



DeKalb County Government

178 Sams Street
Decatur, GA 30030

Minutes

FAB-Finance, Audit & Budget Committee

Commissioner Ted Terry (Chairperson)

Commissioner Michelle Long Spears

Commissioner Chakira Johnson

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

3:30 PM

Meeting Started At:

Attendance: Commissioners M. Long Spears, C. Johnson, R. Patrick, M. Davis Johnson, N. Massiah, L. Bolton

Present 2 - Commissioner Michelle Long Spears, and Commissioner Chakira Johnson
Not Present 1 - Chairperson Ted Terry

I. MINUTES

2025-0196 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the January 28, 2025 Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee
MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:
Yes: 2 - Commissioner Long Spears, and Commissioner Johnson
Not Present: 1 - Chairperson Terry

II. DISCUSSION

Bond Resolution Discussion - Water Rate

Deferred discussion to Special Called FAB on February 13, 2025

Proposed FY2025 Budget Priorities - Constitutional Offices

Superior Court

Questions:

- 1) CJ: Professional Services – What was 4th position? Is there an additional one? (Chief Judge responded)*
- 2) MDJ: Is \$1.2 million over and above what is being asked/proposed? (Chief Judge responded)*
- 3) MDJ: Court reporter for all court/judges? Still doing criminal cases? (Chief Judge responded)*
- 4) MDJ: Interpreters – Each court has one now? What language will interpreter utilize? (Chief Judge responded)*
- 5) NM: Familiar with positions not filled that account for reduction in budget? Only 1 vacancy? (Chief Judge responded)*
- 6) NM: Would court reporter be used for criminal cases? Not for civil cases? Would it be beneficial to have 2 court reporters? (Chief Judge responded)*
- 7) LB: Explain the budget breakdown -Upwards of \$673K what does the rest account for? Explain additional positions for clarity (Chief Judge responded)*
- 8) RP: Budget - \$750K or so total according to calculations, what is the difference for? (Chief Judge responded)*

Sheriff's Office

Questions:

- 1) MLS: Clarifying total request amount? (Sheriff's Office responded)*
- 2) CJ: Clarify – What is making up the \$10.6 million? (Sheriff's Office responded)*
- 3) RP: Share CEO's perspective on this request (COO Williams responded)*
- 4) RP: SPLOST potential funding? (COO Williams responded)*
- 5) RP: Where are we on assessments? Time frame? (COO Williams responded)*
- 6) NM: T. Sigler, anything to add? (Director Sigler responded)*
- 7) LB: Did you do cost savings for getting roof fixed? (Sheriff's Office responded)*
- 8) LB: Determined sense of urgency? (Sheriff's Office responded)*
- 9) LB: How does that affect triple crown accreditation? (Sheriff's Office responded)*
- 10) LB: First 4 priorities listed are high priority? (Sheriff's Office responded)*

Office of District Attorney

No questions

Tax Commissioner's Office

No questions

III. AGENDA ITEM

New Agenda Items

Chief Executive Office

[2025-0185](#)

Commission District(s): All

To Adopt the 2025 Annual Budget

MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Michelle Long Spears, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 2/25/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Long Spears, and Commissioner Johnson

Not Present: 1 - Chairperson Terry

Walk On Item - District 5

Commission District(s): District 5

A Resolution of The Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County Establishing and Identifying the Roles and Responsibilities of an Independent CIP Auditor to Monitor Implementation of the County's Capital Improvement Program and Amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget to Fund an Independent CIP Auditor and Necessary Staff

This matter was No recommendation to the FAB-Finance, Audit & Budget Committee, due back on 2/13/2025

Questions:

- 1) CJ: *Where in budget would auditor be funded? (COO Williams responded)*
- 2) LB: *Is the intent to hire for duration of 10 years? (Comm. MDJ responded)*
- 3) LB: *Is expectation for auditor to be present in meetings etc? Considering how massive this is, applicant pool would be limited? Something in document to track auditor? (Comm. MDJ responded)*
- 4) MLS: *Can we do end of year review of auditor? (Comm. MDJ responded)*
- 5) MLS: *Ability for auditor to have subpoena powers? Commissioners having subpoena powers? (Atty Welch responded)*
- 6) MDJ: *In this resolution will there be language that would expect administration to cooperate? (Atty Welch responded)*
- 7) MLS: *Confirming 1st stab at addressing subpoena power? (Atty Welch responded)*
- 8) LB: *Consent decree being facilitated in desired time frame? (Atty Welch responded) No*
- 9) LB: *The last bullet re: retain support staff and duties – are we giving auditor authority to hire staff? (Comm. MDJ responded)*
- 10) NM: *Any recommendation from auditor? Will auditor only have recommendations? (Atty Welch responded) (Atty Welch responded)*
- 11) RP: *Only intention to focus on water/sewer or other CIP programs? (Comm. MDJ and COO responded)*
- 12) MDJ/MLS: *Comments*

Meeting Ended At: 4:56PM

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC