

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
Monday, December 1, 2014
Budget Hearing
9:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Jeffreys led the flag salute.
3. Roll Call – Present: Commissioner District 1 - Randy Neatherlin; Commissioner District 2 – Tim Sheldon was absent; Commissioner District 3 – Terri Jeffreys.
4. 2015 Budget Hearing – Frank Pinter, Budget Manager explained the 2015 preliminary budget.

Chair Jeffreys stated that on the last page the items marked with an "x" are re-occurring expenses and do not include cost of living or medical expenses or Sheriff's staff additions.

Tom Davis asked Mr. Pinter if this includes the reserves.

Frank answered it does not include the reserves. He added that the State Auditor recommends reserves be 2-3 months operating costs.

Lisa Frazier stated that she is concerned about not knowing how much the IT amount will be and how this will that be accounted for to the State Auditor.

Tom Davis asked about court house security and asked if it has been approved.

Frank Pinter answered yes, it has been approved. It is included in the Sheriff's office budget.

Tom Davis asked Frank how much currently is being spent on courthouse security.

Mr. Pinter answered \$210,000.00.

Testimony:

Tom Davis requested continuing this hearing because Cmmr. Sheldon is the Commissioner for his district and he would like him to be in attendance. He commented that there is nothing to substantiate an increase in courthouse security. He said it is like creating a barrier between the Court/Commission staff and the public. Mr. Davis said if the County can't afford to hire all the deputies that are needed, then the public will have to have a volunteer program to help. He added that law enforcement presence keeps crime down in neighborhoods.

Cmmr. Neatherlin said he is always on the side of safety regarding courthouse security. He said the Judges deal with some pretty angry people. Cmmr. Neatherlin added that he fully agrees with citizen patrol although the Sheriff's office has explained all the liabilities that go along with that. He agrees that the presence of law enforcement does lower crime.

Cmmr. Neatherlin/Jeffreys moved and seconded to continue this hearing on December to 2, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. as requested by a constituent who feels that all three Commissioners should be present for this hearing.

5. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

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MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Terri Jeffreys, Chair

ATTEST:


Tim Sheldon, Commissioner


Clerk of the Board


Randy Neatherlin, Commissioner