

A meeting of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners was held at 10 a.m. on Friday, January 29, 2016 at the Public Safety Building, Uniontown PA.

In attendance-

Commissioner Chairman Vincent A. Vicites
Commissioner Dave Lohr
Commissioner Angela M. Zimmerlink
Chief Clerk Amy Revak
Solicitor Sheryl Heid

A silent prayer was observed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public comment on agenda items

None

A motion was made by Commissioner Lohr to approve a proposed 2016 amended Fayette County general fund budget.

Commissioner Zimmerlink said you have to be more particular than that, you have to be more specific in your motion. Commissioner Lohr said the reopened 2016 budget. Commissioner Zimmerlink said you have to state the numbers, your resolution has to be clear as to what we are proposing. Commissioner Lohr said since he is new at this. Commissioner Zimmerlink said it is like every other resolution. Commissioner Lohr said he needs help. Chief Clerk Revak said it would be revenue, expenditures and deficit amount if there is one. Commissioner Lohr then asked which numbers should be included and a discussion ensued. Commissioner Vicites explained the numbers that needed to be included in the motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lohr and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to approve a proposed 2016 amended Fayette County general fund budget with total revenue of \$28,833,948, total expenditures of \$31,176,740 with a deficit of \$2,342,792.

Chief Clerk Revak asked if the motion has a millage rate in it. Solicitor Heid said it could be done by separate motion. Commissioner Zimmerlink told Commissioner Lohr to withdraw his motion, which he did. Commissioner Vicites said the motion has been withdrawn and they need to get the millage in there this time. He asked Solicitor Heid to verify the millage rate and she said she didn't know it. He then asked Commissioner Zimmerlink and she said they all have the same papers.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zimmerlink and seconded by Commissioner Lohr to recess the meeting.

Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Commissioner Zimmerlink yes

Motion passed unanimously

Solicitor Heid said they are going to take a 10 minutes recess and then they will reconvene. Following a recess, the meeting was reconvened by Commissioner Vicites.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lohr and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to approve a proposed 2016 amended Fayette County general fund budget with total revenue of \$28,833,948, total expenditures of \$31,176,740 with a deficit of \$2,342,792 at a total millage rate of .000451448, which is general fund of .00418448 and the debt service of .00033.

Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes
Commissioner Zimmerlink yes

Motion passed unanimously

Public comment

None

Commissioner Vicites thanked his fellow commissioners for their hard work, adding they have a lot of work to do. He said they had already cut expenditures of more than \$1.5 million. He said they still have a long way to go to cut costs to pare down a \$2 million plus deficit. Commissioner Zimmerlink said some of the revenue of the adopted budget passed by the prior board included using Act 13 funds and other money. She also outlined about how the money will be allocated in the amended budget and how the numbers were all reviewed. She said the final adoption will be held on Friday, February 12. She said the budget must be balanced and talked about how they reworked the budget. She talked about the need for capital improvements. Commissioner Vicites said he was appalled at some of the conditions in the courthouse. He said they need to take swift, immediate action. Commissioner Zimmerlink talked about the need to do capital projects. Commissioner Lohr said it has been a great learning process, but what stuck out in his mind is when looking at the expenditures throughout the country drugs and crimes are the biggest expenditure. He said the county budget has an \$18 million price tag.

Commissioner Lohr said there is no room with those numbers and most people don't realize we pay for it in their tax base. Commissioner Zimmerlink said they must run the county in the most cost effective manner. She said contracts that were passed before the end of the new year that straps the new board wasn't right to have done. Commissioner Vicites said he was glad they reopened the budget, adding that if they didn't, they would have run into major fiscal problems. Commissioner Zimmerlink said it would have happened in the first three months. Commissioner Vicites said it was really a mess to get the fiscal house in order for Fayette County. He said this board inherited

these problems. He said they have to cut unnecessary expenditures and closely look at revenue. Commissioner Zimmerlink said they will have a discussion with the department heads. Commissioner Vicites said it is a 365 day process once the budget is adopted. A discussion followed about the need to have a balanced budget and keep expenditures under control. Commissioner Vicites said when he left in 2011 there was a fund balance and now there is a deficit.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Zimmerlink and seconded by Commissioner Lohr to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes
Commissioner Zimmerlink yes

Motion passed unanimously