

JUNE 25, 2001

The Board of Commissioners reconvened in Regular Session meeting that was recessed on June 18, 2001, at 7:00 P. M. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Robert L. Swanson, Vice Chairman George T. Wynne, Commissioner John R. Ball, Commissioner Harry L. Foy, Jr., Commissioner Edward G. Strickland.

The conducted a work session on the proposed 2001-2002 Franklin County Budget.

Mr. Jim Wrenn, Acting Tax Administrator, was in attendance to review proposed plan to increase the tax collection rate. Mr. Wrenn stated that the tax bills that are now being mailed have increased from 77,000 to 84,000 and the staff has not increased. Mr. Wrenn reviewed some of the options that could be utilized to improve the collection rate. The due date before foreclosure starts could be accelerated to six months in lieu of one year; hire a delinquent tax collector; turn old accounts to a collection agency; utilize a lock box system; hire an additional tax clerk; hire a full-time/part-time tax clerk.

Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Foy with all present voting "AYE" duly carried accelerate the foreclosure to six months after the due date in lieu of one year.

Mr. Ralph S. Knott, Chairman of the Recreation Advisory Committee, was in attendance to request that the Board not to make budget cuts to the Recreation Budget. He stated that the citizens of the County needed and wanted parks and recreation programs. He further stated that the County could not provide recreation for the citizens if the needed funds were not provided.

Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Foy, voting "AYE" Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Foy, voting "NO" Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Swanson delay construction of part of the Franklinton Area Park, the Recreation Advisory Board to determine what part, in order that \$100,000 can be cut from the proposed 2001-2002 Franklin County Budget.

Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Foy, voting "AYE" Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Foy, voting "NO" Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Swanson cut \$75,000 from the Recreation Reserve Fund in the proposed 2001-2002 Franklin County Budget.

Upon motion by Commissioner Foy, seconded by Commissioner Strickland voting "AYE" Commissioner Foy, Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Ball, voting "NO" Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Swanson reduce the matching funds in the Recreation Budget from \$25,000 to \$12,500.

Upon motion by Commissioner Foy, seconded by Commissioner Strickland, voting "AYE" Commissioner Foy, Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Ball, voting "NO" Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Swanson remove the proposed Royal Park from the Recreation Budget.

Mr. Michael Leonard was in attendance to discuss the proposed rate fee changes proposed in Planning & Development Department Budget for the 2001-2002 fiscal year.

Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Wynne with all present voting "AYE" duly carried the Rate Fee Schedule for the Department of Planning & Development approved as recommended effective October 1, 2001, excluding the fees proposed in the \$500,000 - \$1,250,000 category.

Mr. Larry Tetterton, Chairman of the Board of Elections and Mr. Billy Craft, Elections Supervisor, were in attendance to review with the Board needs in that department. Mr. Tetterton stated that due to the growth it is necessary to split the Harris Township

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District and when polling places are changes they have to be approved by the Justice Department and decisions have to be made soon. He also informed the Board that more space is needed for the Board of Elections Office due to the large number of voters taking advantage of the No Excuse Voting.

Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Foy, voting "AYE" Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Foy, Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Wynne, voting "NO" Commissioner Swanson that contribution in the amount of \$1,200 to the Town of Centerville be cut from the budget.

Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried that new position and equipment requested for the Animal Control Department be cut for a savings of \$32,385 and further recommend that the department account for the way time is used.

Upon motion by Commissioner Foy, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried that the expansion project planned for the Human Services Building be cut from the budget for a savings of \$350,000.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Wynne with all present voting "AYE" that the IMC III Supervisor in the Department of Social Services be cut for a savings of \$23,195.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Strickland, voting "AYE" Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Foy, voting "NO" Commissioner Swanson that the hours of operation at the Main Branch Library and the Satellite Branches not be reduced and that part-time staffing be reduced for a savings of \$27,228.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Wynne with all present voting "AYE" duly carried delay filling all new positions until October 1, 2001 for a savings of \$22,260.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball voting "AYE" Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Swanson, voting "NO" Commissioner Foy that employees receive 2 ½ percent COLA effective July 1, 2001.

Upon motion by Commissioner Foy, seconded by Commissioner Strickland voting "AYE" Commissioner Foy, Commissioner Strickland, voting "NO" Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Swanson that travel be reduced twenty percent.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Wynne with all present voting "AYE" duly carried that based upon Smart Start proposal not to fund the dental health transportation and education activity for 2002, that the budgeted amount of \$53,253 be eliminated from the budget and if needed be added back.

Mr. Larry Tetterton, Chairman, Economic Development Commission, inquired on the status of the resolution regarding the operation of the Economic Development Department and the appointment of a County Commissioner to serve on the Commission.

Chairman Swanson stated that the resolution would be brought back to the Board for consideration at the

next meeting.

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Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball voting "AYE" Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Swanson, voting "NO" Commissioner Foy the Board went into Closed Session pursuant to General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (6) to consider the qualifications of a prospective public employee.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried the Board reconvened into Regular session.

Chairman Swanson stated no action necessary as a result of the Closed Session.

There being no further business to come before the Board, adjournment recorded at 11:00 P. M.

Robert L. Swanson, Chairman Jean Gordon, Clerk