

HARTSVILLE/TROUSDALE COUNTY METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 | 6:00 PM | TC COMMUNITY CENTER

MINUTES

Members Present: 4/5

Landon Gulley, Chair

Beverly Atwood

Bubba Gregory, Vice Chair

Will Dennis

Members Absent: Jerry Ford

Others Present: Hon. Branden Bellar, Mayor Jack McCall, Sheriff Ray Russell, Robby Atwood, David Nollner, and members of the public.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Gulley. A quorum was determined with 4 members present.

Review Minutes from August 21 meetings.

Bubba Gregory made a motion to accept minutes; seconded by Beverly Atwood

MINUTES ACCEPTED

Financial Statements

Trustee Cash Balance Statement – August 2023

Financial Summaries – August 2023

Investment Income is coming in strong due to higher interest rates.

101-58400 Other Charges was questioned at 80+% This function holds one time expenses for the year such as our Liability Insurance Premiums. This is also where the monthly fuel expenses are held until disbursed amongst departments.

101-91120 Park Grant Funding is showing 88% due to a purchase order for the equipment. This is an encumbrance and not spent funding.

116-55732 Several maintenance items with vehicles have been made. This also includes the purchase of a backhoe and a purchase order for a work truck.

118-55130 PRN work is taking place and Chief Batey is managing the overtime concern.

151 Debt Services – all debt is at fixed rates now.

Budget Amendments

FUND 101 – COUNTY GENERAL

101-04FB	New Positions: Mayor's Office / Sheriff's Office	\$	70,719
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The Accounting department is requesting a position for a Payroll Clerk. Currently one staff member takes on both Accounts Payable and Payroll. The amount of vendor checks has grown exponentially over the years and has become a full-time position. Payroll has been streamlined, but we are still on manual timesheets that must be checked for accuracy and per policy. Several of the timesheets come in incomplete or miscalculated. A lot of the miscalculations stem from employees and supervisors not understanding or not referring to the Personnel Policy.

Dennis asked if we have looked into outsourcing payroll with a company such as Paychex. Mayor stated that has not been looked at recently, but he is open to the idea.

Gulley would like to look into more information on this request and asked for it to be deferred to the next meeting.

Sheriff Russell is asking for an additional dispatcher. It was stated that this should have been approved during the budget process, but he was told that there was funding was not in place for

an eighth dispatcher. Committee asked for clarification on the request and would like to defer the matter to the next meeting.

Motion by Beverly Atwood to postpone BA 101-04FB to the next meeting; seconded by Bubba Gregory. MOTION CARRIED
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Discussion / Public Comment

Discussion for the proposed wheel tax was opened to all in attendance. No material is being presented currently. Hon. Bellar wishes to have everything in order before bringing it before the legislative body. The method for passage is also up for discussion on how the Commission would like to move forward.

Gulley appreciates the community input so far and welcomes more. We are still waiting on firmer numbers to base the decision and have a better understanding of the projects ahead. Definitely need to be looking at revenue streams for the projects.

Nate Ellis (member of the public) appreciates all the work the commissioners are putting into getting the wheel tax put together. Average American family is paying \$700 more a month in expenses than last year. Understands that this also affects the government in making sure its employees are taken care of. The proposed \$100 levy will greatly affect those with multiple vehicles. Consider other budget cuts to move funding towards these projects. Believes the \$100 levy is excessive. Is it possible for savings to come from other projects, loans and lessen the tax levy amount?

Adjourn

Motion by Beverly Atwood; second by Bubba Gregory

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm

*Minutes presented by
Amy Thomas*