

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Finance, Tax & Budgets
CHAIRPERSON: Yerda Potter, Chair
DATE/TIME: January 26, 2006. 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Berlage
 Carroll

Kent
 Mapes

Potter
 Schultz

Other Board members:
Others: Jean Dimke

MINUTES

1. Minutes

Marvin Schultz made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 29, 2005 committee meeting. Alan Kent seconded and the motion passed.

2. Old Business

- a) Update on accrual conversion. Jean Dimke reported that the idea of using VPN is not going to work according to Reggie from Wizard and Civic Systems; it's too slow. She met with Joe Kratcha, Betsy Eaton, Steve Keeffer and Reggie Polfer and Reggie came up with a new solution, but it will cost more money. The cost now is estimated at \$11,585 for a terminal server as a solution. Some of the funding can come from the Information Technology budget, Keeffer may have some \$3000 to put in but she was not speaking for him, Eaton doesn't have anything budgeted and it is unknown if the Health Department can contribute. This solution would accommodate other programs and information than just the purchase order solution. The committee discussed asking each department to contribute something, even if it is a small amount. It will be discussed at the next department head meeting. Kent made a motion to request contributions toward this project from each department at the next staff meeting. Schultz seconded and the motion passed.
- b) Purchase policy revision. Dimke and Berlage are going to bring this for discussion at the next staff meeting. Potter asked how long it will be before the Clerk's Office is comfortable enough with the purchase order system to eliminate the Claims Committee. Dimke thinks that April will be a reasonable guess. Schultz discussed Section 10 with the States Attorney and he would like to have some language inserted into the section that allows purchases up to a certain limit from local businesses that may serve on the board. The committee discussed and clarified the changes proposed in the purchasing policy.

3. New Business

- a) Resolution for minimum sale price for delinquent parcels and establishing fees. This does not change any costs to the County. Merri Berlage made a motion to recommend approval of the resolution to set the minimum sale price for delinquent parcels. Mapes seconded and the motion passed. Mapes made a

motion to recommend approval of the addendum to establish fees. Berlage seconded and the motion passed.

4. Other

- a) Treasurer's reports. No comments.
- b) Assessor's report. No comments.
- c) Board member concerns
 - i. Schultz commented that he would like the committee to consider asking the entire board to attend the four budget meetings when the joint committees met. He estimates that the increased costs will be approximately \$1100 if all members attend. He feels it would be beneficial for all Board members to hear all the departmental and agency presentations. The committee discussed sending the same packet to every Board member.
 - ii. Schultz also commented on the Capital Equipment Fund and questioned what the activity code 392 Sheriff's Computer Fund is being used for at this time. Schultz believes that project is finished. He also questioned if the money should be spent directly from this fund or transferred to a different budget before spending.
 - iii. Berlage commented that time is getting close to beginning the budget process and is concerned about having an Administrator before then. She has discussed the concerns with the Treasurer. The committee discussed the delays in the process of replacing the County Administrator. The committee discussed hiring a CPA for the interim for the budget process. The committee would like to continue with the same budget system for now. Kent asked about hiring a CPA firm to prepare the budget. Mapes asked about the health insurance process and Berlage has received a call from someone who would like to meet with either the committee or Board. The committee discussed the effect of changing the health insurance on the collective bargaining agreement. The committee discussed who, how, and when to approach the process this year. Berlage will check with our present provider and find out how soon they can give an estimated increase for next year's cost. She will also get some information from the consultant that the City of Galena uses.
 - iv. Yerda Potter stated that she has talked to Betsy Eaton about attending the Governor's Conference. A recommendation will be coming from the Development & Planning Committee regarding payment for the Advisory Board. The money would have to come from the amount budgeted for Capital Improvement. The committee discussed the reasons for paying for the Advisory Board to attend this conference. The committee discussed the Tourism Capital Improvement Fund and what the Scenic Byways Committee has been discussing.

5. Citizens' Comments – none

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. following a motion by Mapes and seconded by Kent.