

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SHELBY COUNTY BOARD
November 7, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

Video archive of this meeting can be found at shelbycounty-il.gov under You Tube

The Shelby County Board met on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 7:00 P. M. in Courtroom A of the Shelby County Courthouse in Shelbyville, Illinois for a special board meeting.

Vice Chair Julie Edwards called the meeting to order, and all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Fox called the roll. Hardy, Martin, McCormick, Nelson, Ross, and Wallace were absent.

Edwards reported the budget committee had met on Friday, November 1, but the budget was still at a deficit. Members were to meet with department heads to try and narrow the gap. Pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/6-1001 the budget must lay for 15 days prior to final approval by the board. Mayhall made motion to approve the proposed budget for FY 24-25. Boehm seconded said motion. Discussion was held.

Firnhaber made motion to reduce the Circuit Judge (015) budget by \$1,000 to a total of \$11,900 upon recommendation by Judge Ade-Harlow, and the Probation budget (011) by \$4,000 for a total of \$248,550 on advice and consent of Probation CMO Heather Wade. Martz seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no).

Other budget changes were submitted by Supervisor of Assessments (009), GIS (038), Board of Review (017), and the State's Attorney (007) which were already shown on the document provided to the board prior to the meeting.

Mayhall made motion to reduce the Dive Team (033) budget from \$25,000 to \$21,500 after speaking with Commander Austin Pritchard. Morse seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no).

Zoning Administrator/EMA Coordinator Scott McKee also presented budget reductions. EMA (013) was reduced from \$42,800 to \$37,300. Edwards made motion to approve this reduction. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no). McKee also reduced the Zoning Administrator budget (020) from \$18,800 to 17,800. Edwards made motion to approve the reduced Zoning Admin budget. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no).

Mayhall stated that the new Vet for Animal Control does not plan on accepting pay for that position, so the budget could be reduced by \$2,400. Mayhall also stated the board told the new Administrator to get in compliance and she has worked to do that. Mayhall made motion to approve the reduction of Animal Control by \$2,400. Shuff seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no).

The Sheriff was asked about the pay raise given to the Jail Administrator. The Sheriff stated with an increase in pay of corrections officer, the Administrator pay was also increased. The Sheriff also stated with the increased responsibility of that position and the demands of the job, he felt the salary he has budgeted is justified. The Sheriff also informed the board part of that salary can be reimbursed by the MAR grant; however, the Treasurer stated this money is already in the General Fund, so the GF can't be reimbursed by the General Fund. Mayhall stated discussing the salary of a specific employee should probably be discussed in a different setting. Martz asked if the vehicle line item could be zeroed out in the Sheriff's budget and use ARPA funds for the purchase of those vehicles, which is what was done last year. There are still many ARPA projects that are being looked at. The ARPA money must be obligated before the end of December 2024.

Cole made motion to reduce the county farm budget from \$118,000 to \$113,000. Tate seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no).

The GF budget has been reduced to \$8,184,059, with a deficit of \$1,395,582 following the cuts made in this meeting.

Amling made mention that APRA enabled many of the departments to raise their budgets in 2023 and 2024. Amling said the options were to reduce the 2023 budget by 18% or to reduce the 2024 budget by 8%. Amling said the county will have the same baseline next year and if the county faces insolvency the county farm will be gone, as the state will come in and sell that asset. Firnhaber said while other boards have opted to inflate the revenue side to make the budget look good, this board was not willing to do that.

Boehm called the vote.

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Judge Ade- Harlow said she could amend the General Fund revenue by \$24,000. She can move \$9,000 to GF revenue to cover a portion of the 026 expenditure, and in the Sheriff's court security she could move \$15,000 into the GF revenue to offset that expense.

Firnhaber made motion to amend the general fund revenue by \$24,000. Otis seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no).

This changes the deficit budget to \$1,371,582.

Mayhall's motion with Boehm's second to approve the proposed budget for public viewing failed by roll call vote. (6 ayes, 7 nays). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Mayhall, Morse, and Tate. Nays: Amling, Edwards, Firnhaber, Keenan, Martz, Otis and Shuff.

Vice -Chair Edwards called for Public Body Comment.

Public Body Comments/opinions are summarized as follows:

County Farm
Budget
FY 22/23 audits and status of
Dive Team audit status
Investment of County money
Illinois Fund Investments
Board member comments made at 11/1 budget meeting
Farm sale price questioned
Bellwether not being hired for budget/tax levy help
Lack of communication by former board chairman

Following public body comment Edwards made motion to recall item #5 approval of proposed budget so it can be made available for public viewing and lay for 15 days. A roll call vote to make the proposed budget available for public viewing passed by voice vote (12 yes, 1 no). Ayes: Boehm, Brown, Cole, Edwards, Firnhaber, Keenan, Martz, Mayhall, Morse, Otis, Shuff, and Tate. Nay: Amling.

There was no further business to come before the county board.

Edwards made motion to adjourn the special meeting. Firnhaber seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (13 yes, 0 no). The special meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Jessica Fox
Shelby County Clerk and Recorder