



CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP

R. Carlisle Roddey Chester County Government Building
1476 J A Cochran Bypass- Conference Room

Tuesday, May 30th, 2023 at 9:00 AM

Minutes

Present: Vice Chairman Wilson, Councilman Vaughn, Councilwoman Mosely, Councilman Agee, Administrator Hester and Clerk to Council Lee.

Absent: Chairman Branham and Councilman Guy with prior notification. Councilman Killian.

Staff Present: Treasurer Darby and Finance Director Carter, Sheriff Dorsey.

Others Present: Rural Fire-Barkley Ramsey, Eugene Hudson and Jay Williams. Richburg Fire-T. Melton, Jo Beth Gaston and CPA Shawn Nelson. Fort Lawn- David Bratton. City of Chester-James McNeil. Lando Fire- Chris Dubose.

- 1. Call to Order- Vice Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order.**
- 2. Budget Overview**

1. FY24 Budget Overview

- Countywide Mid-Year Salary Adjustments - \$1,027,775
- Retirement System rate increases (SCRS/PORS) ~ \$120K (SCRS 18.56% / PORS 21.24%)
- General Fund Balance expected to be approximately \$17MM at the end of the current fiscal year. Establish a Capital Reserve Line Item of approximately \$2MM.
- Capital Borrowing Project Fund - \$1,642,192
- Total General Fund Budget \$30.8MM (excludes Capital Reserve)
- Total Overall Budget all Funds - \$55MM

Taken as information.

2. Fire District Budgets

Lewis Fire District

- Budget Request Totaled \$110,000
 - Includes \$9,000 for PT Salaries – 8% of Budget
- Current Year Revenue Projection = \$106,500
- Current Fund Balance projection of \$28,313
- Value of a Mill projection - \$5,164 – prior year was \$4,897
- Millage Rate projected at 15.3 – 8% increase (prior year was 14.2)
- No debt millage

Taken as information.

Lando Fire District

- Budget Request Totaled \$193,000
 - Includes \$100,530 for Personnel – 52% of budget
- Current Year Revenue Projection = \$182K

- Current Fund Balance projection of \$58,556
- Value of a Mill projection - \$14,317 – prior year was \$13,236
- Millage Rate projected at 11.6 – 8% increase (prior year was 10.8)
- Debt Millage – 7.4 Mills – Outstanding \$766,775
 - Bond matures 6/30/33

Taken as information.

Chester Fire District

- Budget Request Totaled \$2,326,139
 - \$1,712,350 budgeted for personnel cost. - 74% of budget
- Current Year Revenue Projection = \$2,459,658
- Current Fund Balance of \$1,138,094
- Value of a Mill projection - \$41,952 – prior year was \$40,481
- Millage Rate projected at 48.3 – No increase
- Debt Millage – 2.9 Mills – Outstanding \$154,673
 - Bond matures 6/18/24

Taken as information.

Fort Lawn Fire District

- Budget Request Totaled \$115,000
 - \$83,000 budgeted for personnel – 72% of budget
- Current Year Revenue Projection = \$114,700
- Current Fund Balance of \$92,145
- Value of a Mill projection - \$9,518 – prior year was \$8,802
- Millage Rate projected at 12.3 – No increase
- Debt Millage – 3.5 Mills – Outstanding \$216,042
 - Bond matures 9/1/27

Taken as information.

Richburg Fire District

- Budget Request Totaled \$1,033,211
 - \$825,911 budgeted for personnel – 80% of budget
 - Requires allocation from General Fund of \$703,000
- Current Year Revenue Projection = \$326,711
- Current Fund Balance projection of \$(11,994)
- Value of a Mill projection - \$17,409 – prior year was \$15,123
- Millage Rate projected at 7.3 – 8% increase (prior year was 6.8)
- Debt Millage – 7.8 Mills – Outstanding \$2,203,992
 - Bond matures 9/11/52 - \$1,899,350
 - Bond matures 6/30/61 - \$1,200,000

Taken as information.

3. Rural Fire / Fire Coordinator

Rural Fire Commission

- Budget Request Totaled \$1,111,284
 - Capital Requested totaled \$307,752 – Funded through Annual Capital Borrowing
 - See attached list of Capital
 - County Allocation - \$183,532 – Increase of \$30,783
 - Insurance - \$110,000 – Increase of \$15,000
 - \$55,000 match for Forestry Grants
 - \$40,000 for Firefighter Incentive Program

Taken as information.

Fire Coordinator

- Budget Request Totaled \$375,595
 - Requested two additional part time positions – not funded
 - Increase \$20k – Swiftwater response
 - Included \$703k allocation for Fire Service Personnel – Richburg Request
 - See funding options on next slide
 - Fire Coordinator office has 2 FTE's and 5 PT positions.

Taken as information.

4. General Fund Revenue Discussion

General Fund Revenue Discussion – Richburg Fire Req.

- Option 1 – Revise Master FILOT Agreement Post Gateway Allocation – Add 542K. Overall millage increase would be 4 mills based on Budget Recommendation.
 - Current Post Gateway - 61% County, 15% School Operations, 15% School Debt, 5% Fire, 4% Econ Dev.
 - Revised Post Gateway - to 76% County, 15% School Operations, 5% Fire, 4% Econ Dev. - Add approx. \$542K to County. *Does not affect School Operation Revenue or the ability for School to meet Capital needs through Debt Service.*
- Option 2 – Leave FILOT agreement as is. Millage adjustment which would require an additional 5.7 mill increase. Overall millage increase would be 8.7 mills based on Budget Recommendation.

Taken as information.

3. Adjournment

Councilman Vaughn motioned to adjourn, second by Councilwoman Mosley. Vote 4-0 to adjourn.

Karen Lee, Clerk to Council