

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP

March 12, 2024

6:00 PM

County Council Chambers

The Edgefield County Council held a Budget Workshop at 6:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 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

Dean Campbell, Chairman
Albert Talbert, Vice Chairman
Tiffani Ireland, Councilwoman
Dr. Jackie Kennion, Councilwoman
Jerry Moody, Councilman

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Others Present

David Caddell, Administrator
Taz Potts, County Finance Director
Aretha Eubanks, Clerk to Council
Garrett Lynn, EMS Director
Jody Rowland, EC Sheriff
Jason Ramey, Chief Deputy

Chairman Campbell called the Special Called Budget Workshop to order at 6:00 PM. The invocation was given by Administrator David Caddell.

Old Business

1. Consideration of approval of the Third Reading of Ordinance 23-24-001, to amend section 24-286 C 1 Planning Commission Terms of Office.

Chairman Campbell: I will ask Administrator Caddell if there is anything new or different we need to know about this ordinance.

Administrator Caddell: No changes.

Chairman Campbell: Questions or comments on this ordinance. Hearing none. Councilman Talbert made the motion, and Councilwoman Ireland seconded. Motion passed unanimously. This will allow us to take up the appointments and reappointments in April for the Planning Commission.

Discussion of FY 2024-2025 Budget

Chairman Campbell: Tonight is our Budget Workshop. To remind the Council and our guests, at the Workshop, we do not vote on any topic. This is a draft budget that the Council and Administrator are here to discuss. This is a less formal meeting. We can ask the Administrator to make changes to this draft budget before we take it up at the first reading at our April meeting if we have a consensus to do that.

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First tonight, we'll hear the Administrator's report on the budget as he walks through the memo he provided us. Then I will go through the budget page-by-page just to ensure we've covered everything you want covered. I'll be moving through the page-by-page pretty quickly because you've had this budget for a week to study. Once we finish the page-by-page look, then we'll ask for comments from those elected officials and department heads who wish to be heard.

As a reminder, during the first, second, and third readings of the budget, we can discuss any line item or other topic in the budget you'd like to discuss. However, for the three readings, we won't be going through the memo in detail again nor will we go through the budget page-by-page. At our next three meetings, we'll just discuss what the Administrator recommends and what the Council wants to discuss.

During the three readings, we can vote to amend it at that time.

Are there any questions from the Council on the process I've described for our meeting tonight or moving forward? If not, then I'll remind you that this budget comes to you put together by staff, and comes recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee. I'll ask Mr. Talbert if he has anything to add since he is the Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee.

Councilman Talbert: I don't have anything I would like to add, but I would like to thank all of the department heads, and elected officials for supporting us. We appreciate your effort in being with us during this process. The Chairman has indicated that there may be some changes, but it is a process that we have to go through. We appreciate your input. Thank you.

Chairman Campbell: Thank you, Mr. Talbert. Mr. Caddell has spent a great deal of time working to bring us a balanced budget with no tax or fee increases. I want to say a big thank you to him, and also a big thank you to Taz Potts, our Finance Director, for working to put this budget together for us. And of course, thank you to Mr. Talbert.

I'll turn it over to the Administrator so he can take us through the budget.

Administrator Caddell: Over the past two years the County has experienced strong residential growth. While this has resulted in additional revenues for the County, with growth comes increased needs for services. With this budget, the County will meet the ongoing needs of the citizens, while ensuring fiscal stability.

The Edgefield County employees are our most important asset. Last year we gave them a 3% raise and covered individual employee health insurance premiums. We have included a minimum 3% raise in this year's budget and a 2.5% step increase for employees under the midpoint of their pay grade. Unemployment is low and competition for qualified employees is high. Our employees are a major focus in this budget.

An additional priority is public safety and quality of life. We are proposing to fund additional employees in the Sheriff's Office, Recreation, Administration, Treasurer's office, and Voter Registration.

Based on the audited reserves as of June 30, 2023, the General Fund has a fund balance of \$8,543,298. In FY 2024/2025, the Council designated \$950,000 from the fund balance. Our General Fund operating budget for this year without ARPA funds is \$15,643,670. After utilizing the \$950,000 from our reserves, the County will have \$7,593,298 or just over 5 months of reserves available, which is a good cushion for the County.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS YEAR'S BUDGET:

- **No fee or tax increases.**
- **3% cost of living increase. The proposed cost of living increase will be applied to individual salaries and the salary bands.**
- **Implementation of a 2.5% 8-year step program. The difference between the minimum of a salary band of a grade and the midpoint is 20%. By giving a 2.5% increase (calculated on the minimum point of an employee's salary band) each year over eight years, an employee hired at the minimum would reach midpoint in eight years. This is separate from cost-of-living increases which move the salary bands themselves. Step increases would cease once the employee reaches midpoint.**
- **Continued coverage of the individual health insurance premiums for employees**
- **Last year the County's portion of health insurance premiums increased 3.7% and Retirement 1%.**
- **The creation of 11 full-time positions and two part-time positions in the general fund and the reduction of 1 full-time and 1 part-time position elsewhere in the general fund.**

County Council – There were no significant changes.

Administration – A full-time Office Manager position has been added. This position will handle office supplies, county facility rentals, fuel cards, credit card receipts, assist with payroll, and accounts payable. The part-time clerk position will be removed. Postage, telephone, and boarding were increased. Training was decreased.

Building and Planning – The full-time litter control employee was removed and part-time hours increased. Additional software at a cost of \$6000 was also included.

Clerk of Court – The Clerk of Court requested \$4000 for furniture replacement. The Clerk of Court recommend that the part-time position for County Archives be increased to full-time due to the heavy demand for services. We recommend approval.

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Coroner – The Coroner’s Office has seen an increase in the number of cases they have been involved in that require an autopsy. They have requested an increase in the professional services line item from \$60,000 to \$70,000 and we agree. Auto operating and telephone were increased by \$2000. Special contracts were increased by \$600.

Veteran’s Office – Requested a cumulative increase of \$1200 for travel and training and \$2000 to replace waiting room chairs. We agree.

Informational Technology – This is a new department for this budget year funded at \$273,965. It includes one employee, our computer services contract, cybersecurity, and office machines. Most of these costs existed in the previous budget but are now consolidated.

Magistrate – The Magistrate asked for small increases in office supplies and postage. Increases in both the training and boarding budgets of \$2000 each were requested for new magistrate training. A reduction of \$4000 in special contracts was proposed. We agree.

Probate – Increases in dues, travel, and telephone were partially offset by decreases in postage and boarding.

Voter Registration – Voter registration requested a part-time employee to provide better office coverage and expand early voting to the Sweetwater Community Center. We agree with the addition of an early voting location. Increases in travel were requested of \$2000. We agree.

GIS – GIS did not request any significant changes.

Assessor – The Assessor requested an increase of \$9500 for reassessment, \$10,000 for printing, and \$4500 for auto operating. This large budget increase occurs every five years due to the increased cost of property reassessment. We agree.

Tax Collector – There were no significant changes.

Treasurer – The treasurer requested a part-time employee of about 28 hours per week, As the workload has been constantly increasing, we agree. Small increases in postage and office supplies were made.

Auditor – The Auditor did not request significant changes.

Countywide – Group insurance will increase from \$1,035,000 to \$1,100,000 primarily due to the addition of new employees. Property and liability insurance has increased \$5,000. Special contracts will increase by \$20,000.

Emergency Management – Funding for firefighter training continues in the EMA budget in the amount of \$25,000. This program was approved by Council in February 2023.

Sheriff – The Sheriff’s Office is requesting two maintenance employees for the new Law Enforcement Center. We recommend one. The Sheriff requested increases in fuel, auto

repair, and uniforms which we support. Automotive equipment has been removed from this year's budget and will instead be funded with Plutonium fund interest for one year. This will facilitate the initial hiring of new employees by reducing this burden in the general fund.

Dispatch Operations –The Sheriff is requesting an increase in funding of \$25,000 for maintenance and services contracts. We agree.

Detention Center – The Sheriff is requesting eight new employees to reduce overtime and staff the new larger facility when it opens. We agree with this staffing increase but asked that it be implemented Oct. 2025. Initial funding will be facilitated with accrued interest on the Plutonium Settlement fund and replaced later by Federal funds for housing federal inmates. An increase of \$10,000 was requested in professional services for medical care.

Animal Control –There are few changes except for a substantial increase in salaries as we hired rather than contracted a veterinarian. Revenue accounts were established for Edgefield resident fees, Saluda County fees, and adoption fees.

County Maintenance – One new zero-turn mower is requested for \$9000 and we agree.

Recreation – Our recreation department consists of one full-time and one year-round 24hrs per week part -time employee. We propose to reduce the part-time employee to seasonal and hire a full-time employee. We are expanding parks and increasing participation in recreational sports. We hope to have staff at most games going forward.

Road Fees / Roads and Bridges – Last year Council increased pay for our CDL holders and this has significantly reduced turnover. We have increased auto operating and equipment repairs by a cumulative \$30,000 and uniforms by \$3000.

Economic Development – We are continuing our payment to the Economic Development Partnership \$80,000 this year. Additionally, we are continuing with our contractual agreement with Retail Strategies with the cost coming from ARPA. The Industrial Park Special Revenue Fund had a balance of \$433,000 at the end of January.

Emergency Medical Services – The EMS fund has seen a drop in its reserve balance in recent years. We did increase funding by 1.3 mills last year and this has helped. We will need to transfer \$80,750 from the EMS fund in this budget. The EMS Fund had a balance of \$402,000 at the end of FY 2022-23. This fund will be depleted within two to three years without an increase in revenue. We will soon (2 years) need a fourth ambulance in service which will require 8 new employees. At this time additional funding will be required. EMS requested an increase of \$5000 for auto operating, \$7500 for service contracts, and \$12,000 for professional services. We agree.

Solid Waste Fee – The Solid Waste fund is relatively stable. There is a 3.9 % increase in payments to the Tri County Solid Waste Authority from \$819,000 to \$851,700 primarily due to equipment costs and the poor recycling market. The budget includes adding extra

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personnel to the Sweetwater Convenience Center and a 3% increase in pay for Convenience Center employees. The Solid Waste Fund had a balance of \$294,374 at the end of FY 2022-23. Again, it is stable.

Victim's Bill of Rights – The Victim's Bill of Rights Fund provides for Sheriff's Office assistance to those who are victims and their families. A portion of the fines and forfeitures are returned to the county to fund this budget. However, in recent years the funding has not adequately supported this position. We will need to transfer \$60,505 from the General Fund to the Victim's Bill of Rights Fund.

Piedmont Technical College – Last year we increased our payment to Piedmont Tech to \$90,000. This year we recommend holding our payment to \$90,000. Their request was \$218,135.

ABBE Library – We recommend an increase of \$12,000 based on their request. This is primarily for employee pay.

Miscellaneous – We recommend continuing to fund the following at the following levels: Beckman Center \$2000, Senior Center \$3000, Clemson Extension \$1500, SC Association of Counties \$7635, Upper Savannah Council of Governments \$18,852.

Opioid Grant

We have established a stand-alone budget for the Opioid Settlement (much like an SRO budget) to accept grant revenue and expend it on an approved program. We expect to receive \$142,000 this year in guaranteed funds.

A special thank you to the Finance Committee, the Chair Albert Talbert, Dean Campbell, and Finance Director Taz Potts for organizing the budget and making my many edits. Thank you to Council for thought provoking questions and input. Thank you to all elected officials and department heads for your input and your willingness to compromise. A special thank you to our Assistant Administrator Hart Clark for his assistance.

Chairman Campbell: On the opioid settlement, is there any timeline for spending that money in this account?

Administrator Caddell: You have up to three years to spend those funds. Funds that are left unspent go into another pool for optional grants and programs. Several counties have applied for no money. So, there is potential for large grant opportunities in the future. It is difficult to get guidance from the committee that reviews these grants as Garrett Lynn and Lakeisha Bryant can attest.

Chairman Campbell: Questions or comments from the Council.

Councilwoman Kennion: Concerning Economic Development, you said we will continue our payment to Economic Development together in partnership for \$80,000. When I came into office

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in 2018, I think the cost of Economic Development was \$60,000. Then \$70,000 and now \$80,000.

Administrator Caddell: There is no change in the cost from last year and I have not seen a request for an increase this year. I cannot speak of the previous years.

Councilwoman Kennion: Now the miscellaneous, Beckman Center. I see the amount as \$2000, was this the same amount as last year?

Administrator Caddell: Yes. The only things in miscellaneous that have crept up are the SC Association of Counties and the Upper Savannah Council of Government. The Clemson Extension did receive an increase of \$500 because they are so helpful to our employees.

Councilwoman Ireland: On the Retail Strategies, how long have we been in that contract?

Administrator Caddell: We are in the third year, and we are funding one more year to see if they will bear fruit for us while we still have ARPA funds. It is not costing the county any money.

Councilwoman Ireland: That was going to be my next question. Have you seen any fruit bearing from them?

Administrator Caddell: We have seen some interest and contacts, but no. We are hoping our investment will get us somewhere cause we all recognize there is a need. If it does not bear fruit, we will have to sever ties.

Chairman Campbell: I meet with them periodically, and you won't find any new business not opening because of them. But just like Will Williams, are they executing the right behaviors when they are talking to businesses? They are talking to other counties who have successful Mom & Pops Shops who would like to expand in Edgefield County as well as chain restaurants. The smaller chain stores that would consider coming here rather than the big chain stores due to us not having enough rooftops. These are the things they consider and what matters, as they try to match these needs.

Councilwoman Ireland: But nothing yet from them?

Administrator Caddell: No

Chairman Campbell: No further questions or comments from the Council on the Administrator's presentation.

Councilwoman Ireland: I notice we are doing the one maintenance employee for the Sheriff's Department. Will they still have access to Joe?

Administrator Caddell: If they ask for access to Joe. They will also have access to the equipment as we are looking into developing the park next door. For security purposes, we would place the maintenance facility shed on that property that would house all the needed mowers and tractors.

Councilwoman Ireland: You all have access to Joe now, correct?

Sheriff Rowland: Yes. I hope to have trustees to help with the labor.

Chairman Campbell: I will say that no budget is perfect, but I appreciate not letting perfect get in the way of good. Council, if you turn the page, you will see the actual budget. The reason I want to go page by is because there is maybe something that caught our attention that we marked but did not get to discuss. I will move this quickly, but stop me if you want to ask a question. Here we go.

Councilman Moody: On page 9, what does the \$540,000 pay for with the hospital?

Administrator Caddell: The payment is to subsidize the hospital operations.

Chairman Campbell: Many years ago, something like 7 mills was designated for the hospital.

Councilman Moody: This was when they were independent.

Chairman Campbell: Yes, then we signed and worked out an agreement with Self Hospital that they would accept \$540,000 every year for 10 years instead of the 7 mills which was a better deal with us putting less money in the hospital.

Councilman Moody: On page 30, was this a typo for the taser amount Administrator Caddell?

Administrator Caddell: Yes, it is a typo.

Chairman Campbell: Let's make sure we correct this typo.

Councilwoman Kennion: On page 72, why do we have writing in red?

Administrator Caddell: To show the difference in the anticipation of the user fees and what does not need to be brought forward. It is showing revenue, but we are not asking to use it.

Chairman Campbell: There is no need for it is what you are saying. It should not be in red.

Councilman Moody: Page 81, is that the entire cost for tire disposal or all trash? I was in a meeting the other night and it was said Tri-County is not that high for tire disposals.

Administrator Caddell: It is, the actual account heading is for the Tri-County Solid Waste authority expense line. When you try to change the names, it disrupts the budget.

Councilman Moody: I was asked did we spend that much on tire disposal.

Administrator Caddell: This is the Tri-County Solid Waste Authority that passes through our budget.

Chairman Campbell: I think the amount in your memo matches the budget.

Administrator Caddell: Yes, it does.

Chairman Campbell: This is a good point to stop and ask the Administrator and the Finance Director about as we have gone through the pages, we see items with zero budget. Are they part of a heading of an old system we cannot get rid of?

Administrator Caddell: They are the Treasurer's Revenue account funds. The reason you see zero on our budgetary line is we have nothing to do with it in finance and administration. They

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are set in our tax codes, which are handled by the Treasurer's office. For audit purposes, they have to be represented in the budget.

Chairman Campbell: Council, that is our page-by-page review. I thank you for enduring this with me. Any questions or comments? Before we move on to comments on the budget from our elected officials and department heads Council, is there anything we would like to discuss before we hear from them? Hearing none. Then we will move to comments on the budget starting with our elected officials who are in attendance, Sheriff Rowland.

COMMENTS ON THE BUDGET

o **Elected Officials**

Sheriff Rowland: We are in total agreement except for salaries. In the past six months, I have lost 13 officers, 6 for salary alone. It costs \$2500 to train a deputy. This turnover causes a strain on us and human resources. I am losing deputies to Aiken County and North Augusta. I am not asking to match but to compete. I am asking for \$5000 to be able to compete. I can sell Edgefield County if you help me stay competitive.

Chairman Campbell: Of those 129 years, 84 of those years were three people. Three-quarters of the time you are referring to is three people who are retiring. So, we would expect that.

Sheriff Rowland: Yes, but I am losing them and others.

Chairman Campbell: But that is a lot of years.

Councilman Moody: So, you are losing them at the 8-year range. So, nobody is above that, meaning you don't have a 15-year veteran to go back to.

Sheriff Rowland: Correct. I need to be able to draw the deputies.

Chairman Campbell: The average time of service is three to four years.

Sheriff Rowland: Let's do everything we can do to cut the 5% to 2.5% in loss of deputies. North Augusta is hiring at the midpoint or just below. The difference between North Augusta and our midpoint is \$15,000. I am asking for a 10% increase across the board in salary for the deputies, plus the 2.5% step raise. We are about 15% behind and we need to get that up. I feel like every time I come before you, I am asking for a salary increase as I am now. We have a partnership to work together. We have more record keeping, and we are being recognized for reducing crimes. For the last few years, the Council has done a lot to help the Sheriff's Department in salaries. But, in the end, I want to be able to compete to draw the needed deputies for the county.

Chairman Campbell: We have great respect for you and the Sheriff's Department. We have done a lot for the Sheriff's Department and we should do more. But, in the past three years, we have done more than the six years previously combined. We have been accelerating the salaries. I do not think we are falling behind because we are not doing something. I do not want someone to think that out in the public. We are probably falling behind, but is not for lack of trying or not doing something. The other part of this is we cannot match these other places, but given what you just said, I don't think we can get within \$5000 to compete. Because if we get even slightly

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close to \$5000 in difference, the other places will take off again. It is always going to be a chase of the bigger employment places. I just wanted to point out to the Council, that the other places do not stay stagnant because we are changing. They continue to move salaries too. My question is, if you are asking for 10% raise in round numbers, right now the budget has about 5.5% depending on the band. The 3% plus the 2.5% equals 5.5 %. You are asking for 10% over and above the 5.5 % which is 4 ½% over what David proposed?

Sheriff Rowland: No, we are asking the 4 ½% difference to make the 10%.

Chairman Campbell: Questions from the Council.

Councilman Moody: I just want to comment. Going into this with a 5 – 6-year plan for public safety for the public safety and emergency services. I know it is a tough number. I know we will never match, but I will try my best to try to find it for you.

Chairman Campbell: I will ask the Administrator to look at the numbers and give us a report on what would be the impact on the budget if we did the salary increase for the Sheriff. It will have an impact because it has to come from somewhere.

Councilwoman Ireland: Sheriff Rowland, do you have any ideas of the impact on the budget?

Sheriff Rowland: No.

Councilwoman Ireland: Do we still have numbers that need to come in?

Administrator Caddell: I have the current revenue money at 5:20 today and I looked at them and, they are positive. They are not great, but not complete.

Councilwoman Ireland: We still have numbers that need to come in.

Administrator Caddell: The money is what I anticipated and I am happy with those numbers. I think the problem we have is if you go down the road to North Augusta, and a half dozen new restaurants are being built right then at over \$1,000,000 each. Aiken County and its subdivision's growth and building are incredible. That is our problem.

Councilwoman Ireland: I think that may be something people do not realize. Residential growth does not equate to commercial industrial growth. That is what we are looking at that is not happening in this county. We are having residential growth, but not commercial.

Administrator Caddell: Residential growth helps once you get into the \$400,000-\$500,000 house price range. We are getting some of that.

Councilwoman Ireland: But not in the same amount for retail, commercial or industrial.

Chairman Campbell: One light industry will pay for more than 500 residential subdivision homes. People think if you have all those homes, you have tax revenue, but not like what you would expect.

Councilman Moody: It is a burden with the growth of the County on the Sheriff Department. We need to keep up with the increase so we do not get behind like we did with the County Council.

The more people that come into the County, the more services the Sheriff's Department will get called out on. That is just a fact of life.

Sheriff Rowland: The salary we are at now is barely keeping up. I understand the cost, but I don't want to fall behind.

Councilman Talbert: We will speak with the Administrator and see what we can do to help because we know it is a necessity.

Councilman Moody: What is your average experience for the deputies?

Major Ramey: 3 years or less.

Councilwoman Ireland: I call them the young bucks. They are not in the family mode and are all about chasing the dollar. It would be great to hire an of age experienced staff to bring in because you know they will be more settled. But it is the young bucks that we have capabilities of reaching.

Deputy Ramey: The experienced 15-year deputy is searching for straight day shifts only with a large salary.

Councilwoman Ireland: I think we are seeing across the board that years of experience for an officer is dwindling because of burnout. The climate is not the same. It seems like we keep getting the young ones, and I understand what you are saying about the older ones.

Sheriff Rowland: We have had some success, and I give the credit to Major Ramey for recruiting them. We still have two rookies in-house that need to prepare for the test.

Councilwoman Kennion: I am looking at these salaries and thinking about someone who is married with an average two children.

Sheriff Rowland: It is difficult to manage a family with those salaries.

Councilwoman Ireland: You do not become law enforcement for the money. It has to be a calling. If you are getting into it to get rich, then you are in the wrong profession. I think they understand that to a point. But if you are looking at this for a profession, you had better have your eyes wide open.

Councilwoman Kennion: I understand, and hope we can find a way to help.

Chairman Campbell: Administrator, please see what we can do.

○ **Department Heads**

Garrett Lynn: I just want to make two comments. Every budget always has challenges, but we work collectively to make it better. I want to speak about the opioid money. The government sued pharmaceutical companies and won. The government distributed those funds to be used for recovery, and education. Lakeisha Bryant and I have worked hard on finding out more about these funds and going about trying to find ways to get more as well as use them. The first grant we applied for was the opioid grant that is being used for the outreach program. Through this

grant, we were able to hire an employee to schedule, manage, and coordinate the program for the county. We started this outreach sometime last year, and we have given out over 500 cans of Narcan to help reduce the number of overdoses and deaths. We have reached out to several businesses and people to educate them about this. All of the emergency services work together to fight this cause, but we can always work to improve to make things better.

Chairman Campbell: I have one comment to say concerning the opioid funds. All grants and free money come with strings. You only have certain things you can spend this money on. Do not do something the grant money does not allow you to do. We count on you and the administrator to get all the information on what is allowed use for the funds granted. But I want you to take the other view as well, that you need to study what the strings are and make sure we are doing everything we can do. For example, you have plans to do five things, but the grant allows you to do 15 things. I want to make sure we are looking at all 15 things if that was to number to make sure we are spending the money in a way that impacts as many people as it can positively. I just don't want to miss an opportunity.

Garrett Lynn: There are several grants to explore so we can help other groups. But I will be looking at all the other options.

Councilwoman Ireland: Are we seeing a reduction in the usage of Narcan for those who have overdosed from opioids?

Sheriff Rowland: Yes. We are doing all we can to get others involved. We have reached out to the churches, pastors, and Cornerstone. Narcan is a magical drug. It is amazing how it works on individuals who have overdosed. We are doing everything we can to help this fight.

Garrett Lynn: Not 100%, but yes in a short amount of time we have seen a reduction. But nothing drastic. I think it is going to take a collaboration with the Sheriff's Office to make a difference to stop it. The Sheriff's Department works from the beginning and we are at the end. It is going to take a lot of effort to combat this. But it is a nationwide problem. Not just an Edgefield County problem. Out of the 46 counties in South Carolina, only 4 or 5 participated in this program. We were one of those counties that started this.

Sheriff Rowland: If you ever get the opportunity to see this work, it's almost biblical.

Councilwoman Ireland: I can tell in the reports that it is working on the streets because we used to see it all the time in the newspaper. But property crimes and break-ins are not happening like we used to. Now in the reports, we are seeing drug stops. It is a switch. All of that is directly tied to the drugs. Can we use the opioid grant for a drug task force?

Sheriff Rowland: No.

Councilwoman Ireland: Are you all still looking outside the box for some of these grants and monies?

Sheriff Rowland: Yes.

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Councilman Moody: There is a nine-member committee in Columbia that sets the guidelines for these grants. You can talk to Senator Massey. I have already talked with Tom Young in Aiken. They are the ones who set the guidelines for these grants and what they can be used for.

Chairman Campbell: Do the elected official or department head have any further comments? Are there any other questions or comments from the Council? Hearing none. I will close the comment period. I will ask the Administrator if he has anything further to add.

Administrator Caddell: I have nothing further to add.

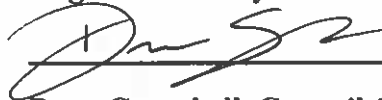
Chairman Campbell: Council, do you have any further comments or questions? Hearing none.

Adjourn

Chairman Campbell: Is there a motion to adjourn this Budget Workshop Meeting?

Councilwoman Ireland made the motion, and Councilwoman Kennion seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Budget Workshop Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Edgefield County Council



Dean Campbell, Council Chairman

ATTEST



Aretha Eubanks, Clerk to Council