

done. Commissioner Sergent stated that other things to her seem negotiable, but the ADA items are not. We need to find the money to be in compliance.

Commissioner Harris stated that in this day and time, it is hard for people to get by. The recent \$40,000 budget amendment leads him to believe that the previous budget was padded. So, he is thinking that in this current budget, there will be money to be found also. The City has serious management decisions to be made and issues to be addressed. All departments but one were asked to cut their budget by 7%. There are ways the budget can be cut without the elimination of positions. Commissioner Harris stated he would like the budget to be sent back to the manager and to the Finance Committee and ask them to reevaluate the budget and come up with one that is feasible. He has been on the receiving end of job elimination, and this is not fun. We cannot play with peoples' lives and their livelihoods – it is important in this day and age for people to have a job. Commissioner Harris stated that he, therefore, will not support or vote for this budget.

MPT Herring stated that a good thing about this budget is that the tax rate remains the same. Everything else can be reinvestigated and renegotiated. The concerns of Commissioners Harris and Sergent are legitimate, and another look at the budget can be addressed. As a member of the Finance Committee, MPT Herring stated he would vote for the budget. However, he does have a concern related directly to the airport. It is his belief this Board does not understand the total concept of the airport and our contribution to it. MPT Herring gave brief summary of the City's contributions to the airport from 1967 to 2005.

MPT Herring stated that he wants a discussion added to the July Agenda on the City's obligation to the airport, what is the return on investment for Oxford taxpayers, and who gets the taxes and revenues generated from the airport. If approved, City taxpayers will give a \$26,000 contribution to the airport, and MPT Herring asked what this is for. In return, he feels the City will get nothing.

Mayor Woodlief stated that the taxes at the airport were minimal in 1967, but they now exceed \$20,000. He and the city manager have discussed putting together a meeting with Henderson and Vance County to see if they feel the same as Oxford and then address the County with this issue. Granville County, with the taxes they receive, only puts in about \$5,000 whereas Oxford is putting in \$26,000. The airport benefits Oxford a great deal, but there is a question to be asked.

Mayor Woodlief stated he understood Commissioner Sergent's being upset with the last minute items. However, there are eight months to get to the point that Commissioner Harris got to. When the budget is approved, the Board will tell the citizens their tax rate will remain the same. The other items can be questioned, changed, whatever. The only thing the Board is obligated to do by June 30th is to make sure the tax rate is set. The Mayor stated he hoped the Board would not send a negative signal to the citizens of Oxford by disagreeing with the budget. It has been hard to come by, some people will suffer from it, but most departments have done as asked.

Commissioner Cantley added that the Henderson Oxford Airport was established in 1945 by the General Assembly by Charter. MPT Herring stated our City records indicate the City got involved in 1967.

Commissioner Harris stated he supports the tax rate, but he has a problem with the budget. Commissioner Sergent stated her support of the tax rate and added she is comfortable with the bottom line. However, if the budget is passed on this evening, she wants to see the Board remain committed to sorting out questions that have been raised.

COMMISSIONERS HERRING, CANTLEY, CURRIN, WILLIFORD, SERGENT, AND BULLOCK VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE;
COMMISSIONER HARRIS VOTED IN THE NEGATIVE. THE MOTION CARRIED BY A SIX TO ONE VOTE.

**EMPLOYING RFT TO ASSIST IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CITY OF CREEDMOOR FOR POTENTIAL SALE OF
WATER AND SEWER SERVICE MOVED TO CLOSED SESSION**

At 5:55 p.m., the Board excused Commissioner Harris from the meeting.

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO BE BUDGETED IN FISCAL YEAR 2012 FOR COLEY ANDREWS
FOR THE WATER BILLING SYSTEM NOT APPROVED**

CM Donham stated that the person doing the computer system has done a good job of maintaining the system for the last three years, but that he has not been billing us for what we agreed to pay. This is a bill to capture those years and will be paid out of the Water Fund. FD McNally added that the relationship with this vendor started out as a casual one between the vendor and Kelly Howard. He's been doing his work and has provided great service. FD McNally, at request of the Board, stated he can send the message to Mr. Coley that if he does not bill within the fiscal year, he will not be paid. Commissioner Sergent stated it would be helpful to see a breakdown of Mr. Coley's bill. Commissioner Williford stated there will be an upcoming Finance Committee Meeting, and the contract can be gone over as well as inviting Mr. Coley to attend. Mayor Woodlief stated the City is being very lenient with Mr. Coley. Commissioner Sergent asked how this fares with the auditors, FD McNally stating it is really not a problem.

COMMISSIONER WILLIFORD MADE A MOTION FOR THIS BILL TO GO TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION

ON A MOTION BY MPT HERRING, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION
ACCORDING TO G.S. 143.318.11 TO DISCUSS A CONTRACT.
ON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BULLOCK, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.

**EMPLOYING RFT TO ASSIST IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CITY OF CREEDMOOR FOR POTENTIAL SALE OF
WATER AND SEWER SERVICE APPROVED**

COMMISSIONER CANTLEY MADE A MOTION FOR THIS STUDY TO BE COMPLETED, NOT TO EXCEED \$45,000.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURN

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER WILLIFORD MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN.
ALL VOTES WERE IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THE MOTION CARRIED.