDS	ARPA Bonus	TOTAL W/ BENEFITS
101	154,750.00	166,588.38
111	25,000.00	26,912.50
116	12,562.50	13,523.53
118	24,312.50	26,172.41
HIGHWAY	46,500.00	50,057.25
SCHOOLS	176,937.50	190,473.22
WATER	45,875.00	49,384.44
Grand Total	485,937.50	523,111.72

- Amounts include benefits of SSA and Medicare
- All amounts are prorated based on employee’s hire date 1 month =4.17%
- Employee must be on the March 9, 2022 payroll
- Beginning date is March 20, 2020. Eligibility is based on most recent hire date.

Rachel Jones asked why EMA/EMS Director Matt Batey was not eligible to receive the ARPA bonus. Mayor Chambers answered that Batey was a salary employee and exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act for overtime and was therefore not eligible for the bonus. Mayor Chambers also compared the position to elected officials and the water superintendent positions as none of those positions were eligible to receive the funding. Chairman Jewell offered if it could be given directly from fund balance and not from the ARPA funding. CCFO Amy Thomas offered that it could come

out of the 101 General fund or the 118 Ambulance. Considering the status of the 118, she recommended the 101 fund. Bubba Gregory opined that if a bonus went to Batey then one would need to go to all the elected officials.

Rachel Jones made the motion to give the \$3,000 to Chief Batey out of the County General 101 Fund. The motion failed to receive a second and therefore failed on the floor. **MOTION FAILED**

B. ARPA 128-02 Ambulance

A request from EMS has been discussed over the past year to use the ARPA funding to purchase a third ambulance. Mayor held off on the presentation until the Final Rule came out with set guidelines. Under the Public Health guidelines, ARPA funding is available for this purchase. The quotes for the ambulance and additional equipment came to \$341,349; an additional \$18,651 is requested to cover any unexpected costs in production or purchasing. If the full \$360,000 is not used, the remaining amount will stay in the ARPA fund for other purchases.

Motion made by Richard Harsh to recommend the \$360,000 requested amount for the purchase of an ambulance: second by Jerry Ford. **MOTION CARRIED**

Hand Raise Vote | 11 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

C. The remaining balance of ARPA funding is:

Fund 127	\$ 1,346,252	Total
Fund 128	\$ 2,973,115	\$ 4,319,367

6. Discussion Items

A. PILOT Program

The PILOT program is being sponsored by the Industrial Development Board. The purpose of this program is to provide economic incentives to qualifying entities based on payments in lieu of taxes or PILOT. This program sets the framework to have guidelines for when the County is approached by industries. Parameters of the industry will be plugged into a formula to calculate what could be offered to that industry to come to Hartsville/Trousdale County. In Tennessee, 60 of the 90 counties have a similar program in place. The counties that have a PILOT program have seen and felt the growth that can come from more businesses in their area.

Jerry Ford made the motion to recommend the PILOT program to the full body; second by Richard Harsh. **MOTION CARRIED**

Hand Raise Vote | 11 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Chairman Jewell asked the Commissioners to read through the material and ask questions to gain a better understanding of the program. He also thanked Elliot Benson for his work on putting this together for the IDB and the County. Jewell said he would put this on the March 2022 Commission agenda.

7. Public Comments

Commission Mary Ann Baker asked about increases for the other County employees now that the EMS and Sheriff have received immediate increases. Jewell answered that it had already been discussed and that it will be taken up during the budget process. The increase for the Sheriff and EMS was to alleviate turnover in the two crucial departments. Mayor also offered that not only is the County looking into wage compensation but also the insurance benefits. Jewell added that the Sheriff is more of an advance and the increase would be taken into account with the upcoming scale implementation.

8. Adjourn: With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gary Walsh.

Adjourn at 6:46 pm