

## Great Game Huddle Notes

July 11, 2017

This morning Greene County Budget Officer, Jeff Scott, discussed the General Revenue fund balance and proposed projects the Commission may be considering during the upcoming budget cycle.

### **Fund Balances:**

General Revenue (101) – There are some mid-year budget adjustments that have been done in order to keep the reserve up. The Budget Office recommends \$420,000 worth of savings. A portion can be realized by 90-day hiring freeze for non-critical positions initiated by Commission and the remaining amount is a challenge to the huddle group to review their remaining 2017 budgets for potential savings.

Law Enforcement Sales Tax I or LEST I (206) – General Revenue will have to transfer more than anticipated due to the lower sales tax revenues. Sales tax is .76% below this time last year.

Law Enforcement Sales Tax II or LEST II (216) – is a planned fund, which means it has regularly scheduled equipment replacement, provisions for employees and reserves. This fund has significantly helped the County make improvements to the Criminal Justice system by providing much needed equipment, personnel, and work environments.

Parks (207) – this fund no longer receives revenue since the sunset of a dedicated sales tax in June 2012. As a result of conservative spending this fund has supplemented General Revenue environmental activities in previous years. However, 2017 will be the last year it can help support General Revenue with the remaining balance almost utilized with an expected end balance of \$88,500.

Sheriff Funds – these are funds available to the Sheriff to spend at the discretion of the statute. In the past, the Sheriff has been able to help support projects and equipment replacement when General Revenue could not.

### **Problems/Issues the County Faces:**

The County has experienced a turnover percentage for Sheriff and Non-Sheriff Positions from 15.53% to 22.64%. As of November 2015, on average, the county positions were paid 19.9% below comparable positions. However, the Commission has been able to approve enough COLA's and merit step increases to keep pace with Social Security increases plus 8.5%.

Jail capacity is still an ongoing issue. The Jail holds 601 inmates. As of today, we have 601 housed in the County facility and 180 housed in other counties. When inmates are housed in other locations it is about \$40 per day per inmate. Right now it is 180 x \$40 per day equaling \$2,628,000 not including the travel time and salaries of the Corporals who transport them. Reciprocity is budgeted each year, yet the number of out of county housing continues to increase.

Sheriff Vehicle, Property, and Evidence Storage: The Sheriff has been asked to move vehicles from free storage sites. The property and evidence storage have far outgrown the original planned space and is currently being stored at five separate locations.

Building concerns: Public Administrator and Juvenile DYS Evening Reporting work in the County's worst buildings. Maintenance costs are rising as the County continues to mitigate moisture concerns. The roof is deemed unsafe to walk on which makes many repairs impossible. Building is not ADA compliant and renovation costs are estimated at \$615,000 (not including roof).

### **Solutions - Projects Underway and Contemplated:**

Two new courtrooms are expected to be substantially complete this month with only a couple of change orders to finish.

Plans for the demolition of 917-921 Boonville building will open up some much needed parking and provide safer working environments for the Public Administrator and Juvenile (Evening Reporting Center, GCYA, and other programs). The Public Administrator, Commission, Budget, and Purchasing offices will be relocated to the Cox Tower and Juvenile (Evening Reporting Center, GCYA, and other programs) will move into the Administration Building.

A temporary jail is being discussed to help with out of county housing costs. It will hold 108 inmates and be located in the parking lot east of the current Jail. This will be paid for through reciprocity funds and additional General Revenue.

Sutherlands Property – If the County moves forward with this project it could acquire a place for Road & Bridge to have access to railroad spur for salt delivery and storage and the Sheriff to move property room and evidence storage, the Quarter Masters, and a larger vehicle storage.

The Commission is willing to answer any questions for the information provided.