

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

March 17, 2020

6:15 PM

County Council Chambers

Instrument 202000001460 OR Book Page 1799 97

The Edgefield County Council held a Budget Work Session at 6:15 P. M. Tuesday, March 17, 2020 in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter Street, Edgefield, SC. Notice of this meeting was provided to The Edgefield Advertiser and others as requested.

Members present

- Scott Cooper, Chairman
- Albert Talbert, Vice Chairman
- Arthur Biggs, Councilman
- Dean Campbell, Councilman
- Dr. Jacqueline Kennion, Councilwoman

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Others present

- Tommy Paradise, County Administrator
- Dana Waters, Finance Director
- Jennifer Gilley, Clerk to Council
- and others as per list attached

Chairman Cooper called the meeting to order.

Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget

Mr. Paradise started by saying staff had met with the Elected and Appointed Officials, as well as, the Department Heads and Finance Committee. He said staff has worked to meet the needs of the county and that he would be reviewing those recommendations tonight. Mr. Paradise said after those meetings, he drafted the memorandum to Council dated March 12, 2020 (see below). He went on to explain that after the memorandum went out to Council, Mrs. Waters found some errors that would be explained in the memorandum dated March 17, 2020. He explained that Mrs. Waters realized when the Recreation portion of the budget was moved into the General Fund, the expenses were moved but the revenues were not, she also found where SRO Salaries were showing as being paid out for 12 months but neglected to show that 9 months of those salaries were reimbursed by the Edgefield County School District. Mrs. Waters made the necessary corrections and these two things closed a major gap in funding and what would be needed from reserves to balance the budget. Mr. Paradise moved forward by reviewing the March 17, 2020 memorandum. It read:

As continuous efforts are being made to provide you with the most economical and fiscally conservative proposed budget; the following changes or revisions need to be included:

General Fund Revenues:

Account	Title	Page Number	Change	New Total
44109	Motor Carrier	1	Add \$1,500	\$91,500
44300	Current Year Property	2	Add \$110,000	\$4,303,400
44302	Delinquent Property Tax	2	Add \$1,500	\$243,366
44305	Vehicle Tax	2	Add \$17,000	\$792,900
44306	Manufacturer's Exempt	2	Add \$1,500	\$68,100

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44313	<i>Homestead Exemption</i>	2	<i>Add \$6,000</i>	\$327,000
		<i>Total</i>	<i>\$137,500</i>	

These revenues are the portion of taxes from the Recreation Fund. When the preparation of this proposed budget was being made these funds were not reflected in the revenues. This will increase the general fund revenues by \$137,500.

General Fund Expenditures:

<i>Account</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page Number</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>New Total</i>
05123	<i>Special Contracts</i>	13	<i>Add \$813</i>	\$204,717
05264	<i>Employee Training</i>	23	<i>Add \$1,000</i>	\$2,500
05101	<i>Salaries – Sheriff</i>	26	<i>Subtract \$261,931</i>	\$1,343,310
55312	<i>To SRO's</i>	28	<i>Subtract \$3,325</i>	\$79,881
05272	<i>Special Contracts</i>	42	<i>Add \$1,200</i>	\$1,200

The addition of \$813 to the Special Contracts for the 11th Judicial Courts is needed to offset the changes made in their department. The \$1,000 addition to the assessor's budget is for the required training for the Appraiser's to maintain their certifications.

The reduction in the Sheriff's Office salaries is because the SRO's whole salary amounts were being budgeted within this line item with only 3 months value of salary being transferred to the SRO funds. Leaving the remaining salaries within the sheriff's salary line item. The school board pays for 9 months of the SRO's salaries. Therefore, we need to reduce the sheriff's salaries by \$261,931. This will reduce our deficit for the general fund considerably.

The reduction in the transfer to the SRO's of \$3,325 is due to the school board agreeing to pay the deputy at Fox Creek for 10 months out of the year.

The additional \$1,200 needed for the Recreation Department's special contracts is for the computer maintenance online payment system.

School Resource Officer #3 Revenues

<i>Account</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page Number</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>New Total</i>
04329	<i>Fund Transfer Income</i>	1	<i>Subtract \$3,325</i>	\$11,146
04336	<i>Miscellaneous Income</i>	1	<i>Add \$12,316</i>	\$55,729

School Resource Officer #3 Expenditures

<i>Account</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page Number</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>New Total</i>
05101	<i>Salaries</i>	1	<i>Add \$7,603</i>	\$41,000
05102	<i>Overtime</i>	1	<i>Add \$737</i>	\$3,137

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05103	State Retirement	1	Add \$1,462	\$7,888
05104	Workers Compensation	1	Add \$263	\$1,419
05105	Social Security	1	Add \$582	\$3,137
05106	Group Insurance	1	Subtract \$1,656	\$7,944

The changes to SRO #3 are due to the Sheriff's Department hiring an employee for Fox Creek at an annual salary of \$40,000 the current fiscal year. The amount budgeted for this proposed budget was reflected at a minimum starting salary.

As the administration and staff of the county; we are diligently working to provide you with a conservative balanced budget with utilizing little to no reserve funding as well as no tax increases. With these changes we are reducing the fund balance from \$533,864 to \$134,121. Therefore, increasing the reserve to \$4,560,589 or 4.8 months. It is of utmost importance that we work together to bring forth a budget of sound fiscal practices.

Once Mr. Paradise finished reviewing that memorandum, he moved on to review the memorandum dated March 12, 2020 that had all of the recommendations for the FY 2020-2021 budget. That memorandum read:

Our theme for the coming year is "Building the Future" and we believe the proposed budget reflects your goals and desire to provide citizens of Edgefield County the best service for the tax dollars spent.

We present this year's 2020/2021 budget for your review. This budget includes funding for a new roof for the Administration building, roof repairs on the Kneece building, painting of the maintenance garage roof, continued replacement of computers on a three-year cycle, updating of computer security and a zero-turn mower for maintenance. No additional staff is recommended in this budget and also no new vehicles.

The bond for vehicles has \$74,000 and will be paid off in July 2020 when the last payment of \$156,823.43 is made. Staff would recommend renewing the bond for the purchase of emergency and nonemergency vehicles going forward. The Sheriff's Office has requested 3 marked cars and 1 truck for \$160,000. The Maintenance Department has requested \$38,000 to replace a truck with over 300,000 miles, Building and Planning has requested \$26,080 to replace a truck with over 250,000 miles. In addition, the Recreation Departments truck has over 250,000 miles and is need of replacement.

The proposed budget also includes increased funding for Piedmont Technical College (\$60,000 to \$65,000) and funding for the Economic Development Partnership is increased also (\$60,000 to \$65,000).

Based on the audited reserves of June 30, 2019, the General Fund has a fund balance of \$5,577,487 with \$4,036,464 in cash equivalents or investments. In FY 2019-20, Council designated \$882,777 from the fund balance. The fund balance less the \$882,777 is \$4,694,710. Our General Fund budget for this year is \$11,232,752. After utilizing \$134,121 from the fund balance, the County will have \$4,560,589 or 4.8 months of reserves available, which is an excellent cushion for the County.

Some of the highlights include:

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Revenue

1. NO TAX OR FEE INCREASE

2. *Salary for non-sworn employees are recommended to be increased by \$1,000 and an increase of \$2,000 for sworn employees including deputies, jailers, and dispatchers employed on July 1st. Because of proposed salary adjustment for the Tax Assessor no \$1,000 increase for that position is proposed. Also, no increase for vacant positions. The proposed salary increases will add \$277,348 to the General Fund Budget.*
3. *The Recreation Budget and the Edgefield County Hospital Budget and associated millage has been consolidated within the General Fund budget.*
4. *To balance the general fund budget in 2019-20 we brought forward \$882,777 from the fund balance. This year we will bring forward \$134,121 for operational expenses.*

Requests for increases:

1. *County Council's budget for membership and dues is increased from \$7,636 to \$8,170 to pay for membership to the National Association of Counties.*
2. *The County Administrator requested a reduction in salaries and associated expenses from \$357,383 to \$273,110 printing and office supplies increased from \$4,500 to \$5,000, postage increased from \$1,600 to \$2,000, Membership and Dues increased from \$400 to \$500, automotive operating expenses reduced from \$2,000 to \$500, professional services was decreased from \$130,000 to \$30,000, and Mount Vintage reimbursement increased from zero to \$11,250.*

Councilman Biggs asked if anyone's salary was being reduced. Mr. Paradise said no and explained this decrease was due to employee leaving and being replaced with new employee at a lower starting pay rate.

3. *The Clerk of Courts funding for increases for overtime from \$5,000 to \$7,000 is recommended. A request to increase postage from \$10,000 to \$13,000 with \$10,000 being recommended. A reduction for membership and dues from \$500 to \$300 is recommended. A reduction for employee training from \$2,000 to \$1,500 is recommended. A request to increase office machines from \$1,500 to \$3,500 to purchase a new computer for the courtroom with \$1,500 being recommended.*
4. *The Clerk of Court requested \$20,000 for fees for jurors with \$15,000 being recommended. A request for \$7,000 for boarding and lodging with \$2,000 being recommended.*
5. *The Coroner requested the salary line be increased to \$60,000 but the current funding of \$59,717 is recommended. Requested was \$2,000 for boarding and lodging with \$1,500 being recommended. Employee training requested \$1,750 with \$1,500 being recommended. An increase for professional services from \$30,000 to \$35,000 was requested and \$32,500 is recommended.*

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6. *The salaries for Veterans Affairs was reduced from \$61,410 to \$58,840. A request for printing and office supplies to be increased from \$500 to \$800 with \$500 being recommended. A request for an increase for machine equipment and repairs from \$200 to \$500 with \$200 being recommended. Boarding and lodging requested an increase from \$2,500 to \$3,500 with \$2,500 being recommended.*

Councilman Biggs asked if anyone's salary was being reduced. Mr. Paradise said no and explained this decrease was due to an employee leaving and being replaced with new employee at a lower starting pay rate.

7. *Building and Planning requested a boarding and lodging at \$1,200 with \$500 recommended. Professional Services was reduced from \$125,500 to \$2,500. An increase for miscellaneous from 0 to \$4,000 was requested with \$1,000 recommended. A new truck is requested for \$26,080 with no truck purchase being recommended. Computer contract requested to increase from \$3,300 to \$3,779 with \$3,779 recommended.*
8. *The magistrate's office requested an increase in printing and office supplies from \$4,000 to \$4,500 with \$4,000 being recommended. Also, an increase for postage from \$3,000 to \$3,500 was requested with \$3,000 being recommended. Employee training was requested to be increased from \$500 to \$2,000 with \$1,000 being recommended. Also requested was salary adjustments for the clerks in the office, which is not being recommended.*
9. *The probate court requested an increase for boarding and lodging from \$2,000 to \$3,000 with \$2,000 being recommended. Employee training requested an increase from \$2,000 to \$2,500 with \$2,000 being recommended.*
10. *Registration and Election Commission requested a salary increase of \$5,000 for Tricia Butler and \$3,500 for Sharon Hammond, with no increase for Ms. Butler being recommended and a 5% increase for Ms. Hammond. Also requested was \$3,510 and payroll expenses to hire two part-time employees to assist during the general election, which is recommended. Maintenance and service contracts were requested to increase from \$15,000 to \$16,000 with \$15,000 being recommended. Machine and equipment repairs requested to be increased from \$2,000 to \$3,500 with \$2,000 being recommended. Office machines were requested to be increased from \$3,000 to \$18,875 for additional tote bins and ballot marking devices with \$21,875 being recommended.*

Mr. Paradise noted the recommended increase was due to a mathematical error that was made by Registration and Election Commission staff. He said they will need the higher amount that is recommended.

11. *GIS/Special Projects requested a 3% raise for the Director, which is not recommended. An increase for printing and office supplies from \$750 to \$1,200 with \$750 being recommended. An increase for maintenance and service from \$1,700 to \$2,000 with \$1,700 being recommended. Special contracts were requested to increase from \$4,500 to \$5,175 with \$5,175 being recommended.*

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12. *The Assessor's Office requested \$2,500 for reassessment expenses with \$500 being recommended. Membership and dues were requested at \$1,500 with \$500 being recommended. Maintenance and service contract requested \$15,000 with \$10,000 being recommended. Employee training \$2,500 was requested and \$1,500 recommended. Office machines requested \$3,000 with \$200 being recommended.*
13. *The Treasurer's Office requested an increase from \$4,500 to \$4,700 for printing and office supplies with \$4,500 being recommended. Machine and equipment repairs requested an increase from \$325 to \$425 with \$325 being recommended.*
14. *In order to comply with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) minimum salary for exempt employees the salary for the Tax Collector was increased from \$31,376 to \$35,568 and is recommended. Special contracts are recommended to be increased from \$37,500 to \$39,000.*
15. *The Sheriff's Office requested a 6% raise, a Community Relations Sgt and a 2nd officer at the courthouse of which none are recommended. Also requested was 3-month salary for a new resource officer at Merriwether Elementary which is recommended and is contained in the budget for SRO #5. Also requested were raises of \$9,000 for Yvetta Hill, \$4,000 for Nancy Simpson and \$6,000 for Leigh Bouknight, of which none are recommended. Also requested is an increase from \$35,000 to \$50,000 for telephones with \$35,000 being recommended. Machine and equipment repairs requested an increase from \$12,000 to \$25,000 with \$25,000 being recommended. An increase in uniforms and clothing from \$14,000 to \$16,000 to outfit new deputies with outer best carriers for SRO's with \$14,000 being recommended. Boarding and lodging are requested to increase from \$3,500 to \$4,500 with \$3,500 being recommended. Advertising is requested to be increased from \$250 to \$500 with \$500 recommended. Professional Services requested to increase from \$9,500 to \$10,000 with \$10,000 being recommended. Specialized departments requested to be increased from \$15,000 to \$16,500 with \$15,000 being recommended. Special contracts were increased from \$250 to \$400 with \$400 being recommended. Three marked cars and 1 narcotics vehicle was requested for a total of \$160,000 with no vehicle purchase from the budget being recommended. Machines and equipment requested an increase from \$7,000 to \$10,000 with \$10,000 being recommended.*
16. *The Sheriff recommended the creation of 10 new jailer positions, which is not recommended. Also recommended is a \$3,116.67 pay raise for Sgt. Shuster, which she has already received and is already in the salary line for FY 2019/20. Also requested is \$6,000 for bonuses for new hires, which are not recommended because these funds should be available from the vacant positions, they are filling. Also requested are \$2,000 raises for jailers. A request to increase traveling expenses from \$400 to \$700 with \$400 being recommended. Automotive operating expenses were requested to be increased from \$3,000 to \$4,500 with \$3,000 recommended. Telephone is recommended to be decreased from \$7,000 to \$5,000. Boarding and Lodging for inmates is requested to be increased from \$225,000 to \$245,000 with \$225,000 being recommended. Professional services were requested to be increased from \$110,000 to \$124,000 with \$113,300 recommended.*
17. *Emergency Management requested that membership and dues be increased from \$480 to \$490 with \$480 being recommended. Boarding and Lodging was requested to increase from \$1,000 to \$2,000*

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with \$2,000 recommended. Employee training requested an increase from \$1,000 to \$2,000 with \$1,000 recommended. Machines and equipment are requested to be increased from \$1,500 to \$7,500 to purchase gas detectors with \$7,500 recommended. Disaster Education material requested an increase from \$2,000 to \$5,000 with \$2,000 being recommended.

18. *The fuel sites budget for machine and equipment repairs is recommended to increase from \$1,000 to \$2,000.*
19. *The Maintenance Department requested an increase for uniforms and clothing from \$1,750 to \$2,000 with \$1,750 being recommended. A request of \$38,000 for a new maintenance truck was submitted for a vehicle with over 300,000 miles but is not being recommended to be purchased through the general fund budget. Machines and equipment are recommended to increase from \$2,500 to \$11,500 to purchase a replacement mower (zero turn).*
20. *Animal control special contracts is recommended to be increased from \$50,000 to \$75,000. This line reimburses Aiken County for maintaining the animals picked up by animal control. Aiken County deferred an increase in last year's budget to this year and this amount should cover the anticipated increase.*
21. *Courthouse maintenance requested \$35,000 with \$30,000 being recommended.*
22. *County Council Chambers special contracts is recommended to increase from \$14,000 to \$16,100. As part of the lease the County reimburses the cost for taxes. The increase covers the school bond tax increase.*
23. *DSS requests \$5,000 for telephone with \$1,000 being recommended.*
24. *The County Government Building (Administration Office) requests that water be increased from \$500 to \$900 with \$900 being recommended. Also building repairs requests an increase from \$1,500 to \$45,000 so that the roof can be replaced, with \$45,000 being recommended.*
25. *Building repairs for the Agriculture building requested \$15,000 with \$5,000 recommended.*
26. *Building repairs for the Health Department building was requested at \$5,000 with \$2,500 recommended.*
27. *Building repairs for the maintenance shop is recommended to increase from \$1,000 to \$16,000. This increase is to paint the metal roof of the building and the Road Department will be transferring an additional \$7,500 to the general fund to help offset the expense.*
28. *The Kneece building electric and gas budget is requested to increase from \$11,000 to \$14,000 with \$14,000 recommended. Building repairs requested an increase from \$3,000 to \$18,000 with \$18,000 recommended. \$15,000 of this is to repair a low spot on the roof that holds water and leaks.*

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29. *The County library requested an increase in building repairs from \$55,000 to \$105,000 with \$5,000 being recommended. Also requested by the library is an increase for professional services from \$179,750 to \$187,000 with \$179,750 being recommended.*

Councilman Biggs asked why this amount has gone from \$55,000 to \$105,000 and only \$5,000 being recommended. Mr. Paradise said that in previous years, the library has had a budget of \$5,000 and that was changed to \$55,000 last year to have the roof replaced. He said they are asking for \$105,000 this year to have other issues corrected. Mr. Paradise said that extra money isn't being recommended at this time, taking the recommended amount back to \$5,000. Chairman Cooper noted that he and Councilman Talbert visited the library and said they have some structural issues on the second floor. Mr. Paradise noted they also had some cracks in the walls.

30. *Countywide group insurance requested an increase from \$788,812 to \$800,000 being requested and \$867,570 is being recommended. Electrical light supplies requested an increase from \$1,000 to \$2,000 with \$2000 being recommended. Insurance requested an increase from \$185,000 to \$210,000 with \$210,000 being recommended. Professional services requested an increase from \$47,000 to \$57,000 which is recommended. Special services requested an increase from \$357,466 to \$500,000 with \$390,000 being recommended.*

Mr. Paradise said this reason staff is recommending \$867,570 rather than the requested \$800,000 is because the insurance has seen an increase. He also noted the increase from \$47,000 to \$57,000 was recommended for the audit of the Volunteer Fire Departments.

31. *Piedmont Technical College requested an increase from \$60,000 to \$181,945 with \$65,000 recommended.*

Chairman Cooper said when the Finance Committee met and reviewed the requests, they heard a lot of needs and they decided the most important thing was to bring the employees as comparable to other counties as possible. He said he is grateful that staff was able to find that additional revenue to decrease the amount of money needed from the Fund Balance to balance the budget. He also noted that due to COVID-19, the County is in a different situation from a health perspective as well as economic perspective. He said due to the unknowns that will be coming with COVID-19, he doesn't think it would be a wise decision to dip into the reserves further to meet some additional needs that weren't granted with the budget as presented. He said he thinks back to about 10 years ago, when County Council cut pay. He said he hopes it doesn't come to that but the future is an unknown due to COVID-19.

32. Councilman Campbell asked if the bond for vehicles was as separate issue, and if so, would it be taken up at a later time. Mr. Paradise said that was correct. Councilman Campbell said that when reviewing revenue, he didn't hear a mention of Local Government Fund. He asked if staff has an idea of how that will be dispersed. Mr. Paradise said based on the correspondence he's received from the South Carolina Association of Counties (SCAC), and everything remains the same prior to approval of the State Budget, he believes Edgefield County will see an increase of \$57,000. He stated this is already figured into the presented budget. Councilman Campbell asked about staff salaries. He said some of the Elected Officials salaries are dictated by State Law. He asked if the minimum requirements are

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met for all of those salaries. Mr. Paradise said that was correct to the best of his knowledge. Councilman Campbell said he had a question regarding item 7 of the memorandum that read: *Building and Planning requested a boarding and lodging at \$1,200 with \$500 recommended. Professional Services was reduced from \$125,500 to \$2,500. An increase for miscellaneous from \$0 to \$4,000 was requested with \$1,000 recommended. A new truck is requested for \$26,080 with no truck purchase being recommended. Computer contract requested to increase from \$3,300 to \$3,779 with \$3,779 recommended.* Councilman Campbell asked if the "Computer contract request" was something that isn't covered by Corsica (the IT Company also known as EDTS). Mr. Paradise said this is something outside of Corsica's duties. He explained this is for software licenses used specifically for building permits and other items related to the Building and Planning Office.

Councilman Biggs asked if the additional \$57,000, that the county may be receiving from the LGF would be in addition to the formula that is used. Mr. Paradise said this number was obtained by using the formula. He said this is the total increase from the money received last year.

Chairman Cooper said he also wanted to mention the way raises are being given this year. He explained that when a dollar amount versus a percentage, it is fairer across the board to all employees. He said if they were to give a 5% raise, that raise would be significantly larger for someone on the higher end of the pay scale versus the lower end of the pay scale. Councilman Biggs said he was happy to see this raise, especially in the Sheriff's Office because that will bring us higher than the comparable counties. He said he hopes this will help with the turnover rate. Councilman Talbert said he had concerns about the increase that is recommended for the Economic Development Partnership from \$60,000 to \$65,000. He asked Mr. Paradise to review what the county will be getting for that additional \$5,000. He said he hasn't seen what the county gets for being in this partnership. Mr. Paradise said most of the economic development is done "behind the scenes." He said the county does have Will Williams working on recruiting industry but he's also been asked to recruit retail business to Edgefield County. Mr. Paradise said Mr. Williams has been working with existing industries to expand or just meet their needs so they don't relocate outside of Edgefield County. He said those expansions bring in more tax dollars. He explained another benefit of being in the partnership is the 1% fee which equals approximately \$45,000 per year in revenue that Edgefield County receives with the Multi-park Agreements. Mr. Paradise also explained that the Economic Development Partnership works on a lot of what he calls "near misses." He said this is the work that takes place behind the scenes with many industries to try and have them locate in Edgefield County. Councilman Talbert said that he would like to be updated more on what takes place "behind the scenes" so that he is aware of what all work goes on. He also mentioned that he would like to know these things so that he would have an explanation when his constituents ask him about the Economic Development Partnership.

- Council took a 5 minute recess.

Charles Reel spoke about his budget requests versus what was recommended. He said the membership dues for this year were budgeted at \$500 and they'd already spent \$460. He said next year he requested \$500 but \$300 was recommended. He said that would put him over budget based on what he spent this year for dues. He noted under training and boarding and lodging was budgeted at \$2,000 this year. He said he was unable to attend that conference due to court but that he'd asked for the \$2,000

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to remain the same so that he could go next year. He said it has been cut to \$1,500 and he doesn't think that would cover everything if he is able to attend. Mr. Reel went on to say he would like to replace his current laptop with a desktop computer and then use the laptop in the courtroom. He noted the office machines line item wouldn't accommodate this change. He also said the account numbered 05122 for court costs was cut from \$7,000 to \$2,000 in the boarding and lodging line item. He explained this needs to remain at \$7,000 because that money is set aside in the event of a capital case. He said this money would be used to sequester the jury (12 regular jurors and 6 alternates for a total of 18 people). He noted this money isn't always used but does always need to be available. Mr. Reel said a capital case was scheduled for April, which would have effected this line item but due to COVID-19 the case was pushed until January 2021. He said this money will be necessary to sequester the jury at that time and with the cut, he would be over budget in that fund.

Council then took the budget page by page. He noted there are 4.8 months of reserves. No votes were taken to formally make the following changes. County Council asked staff to review these changes and noted Council would formally vote on all changes during regularly scheduled meetings when voting on readings for this ordinance.

Page 11 – Chairman Cooper recommended the following changes be made:

- 05121-05214 be funded at \$500
- 05121-05242 be funded at \$2,000
- 05121-05264 be funded at \$1,000

Page 12 - Chairman Cooper asked if the computer that he is asking to be replaced, would be included in the money that is being set aside to replace computers. Ms. Gilley said she has created a list of each computer and the age of that computer. She explained she will be receiving money every 3 years to replace the existing computers over a 3 year period. She said the laptop will be replaced in that rotation but that a new computer won't be bought for anyone out of that fund.

- 05121-05242 be funded at \$7,000
- 05121-05383 be funded at \$3,500

Page 26 – Councilman Biggs said the overtime currently shows a surplus and that with raises going into effect next year, he believes 05210-05102 should be reduced to \$170,000. Mr. Paradise said the surplus showing is \$25,978 (\$184,927-\$158,949) and that with 3 months left of the fiscal year, this gap will close some. He also noted that last fiscal year, the Sheriff's Office used \$188,714 in overtime. Councilman Biggs said that it could stay the same but that it shouldn't be as high since there aren't as many vacancies as there were last year.

Page 27 – Councilman Biggs said he believes account 05210-05217 should be reduced from \$170,000 to \$160,000. He said the fleet is much newer now that most of the cars have been replaced and that should allow for less maintenance and lower repair costs.

Councilman Biggs said he wanted to know why there were so many overages when reviewing the dispatch and jail salaries. He said that with shortages, he understands the Sheriff will sometimes move people around but that shouldn't account for the extent of overages shown on the trial balance sheets.

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Industrial Park – Page 2 – Chairman Cooper asked Mr. Paradise to give some examples of what the money in account 05000-55279 (Contingency Account) could be spent on. Mr. Paradise said that money would be able to go towards economic development. He said some examples could be: putting in a turn lane for a new industry, running a sewer line for a new industry, purchasing land for new industry, etc.

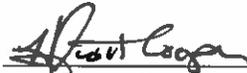
Solid Waste – Councilman Biggs said Council was in the process of switching the Litter Officer from the Sheriff to the County Administrator. He asked if that position would still be funded from the Solid Waste fund. Mr. Paradise said that it would still be funded from Solid Waste unless Council decided to make that change.

Chairman Cooper closed the budget work session by thanking staff for their hard work on the budget, especially Mrs. Waters for the new setup of the budget books. He said they are much more user friendly. He went on to say the Finance Committee compared Edgefield County staff members pay in relation to surrounding counties that are comparable in size using the SCAC wage survey. He said that in discussion with staff, the finance committee noted the County Council wages haven't been increased in 16 years and that might be something for them to look into in the future to be more competitive. He said the Finance Committee decided not to bring it up until next year. Councilman Biggs thanked staff for their hard work on the budget.

Adjourn

Councilman Campbell made the motion to adjourn at 8:36PM, seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously.

Edgefield County Council



H. Scott Cooper, Chair

ATTEST



Jennifer L. Gilley, Clerk to Council