

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF VANCE

The Vance County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. in the commissioners' conference room, Vance County Administration Building, 122 Young Street, Henderson, NC. Those commissioners present were as follows: Chair R. Dan Brummitt, Vice-Chair Leo Kelly, Jr., Commissioners Sean A. Alston, Sr., Carolyn Faines, Yolanda J. Feimster, Thomas S. Hester, Jr., and Archie B. Taylor, Jr.

Absent: None.

Also present were County Manager C. Renee Perry, Finance Director Stephanie Williams, and Clerk to the Board Kelly H. Grissom. County Attorney Jonathan S. Care was absent.

Commissioner Carolyn Faines gave the invocation.

The purpose of the special meeting was to receive the FY 2024-25 Proposed Budget, schedule the budget hearing, and schedule budget work sessions.

FY 2024-25 Proposed Budget. County Manager C. Renee Perry noted that the budget provides sufficient funds to maintain the current level of county services while addressing priorities and goals established by the commissioners for the coming year. She provided the following budget highlights:

- State law requires local government officials to publish a revenue neutral tax rate as part of the budget process. Revenue neutral is a budget term that means the revenue brought in by property taxes in a revaluation year would be approximately the same as if the revaluation had not taken place, after an adjustment for average annual growth. Local officials are not required to adopt the revenue neutral tax rate when they adopt the property tax rate.
- The budget includes a decrease in the general fund property tax rate from .89¢ to 63.3¢ per \$100 in value. This is attributed to the 2024 Vance County revaluation.
- The budget includes a decrease in the fire tax rate from 8.9¢ to 5.94¢.
- A total of \$2,310,300 is appropriated from the general fund, fund balance. The general fund, unrestricted fund balance is projected to be \$23.3 million or about 44% of expenditures by the end of FY24. To note, the general fund unrestricted fund balance is anticipated to increase from \$19.2 million to \$23.3 million.
- Sales tax revenue continues to be the major source of revenue increases, and conservative budgeting has allowed for increased revenue projections in the coming year to meet growing expenditure demands for the County. Sales tax revenue is projected to come in at \$13 million or an increase of \$756,622 more than budget in the current fiscal year.
- The budget invests in county employees and prioritizes competitive pay. This is achieved through providing a cost-of-living adjustment to mitigate recent increases in inflation.
- The budget prioritizes ongoing and increased costs related to improving community health, meeting educational needs, and training our future workforce. This is achieved through providing a \$25,000 increase for the Granville-Vance Health Department, \$550,000 increase for Vance County Schools and a \$13,246 increase for Vance-Granville Community College.
- The budget includes an increase in the solid waste household fee from \$120 to \$125 per year, per household.

Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. commended the county manager and staff for presenting the budget without a tax increase and noted that the 61.3¢ tax rate is the lowest in over 40 years.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr. to receive the FY 2024-25 proposed budget as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines and unanimously approved.

Budget Hearing. It was noted that the budget hearing has been duly advertised for June 3, 2024.

Budget Work Sessions. The board scheduled two budget work sessions for Monday, June 10 at 6:00 p.m. and Thursday, June 13 at 6:00 p.m.

As there was no further business, motion was made by Commissioner Thomas S. Hester, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Faines, vote unanimous, that the meeting be adjourned.

Approved and signed June 3, 2024.

R. Dan Brummitt (signed)
R. Dan Brummitt, Chair