

HARTSVILLE/TROUSDALE COUNTY METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT

**BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**BUDGET HEARINGS FY2026**

MAY 13, 2025 | 6:00 PM | TC COURTHOUSE

**MINUTES**

Members Present: 7/7

Landon Gulley, Chair

Bubba Gregory, Vice Chair

Will Dennis

Chris Gregory

Jerry Ford

Lesley Overman

Amy Thomas (*nvm*)

Members Absent: Beverly Atwood

Others in attendance: Multiple elected officials and department heads

Meeting was called to order at 6pm by Commissioner Gulley.

Tonight's focus is on the 101 General Services Departments which includes the fee offices of County Clerk, County Trustee, Register of Deeds, Property Assessor, and the Courts.

51100 Commission – C Gregory suggested to eliminate or waive the Commissioners' increase that is tied to the Mayor's salary and reduce the salary items to reflect this action.

**Motion to approve with changes by C Gregory; seconded by Dennis 51100 RECOMMENDED**

51300 Mayor – Mayor McCall is out of town and not able to represent his budget. Committee asked what responsibilities the listed part time position has. Thomas explained that this position would be for the Mayor's assistant. The person hired would oversee the Mayor's calendar, answer phones, light office work, etc. Thomas has not been able to post or interview due to her current workload. B Gregory suggested this position be shared with the County Trustee as that office is also requesting part time assistance during the busy months of the tax season.

The consultants line item is for grant writers depending on the different projects needing funding.

**Motion to approve 51300 with the elimination of the 169 Part Time position and increase 317 Data Processing to \$50,000 by C Gregory; seconded by Ford. 51300 RECOMMENDED**

51600 Register of Deeds – no increase requests

**Motion to approve by Overman; seconded by Ford 51600 RECOMMENDED**

51720 Planning | Codes – Committee noted the high rate of overtime usage for the department. Currently the department has 1 employee. The Building Official recently hired a second employee and this should alleviate the overtime expenses. C Gregory suggested moving the Building Official position to salary at \$61,000. The contract with GNRC Planning Services was terminated by the Mayor at the recommendation of the Planning Commission. The new consultant is RCS Consulting. They are the planning consultants for several other counties.

**Motion by C Gregory to approve with the following changes; seconded by Overman:**

**105 - \$61,000**

**162 - \$35,000**

**187 - \$5,000**

**399 - REMOVE**

**51720 RECOMMENDED**

52300 Property Assessor – Requesting a part time position of 8 hours a week and increasing the deputy position by 7.7% due to longevity.

**Motion by B Gregory to remove the 169 part time position and increase the deputy position by 2.5%; seconded by Ford** **52300 RECOMMENDED**

52400 Trustee – Requesting a part time position and increasing the deputy by 7.7% due to longevity.

**Motion by C Gregory to adjust deputy by 2.5% and set the 169 part time position at 8,000 to be shared with Mayor’s office; seconded by Ford.** **52400 RECOMMENDED**

52500 County Clerk – no increases

**Motion by C Gregory to approve; seconded by Ford** **52500 RECOMMENDED**

County Clerk Rita Crowder addressed the Committee and asked for them to consider a decent cost of living adjustment. Employees work hard and should be recognized for their efforts.

53100 Circuit Court – No increases. K Taylor stated that the 317 line item needed to stay as budgeted as it is a contingency should anything happen to her equipment or systems.

**Motion by Dennis to approve; seconded by B Gregory.** **53100 RECOMMENDED**

53300 General Sessions – Judge Linville requested few increases with the juvenile services and needs a new robe.

**Motion by B Gregory to approve; seconded by C Gregory** **53300 RECOMMENDED**

53400 Chancery Court Clerk – No increase

**Motion by Overmen to approve; seconded by Ford** **53400 RECOMMENDED**

53700 Judicial Commissioners – increase to monthly salary as recommended by Judge Linville

**Motion by B Gregory to approve; seconded by Overman** **53700 RECOMMENDED**

**Committee took a recess at 7:14pm; resumed at 7:21pm**

54240 Juvenile Services – No Increase

**Motion by B Gregory to approve; seconded by Dennis** **54240 RECOMMENDED**

55110 Health Department – No Increase

**Motion to approve by Overman; seconded by C Gregory** **55110 RECOMMENDED**

55720 Litter Program – No Increase, funded by state grant. Will always be 44,200.

**Motion to approve by C Gregory; seconded by Overman** **55720 RECOMMENDED**

56100 Adult Activities and 56300 Senior Center – Additional expenses funded by the Senior Center Reserves

**Motion to approve by Overman; seconded by B Gregory** **56100 & 56300 RECOMMENDED**

56500 Library – Staff is not using the medical insurance. To keep with maintenance of effort, funding from medical insurance was moved to 432 books and media.

**Motion to approve by C Gregory; seconded by Overman** **56500 RECOMMENDED**

57100 UT Agriculture Extension – fully staffed with higher certifications. C Gregory asked about the fair contribution. Evitts explained that this was from when the Ag Ext ran the fair, but would like to continue using their budget to contribute to on behalf of UT.

Evitts also explained the change of how benefits are paid. The salaries and benefits in the budget are the County’s portion. UT has begun listing the benefits in a lump sum instead of separating out. According

to Thomas this change began April 2025 and a budget amendment is being presented at the regular May meeting.

**Motion to approve by B Gregory; seconded by Dennis**

**57100 RECOMMENDED**

51500 Election – No increases. No elections in FY2026.

**Motion by Overman to approve; seconded by C Gregory**

**51500 RECOMMENDED**

**Hearings concluded at 7:46pm C Gregory, Dennis**

**ADJOURNED**