



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MAY 16, 2017

4:32 P.M.

COUNTY SQUARE – CONFERENCE ROOM D

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MR. BUTCH KIRVEN, CHAIRMAN

MR. WILLIS MEADOWS, VICE CHAIRMAN

MRS. XANTHENE NORRIS, CHAIRMAN PRO TEM ARRIVED @ 4:38 P.M.

MR. JOE DILL ARRIVED

MR. MIKE BARNES

MR. SID CATES

MR. RICK ROBERTS

MR. BOB TAYLOR

MRS. LIZ SEMAN

MR. ENNIS FANT, SR. ARRIVED @ 4:39 P.M.

MR. LYNN BALLARD

MR. FRED PAYNE ARRIVED @ 4:34 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the County Square and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned Citizens.

STAFF PRESENT

Joe Kernell, County Administrator

Mark Tollison, County Attorney

Jeff Wile, Assistant County Attorney

Kimberly Wunder, Assistant County Attorney

John Hansley, Deputy County Administrator

Theresa Kizer, Clerk to Council

Regina McCaskill, Deputy Clerk to Council

Paula Gucker, Assistant County Administrator, Public Works

Bob Mihalic, Governmental Relations Officer

Shannon Herman, Assistant to the County Administrator

Ruth Parris, Management and Budget

Deneise Branyon, Management and Budget

Lisa Shealy, Management and Budget

Maria Tooley, Management and Budget

OTHERS PRESENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Butch Kirven

INVOCATION

Councilor Liz Seman

Item (3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Vice-Chairman Meadows moved to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2017, Regular Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (4) FY 2018 / FY 2019 BIENNIAL BUDGET

Joe Kernell, County Administrator, presented an overview of the proposed Operating and Capital Biennium Budget for FY 2018 and 2019. He stated the FY 2018 budget would be adopted first followed by adoption of the FY 2019 budget.

Introduction

Mr. Kernell stated the budget preparation was somewhat challenging as there were external factors to be dealt with. He stated the State’s commitment to the pension fund was still not finalized, but the County would adapt to any increases in the pension costs. The proposed increases to the pension fund were 2% for the first year and 1% thereafter for each year to approximately 2022. Mr. Kernell stated each percentage increase amounted to about \$750,000 to \$1,000,000, which would ultimately be about \$7.5 million more annually than what was currently budgeted.

Mr. Kernell stated health insurance was a major issue for the County as well as other businesses across the country. Some of the past federal laws which were put in place in regards to health insurance actually hurt rather than helped and cost the County more money. Mr. Kernell stated the County’s health insurance would continue to be monitored and added that some adjustments were made in the proposed budget.

Budget Proposal Meets Council’s Priorities

The graphic features a title at the top, a decorative circle, and a list of six items. Each item consists of a priority name followed by a description of the budget goal.

Priority	Budget Goal
1. Public Safety:	Reducing crime, lowering EMS response times, managing detention center population
2. Infrastructure:	Improving roads, drainage, storm water management
3. Fiscal Condition:	Maintaining quality of service and Triple A ratings
4. Public Transit:	Working with Greenlink to enhance and provide transportation
5. Economic Development:	Enhancing workforce quality, increasing jobs
6. Planning:	Promoting managed growth in compliance with the comprehensive planning program

Major Accomplishments

Major Accomplishments

- **No millage increase for the 24th & 25th consecutive year**
- **General Fund balance of \$49 million**
- **Expenditures reflect priorities of Greenville County Council**
- **Fiscally lean county government operation**
- **Investment in technology**

Proposed Budget – Fiscal Years 2018 & 2019

Proposed Budget Fiscal Years 2018 & 2019

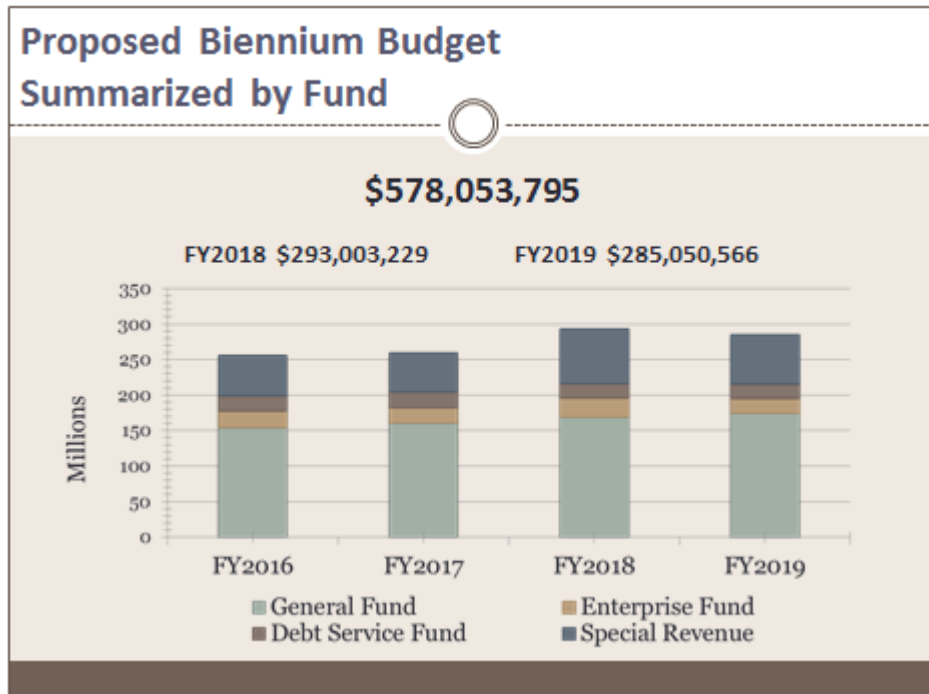
Fiscal Year 2018 \$293,003,229

Fiscal Year 2019 \$285,050,566

Total Biennium \$578,053,795

Includes all Funds

Proposed Biennium Budget Summarized by Fund



Highlights of Proposed Biennium Budget

Highlights of Proposed Biennium Budget

24th & 25th Year of Providing the Services Citizens Expect Without a Tax Increase

- Major Focus on Public Safety Needs
- Significant Investment in Infrastructure
- Deliberate Actions Taken to Maintain Sound Fiscal Condition

Public Safety

Public Safety

	FY2018	FY2019
Sheriff's Office	5 Master Deputies 6 Communication Specialists	5 Master Deputies 6 Communication Specialists
Detention Center	6 Detention Officers	6 Detention Officers
EMS	3 Paramedics 2 Communication Specialists 4 Emergency Medical Techs 2 Operational Support Techs	
Coroner's Office	1 Deputy Coroner 1 Administrative Support Specialist	

- Additional operational funding for Sheriff, EMS, Forensics, Public Defender and Medical Examiner
- Funding for new E911 CAD system
- Funding for new Public Safety Interoperable Communications System

Capital Projects

Capital Projects

FY2018- \$35.1 Million & FY2019- \$49.9 Million

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technological Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhancements to operating systems - GIS projects - Imaging of Register of Deeds documents - Integrated tax system ▪ Facility/Construction Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roof replacement for Courthouse - HVAC controls upgrade for LEC Complex - Magistrate office consolidation - County development project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Equipment Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding for vehicle replacements and additions - Replacement of cardiac monitors for EMS - Computer Aided Dispatch system - County-wide public safety communication system ▪ Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sign replacements and parking lot re-stripings - Deferred maintenance for several parks and/or facilities
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Capital Projects Infrastructure Improvements

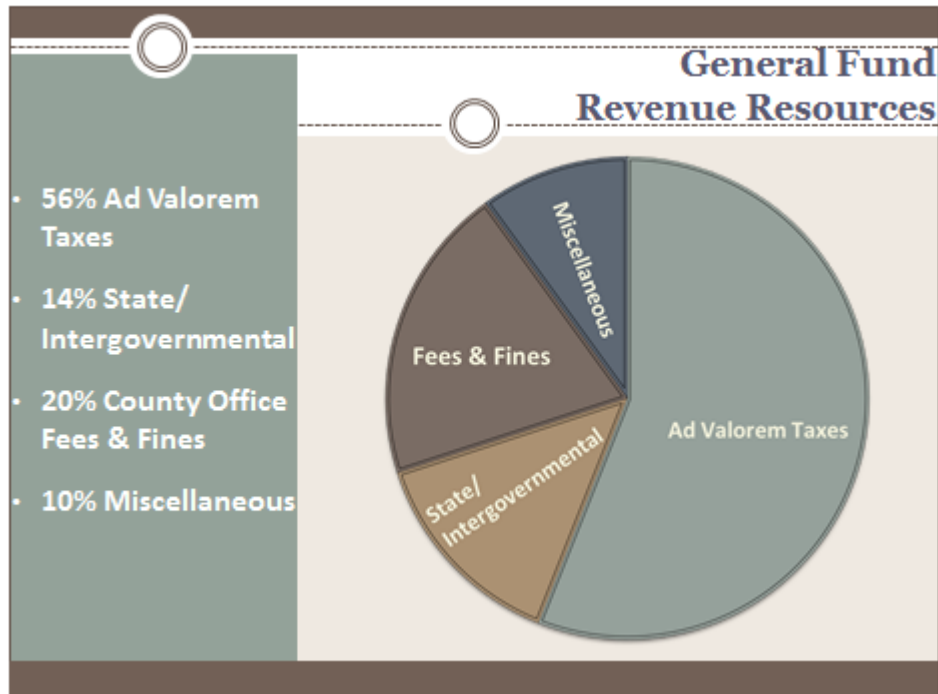
Capital Projects Infrastructure Improvements

Infrastructure Improvement Projects	Annual Investment
Neighborhood Drainage Improvements	\$600,000
Water Quality Retrofit Projects	\$600,000
Storm Water Flood Projects	\$2.3 million
Road Program	\$8.5 million

Fiscal Condition

- ### Fiscal Condition
- **Maintains adequate reserves and meets standards to maintain Triple A bond ratings**
 - **2.0% Salary adjustment for FY2018 and FY2019**
 - **Health insurance rate increases 10% for both years of the biennium**
 - **\$4 Million for vehicle replacements and additions for FY2018 and FY2019**
 - **Grant matching funds of \$200,000 per year**

General Fund Revenue Resources



General Fund Revenues

General Fund Revenues

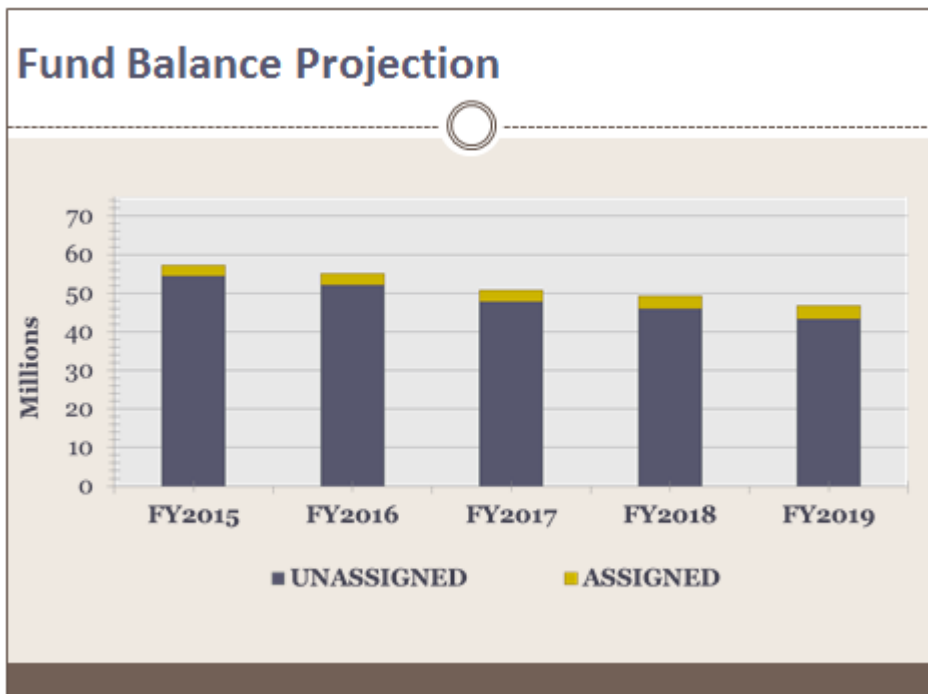
	FY 2015 ACTUAL	FY 2016 ACTUAL	FY 2017 PROJECTION	FY 2018 BUDGET	FY 2019 BUDGET
Property Tax	\$ 80,918,480	\$ 84,995,283	\$ 88,866,839	\$ 93,893,000	\$ 97,179,255
County Office Revenue	28,597,476	30,059,377	31,733,918	33,193,129	34,286,198
Intergovernmental	19,974,950	20,119,804	20,939,676	23,950,645	23,961,169
Other	8,055,661	7,708,267	6,435,160	6,518,773	6,521,895
Other Financing Sources	6,495,986	6,277,906	6,310,464	9,600,000	9,800,000
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 144,042,553	\$ 149,160,637	\$ 154,286,057	\$ 167,155,547	\$ 171,748,512

General Fund Expenditures

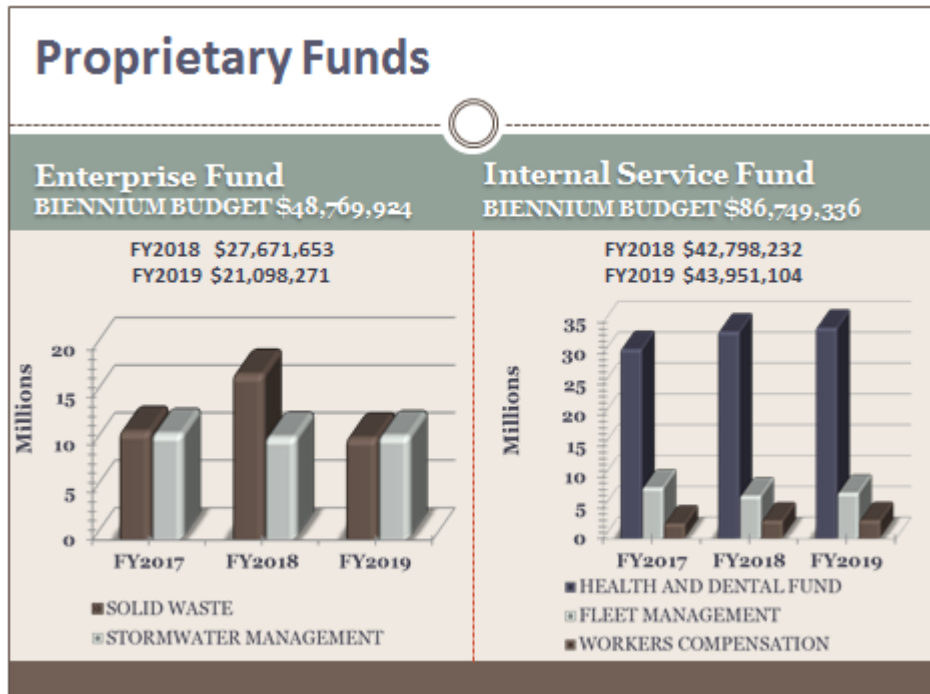
General Fund Expenditures

	FY2015 ACTUAL	FY2016 ACTUAL	FY2017 PROJECTION	FY2018 BUDGET	FY2019 BUDGET
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 117,785,352	\$ 123,629,538	\$ 127,555,703	\$ 134,158,957	\$ 138,296,030
Operating Expenses	20,592,863	21,951,486	21,250,000	24,503,973	24,587,178
Contractual Agreements	3,416,097	2,560,033	2,965,000	3,434,229	3,486,757
Capital Outlay	203,874	480,183	9,653	37,893	27,893
Total Recurring Expenditures	\$ 141,998,186	\$ 148,621,240	\$ 151,780,356	\$ 162,135,052	\$ 166,397,858
Other Financing Uses	1,611,640	4,201,607	6,830,192	6,601,921	7,787,034
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 143,609,826	\$ 152,822,847	\$ 158,610,548	\$ 168,736,973	\$ 174,184,892

Fund Balance Projection



Proprietary Funds



Budget Adoption Process



Biennium Budget Summary

Biennium Budget Summary

- **No Tax Increase**
- **Meets Requirements to Maintain Triple A Ratings**
- **Addresses Council's Priorities and Goals**
- **Increases Personnel in Public Safety area**
- **Addresses Capital Needs**
- **Maintains Required Reserves**

Mr. Kernell thanked Ruth Parris, Maria Tooley, Lisa Shealy and Deneise Branyon, with Management and Budget, for all their hard work. He stated all the departments submitted requests and not all requests were accommodated. Mr. Kernell stated the department heads were all very reasonable and accepting of the proposed budget, even if all requests were not honored. He added the departments were aware that the County's focus was Public Safety. Mr. Kernell also recognized John Hansley and Shannon Herman for their input and hard work.

Councilor Ballard inquired about the State contributing money to be used on County roads.

Mr. Kernell stated the money from the State was C-Fund money and some would be used for County roads. He stated if Council approved the Road Maintenance Fee Ordinance, there would be an additional \$4 million for road improvements.

Councilor Ballard asked about combining Magistrate's Offices and specifically inquired about the one currently located in County Square. He also asked if it would be included in the new County Square office.

Mr. Kernell stated the Magistrate's Office located in County Square was working very well. He stated it would not affect the new building as it was a relatively small office space. County Square was currently in the same juror area as the office's previous location. The new County Square building would also have to be in the same juror area if the Magistrate's Office was to be included.

Councilor Seman asked if there were any unfunded items that Council may need to be aware of.

Mr. Kernell stated the County could always use more money in the Capital Fund. He added that 60% of funding was from taxes and unless taxes were raised, the funding would not increase. Mr. Kernell stated The County worked well with the money budgeted and was always looking at ways to accomplish goals in non-traditional ways.

Chairman Kirven stated Greenville County was one of the lowest personnel per capita operations in the State. He asked if any of the proposed personnel increases would be offset by attrition in other departments.

Mr. Kernell stated the financial operations of the County were monitored almost daily. An issue such as a drop in expected revenues could not be controlled by the County, but expenditures could. He added if the County faced decreased revenues, some vacant positions could be kept open, but not in the area of Public Safety.

Councilor Cates thanked Mr. Kernell and staff for a good budget without a millage increase. He asked if the fund balance of \$49 million was constant or fluctuating.

Mr. Kernell stated the figure of \$49 million was a snapshot, cumulative over time. He added that revenues and expenditures controlled the amount in the fund balance. Mr. Kernell stated the fund balance was needed to pay salaries, purchase vehicles, etc.

Councilor Norris stated she was interested in diversity of income and salaries. She stated that some of the County's employees with years of education were not being paid top salaries. Councilor Norris stated some minority individuals had not been able to move up on the salary range.

Mr. Kernell stated there were a number of County employees with Doctorate Degrees, but, an employee's advanced degree must be relative to their job in order to be compensated. He added that an employee could be compensated if assigned additional duties, regardless of race, background, etc. Mr. Kernell stated the County would continue to examine salaries and rectify any inequities.

Councilor Roberts asked how Greenville County compared with other counties in regards to the tax scale.

Mr. Kernell stated he did not have those figures with him.

Councilor Taylor stated the South Carolina Association of Counties would be able to provide the information.

Councilor Roberts stated that given the huge impact from the pension plan, could the County choose to opt out with new employees.

Mr. Kernell stated that Home Rule / State Law required that employees of the County be included in the pension plan.

Councilor Payne thanked everyone involved in the budget process. He asked how much the County would receive in Local Government Funds to provide for mandated services.

Mr. Kernell stated the proposed budget included about \$20 million in Local Government Funds but the actual cost to provide the mandated services was approximately \$28 million.

ACTION : Councilor Dill moved to approve the Greenville County Operating and Capital Biennium Budget for FY 2018 and 2019 and forward it to full Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (5) **ADJOURNMENT**

ACTION: Councilor Seman moved to adjourn.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Theresa B. Kizer, Clerk to Council