

MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORK SESSION  
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017 at 5:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29138

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Gwendolyn C. Shealy called the Budget Work Session to order at 5:32 P.M. in the absence of Chairman Donald E. Hancock.

Present were: Vice-Chair Gwendolyn C. Shealy  
Coun. Jones P. Butler  
Coun. J. Frank Daniel, Sr.  
Coun. D. J. Miller

Also present were: County Director, Sandra G. Padgett  
Clerk to Council, Karen T. Whittle

Absent was: Chm. Donald E. Hancock

B. INVOCATION

Vice-Chair Shealy delivered the invocation.

C. PUBLIC INFORMATION

It is noted by the Clerk herein, that in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the budget work session was given to the local news media and properly posted, to include the county website.

D. BUDGET WORK SESSION

Burton Center

Wendy Derrick, Operations Director for Burton Center of Saluda, Edgefield and McCormick met with County Council and addressed their budget request of \$10,000.00 and gave an overview of services and programs for individuals with Disabilities and Special Needs.

## **Dispatch**

Telecommunications Coordinator/Administrator, Ashley Turner, met with County Council and reviewed her budget requests.

Ms. Turner presented Council with one set of figures for Dispatch employees a pay grade increase, two new dispatchers, and to have the Assistant Telecommunications Coordinator/Administrator work Monday through Friday. The second set of figures were for one new dispatcher and 4 dispatchers to be classified as Supervisors at Pay Grade 15.

Chief Deputy Cockrell asked for Council's consideration on the separation of supervisors in Dispatch if Council could not do pay grade increases for all dispatchers.

Ms. Turner addressed the following accounts:

- #15 travel requested \$2,000.00 due to additional training for dispatchers.
- #26 maintenance service contracts requested to increase to at least \$6,500.00 from original request of \$4,000.00 due to NCIC terminal contract through AT&T not included in original request.
- #41 uniforms requested \$1,500.00 for requested additional dispatchers uniform shirts and wear/tear of current uniform shirts.
- #64 employee training requested \$3,000.00 due to cost of \$700.00 to train one dispatcher at the academy.

## **Victim Services**

Victim Service Advocate, Melinda Reeves, met with County Council and reviewed her budget requests.

Ms. Reeves addressed updated budget figures from her original request submitted:

- #10 office supplies requested \$425.00 for supplies needed if move to new building.
- #15 travel requested \$500.00.
- #64 employee training requested \$500.00.
- #82 furniture and fixtures requested \$1,063.50 if move to new building; if not furniture would not be needed.

Ms. Reeves requested a 2017 Dodge Durango in the amount of \$24,229.00 or \$26,729.00 to include AWD.

## **Detention Center**

Jail Administrator, Janice Ertle, presented and reviewed with County Council a survey from surrounding county detention centers on salaries, rank structure, degrees and certifications.

Ms. Ertle requested pay grade increases for all employees at the Detention Center, to include pay grade differences for supervisory level officers.

**Detention Center (cont.)**

Ms. Ergle addressed the following accounts of her budget requests:

- #26 maintenance service contracts requested \$30,068.00.
- #41 uniforms requested an increase from \$4,905.00 (rental amount) to \$6,000.00 for belts, jackets and shirts that are purchased and not rented.
- #64 employee training requested an increase from \$1,500.00 to \$2,500.00 for jailors to attend training. Ms. Kelly said there were 27 officers that were required to have 40 hours of training per year in order to keep their certification through the academy. Chief Deputy Cockrell added jailors are required to have 40 hours of training per year due to the liability in a jail facility versus law enforcement officers were only required to have 40 hours of training every three years. Ms. Ergle and Ms. Kelly would like to attend classes offered through the American Jail Association that cost between \$200.00 and \$300.00. Ms. Ergle and Ms. Kelly are members of the AJA by being members of the Jail Administrators Association and the AJA classes offer training on the national level.

Council, Ms. Ergle, Ms. Kelly and Sheriff Perry discussed digital scanning of documents and records at the Detention Center.

Council and Ms. Ergle discussed the following, but not limited to: an available county vehicle would help with travel mileage for employees; various medical related topics dealing with inmates; and having the medical services contract worked well at the Detention Center.

**Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff John Perry, Chief Deputy Chris Cockrell, and Captain/Investigator Toby Horne met with County Council and reviewed the Sheriff's office budget requests.

Chief Deputy Cockrell requested one additional School Resource Officer, pay grade 18, for Hollywood Elementary School due to the distance being 11.4 miles from the current SRO's assigned at Saluda Middle and High Schools. Chief Cockrell said the response time would not be good if a critical incident occurred. Chief Cockrell said Mr. Livingston with the school felt they could fund one-half of the officer's salary and benefits as they do the other two SRO's.

Chief Cockrell requested three additional patrol vehicles. Two Ford Explorer's off of state contract at a price of \$26,843.00 each and one Dodge Durango at a price of \$28,393.00, which was not on state contract, but price was obtained from a local dealer. Chief Cockrell said for comparison of the Durango, a Chevrolet Tahoe on state contract was \$34,682.00. These prices did not include lights, radio, or striping package. Chief Cockrell said three vehicles were needed this year due to the restructuring of the department, but replacing two patrol vehicles per year would be sufficient for rotating out high mileage vehicles in the fleet.

Sheriff's Office (cont.)

Chief Cockrell addressed the following budget requests:

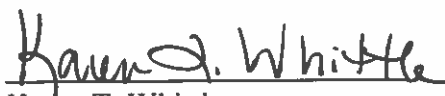
- #14 membership and dues requested \$2,790.00 due to two additional deputies.
- #15 travel requested \$4,000.00 due to cost of accommodations for conferences and training; try to use academy and in-house training as much as possible.
- #26 maintenance service contracts requested \$6,275.00 in original request, but informed Council Motorola was increasing per month charges on the 4 Motorola 800 radios they have which would be \$136.80 per year and \$500.00 for a one time programming for P-25. Motorola 800 radios allowed interoperability between agencies. Updated requested amount was \$6,911.80.
- #64 employee training requested \$8,800.00 (23 deputies x \$380 for training).
- #71 special department supplies requested \$6,000.00 for radios, ammunition, tasers and taser supplies (prices increased on tasers and supplies).
- #83 office equipment requested \$7,828.00 in original request. \$2,127.40 for equipment and materials for the organization and proper storage of evidence in the Evidence Room, in accordance with the S.C. Evidence Preservation Act. Video surveillance equipment for interviews/interrogations at an updated cost of \$5,518.80 through Watch Guard. Watch Guard was the same company body cams were to be bought from and provided for through the state, as well as the same company used for in-car video equipment. All equipment would integrate with each other and be under the same maintenance contract. Updated requested amount was \$7,646.20 and did not include maintenance contract.

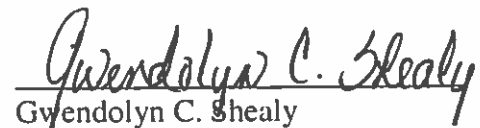
Chief Cockrell informed Council that Major Wright with the S.C. Highway Patrol has said Saluda County could get the highway patrol building once they move to their new building. Major Wright was working with the State's Attorney on the paperwork. Chief Cockrell said plans were to move Investigation Services and Victim Services to the building. Chief Cockrell said furniture would be needed and grants were available for furniture and remodeling through Victim Services.

Chief Cockrell addressed new chairs were needed for the Sheriff's department, but no figures were provided.

E. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the budget work session at 7:25 P.M.

  
Karen T. Whittle  
Clerk to Council

  
Gwendolyn C. Shealy  
Vice-Chair

May 8, 2017  
Date Approved