

**IREDELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET SESSION MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2007**

The Iredell County Board of Commissioners met for a Budget Review Session on Thursday, June 7, 2007, at 5:30 P.M., in the Iredell County Government Center (South Wing Conference Room), 200 South Center Street, Statesville, NC.

Present were:

Chairman Marvin Norman
Vice Chairman Sara Haire Tice
Steve Johnson
Godfrey Williams

Absent: Ken Robertson

Staff present: County Manager Joel Mashburn, Deputy County Manager Susan Blumenstein, Assistant Finance Director Deb Alford, Assistant County Manager Tracy Jackson, Health Director Donna Campbell, Environmental Health Supervisor Kelly Sheeks, Administrative Officer Bill Griffith, DSS Director Don Wall, Planning Director Ron Smith, Deputy Planning Director Steve Warren, Inspections Director Lynn Niblock, and Clerk to the Board Jean Moore.

Others present: Bethany Fuller with the *Record & Landmark* and Lee Ann Sherrill with the *Iredell Citizen*.

Chairman Norman called the meeting to order.

600 – Health Department: Health Director Donna Campbell said that at the May 1, 2007 meeting, the environmental division (onsite waste water section) was directed to compute the fees needed to provide revenues between \$750,000 to \$850,000. Campbell said \$957,000 was needed, and she justified the estimate by the following:

Actual expenditures (est.) for FY 06-07 amount to	\$917,440
Medical insurance increase	8,205
Across the board salary increases	17,465
Estimated merit increases	<u>14,083</u>
	\$957,193

She said to cover the \$957,000 in costs, the staff was recommending fee revenues of \$951,125 and the usage of \$6,000 in anticipated grant funds. Campbell said the \$957,125 in revenue should be sufficient for a self-supporting program.

Campbell said 56% of the current waste water sanitarians started out of interns. She said the new well program would officially begin on July 1, 2008, but fees couldn't be charged until that time. Mrs. Campbell said the well program sanitarians; however, would have to be hired and trained during the first six months of 2008 in order to be ready July 1.

Campbell was asked if the costs incurred during the first six months could be recovered in the fees established as of July 1, and she said the staff would research this.

Sheeks added that it took sanitarians two years to become certified, and there wasn't much productivity until after the first year of employment.

New onsite wastewater fees were discussed as follows:

New System Permits Onsite Wastewater 2007/2008		
New System Permits	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Gravity	\$350	\$400
Pump	\$900	\$1000

Fast Track/Developer Team		
	Current	Proposed Fee
Gravity	\$200	\$275
Pump	\$575	\$700

Other Onsite Waste Water Fees		
	Current	Proposed Fee
Repairs	\$350 or \$900	Fee to be Eliminated
Existing System Inspections	\$100	No change
Relayouts	Limited \$100	Limited \$75
	Comprehensive – Full Fee	Intermediate (new fee) \$250
Site revisit fee	\$50	No change

615 – Contracted/Mental Health: Commissioner Williams updated the board on mental health matters. He said if Crossroads didn't voluntarily merge with another group, the state would force a merger. Williams said the New River Mental Health Agency was no longer a local managing entity, rather it had chosen to be a provider.

No changes were made to the manager's recommended budget.

630 – Social Services: DSS Director Don Wall said the 2007-08 budget was primarily a "maintenance budget," but there was a 2.7% increase in expenditures and a 2% decrease in revenues.

Blumenstein noted that the Emergency Child Care Home funding of \$168,000 had been transferred to the Social Services budget. She said the transfer occurred due to social services being the only agency utilizing the home.

No changes were made to the manager's recommended budget.

Update on Medicaid Relief: Blumenstein said if pending Medicaid legislation passed, the ½ cent Article 44 sales tax would be lost, the food portion of Article 40 and 42 would be lost, the beer & wine distribution law would be repealed (proceeds are normally distributed to the school systems), and the Public School Building Capital funds would be taken. She said in the first year, the county would suffer a loss of \$542,000.

Mr. Wall said that over one-half of the social services budget was for Medicaid.

635 – Veterans: No changes.

562 – Inspections: It was mentioned that four new positions were recommended for this department. They are as follows:

- 2 Building Code Inspectors
- 1 Plans Review Specialist
- 1 Processing Assistant

No changes from the manager's recommended budget.

563 – Planning: Planning Director Ron Smith said one new Planner II position had been requested, but after further review, the staff, instead, was recommending a reclassification. He recommended that the new position be removed, and that an existing Planner II position be reclassified as a Planner III. Smith said the existing position was vacant, and the higher classification would help in recruiting an employee with more senior experience.

No changes from the manager's recommended budget, with the exception of approving the reclassification.

575 – Cooperative Extension: No changes from the manager's recommended budget.

Note: Chairman Norman said an individual had mentioned that fairgrounds stable repairs were needed.

County Manager Mashburn said the Kiwanis Club leased the property, and this type of maintenance might be the club's responsibility.

650 – Library: No changes from the manager's recommended budget.

655 – Parks/Recreation: Blumenstein said that for FY 2007-08, \$90,000 would be transferred from the General Fund to the Parks Capital Reserve Fund. She requested that ¼ (\$22,500) of the \$90,000 be transferred to the North Iredell Project Fund.

MOTION by Commissioner Tice to approve Budget Amendment #42 to transfer 25% of the FY 07 General Fund Transfer (\$22,500) to Parks Reserve for the North Iredell Project Fund.

VOTING: Ayes – 4; Nays – 0.

MOTION by Commissioner Johnson to amend the North Iredell Park Fund Capital Project Ordinance.

VOTING: Ayes – 4; Nays – 0.

Highlights of the ordinance are as follows:

Amended Capital Project Ordinance				
Section 1. Funds for the North Iredell Park Capital Project will be provided from the following:				
	Current	Change	Amended	Est. Actual 6/30/07
Transfer from Parks Reserve Fund	\$355,000	\$45,000	\$400,000	\$377,500
Rent on County Property	-	2,700	2,700	1,800
Fundraising Receipts	10,000		10,000	4,191
Investment Earnings	-	-	-	1,350
Donations	10,000	-	10,000	-
	\$375,000	\$47,700	\$422,700	\$384,841
Section 2. The North Iredell Park Capital Project will be financed by this fund and shall include the following costs:				
Land	\$310,000	-	\$310,000	309,631
Park Development/Construction	-	47,700	47,700	-
Professional Services-Park Master Plan	45,000	-	45,000	23,500
Fundraising Expenses	10,000	-	10,000	125
Professional Services - Other	10,000	-	10,000	-
	\$375,000	\$47,700	\$422,700	\$384,841

No other action or changes occurred.

CREATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY-OUTSIDE AGENCIES LINE ITEM: Deputy County Manager Blumenstein requested approval of a budget amendment to identify appropriations as Public Safety rather than General Governmental Function/Special Appropriations. She said there would be no change in current year funding.

MOTION by Commissioner Johnson to approve Budget Amendment #43 to transfer appropriations to the Rescue Squads from Special Appropriations (485) to Public Safety Outside Agencies (555).

VOTING: Ayes – 4; Nays – 0.

Agency	Appropriation	Special Appropriation	Public Safety Outside Agency
Iredell Rescue Squad	\$185,940	100 485 564 094 transferred to	100 555 564 094
Mooresville Rescue Squad	124,735	100 485 565 200 transferred to	100 555 565 200
North Iredell Rescue Squad	94,015	100 485 574 226 transferred to	100 555 574 226
Troutman Rescue Squad	60,580	100 485 574 262 transferred to	100 555 574 262

Health Reach Community Clinic: **MOTION** by Commissioner Tice to appropriate \$15,000 or the entire amount requested by the Health Reach Community Clinic for FY 07-08.

VOTING: Ayes – 3; Nays – 1 (Johnson)

(Note: The clinic requested \$15,000 but the staff recommended \$5,000 or the same amount appropriated during FY 06-07.)

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Norman thanked the newspaper reporters for providing budget session news coverage. He then adjourned the final FY 07-08 budget meeting at 7:00 p.m. (The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, June 19, 2007 at 5 and 7 p.m., in the Iredell County Government Center, 200 South Center Street, Statesville, NC.)

Approved: _____

Clerk to the Board