

MINUTES

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, June 2, 2014, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with Chairman Samuel Gardner presiding. Commissioners Raymond Ray, Rita Johnson, Gwen Flowers-Taylor were present. Also present were County Manager William P. Wilson Jr., Jinna Garrison, Administrative Services Director, Jim Fortune, County Attorney and Kathy Gibson, Executive Secretary to record the minutes.

I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER) – Chairman Samuel Gardner.

II. ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Discussion and comments relative to the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Budget.

Carrie Zeiger, 800 Memorial Drive, Griffin, GA

Ms. Zeiger advised that the library is struggling to provide the types of services that they would like to provide. We continue to work hard to service the citizens of Spalding County, but we have had drastic cuts in State funding since 2008. The money that is currently received from the County is not sufficient to support the Griffin-Spalding County Library.

We are requesting that the Board look at helping the Library to get where we need to be in order to support the citizens of Spalding County. A misunderstanding has been in place that because we are part of a regional library system that we can use State employees to fill in holes in the staff. That simply is no longer true, we have lost funding from the state for staffing and have had our budget for reference materials significantly reduced.

Our largest gap is in our children's department. We currently have one full time person in the children's department and we are open approximately 60 hours per week. We really need one part time person to help us out in the children's, area and in the teen's area.

The Library staff and the Friends of the Library group have worked very hard to get State and Local grants and have held fund raisers to bring in additional funds. However, State funding for library materials has been reduced from approximately \$100,000.00 per year to \$17,000.00 annually.

We are requesting additional funds for one part time person of 29 hours per week to help out in the children and teen's area and additional funds to help out with materials.

William Wilson stated that there were very few changes made from the recommended budget to the proposed budget. There were a couple of changes made by the staff.

- CSBG fund that the County Commissioners approved carryover funding of \$30,000.00 from one year to the next.
- Due to the results of the latest election we have re-established the amount in training and travel for District 5 bringing it up to the levels of the other commissioners since there will be required mandated new commissioner training.

These are the only changes that were made.

We do not anticipate a tax increase based on the current digest calculation. We don't see an increase in the digest, but we don't see a decrease either which is very good. There was no fund balance appropriated in the current FY2014 and no fund balance appropriated in the General Fund, Fire District Fund or 911 for FY 2015.

Commissioner Ray stated that there are no unpaid holidays, no COLA increase, we are looking at a small increase in fuel and utility costs this coming year.

Commissioner Miller joined the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Mr. Wilson confirmed that the majority of the increase would be in utilities, fuel, gasoline, and health insurance premiums.

Mr. Wilson advised that the first reading of the budget is scheduled for June 16th and the second and final reading is scheduled for June 26th at 5:45 p.m. the new budget will go into effect on July 1, 2014.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor inquired as to why the Juvenile Court Judges salaries were being increased when no one else was receiving an increase in salary.

Mr. Wilson advised that that is the Juvenile Circuit Court budget and Spalding County contributes approximately 40% of the budget. Fayette, Pike and Upson counties have approved the requests of the Juvenile Judges and the Associate Judge and when the Judge met with the board and presented their case, the Board approved the increase. The increase amounts to \$15,000.00 for the Chief Judge and \$10,000.00 for the Associate Judge for a total of \$25,000.00 and Spalding County's portion will be approximately \$10,000.00. This is a circuit budget that Spalding County administers.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

***Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to adjourn at 5:32 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously by all.***