FINANCE COMMITTEE

Courthouse October 5, 2005
West Bend, WI 8:30 a.m.

Present: James B. Esselmann, Peter L. Gonnering, Joan A. Russell, Donald H. Roskopf, and Thomas S. Smith.

Also Present: Chairperson Kenneth F. Miller, Administrative Coordinator Douglas A. Johnson, Finance Director Susan M. Haag, County Clerk Brenda Jaszewski, and Judy Steinert, Administrative Assistant.

Chairperson Esselmann reconvened the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

UW-Extension

The UW-Extension budget was presented by the Community Development Educator Dan Wilson. Mr. Johnson presented the base level funding of $530,388 and the recommended budget is $529,772 (+1.4%). The Requested budget is below the authorized Base level, due to reductions in the cost of health insurance for office staff. If the outlay item requested was added, the department would be over the Base level. This item was eliminated to meet the state levy freeze limit.

NOT YET FUNDED:

① Workstation @ $4,500

Moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Roskopf, to tentatively approve the UW-Extension 2006 recommended budget and levy, including out of state travel, in the amount of $529,772. Motion carried.

County Board – (Economic Development)

Mr. Johnson explained that there is a line item in the Planning and Parks Department budget for Economic Development which includes an amount of $19,000 for the Revolving Loan Fund. All other Economic Development funds have been moved to the County Board budget, it was felt these should all be kept in the same budget.

Moved by Mr. Roskopf, seconded by Mr. Gonnering to move the entire 2006 Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund budget, in the amount of $19,000, from the Planning and Parks budget to the County Board budget. Motion carried.

Clerk of Courts

Mr. Johnson explained the Committee still needed to make a decision on whether to allocate funding for Courthouse Security in the Clerk of Courts budget as an expense and the Sheriff's Department budget to receive an equal amount as revenue. Separating these expenses will give a more accurate picture of the actual costs for court security. The other option would be for the expense to remain in the Sheriff's Department budget.

Moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Russell to include the Courthouse Security funding as a separate line in the Clerk of Courts budget in the amount of $594,984. Motion carried.

Fair Park

The Fair Park budget was presented by Director Nancy Justman and Accounting Manager Debbie Hoefert. Mr. Johnson presented the base level budget of $215,000 and the recommended budget is $205,000 (-4.7%). The Requested budget is below the authorized Base level. Fair Park continues to reduce its reliance on county levy as its bookings grow. The reduction in levy is less than Fair Park expected, due to the increase of property and liability insurance costs paid by Fair Park. These increased by more than $70,000 from the 2005 Budget, following a decision by the County's insurance carrier to discontinue most coverage of Fair Park under the County's policies.

Moved by Ms. Russell, seconded by Mr. Roskopf, to tentatively approve the Fair Park 2006 recommended budget and levy, in the amount of $205,000 and accept the AIS approved facility rental rates in place for 2005-2006. Motion carried.

Social Services

The Social Services budget changes were presented by Deputy Directory Sandy Hoefert and Accounting Supervisor Mary Knoeck. Director Michael Bloedorn was available through a conference call.

Mr. Johnson explained the changes to the Social Services budget required to meet the current or adjusted budgets include:

- Retiring a full time Employment Planner Position left vacant
- Vacant Social Worker positions (2) left unfunded but on the staffing plan
- Alternate Care budget reduced $50,000 below requested level
- At least $207,847 used from W-2 Reserve instead of $168,656

Moved by Mr. Roskopf, seconded by Mr. Smith to tentatively approve the Social Services 2006 revised budget and levy to include the changes noted above in the amount of $3,154,261. Motion carried.

Culture Fund - Convention and Visitor Bureau

The Convention and Visitor's Bureau budget was presented by Executive Director Roger Kist. Executive Vice-President Kim Swisher from the West Bend Area Chamber of Commerce and Executive Director Doreen Buntrock from the Hartford Chamber of Commerce were also present. Mr. Johnson presented the base level budget of $35,625 and the recommended budget is $35,625. County funding for the Washington County Convention & Visitors Bureau is maintained at the same level while room tax support from local communities continues to be encouraged.

Moved by Mr. Gonnering, seconded by Ms. Smith, to tentatively approve the support for the Washington County Convention and Visitor's Bureau 2006 county levy allocation, in the amount of $35,625. Motion carried.

Culture Fund - Historical Society

The Historical Society budget was presented by Executive Director Chip Beckford. Mr. Johnson presented the total base level funding for the Historical Society portion of $163,000 and the recommended budget is $163,000. The County has made the commitment to cover the operating costs of the Old Courthouse Complex buildings. These costs are budgeted at an increase of $25,990 for a total of $366,445. The county funding for the programs of the Washington County Historical Society continue at 2005 levels, as requested.

Moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Russell, to tentatively approve the support for the Culture Fund-Historical Society/Old Courthouse Buildings 2006 county levy allocation, in the amount of $366,445. Motion carried.

County Board

Mr. Johnson informed the Committee that if additional compensation is recommended for County Board Supervisors for 2006, funding needs to be added to the County Board Budget. The method of compensation can be adopted at a later time.

Moved by Mr. Roskopf, seconded by Ms. Russell to add $9,500 to the 2006 County Board budget for a tentative increase in County Board salaries effective April 2006, subject to approval by the Executive and Finance Committees, and the County Board. Motion carried.

County Treasurer

Moved by Mr. Gonnering, seconded by Mr. Smith to add $43,000 to the County Treasurer's 2006 Interest on Investments revenue line item. Motion carried.

Review Budget/Set Levy

Moved by Mr. Roskopf, seconded by Mr. Gonnering to approve and forward to the County Board, the 2006 budget, with total Expenses in the amount of $128,719,007, Total Revenues in the amount of $92,396,452, and a levy of $36,322,555. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Gonnering, seconded by Ms. Russell to approve the 2006 County tax rate of $3.0643, a County Bridge Aid of $10,000, with a $0.0018 tax rate, and Library Service of $1,452,255, with a $0.2439 tax rate. Motion carried.

Chairperson Esselmann declared the Finance Committee meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Brenda J. Jaszewski
County Clerk