

HARTSVILLE/TROUSDALE COUNTY METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

JUNE 16, 2025 | 6:00 PM | TC COURTHOUSE

MINUTES

Members Present: 6/7

Landon Gulley, Chair
Bubba Gregory, Vice Chair
Beverly Atwood

Will Dennis
Chris Gregory
Jerry Ford

Lesley Overman
Amy Thomas

Others Present: Branden Bellar, Commissioner David Thomas, Commissioner, Shane Burton, Sheriff Ray Russell, Mayor Jack McCall, Ken Buckmaster, and members of the Sheriff Department.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Gulley with seven voting members present.

Agenda was set with no additions by Ford; seconded by C Gregory.

AGENDA SET

Committee reviewed minutes of the May 19 meeting.

Motion by Overman to accept minutes as presented; second by J Ford.

MINUTES ACCEPTED

Financial Statements – May 2025

Committee reviewed the May 2025 statements that included the Trustee’s cash balance and a summary of each fund. Gulley reminded the overall percentages shown are skewed by grant funding. Ending amounts without the grant funding are shown at the end of the revenue and expense columns.

Fund 121 CoreCivic pass through funding. Though the County receives no profit or benefit from this funding it does factor into our financial statements. This fund is truly a pass through where TTCC bills the County, the County bills the State, the State pays the County, the County pays TTCC. No funds are kept and no commission is made from these monies.

Fund 171 Capital Projects. May is the first month to show the new process of the Impact Fee or Adequate Facilities Tax. County collected \$10,500 in May.

No other fund had any notes or concerns from the Committee

Motion by B Gregory to accept financial statements as presented; second by C Gregory.

STATEMENTS ACCEPTED

Budget Amendments

FUND 101 – GENERAL SERVICES

Table with 2 columns: Item ID, Description, Amount. Rows: 101-24 End of year clean up \$ 9,854; 101-25 Grants: Enbridge – Fire 11,800

FUND 111 – URBAN SERVICES

Table with 2 columns: Item ID, Description, Amount. Row: 111-05 End of year clean up \$ 500

FUND 116 – SOLID WASTE SERVICES

Table with 2 columns: Item ID, Description, Amount. Row: 116-02 End of year clean up \$ 5,275

FUND 118 – AMBULANCE SERVICES

Table with 2 columns: Item ID, Description, Amount. Row: 118-02 End of year clean up \$ 7,000

FUND 131 – HIGHWAY

Table with 2 columns: Item ID, Description, Amount. Row: 131-03 Appropriate Revenue & End of Year Clean Up \$ 25,568

FUND 151 – DEBT SERVICES

Table with 2 columns: Item ID, Description, Amount. Row: 151-01 End of year clean up \$ 2,000

FUND 141 – GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOLS

Table with 2 columns: Item ID, Description, Amount. Rows: 141-15 Credit Recovery Staff \$ 2,877; 141-16 Summer Learning Camp 182,050; 141-17 TISA: ACT payments 17,000; 141-18 TISA: Special Edu tuition 10,375

**Motion to recommend all budget amendments to Commission by Ford; second by Dennis  
MOTION CARRIED**

**Discussion Items**

- A. **Budget FY26.** A motion was made at the June 10 Budget Hearing to provide a flat \$3,000 to all employees and increase the General tax levy to 2.07. Since that meeting numbers of the estimated Fiscal Year 2025 were provided to the Committee to show a comparison of EMS salaries to other counties. The fiscal year covers July-June. Gulley noted that the HTC numbers are above the other counties and that our EMS could be considered competitive. Atwood opined that some positions should be salaried in the future and should not be increased at this time based on the numbers presented. Gulley would like to look into this though and double check the threshold. It was understood that the numbers from surrounding counties included overtime compensation, but that was not confirmed during the meeting. Currently HTC is budgeted on 96 overtime hours a month or 1152 overtime hours a year.

Overman requested to amend the previous motion of the \$3,000 increase. Bellar said the motion could be amended if the parties who made the motion and the second agreed to rescind the action. After consideration, Ford rescinded his motion and Gulley rescinded his second. This opened the floor to discussion on salaries.

Dennis pointed out that for EMS, there are 14 holidays that are paid at a 24hr rate which could result in 16 hours of overtime depending on what they worked during that holiday period. That is a benefit to the employees that is not available elsewhere. Averages out to about \$4,000. The same though can be applied to the Sheriff department for those who work 12 hour shifts.

**Overman motioned to set increases at 10% for Sheriff employees, \$1.50/hr for other departments, and no increase to EMS; second by Atwood.**

**MOTION FAILED**

**2-YES** | Atwood, Overman

**5-NO** | B Gregory, C Gregory, Dennis, Ford, Gulley

**Gulley motioned to set increases at \$2/hr for Sheriff employees, \$1.50/hr for other departments, and no increase to EMS medical staff; second by B Gregory**

**MOTION PASSED**

**4-YES** | B Gregory, Dennis, Ford, Gulley

**3-NO** | Atwood, Overman | C Gregory abstained

**Ford motioned to set the General Tax Levy at 2.0900 to cover the increased cost of salaries; seconded by Gulley.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**4-YES** | B Gregory, Dennis, Ford, Gulley

**3-NO** | Atwood, Overman, C Gregory

**Public Comments** – None presented

**Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn by B Gregory, second by C Gregory

*Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm*