

TERM OF COMMISSION: December Session of the October Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center
Commission Chambers

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Keith Schnarre
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Skip Elkin
Boone County Auditor June Pitchford
Deputy County Clerk Shawna Victor

The budget hearing was called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Budget Hearing: Department 1510 (Economic Support – Columbia Special Business District)

Carrie Gartner, Director of the Columbia Special Business District and Rosie Gerding, Treasurer of the Columbia Special Business District, were present on behalf of this budget hearing.

The Special Business District (SBD) has requested level funding, \$7,000 and this is the amount that has been put in the proposed FY2006 budget.

The SBD is the majority of the downtown area and is bound by Providence Road and the three colleges.

The focus of the SBD has been a Beautification Project. Part of this project is the replacement of benches, trash cans and street lights. The next step will be the placement of signs throughout the SBD. These will be directional signs at the pedestrian level and the vehicle level.

The revenues for the SBD come from a special assessment of businesses and residents in the SBD and a fee for businesses on city business licenses. The assessment is based on square footage of a building. Also, funding comes from the City, County and University.

There was discussion about bringing more residential to the SBD.

Commissioner Schnarre asked what the vacancy level is for the SBD. Ms. Gartner stated vacancy is very low.

There was discussion of how the opening of the YouZeum, Blind Boone House, and the Stephens College museum.

There was no further discussion on this budget.

The budget hearings recessed at 3:22 p.m.

The budget hearings reconvened at 3:30 p.m.

Budget Hearing: Department 1420 (Social Service – Community Services Advisory Commission)

Chair, Jordan Alexander, Chair; Reginald Kinsey, County Vice Chair; Sid Simons, County Representative; Becky Wagner, City Representative; and Phil Steinhaus, were present on behalf of this budget hearing

The Community Services Advisory Commission (CSAC) has requested \$163,130 from the County. The budget includes \$121,550 for the agencies that are funded by the CSAC.

If the Commission were to increase the funding by 2%, Cedar Creek Therapeutic Riding Center, Rainbow House Child Advocacy Center, Rainbow House Emergency Foster Care and Reality House would receive additional funding. If the Commission were to increase the funding by 3%, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Centro Latino would also receive additional funding.

Commissioner Schnarre asked what the City budgets for this. Mr. Steinhaus stated the City budgeted \$868,650 for this year.

Commissioner Schnarre asked if the County gives funding for administration in the Community Services Advisory office. Mr. Steinhaus stated that is correct, the County has budgeted \$18,950, which is a 2.9% increase from the FY2005 budget.

There was discussion about the process for the funding recommendations made by CSAC.

There was discussion about the reallocation of funds if the Commission is not comfortable funding an agency. Mr. Steinhaus noted the agencies submit reports but there is no way to verify the agencies are doing what they are reporting.

There was no further discussion on this budget.

The budget hearings adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Attest:

Keith Schnarre
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Skip Elkin
District II Commissioner