

Amy Harvey

From: Jeanette Coffin
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Jamezetta Bedford
Cc: Susan Brown; Amy Harvey; Carolyn Worsley; Flo Miller; Laura Selmer; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Rae Buckley; Ralph Karpinos; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver; Allen Buansi; Amy Ryan; Hongbin Gu; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Tai Huynh
Subject: RE: 2020/21 Funding for Chapel Hill Public Library

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

If your email is related to a development application or a particular issue being addressed by the Council, your comments will be made part of the record. If applicable, we encourage you to attend any public meetings related to the items addressed in your email.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin



Jeanette Coffin
Office Assistant
[Town of Chapel Hill Manager's Office](#)
[405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.](#)
[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

From: Jamezetta Bedford [mailto:jbedford@orangecountync.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 6:40 PM
To: Pam Hemminger <phemminger@townofchapelhill.org>; ALL_BOCC_MANAGER_CLERK <OCBOCC@orangecountync.gov>
Cc: Donna Baker <dbaker@orangecountync.gov>; Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>; council@townofcarrboro.org
Subject: Re: 2020/21 Funding for Chapel Hill Public Library

External email: Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to reportspam@townofchapelhill.org

Thank you for sharing some of the key data points regarding the Chapel Hill library. I support funding this library, the Orange County library and voting to proceed with the CIP funding for design work for the county SW library. I look forward to collaborating on making these valuable resources continue to positively impact

residents' lives and to further investigating interoperability among the libraries, especially as we develop plans for the software and operations at the new library.

Best,

Jamezetta Bedford,
County Commissioner

From: Pam Hemminger <[p he mminger@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:phe mminger@townofchapelhill.org)>
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 1:26 PM
To: ALL_BOCC_MANAGER_CLERK
Cc: Donna Baker
Subject: [EXTERNAL MAIL!] 2020/21 Funding for Chapel Hill Public Library

Dear Board of County Commission colleagues,

On behalf of the Town of Chapel Hill, I am writing to request removal of an amendment to the 2020/21 Orange County budget which would eliminate \$568,000 in funding for the Chapel Hill Public Library.

One of the busiest facilities in the Town and Orange County, the Chapel Hill Public Library provides a safe and free public space that people rely on to provide educational, professional and social resources. This includes books, internet access, educational and professional training programs, community meeting spaces, entertainment and more.

At present 46% of Orange County residents are active account holders and the library receives 20% of the county's annual library funding which is much lower than the 30% that had been previously agreed to.

With over 385,000 circulating items, 11 meeting and work rooms,, 60 public internet computers, robust internet access, over 900 annual events, the Circulator Pop-Up bookmobile, an on-site environmental education center and more, the library supports county goals by serving as a vital community hub that fosters life-long learning for people of all ages.

Although closed during the Stay-At-Home order and early Phases of Re-Opening, our library staff have worked hard to provide virtual content and to plan for serving the entire community safely and effectively in the future.

Now, as we help our community overcome the challenges they face during Covid-19 recovery – including unemployment, changes to traditional classroom learning and social isolation - having access to these free resources and a knowledgeable staff is more important than ever for many. This is especially true for our most vulnerable populations.

We understand that Orange County faces difficult financial choices for the coming year but believe that funding the library is critically important to the well-being and quality of life for our entire community.

To assist you in your evaluation of this request, I am attaching a memo which includes additional information on current levels of funding, services provided and steps the Town would need to take should funding me cut.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to restarting conversations in the near future about how to move forward together on shared community resources.

Sincerely,

Pam Hemminger

[Description: Description:]
Pam Hemminger

Mayor

Town of Chapel Hill <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.townofchapelhill.org_&d=DwIF-g&c=JRU6Crajf79kKcplUJFHFfpcQ9GkS9xWLut8YRTooJY&r=n9ktzdnh4a6Vy7Tgn_DKbZjy8VpEeayjflbpuaz7sw&m=rgKWU7DYFT4_HWlQuDFmr4SpJCuwPZVJ6AcS3W0i4tY&s=KYD9-BExQuL570YHHJNhgnyYVTHMlPh3nROLwo-nMI&e= >

405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Chapel Hill, NC 27514-5705

Phone: (919) 968-2714

Amy Harvey

From: Jeanette Coffin
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 12:41 PM
To: jbedford@orangecountync.gov
Cc: Judy Johnson; Dwight Bassett; Amy Harvey; Carolyn Worsley; Flo Miller; Laura Selmer; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Rae Buckley; Ralph Karpinos; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver; Allen Buansi; Amy Ryan; Hongbin Gu; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Tai Huynh
Subject: FW: Proposed amendment
Attachments: Logo2014-ColorWhiteBack.jpg; a633908a-3bfa-4d94-ac79-2ce37481f161.jpg

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

If your email is related to a development application or a particular issue being addressed by the Council, your comments will be made part of the record. If applicable, we encourage you to attend any public meetings related to the items addressed in your email.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin



Jeanette Coffin
Office Assistant
[Town of Chapel Hill Manager's Office](#)
[405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.](#)
[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

From: Jamezetta Bedford [mailto:jbedford@orangecountync.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 12:03 PM
To: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>; council@townofcarrboro.org
Subject: Fw: Proposed amendment

External email: Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to reportspam@townofchapelhill.org

Correction noted.

For your information, both school boards have unappropriated fund balance to spend to meet their continuation budget needs. Per April 28, 2020 joint meeting:

CHCCS projects unassigned \$12.1 M which is about \$7.9 Million above the minimum target of 5.5% or \$4.2 M per policy. OCS is projecting a fund balance total of \$4.9 Million with \$2.8 million unassigned that can be spent for 2020-21. OCS' continuation budget request is for an additional \$984,000. The fund balances will cover the continuation budgets that also included 5% projected raises for certified staff and 2% raises for classified staff (which remain unknown at the General Assembly but highly unlikely to be any higher.)

Each school district also received COVID funds of approximately \$380,000 to CHCCS and \$227,000 to OCS that has to be spent by June 30. OCS used the funds to pay staff more who are at-risk delivery food, to mail instructional packages, for sanitation supplies, and hotspots for students and staff, etc. CHCCS expenditures were similar.

The numbers were updated at the May 14, 2020 meeting. CHCCS plans to commit \$1M more of their fund balance. Their continuation budget is about \$3.6 or \$3.7M. The district expects \$862,621 of additional CARES Act funds. OCS adjusted to \$2.7 Million available uncommitted fund balance. They expect \$940,689 additional CARES Act funds to meet the expected large expenses associated with COVID-19. They both have more than sufficient fund balances to meet their continuation budgets, and then some.

In my opinion and from experience as a school board member during the last great recession, now is the time for the two school districts to spend their excess fund balances, and our county policy allows them to use the funds on operating vs 1-time expenses during such an emergency as this pandemic. I do not see the need to discontinue the county funding allocation to the Chapel Hill library.

Sincerely,

Jamezetta

ps I will not support vote to discontinue Lands Legacy funding either. I advocated for a second look at the cost of a new morgue which created \$675,000 that can be directed to the planning for DTCC building.

From: Penny Rich
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 2:37 PM
To: Jamezetta Bedford
Subject: Re: Proposed amendment

Yes. I meant to put 5.0%. Typo

Penny Rich
919-960-0220

On Jun 2, 2020, at 1:27 PM, Jamezetta Bedford <jbedford@orangecountync.gov> wrote:

Hi,

I think there is a decimal point error where it says "the Article 46 sales tax is projected to decrease by 50%." Page 64 in the budget books shows a 4.5% reduction. The current revenue

projection is \$3,885,168 which is down from \$4,068,240 for this current fiscal year. Penny, are you thinking of something else?

Jamezetta

From: Penny Rich

Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2020 11:07 AM

To: Bonnie Hammersley; Travis Myren

Cc: Mark Dorosin; Mark Marcoplos; Sally Greene; Earl McKee; Jamezetta Bedford; Renee Price; Todd McGee; Donna Baker

Subject: Proposed amendment

Proposed Amendment to the 20-21 budget.

Amend the Non-Departmental budget on page 285, suspending the \$568,139 proposed for the Chapel Hill Library and use \$500,000 for a COVID focused "Education Fund" to assist students in need of technology and broadband in both districts, in order to prevent the opportunity gap from growing larger during the COVID-19 pandemic. We learned at the 5/28/20 work session that the Article 46 sales tax is projected to decrease by 50%. Article 46 is used in both school districts for technology. We know that our children will not be going back to the same classroom setting and there is a chance that we will see a second wave of this virus in the fall which may force the schools to modify/stop in-person instruction. We need to be prepared to help children/students that do not have proper access to broadband and those in need of basic technology to continue with their education.

The additional \$68,139 will be kept in a fund to assist non-Chapel Hill residents (on a sliding scale) with a household library card if Chapel Hill decides to charge a fee for the use of the library by non-Chapel Hill residents. The current cost of a library card to a non-county resident is \$65. (2016)

Background

In two years, Orange County will be operating a southern branch library and will have to reconsider library spending and duplication of services. This gives the county an opportunity to help our k-12 children with emergency funding for technology/broadband related needs due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, while reconsidering a MOU with Chapel Hill Municipal Library. September 28, 2012 The county entered an Inter-local Agreement (attached) with Chapel Hill regarding funding for the municipal library. According to the agreement, it was to continue each fiscal year to July 1, 2015 with the understanding that it can be renewed beyond July 1, 2015, with a written agreement between both parties. Refer to **2. County Contributions to Library Expenses** for detailed operating expense contributions. There is currently no written agreement between Chapel Hill and Orange County, however, the county continues to extend funding.

It was brought to our attention at the County/Chapel Hill meeting on October 11, 2019 that Chapel Hill was considering asking the county for an increase in funding. (those minutes were circulated end of October) We requested data to support the increase and the funding request. At this meeting it was mentioned to Chapel Hill that the BOCC would need to know the full impact of the Southern Branch Library before a new funding agreement can be discussed.

Here are the numbers we have from 2016

Chapel Hill Library Cards

55% CH residents
22% Carrboro residents
1% Hillsborough
16% unincorporated OC
6% out of county

Orange County Library Cards

51% unincorporated OC
19% Carrboro
18% Hillsborough
7% CH
5% out of county

The last meeting between the TOCH and the BOCC to discuss the Inter-local agreement was 4/10/2015. There has been no update to the MOU since 2015 and there was no conclusion regarding interoperability between the libraries.

.....
Commissioner Penny Rich - Chair
Board of County Commissioners,
Orange County, NC
200 South Cameron St.
Hillsborough, NC 27278
prich@orangecountync.gov
pennyrich.ch@gmail.com
919-960-0220

<Logo2014-ColorWhiteBack.jpg>

Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties.

<a633908a-3bfa-4d94-ac79-2ce37481f161.jpg>