

**Camden County Board of Commissioners
Budget Hearing
June 8, 2015, 7:00 P.M.
Historic Courtroom, Courthouse Complex
Camden, North Carolina**

MINUTES

A special meeting of the Camden County Board of Commissioners was held on June 8, 2015 in the Upstairs Historic Courtroom, Camden, North Carolina. The following Commissioners were present:

Chairman Michael McLain, Vice Chairman Sandra Duckwall,
Commissioners Garry Meiggs, Tom White and Clayton Riggs;

Also attending were County Manager Michael Renshaw, and Clerk to the Board Angela L. Wooten.

Public Hearing 7:00 P.M.

Chairman Michael McLain called to order the June 8, 2015 special meeting of the Camden County Board of Commissioners at 7:00 PM.

Chairman Michael McLain Clayton Riggs called for a motion to go into public hearing.

Commissioners Clayton Riggs made a motion to go into public hearing for the purpose of receiving public input regarding the proposed FY2015-16 Camden County Budget. The motion passed 5-0 with Chairman Michael McLain, Vice Chair Sandra Duckwall, Commissioners Garry Meiggs, Clayton Riggs and Tom White voting aye; no Commissioner voting no; no Commissioner absent; and no Commissioner not voting.

Chairman Michael McLain asked if there were any public comments regarding the proposed FY2015-16 Camden County Budget.

Public Comments:

A former Camden County Water and Sewer employee Steve Harris of Shipyard Rd came to the board with the following comments;

Attended Water & Sewer school and feels the county runs their Water & Sewer Department completely opposite of what he learned.

- Example #1 - Water Meters are your cash registers
 - In October 2012 the county's largest water meter was reported broken and not repaired until January 2015.
- Example #2 - Water system should be kept in good operating condition
 - In June 2013 Mr. Harris reported 12 inch water main was leaking at the Noblett Farm on Highway 343
- Example #3 – Sewer Lift Stations are in poor condition
 - Most stations run with a damaged pump or no pump at all
 - Raw sewage seeps out
 - Camden county Log books are not updated.

Terri Faison of 234 South 343 in Camden comes to the board as the manager of River Bridge Apartments in Camden.

- The River Bridge apartment complex has 84 units all having 2 bedrooms and one bathroom.
- Having paid \$40,000/yr. in taxes and \$33,000 for Water & Sewer usage in 2014, the complex is a major asset to Camden.

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- Upset about the proposed increase to taxes, water & Sewer fees and additional personnel
- She believes that the board has spent money frivolously and is now looking to the tax payers for a bail out.

Chairman McLain asked if there were any other comments from the public. Hearing none he asked the County Manager Mike Renshaw to give a brief overview of the proposed FY2015-16 Camden County Budget:

Manager Renshaw states that a copy of the proposed budget is on file in the clerk's office for public inspection. He then gave brief overview of the proposed FY15-16 Camden County Budget.

Snapshot of Proposed FY15-16 Camden County Budget

- General Fund \$11,802.839 - 2.7% increase from the current budget
- Ad Valorem Property Tax \$0.68/\$100 valuation - 1% reduction
- 3% increase to schools current expense
- 2% cost of living increase for county staff
- 1 Full Time and 1 Part Time employee
- \$220,000 adding additional EMS coverage at the South Mills VFD Station 14
- \$89,000 UDO Rewrite

Outstanding Items from the May 19th & May 21st Budget Work Session

Courthouse/Shiloh VFD

Amend the proposed \$469,000.00 county fire truck purchase loan to \$219,000. The fire commission has advised they will use \$250,000.00 of their available fund balance, leaving \$219,000 needed from the county.

This makes a net effect of \$86,000 in revenue.

Fund Balance Appropriations

The County Manager recommends applying the \$86,000 to the required fund balance appropriation, reducing it from \$181,000.00 to \$95,178.00.

McClees Contract Funding

The County Manager asks for the board's direction on the McClees Contract as this was not included in the proposed budget. Current \$15,000 agreement with McClees will expire in December 2015.

After much discussion, it was decided to see reevaluate in December when the agreement expires as the county can do a budget amendment if they agree.

Schedule of Fees

Adopt and update the current Schedule to include a Commercial Gravity Sewer Connection Fee of \$3,500.00.

Update the previously approved \$30.00 Lifetime Dog & Cat License fee and the Solar Panel Fees.

Public Defender and District Attorney Office Space

North Carolina requires each county to provide adequate office space for the Public Defender and District Attorney. Camden allots \$11,704 to Pasquotank County for this space, as Camden does not have adequate space for this. The board directs the county manager to look into the cost of providing this space within Camden.

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Chairman Michael McLain asked if there were any questions for Manager Renshaw. Hearing none, he called for a motion to come out of Public Hearing.

Vice Chair Sandra Duckwall made a motion to come out of public hearing. The motion was approved 5-0 with Chairman Michael McLain, Vice Chair Sandra Duckwall, Commissioners Garry Meiggs, Clayton Riggs and Tom White and voting aye; no Commissioner voting no; no Commissioner absent; and no Commissioner not voting.

Meeting Adjourned

By acclamation of Chairman Michael McLain, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Chairman Michael McLain
Camden County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Angela L. Wooten
Clerk to the Board