

WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
FINANCE, WAYS, AND MEANS COMMITTEE
November 17, 2016; 9:00 a.m.

Finance, Ways and Means Members Present: Commissioners David Hawks, Larry Taylor, Dennis Doster, James H. Westbrook, Jr., Earl Wright, Tommy Jones, Eric Owen, and Greg Usery

Finance, Ways and Means Members Absent: Commissioner Roger Donaldson

The Finance, Ways and Means Committee met on Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Department of Finance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Jake Bynum called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and called for a motion to approve minutes from September 15, 2016. Commissioner Jones made the motion to approve the minutes and with a second by Commissioner Hawks the motion unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of Chairperson

Mayor Bynum accepted nominations for Chairperson of the FWM Committee. Commissioner Wright nominated Eric Owen. Having no other nominations, the motion to elect Eric Owen as Chairperson passed unanimously.

Election of Vice-Chairperson

Mayor Bynum accepted nominations for Vice-Chairperson of the FWM Committee. Commissioner Owen nominated David Hawks. Having no other nominations, the motion to elect David Hawks as Vice-Chairperson passed unanimously.

Election of Secretary

Mayor Bynum accepted nominations for Secretary of the FWM Committee. Commissioner Owen nominated Greg Usery. Having no other nominations, the motion to elect Greg Usery as Secretary passed unanimously.

Election of Recording Secretary

Mayor Bynum accepted nominations for Recording Secretary of the FWM Committee. Commissioner Owen nominated Erica Moore. Having no other nominations, the motion to elect Erica Moore as Recording Secretary passed unanimously.

Mayor Bynum turned the meeting over to Chairperson Owen.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

Transfer No. 1617-05

Previously passed unanimously through the HEED Committee, this transfer moves \$1800 from the Election Commission line 51500-169 (Part-Time Personnel) to 51500-193 (Election Workers) in the General Fund Budget. Elections Administrator Alex Britt cited the reason for the transfer was due to his budgeting additional monies for the primary and general elections to fully staff all of the polling locations if necessary and increase efficiency, but not needing all of the workers after all. Mr. Britt stated that a portion of monies for the elections will be reimbursed to the county by the

municipalities. Commissioner Wright made the motion to approve Transfer No. 1617-05 and recommend it to the full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Taylor the motion unanimously passed.

Transfer No. 1617-06

Previously passed unanimously through the HEED Committee, this transfer moves \$790 from the Health Department line 55110-309 (Contracts with Government Agencies) to 55110-499 (Other Supplies and Materials) in the General Fund Budget. Mayor Bynum explained the reason for the transfer was due to the need for supplies for a smoking cessation program required by the state that had been previously funded out of the employees' pockets. Commissioner Userly made the motion to approve Transfer No. 1617-06, and with a second by Commissioner Hawks the motion unanimously passed.

Transfer No. 1617-07

This transfer moves \$300 from the Register of Deeds line 51600-355 (Travel) to 51600-524 (Staff Development) in the General Fund Budget. Register of Deeds Donna Winstead stated the reason for the transfer was to pay for the registration cost for the Weakley County Leadership training program for her first deputy, April Jones. Commissioner Jones made the motion to approve Transfer No. 1617-07, and with a second by Commissioner Userly the motion unanimously passed.

Transfer No. 1617-08

Previously passed unanimously through the HEED Committee, this transfer moves \$500 from the Veterans Affairs Office line 58300-105 (Supervisor/Director) as well as moving \$500 from line 58300-435 (Office Supplies) to 58300-355 (Travel) in the General Fund Budget. Mayor Bynum explained the reason for the transfer was due to Veterans Service Officer Rick McKenzie's travel expenses out of town for getting the accreditation required of his position. Commissioner Hawks made the motion to approve Transfer No. 1617-08 and with a second by Commissioner Doster the motion unanimously passed.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2017-12

Previously passed unanimously through Public Safety, this resolution allocates \$5000 from 34520-AUTCH to line 53400-709 (Data Processing Equipment) for Chancery Court in the General Fund. Chancery Court Clerk Regina VanCleave explained that the reason for the resolution was to purchase two scanners and hard drives to scan, store and back up all files maintained by the Chancery Court. Commissioner Hawks made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-12 and recommend it to the full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Owen the motion unanimously passed.

Resolution No. 2017-13

Previously passed unanimously through the HEED Committee, this resolution allocates \$1500 from the Health Department grant revenue line 46990-DGA (Other State Revenue) to the following lines: \$1000 to 55590-189 DGA (Other Salaries and Wages), \$205 to 55590-201 DGA (Social Security), \$245 to 55590-204 DGA (State Retirement) and \$50 to 55590-212 DGA (Employer Medicare). Mayor Bynum explained that reason for the resolution was due to the state initiating a 4.25% salary increase for all state employees who make under \$50,000 per year and that the state recommends that the salaries of county employees who work at the Health Department stay in line with the salaries of the state employees. He went on to say that the raise is funded by the state and that the one county employee who works at the Health Department did not receive a raise or salary adjustment at the beginning of the fiscal year with the rest of the county employees. Commissioner Userly made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-13 and recommend it to the full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Doster the motion unanimously passed.

Resolution No. 2017-18

Previously passed unanimously through the HEED Committee, this resolution allocates funds for staff development by moving \$350 from line 55190-399 (Other Contracted Services) to line 55190-524 (Staff Development) for the Health

Department in the General Fund Budget. Commissioner Doster made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-18 and recommend it to the full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Taylor the motion unanimously passed.

Resolution No. 2017-14

Previously passed unanimously through the HEED Committee, this resolution adjusts funds from various lines in the General Purpose School Fund Budget. Mayor Bynum recognized Director of Schools Randy Frazier. Director Frazier cited the reasons for the adjustments was due to receiving additional monies for the high costs of expenditures for special needs students, the purchase of safety shields for the schools, and an increase in vehicle insurance due to the purchase of 4 new buses and a diesel truck for towing and hauling being added to the policy. Commissioner Hawks made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-14 and recommend it to full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Doster the motion unanimously passed.

Resolution No. 2017-15

Previously passed unanimously through the HEED Committee, this resolution authorizes Weakley County to enter into a loan agreement with Tennessee Energy Efficient Schools Council Grant and Loan Program [EESI] to fund a project to increase energy efficiency in the schools. Mayor Bynum recognized Director of Schools Randy Frazier, who introduced the body to Trane Representatives Jim Crone and Stewart “Stu” Shunk. Director Frazier stated that an intensive IGA [investment grade audit] of the schools has provided information about where money could be saved and necessary future upgrades at the facilities. He stated that Weakley County Schools is eligible for a \$1.6 million dollar loan to upgrade the lighting in the schools. He said that eligibility is based on the cost of the energy bill at the school, and the only school not eligible was Martin Primary School. He stated that the lighting renovations will include new LED lighting which has a 10 year life span at all of the schools, replacement of parking lot lights at Westview School, and the addition of energy misers on vending machines.

Commissioner Westbrook asked about the loan payment and amortization schedule and discussion was had in regards to how the savings is calculated and measured, as well as other school systems that have been serviced by Trane – including Bethel University, Cumberland County Schools, Coffee County Schools, and Claiborne County. Conversation continued about the new lighting, including stipulations, equipment specifications, and installation details with working beginning at the start of the year.

Commissioner Jones made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-15 and recommend it to full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Uery the motion unanimously passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Director of Schools Frazier commented that the intensive audit of the schools had shed light on needed repairs, equipment and upgrades – projects which would cost around \$3.5 million. He mentioned that there were still condensation issues in Westview School and a new system is required to remedy the issue for good, and said that he would like to begin renovations to include stand-alone units. He talked about the addition of other units, including adding air conditioning to the hallways as well as some units to help pressurize the building. He spoke about using monies to fund the renovations from fund balance, which is currently \$8 million. He said he wanted the committee to be aware of every issue so that when the monies are ready to be moved, the FWM Committee will already be aware of all of the plans for the funds and why the funds are needed.

He went on to say that the other part of the project would include the Adult Learning Center, a project totaling around \$1.8 million, with \$1 million funded from the loan, and \$800,000 expensed from fund balance, leaving the new fund balance around \$3.5 million.

Discussion was had about the Adult Learning Center project including the Weakley County Archives.

Mr. Shunk from Trane mentioned that they would be applying for a Clean Air Energy Grant being offered through the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, funded through the Department of Energy federal government. The \$250,000 matching grant would offset the EESI loan, and the EESI loan would be the county's match.

Commissioner Westbrook commended Director of Schools Frazier for his watchful eye and attention to detail in regards to the budget and fund balance over the years.

Director Frazier went on to talk about damage and necessary renovations needed in the Board of Education Building, as well as on the Department of Finance side. He stated that he would be willing to pay for the renovations out of the schools' capital projects fund budget due to the Department of Finance not having the funds to pay for such a project.

DISCUSSION OF FUNDING FOR ROAD AND BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS

Chairperson Westbrook passed out a document created by him using figures from road and highway information from all across the state.

He stated that Weakley County has the 6th largest road system in the state of Tennessee, and the 2nd biggest funder of county money going to roads in West Tennessee outside of Shelby County. He said that with the second highest wheel tax and property tax in the state, it's about as much as the taxpayers can stand, and went on to say that funding road and bridge repair is an issue facing the entire state, not just Weakley County. He said that he was adamantly against raising any kind of taxes or property tax.


He went on to say that he believed that Governor Haslam may make an announcement proposal regarding an increase in the gas tax in the near future, and that a gas tax would let the people who are using the roads traveling through Tennessee pay for the roads and that Weakley County should support such a proposal.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Mayor Bynum updated the committee on the courthouse renovation and construction projects status, and the court room renovations.

Having no other business Commissioner Taylor made the motion to adjourn at 10:10 a.m. and with a second by Commissioner Hawks, the motion unanimously passed.

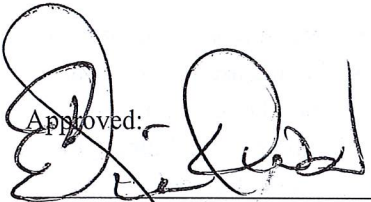
Respectfully Submitted,



Erica Moore, Secretary

Finance, Ways and Means Committee

Approved:


Eric Owen, Chairperson

Finance, Ways and Means Committee

Date: 12-9-16