

BUDGET, FINANCE & INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

May 21, 2015

5:30 P.M.

Courthouse

MINUTES:

Members Present:

Comm. Rhonda Allen
Comm. Charlie Baum
Comm. Joe Frank Jernigan
Comm. Shawn Kaplan
Comm. Robert Peay, Jr.
Comm. Doug Shafer
Comm. Will Jordan, Chr.

Others Present:

Ernest Burgess
Lisa Nolen
Mark Tucker
Mac Nolen
Anthony Tuggle
Dana Garrett
Michael Gregory
Ben Cates
Kathleen Herzog
Delia Goodman
Merry Hickerson
Greg Brooks
Jennings Jones
Deborah Johnson
Dawn Eaton
Laura Messick
Lisa Mitchell
Sean Gilliland
James Manning
Rob Mitchell
Connie Rigsby
Fran Dunn
Noel Deal
Tommy Bragg
Jim Robert
Rita Shacklett
Paul Latture
Antoinette van Zelm
Tharrel Kast
Donna Blythe

Chairman Jordan presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. with all members being present.

The purpose of the meeting was to continue the review of the 2015-16 budget.

APPROVE MINUTES:

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2015 Budget Committee meeting as presented.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

COUNTY GENERAL FUND

OTHER SOCIAL, CULTURAL & RECREATION:

Child Advocacy. The mayor recommended funding of \$5,000. Jennings Jones was present representing Child Advocacy. He stated that this agency is needed to assist the prosecutor's office.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Kaplan to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Child Advocacy Program in the amount of \$5,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Domestic Violence. The mayor recommended funding of \$60,660 for the Domestic Violence Program. The Mayor reminded the committee that this agency's funding was amended during the current year from restricted funds collected through the court. Deborah Johnson was present representing the Domestic Violence Center. She explained her organization hopes to add services for trafficking victims.

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Baum to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Domestic Violence Program in the amount of \$60,660.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Exchange Club Family Center. The mayor recommended funding of \$23,100, which was the same as the current year. Mrs. Dawn Eaton was present to speak to the Exchange Club Family Center's request. Mrs. Eaton explained that the organization had added tools to track outcomes of programs.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Exchange Club Family Center program in the amount of \$23,100.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

La Vergne Senior Citizens. The mayor recommended funding of \$46,200, which was the same funding as the current year. No one was present to speak to the La Vergne Senior Citizens' request.

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 La Vergne Senior Citizens in the amount of \$46,200.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Mid-Cumberland Human Resource. The mayor recommended funding of \$69,812. No one was present to speak to the request from Mid-Cumberland Human Resource.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Mid-Cumberland Human Resource program in the amount of \$69,812.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Pregnancy Support Center, dba Portico Story. The mayor recommended funding of \$3,150, which was the same funding as the current year. Ms. Laura Messick, Executive Director, was present to speak to the request from the Pregnancy Support Center. Ms. Messick thanked the county for their past support.

Comm. Kaplan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Portico Story in the amount of \$3,150.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Read to Succeed. The mayor recommended funding of \$2,500 as a first year recipient. Ms. Lisa Mitchell was present to represent Read to Succeed.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Read to Succeed program in the amount of \$2,500.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Relax & Ride. The mayor recommended funding of \$49,220 for the Relax and Ride Program, which reflected an increase of \$12,041 over the current year. The Mayor explained that the large increase was due to Federal funding being cut. He noted that they are gradually increasing ridership.

Comm. Allen moved, seconded by Comm. Kaplan to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Relax & Ride program in the amount of \$49,220.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Primary Care & Hope Clinic. The mayor recommended funding of \$52,500 for the Primary Care & Hope Clinic, which was the same funding as the current year. Mr. Sean Gilliland, CIO, was present to speak to the request for the Primary Care & Hope Clinic. He stated that the organization has had 15% growth every year, now provides a pharmacy and has opened a Smyrna site.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Baum to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Primary Care & Hope Clinic in the amount of \$52,500.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

St. Clair Street Senior Center. The mayor recommended funding of \$162,750 for the St. Clair Street Senior Center, which is the same as current year. Ms. Connie Rigsby, Director, was present to represent the request for the St. Clair Street Senior Center.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 St. Clair Street Senior Center in the amount of \$162,750.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Smyrna Senior Citizens. The mayor recommended funding of \$47,250 for the Smyrna Senior Citizens, which is the same as current year. Ms. Fran Dunn, Director, represented the Smyrna Senior Citizens program.

Comm. Allen moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Smyrna Senior Citizens program in the amount of \$47,250.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Special Kids. The mayor recommended funding of \$2,500 as a first year recipient. Ms. Noel Deal represented the Special Kids program. Special Kids is a Christian non-profit that performs therapy and nursing. No children are turned down because of their inability to pay. Ms. Deal stated that the contribution would be used toward the speech therapy program.

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Kaplan to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Special Kids program in the amount of \$2,500.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Kymari House. The mayor recommended funding of \$2,500 as a first year recipient. No one was present to represent the Kymari House. Mayor Burgess explained the program helps to facilitate parent and child meetings as a result of difficult circumstances, such as divorce or court proceedings.

Comm. Allen moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Kymari House program in the amount of \$2,500.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Transit Alliance. The mayor recommended funding of \$2,500 as a first year recipient. Mr. Tommy Bragg was present to represent the Transit Alliance program. Mayor Burgess stated that this program is made up of individuals from local businesses that are promoting the importance of mass transit and formulating legislation to provide to the federal and state governments for passage. Mr. Bragg stated that the current focus is on buses instead of adding lane miles. Funding would be used as the matching component to grants.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Transit Alliance program in the amount of \$2,500.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Following presentations by the various organizations, Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the Other Social, Cultural and Recreation contribution line item 2015-16 budget totaling \$529,642.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

ELDERLY AND DISABLED SERVICES PROGRAM:

The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Senior Citizens Assistance Program totaled \$1,575. The budget provides funding to Mid-Cumberland Community Action Agency for the Elderly and Disabled Services Program.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Senior Citizens Assistance Program in the amount of \$1,575.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

TENNESSEE REHABILITATION CENTER:

No one was present to represent the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center at Murfreesboro. The County Mayor's recommendation totals \$53,550. Mayor Burgess described the purpose of the organization is to match up industries with individuals with special needs.

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the 2015-16 General Welfare Assistance budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$53,550.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

JOURNEYS IN COMMUNITY LIVING:

Mr. Jim Robert of Journeys in Community Living, was present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 budget request. The County Mayor's recommendation totals \$36,000.

Mr. Robert explained that the county had provided support to their organization for well over 30 years. He also made it known that the organization has 100 individuals that are helping industries complete tasks. He noted that it has been over 10 years since the State has increased funding.

Comm. Allen moved, seconded by Comm. Kaplan to approve the 2015-16 Adult Activities budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$36,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

LINEBAUGH LIBRARY:

Ms. Rita Shacklett was present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 budget request. The County Mayor's recommendation totals \$1,400,000.

Ms. Shacklett explained that they are working on a community technology center in the Hobgood area, which has high demographics and low income, that will be bookless and provide computers and meeting space to individuals and businesses.

Comm. Baum disclosed that he is a member of the Library board.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the 2015-16 Libraries budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$1,400,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND DESTINATION RUTHERFORD:

Mr. Paul Latture, President of the Chamber of Commerce, was present to speak to the request for the Convention and Visitor's Bureau and Destination Rutherford. He stated that tourism was definitely growing in Rutherford County, and that last year there was a \$291 million impact to Rutherford County from tourism. The County Mayor's recommendation totals \$480,000, which is 30% of the Hotel/Motel Tax collected.

He stated that Destination Rutherford has assisted in recruiting many companies to Rutherford County and creating job growth. The County Mayor's recommendation totals \$130,000.

The Finance Director noted that the Destination Rutherford contribution has moved to the General Fund from the Economic Development Fund since there is not enough revenue coming into that fund to sustain the contribution.

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Kaplan to approve the Chamber of Commerce portion of the Tourism and the Destination Rutherford 2015-16 budgets as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$480,000 and \$130,000, respectively.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

HERITAGE CENTER:

Ms. Antoinette van Zelm represented the Heritage Center. The County Mayor's recommendation totals \$15,750.

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the 2015-16 Heritage Center portion of the Tourism budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$15,750.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

MAIN STREET, INC.:

Ms. Kathleen Herzog, Executive Director of Main Street, Inc. was present to speak to their request. She thanked the county for their support. She stated that the Farmers Market and the Friday night concerts will begin in June. She also noted that Jazzfest is one of the top 20 events in the southeast.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the 2015-16 Main Street, Inc. portion of the Tourism budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$26,250.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

OAKLANDS ASSOCIATION:

Mr. James Manning was present to speak to the Oaklands Association request. He stated that the home was the number one attraction on TripAdvisor in Murfreesboro. The County Mayor's recommendation totals \$5,000.

Comm. Kaplan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the 2015-16 Oaklands Association portion of the Tourism budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$5,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

SAM DAVIS HOME:

No one was present to speak to the request for the Sam Davis Home. The County Mayor's recommendation totals \$5,000.

Comm. Allen moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the 2015-16 Sam Davis Home portion of the Tourism budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$5,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

INDUSTRIAL/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND:

The Finance Director advised that this fund accounts for the two notes with the Smyrna/Rutherford County Airport Authority. The total revenue coming in is \$87,561, which is interest on the airport notes, and expenditures are \$196,185, \$96,500 for the Economic Development Council, \$17,030 to the Town of Smyrna through a prior agreement, \$880 for Trustee's Commission and \$81,775 transferred out to the Debt Service fund for payment of one of the notes.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the 2015-16 Industrial/Economic Development Fund budget as recommended by the County Mayor with estimated revenue totaling \$87,561 and estimated expenditures totaling \$196,185.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

SOLID WASTE/SANITATION FUND:

Mr. Mac Nolen, Solid Waste Director, was present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 Solid Waste/Sanitation Fund budget.

The Finance Director advised that the estimated revenues totaled \$3,704,100, and the estimated appropriations totaled \$4,439,991. The appropriations exceeded the revenues by \$735,891. The estimated ending fund balance at June 30, 2016 is \$3,012,421. The Solid Waste Fund does not receive any property tax revenue, but if the committee wanted to balance revenues to appropriations, it would take the equivalent of \$0.0123.

55720 SANITATION EDUCATION: The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Sanitation Education budget totaled \$154,196. The budget provides funding for the Recycling Coordinator and one part time employee. It is supported by a grant from the State for \$95,100.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the 2015-16 Sanitation Education budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$154,196.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

55732 CONVENIENCE CENTERS: The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Convenience Centers budget totaled \$2,865,862. Line 149-Laborers is recommended at \$423,050. This account provides funding for the part time convenience center attendants and includes a pay increase of 25 cents per hour. Line 302-Advertising includes signs at convenience centers and decals on vehicles to improve recycling awareness. Line 321-Engineering Services includes funds to move the Rockvale center to a larger site across the street from its current location. Line 718-Motor Vehicles, recommended at \$137,500, is for the replacement of one roll off truck.

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to amend the 2015-16 Convenience Centers budget as recommended by the County Mayor by adding an additional 25 cents per hour to the pay of laborers in line 149 plus the benefit cost totaling \$2,877,652.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

55739 OTHER WASTE COLLECTION: The 2015-16 Other Waste Collection (Recycling) budget totals \$264,247. Mayor Burgess noted that two interns were added to line 169-Part-time Personnel.

Comm. Jordan commented on the recycling related email sent out by Director Mac Nolen during the day related to charging a fee for the recycling of televisions and computer monitors. He stated that when fees are charged for recycling these types of items, then they will be thrown in a ditch or on the side of the road in a rural area of the County. Director Nolen commented that he is trying to ready the public for a time when there will be a cost for solid waste disposal and this is a way to start a little at a time.

Comm. Allen moved, seconded by Comm. Baum to approve the 2015-16 Other Waste Collection budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$264,247.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

55754 LANDFILL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Landfill Operations budget totals \$822,081. Mayor Burgess noted that two vacant positions have been removed from line 149-Laborers.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the 2015-16 Landfill Operations budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$822,081.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

55770 POSTCLOSURE: The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Postclosure budget totals \$245,000. Line 312-Contracts with Private Agencies has been reduced \$50,000 from the current year.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Baum to approve the 2015-16 Postclosure budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$245,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

MISCELLANEOUS: The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Miscellaneous budget totals \$88,605 and covers unemployment compensation, worker's comp insurance, building and contents insurance, judgments to transfer to the Self-Insurance Fund for liability claims, liability insurance, and Trustee's Commission.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the 2015-16 Miscellaneous budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$88,605.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

COMMUNITY CARE:

Community Care did not request any funding this year.

No action was taken on this department.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Mr. Tharrel Kast, Emergency Management Director, was present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 Emergency Management Department budget. Mayor Burgess amended his recommendation for the Emergency Management 2015-16 budget by adding \$35,000 to line 718-Motor Vehicles for a total budget of \$696,521. This amount is about \$160,000 more than the current year amended budget.

Mayor Burgess advised that line 334-Maintenance Agreements is increased \$55,000 over the current year due to the additional communication towers. Line 399-Other Contracted Services is increased by \$7,500 for maintenance of the roadways leading to the tower sites. Line 708-Communications Equipment is increased by \$145,000 for completion of the tower sites. He also noted that 169-Part-time Personnel includes \$9,300 for work by Mr. Joe Gourley, who will be retiring in June, to complete the remaining tower site installation.

Comm. Peay inquired about what was needed to complete the tower sites included in line 708. Mr. Kast reviewed the needs of each tower that was included in the line item.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the Emergency Management 2015-16 budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$696,521.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Mrs. Dana Garrett, Health Department Director, was present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 Health Department budget. The County Mayor's recommendation totaled \$738,351. Mayor Burgess made the committee aware that line 189-Other Salaries and Wages includes the addition of an admin support position that was removed from the budget a few years ago.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the local Health Department's 2015-16 budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$738,351.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

DENTAL HEALTH:

The mayor's recommendation for the Dental Health Program 2015-16 budget totaled \$11,850.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the Dental Health Program's 2015-16 budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$11,850.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAMS:

The Finance Director noted that this program is funded by the tobacco settlement funds and provides smoking cessation programs. No funds are included in the proposed 2015-16 budget, but the line items will be amended in August 2015 with any unspent funds from the current year.

OTHER LOCAL HEALTH:

The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Other Local Health Services budget totaled \$2,321,575. The budget is 100% funded by the state.

Comm. Allen moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the 2015-16 Other Local Health budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$2,321,575.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

PET ADOPTION & WELFARE SERVICES:

Mr. Michael Gregory, PAWS Director, was present to answer questions regarding the Pet Adoption & Welfare Services 2015-16 budget. The County Mayor's recommendation totaled \$1,697,143.

Mayor Burgess advised that three part-time positions have been added to the budget for public relations, assisting with surgeries and helping with new adoptions. Line 302-Advertising adds \$12,000 to the budget to help promote pet adoption. Line 401-Animal Food and Supplies was increased by \$6,500 to standardize the pet food to avoid intestinal issues in the pets.

Mr. Gregory added that approximately \$150,000 in additional revenue will be realized as a result of increasing the registration fee to \$5.

Comm. Kaplan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the PAWS 2015-16 budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$1,697,143.

The motion passed by voice vote with Comm. Shafer voting "no".

Comm. Shafer asked about contributions from the cities.

Mr. Gregory advised that he was requesting funds from the City of Murfreesboro, the City of La Vergne and the Town of Smyrna. He advised that he believes the City of Murfreesboro and the Town of Smyrna had funded his request, but that the City of La Vergne had not.

SANITATION AND WASTE REMOVAL:

The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Sanitation and Waste Removal budget totaled \$34,500. The budget provides funding for the Dead Stock Removal Services Agreement with Appertain, Inc.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the 2015-16 Sanitation and Waste Removal budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$34,500.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE:

The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Other Public Health & Welfare budget totaled \$275,600. The budget covers the costs for autopsies and the medical examiner.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the 2015-16 Other Public Health & Welfare budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$275,600.

The motion passed by voice vote with Comm. Shafer voting "no".

RECREATION:

Mr. Ben Cates, Recreation Director, was present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 Parks and Fair Boards budget. The County Mayor's recommendation totaled \$507,915. Mayor Burgess stated that line 189-Other Salaries & Wages was increased to expand the summer and winter programs.

Mr. Cates stated that the Recreation Department served about 17,000 individuals per year.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the 2015-16 Parks and Fair Boards budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$507,915 to provide funding for the county's recreation program.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

AGRICULTURE EXTENSION:

Mr. Anthony Tuggle, Agriculture Extension Director, was present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 Agriculture Extension budget. The County Mayor's recommendation totaled \$723,003.

Mayor Burgess explained that line 189-Other Salaries & Wages is reduced for one employee that is changing from a County employee to a University of Tennessee employee. The cost will move to line 309-Contracts with Government Agencies.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the 2015-16 Agriculture Extension Service budget as revised totaling \$723,003.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

SOIL CONSERVATION:

Ms. Delia Goodman was present to answer questions about the 2015-16 Soil Conservation budget. The County Mayor's recommendation totaled \$98,422. Reduction in the budget over the current year is due to the employee in the 103-Assistant line item retiring and an individual with less experience being hired.

Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the 2015-16 Soil Conservation budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$98,422.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

OTHER ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

The Finance Director explained that this budget provides funding for the HOME Grant. Funds still remain from the grant that was received in the current year.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the 2015-16 Other Economic & Community Development budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$330,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

COUNTY GARAGE:

The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Other Charges budget totaled \$249,826. The budget covers the cost for the County Garage, which reflected an increase of \$7,621 from the current year. Mayor Burgess explained that line 334-Maintenance Agreements includes funds for maintenance agreements on repair equipment and line 355-Travel includes funds for training for certifications.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the 2015-16 Other Charges budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$249,826.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Employee Benefits budget totaled \$798,300.

The Finance Director advised that the budget provided funding of \$75,000 for the pooled amount for Employee and Dependent Insurance budget amendments during the year, \$20,000 for the pooled amount for Unemployment Compensation budget amendments, \$426,800 for matching the retiree's health insurance and includes funding for the transitional reinsurance fee of the Healthcare Reform Act, and \$276,500 for the General Fund's share to the OJI Program.

Following review, Comm. Allen moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the 2015-16 Employee Benefits budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$798,300.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

PAYMENT TO CITIES:

The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Payment to Cities budget totaled \$2,016,000. The budget provides funding to the Town of Smyrna for their share of the Nissan payment-in-lieu of taxes.

Comm. Kaplan moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the 2015-16 Payment to Cities budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$2,016,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The County Mayor's recommendation for the 2015-16 Miscellaneous budget totaled \$1,985,000. The budget provides funding of \$100,000 for the pooled gasoline account for gasoline amendments during the year, \$800,000 for judgments, which is used to pay the county's share into the Self-Insurance Fund for liability claims, and \$1,085,000 for Trustee's Commission. Any excess fees collected by the Trustee are turned back over to the county.

Comm. Kaplan moved, seconded by Comm. Allen to approve the 2015-16 Miscellaneous budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$1,985,000.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

HIGHWAY/PUBLIC WORKS FUND:

Mr. Greg Brooks, Highway Superintendent, and Mrs. Merry Hickerson were present to answer questions about the 2015-16 Highway Fund budget.

The Finance Director advised that the estimated revenue for the 2015-16 Highway Fund totaled \$8,876,986. The estimated appropriations totaled \$8,750,544. The estimated revenue exceeded the estimated appropriations by \$126,442. The estimated combined beginning fund balance at July 1, 2015 is \$8,602,732. Of that amount \$1,831,378 is being estimated for the committed fund balance for public works.

Following review, Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the 2015-16 Highway Fund budget with estimated revenue totaling \$8,876,986 and estimated appropriations totaling \$8,750,544.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

GENERAL DEBT SERVICE FUND:

The estimated revenue for the 2015-16 Debt Service Fund is \$41,025,483 and the estimated appropriations is \$43,159,499. The estimated appropriations exceeded the revenue by \$2,134,016. The estimated ending fund balance at June 30, 2016 is \$30,011,585 or 70% of the appropriations.

Comm. Jordan asked what the required percentage of fund balance was. Mrs. Nolen stated that the amount is a calculation and is usually kept between 65% and 75% of appropriations, but there is not a required percentage.

The Finance Director made note that the amount of property tax allocated to the Debt Service Fund for 2015-16 is \$0.5683.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Baum to approve the 2015-16 General Debt Service Fund budget as presented with estimated revenue totaling \$41,025,483 and estimated appropriations totaling \$43,159,499.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:

Mr. Rob Mitchell and Ms. Donna Blythe were present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 Board of Equalization budget totaling \$20,930 as recommended by the County Mayor. This budget is the same as the current year.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the 2015-16 Board of Equalization budget as recommended by the County Mayor totaling \$20,930.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

PROPERTY ASSESSOR:

Mr. Rob Mitchell and Ms. Donna Blythe were present to answer questions regarding the 2015-16 Property Assessor budget totaling \$1,254,093 as recommended by the County Mayor.

Mayor Burgess stated that his original recommendation anticipated the Assessor would stay on the County pay plan. Mayor Burgess read from an Attorney General's opinion regarding the Assessor's authority to establish his own pay plan and positions within the limits imposed by TCA 67-1-506 related to number of employees in accordance with parcel data, and the budgetary constraints imposed by the legislative body. Based on this information, the Mayor revised his recommended Property Assessor budget totaling \$954,855, which funds 11 deputy positions.

Mr. Mitchell stated that he had prepared two budgets. One of the budgets agrees with the department request as presented with the Mayor's recommendation and the other one removed three employees and adds pictometry to the Reappraisal budget. Mayor Burgess and Mrs. Nolen stated that they had not seen the second version of the department request.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the pictometry cost should be in his budget so that it could be cost shared with the municipalities in the County. Mayor Burgess stated that the pictometry cost had been budgeted in GIS and was available. Mrs. Nolen stated that it does not matter what budget it is included in, it can be cost shared with the municipalities.

Mr. Mitchell stated that he would be happy to work within whatever budget the Committee deems necessary to provide the Assessor's office. He noted that the Assessor's office accounts

for 34% of the income for the budget of the whole county. He also stated that the quality of their work determines how much money there is to spend on everything else.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the pay plan he crafted uses the existing pay plan that is already in place, but he wants to be able to put his employees on the plan where he deems his employees needs and abilities are.

Mr. Mitchell stated that he cut a \$61,000 chief deputy position from his budget two years ago. He also stated that changes that he is making in his pay plan for the employees that picked up the chief deputies workload is substantially less than the position given up. He also noted that people are doing more than they are being paid for and doing it voluntarily.

Mrs. Sonya Stephenson addressed the Committee about the job descriptions the Assessor assembled versus those assembled by her department for the same job. She also commented on the salary survey performed by her department using Sumner and Montgomery counties, Clarksville, Murfreesboro, Franklin and Hendersonville and how they are more comparable to Rutherford County than Davidson, Knox and Hamilton counties used by the Assessor in his salary survey. She noted that by using these larger counties to compare with Rutherford County there is a potential to have inequality across other departments of the County, as well as, in the Assessor's own department.

Comm. Jordan suggested that Mayor Burgess and Mr. Mitchell discuss the budgets further.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Kaplan to move the Assessor and Reappraisal budgets to the May 27 budget meeting to allow the Mayor and Property Assessor to further discuss the Property Assessor's budgets.

The motion passed by voice vote with Commissioner Shafer voting "no".

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Jordan reminded the committee that the next Budget Committee meeting would be Tuesday, May 26 at 5:30 to review the 2015-16 budgets for the General Purpose School Fund, Central Cafeteria Fund, and the Education Capital Projects Fund.

There being no further business to be presented at this time, Chairman Jordan declared the meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Mark Tucker, Secretary