

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING, MAY 10, 2000

The Board of Commissioners ("the Board") of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in special session in the District Courtroom, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 7:00 P.M. on May 10, 2000.

Present: Chair Rick Givens; Vice Chair Uva Holland;
Commissioners Margaret Pollard, Gary Phillips,
and Carl Outz; County Manager, Charlie Horne;
Assistant County Manager, Renee Dickson;
Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell;

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 PM.

- The County Manager, Assistant County Manager, and Finance Officer presented an over view of the Fiscal Year 2000-2001 Recommended Budget.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sheriff Don Whitt presented the highlights of the Fiscal Year 2000-2001 Sheriff's Department budget.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Ron Singleton, Public Works Director, explained the Public Works Fiscal Year 2000-2001 budget request.

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Peter Theye, 1065 Boothe Hill Road, Chapel Hill, NC, spoke in favor of the Board of Education budget request. He suggested more Latino involvement in schools and performance audits, so that the public can have more confidence in how the Board of Education is spending money. He suggested that funds for schools could come from increased taxes or fund balance. He stated that he could not remember the last time the County raised taxes.

Larry Mabe, Superintendent of Chatham County Schools, 173 Cardinal Court, Pittsboro, NC, spoke in support of the Board of Education request, particularly the expansion requests for teacher's supplements. He also asked the Board of Commissioners to roll over the one-cent in revenue set aside in Fiscal Year 1999-2000, pending the resolution of the Carolina Meadows situation. He addressed concerns about how the school system was not using funds wisely. He stated that each year the school system undergoes a financial audit. He encouraged the Board of Commissioners to appropriate fund balance to fund schools and to discontinue the use of the funding formula.

Chairman Givens explained that he had received numerous calls from teachers who were concerned that the supplement schedule proposed by the Board of Education is not a graduated scale.

Dr. Mabe responded that the scale is graduated.

Emily Edelman, teacher at Northwood High School, PO Box 1283, Pittsboro, NC, spoke in favor of an increased supplement and encouraged the Board of Commissioners to increase it to fifteen percent of salaries.

Ray Greenlaw, 2 Jordan Drive, Pittsboro, NC, complimented the staff on a good budget document and thanked the Board of Commissioners for hiring Ron Singleton, Public Works Director. He questioned why the Water Department is no longer a performance department. He expressed concern that no staff was included for the Land Use Planning process and that this process was not in sync with the town's process. He also expressed concern that no resources were set aside for the completion of the Water Master Plan, which he stated was also not coordinated with the Town of Pittsboro and the Goldston-Gulf Utility.

June Arthurs, President of the Chatham County Association of Educators, 230 Dogwood Lane, Pittsboro, NC, spoke in favor of the Board of Education budget request and of increasing the teacher's supplement to fifteen percent of the teacher's salary. She stated that she wanted to clarify that she had not meant a fifteen percent increase in the supplement.

Linda Murray, parent, 180 Southern Green Way, Chapel Hill, NC, spoke in favor of increasing the teacher's supplement.

Nancy Easterling, 921 Boothe Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, parent of a high school student, spoke in favor of the Board of Education budget request and increasing the teacher's supplement.

Kay Judge, teacher, 863 Alston Chapel Road, Pittsboro, NC, spoke in favor of increasing the teacher's supplement.

Bob Knight, 406 Chimney Rock Lane, Sanford, NC, spoke in favor of education and making Chatham county buildings more handicapped accessible. He specifically asked that push buttons be installed on all office doors. He asked the Board of Commissioners to support the poorer parts of Chatham County.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Uva R. Holland, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Lee, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners