

SPECIAL SESSION:

State of West Virginia, County of Jefferson, to-wit:

At a Special Session of the County Commission of said County and State continued and held at County Commission meeting room in the Old Charles Town Library located at 200 E. Washington Street, Charles Town, WV 25414 on March, 17 2015 at 7:00 pm (An audio file of the March 17, 2015 meeting is available through the Jefferson County Commission Office.)

PRESENT: Jane Tabb, President
Patsy Noland, Vice President
Eric Bell, Commissioner
Dale Manuel, Commissioner
Walt Pellish, Commissioner
Stephanie Grove, County Administrator
Tim Stanton, Finance Director
Jessica Carroll, Administrative Assistant

RE: **FY16 Budget Public Hearing**

Commissioner Tabb called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and stated the purpose for the meeting was to receive public comments regarding the Jefferson County Commission's FY16 proposed budget. Mr. Stanton provided the audience with a summary of the FY16 Budget, describing the zero-based budgeting process as completed by the department heads and elected officials. Mr. Stanton also discussed the major variables in the budget, including rising jail costs and declining gaming revenue. Ms. Tabb opened the floor for public comment at 7:16 pm. Comments were made by the following:

Paul Rosa, resident – questioned the Commission's decision to pay for Ms. Grove's continuing education to maintain her State Bar License and requested working budget documents be available to the public prior to budget presentations and deliberations.

Kevin Tester, resident – thanked the Commission for implementing zero-based budgeting for FY16 and stated the Commission needed to research alternative means of generating revenue from businesses instead of relying upon taxpayers and monies from Hollywood Casino.

Ramona Wesling, resident – urged the Commission to review their priorities and do away with "extras" in order to fully fund the "basic services" such as fire and emergency services.

Craig Simpson, resident and President of the Shepherdstown Volunteer Fire Department – stated the budgets of the fire departments are very tight and though the fire department receives an allocation from the Commission and spends approximately two months fundraising, they'd appreciate additional assistance if possible.

David Harty, resident – thanked the Commission for implementing zero-based budgeting for FY16.

There being no further comment, Ms. Tabb stated the Commission would hold the record open for written comment until Thursday, March 19, 2015 as the budget had to be submitted to the State by March 28, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm on a motion by Mr. Manuel. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

JANE M. TABB, PRESIDENT

Respectfully submitted
Jessica D. Carroll
Executive Administrative Assistant