Be It Remembered that the Greene County

Council met on August 26, 27, and 28, 2025, in the Commissioners’ Room on the third floor of the Courthouse in order to hold hearings regarding the budgets for 2026.

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Council President Kelly Zimmerly at 8:15 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance opened the meeting.

Those present in person were Kelly Zimmerly, Karen Abrams, Ronald Lehman, Brent Murray, Randall Brown, Jerry Frye, and Bryan Woodall.

**Re: Council Discussion**

Kelly Zimmerly stated that, as requested by the council, the county department heads and elected officials added a 4% raise to their 2026 budget. Ben Roeger stated that the County would only need to cut $67,000.00 if given a 2.8% raise. The COLA rate for the year 2026 is expected to be 2.7%. Kelly stated that in previous years that the council has tried to at least give the COLA rate each year.

Randall Brown stated that if LIT can be increased, then he would be willing to give 4%, but if the Council is not going to increase the LIT amount, then he would recommend the COLA rate increase.

Karen Abrams stated that she would rather see the county employees get a smaller raise this year and still be able to give them a raise next year, than to give a bigger raise this year and not give a raise at all next year.

Bryan Woodall moved, and Karen Abrams seconded, to adopt the 2.7% COLA raise for the 2026 budget year across the board. A roll call vote was taken. Bryan Woodall voted aye. Jerry Frye voted aye. Randall Brown voted nay. Ron Lehman voted aye. Brent Murray voted nay. Karen Abrams voted aye. Kelly Zimmerly voted nay. The motion passed 4-3.

**Re: Auditor Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7%, to include tiers, and move the Council Clerk Stipend to the Council’s budget. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $301,064.00. Initially approved amount was $295,217.00.

**Re: Auditor Transfer Fees Budget:**

Karen Abrams moved, and Randall Brown seconded, to approve the budget as presented and to pay the part-time wage of $16.00 an hour. A roll call vote was taken. Bryan Woodall voted aye. Jerry Frye voted aye. Randall Brown voted nay. Ron Lehman voted aye. Brent Murray voted nay. Karen Abrams voted aye. Kelly Zimmerly voted nay. Those who voted nay were in favor of $16.18 an hour. The motion passed 4-3. The published amount was $17,500.00. Initially approved amount was $17,500.00.

**Re: Drainage Board Budget**

Brent Murray moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $11,900.00. Initially approved amount was $11,900.00.

**Re: Surveyor Budget**

Brent Murray moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the budget with an increase of $2,000.00 in the extra hire line and a 2.7% raise for the surveyor. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $47,771.00. Initially approved amount was $47,374.00.

**Re: Surveyor’s Corner Perpetuation Budget**

Ron Lehman moved, and Karen Abrams seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 6-0. The published amount was $65,000.00. Initially approved amount was $65,000.00.

**Re: General Drain Improvement Budget**

Bryan Woodall moved, and Jerry Frye seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $35,650.00. Initially approved was $35,650.00.

**Re: Coroner Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the budget with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7% with the recalculated rate without tiers. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $90,253.00. Initially approved was $89,700.00.

**Re: Clerk’s Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7%, to recalculating tiers, and to approve the increase of chief deputy’s base pay to $45,437.25. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $395,258.00. Initially approved amount was $389,538.00.

**Re: Voter Registration Budget**

Bryan Woodall moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $5,250.00. Initially approved amount was $5,250.00.

**Re: Election Board Budget**

Brent Murray moved, and Randall Brown seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $179,700.00. Initially approved amount was $179,700.00.

**Re: Assessor Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7%, and to recalculate tiers. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $152,635.00. The initially approved amount was $150,841.00.

**Re: Reassessment Fund Budget**

Randall Brown moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, to remove the designation bonus. A roll call vote was taken. Bryan Woodall voted aye. Jerry Frye voted aye. Randall Brown voted aye. Ron Lehman voted nay. Brent Murray voted aye. Karen Abrams voted nay. Kelly Zimmerly voted aye. The motion passed 5-2.

Karen Abrams moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7% including all positions and recalculating tiers. The published amount was $598,879.00. Initially approved amount was $595,038.00.

**Re: Cemetery Budget**

Ron Lehman moved, and Brent Murray seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $3,050.00. Initially approved amount was $3,050.00.

**Re: Recorder Budget**

Ronald Lehman moved, and Brent Murray seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7%, to recalculate tiers, and change the part-time pay to $16.95 an hour. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $114,432.00. Initially approved amount was $113,001.00.

**Re: Enhanced Access Fund Budget**

Bryan Woodall moved, and Ronald Lehman seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $46,910.00. Initially approved amount was $46,910.00.

**Re: County Identification Security Budget**

Ronald Lehman moved, and Randall Brown seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $8,500.00. Initially approved amount was $8,500.00.

**Re: Recorder Perpetuation Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7% and to recalculate tiers. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $92,065.00. Initially approved amount was $91,264.00.

**Re: County Elected Officials Training Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Brent Murray seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $5,000.00. Initially approved amount was $5,000.00.

**Re: Treasurer Budget**

Ronald Lehman moved, and Randall Brown seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7% and to recalculate tiers. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $201,764.00. Initially approved amount was $199,651.00.

**Re: Council Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, to move the Council Clerk Stipend from the Auditor’s budget to the Council budget, approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises from 4% to 2.7%, and recalculate tiers. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $149,208.00. Initially approved amount was $150,475.00.

**Re: Rainy-Day Fund Budget**

Randall Brown moved, and Brent Murray seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $750,000.00. Initially approved amount was $750,000.00.

**Re: Break for lunch – resumed meeting at 1p.m.**

**Re: Superior Court Budget**

Ron Lehman moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises to 2.7% and to recalculate tiers. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $320,016.00. Initially approved amount was $316,535.00.

**Re: Drug & Alcohol – Co. General Budget**

Brent Murray moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises to 2.7% and to recalculate tiers. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $48,495.00. Initially approved amount was $47,889.00.

**Re: County Drug-Free Comm.-Superior Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Randall Brown seconded, to approve the budget as presented. Motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $20,000.00. Initially approved amount was $20,000.00.

**Re: Greene County Drug & Alcohol Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Ronald Lehman seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 6-0. The published amount was $85,106.00. Initially approved amount was $85,106.00.

**Re: Opioid Unrestricted Funds Budget**

Jerry Frye moved, and Karen Abrams seconded, to approve the budget as presented. Motion passed 5-0. The published amount was $62,760.00. Initially approved amount was $62,760.00.

**Re: Opioid Restricted Funds Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Brent Murray seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises to 2.7%. Motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $126,410.00. Initially approved amount was $125,847.00.

**Re: Weights & Measures Budget**

Karen Abrams moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of raises reduced to 2.7%. Motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $26,816.00. Initially approved amount was $26,568.00.

**Re: County Extension Services Budget**

Ron Lehman moved, and Randall Brown seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of reducing raises to 2.7%, recalculate tiers and remove $3,100.00 from the utilities line. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $276,765.00. Initially approved amount was $272,556.00.

**Re: Community Event Center Budget**

Randall Brown moved, and Brent Murray seconded, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $71,780.00. Initially approved amount was $71,780.00.

**Re: CASA Budget**

Ron Lehman moved, and Karen Abrams seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of raises reduced to 2.7% and recalculate tiers. Motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $120,604.00. Initially approved amount was $119,220.00.

**Re: GAL/CASA Capacity Grant Budget**

Brent Murray moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the budget as presented. Motion passed 7-0. The published amount was $3,500.00. Initially approved amount was $3,500.00.

**Re: GAL/CASA Matching Grant Budget**

Bryan Woodall moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the budget as presented. Motion passed 6-0. Jerry Frye did not vote. The published amount was $30,000.00. Initially approved amount was $30,000.00.

**Re: Circuit Court Budget**

Ron Lehman moved, and Brent Murray seconded, to approve the budget as presented with the exception of raises reduced to 2.7% and recalculate the tiers. Motion passed 6-0. Jerry Frye did not vote. The published amount was $241,540.00. Initially approved amount was $239,413.00.

**Re: Magistrate Court Budget**

Ronald Lehman moved, and Randall Brown seconded, to approve the budget as presented reducing raises to 2.7% and recalculate tiers. The motion passed 6-0. Jerry Frye did not vote. The published amount was $102,690.00. Initially approved amount was $101,690.00.

**Re: Soil & Water Budget**

Ron Lehman moved, and Brent Murray seconded, to approve the budget as presented reducing the raise to 2.7%. The motion passed 6-0. Jerry Frye did not vote. The published amount was $72,093.00. Initially approved amount was $71,552.00.

As all scheduled budgets were presented this day, Kelly Zimmerly moved to recess until 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 27, 2025.

Jerry R. Frye Ronald Lehman

Kelly Zimmerly Brent Murray

Karen Abrams Bryan Woodall

Randall Brown

Attest:

Heather Perry, Auditor