

County of Franklin

Summary of the Proposed Budget

The Budget Process

The County of Franklin's budget process is governed by Section 15.2-2503 of the Code of Virginia and states that the County budget shall be developed for "information and fiscal planning purposes only." The budget process begins in December with revenue projections being prepared by the Department of Finance. At the same time, budget forms and instructions are distributed to the County departments. Departments are asked to justify levels of allocations requested and to document any new programs or grants they anticipate receiving during the upcoming fiscal year. Reviews of departmental budget requests take place in January and February as well as preliminary meetings with the Board of Supervisors. The School Board budget is presented to the Board of Supervisors in early March and the entire County budget is submitted to the Board of Supervisors by the County Administrator in mid to late March. A public hearing is scheduled to be held on the FY 2006-2007 budget on April 17, 2006 and final adoption is to be completed on April 25, 2006.

Budget Amendment Process

Franklin County amends its budget as needed throughout the fiscal year. The budget can be amended in two ways: appropriation transfer and supplemental appropriation. The Board of Supervisors has authorized the County Administrator to approve appropriation transfers from one classification of expenditure to another within the same cost center. Transfers between cost centers and supplemental appropriations must be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The School Board and the Social Services Board are separately granted authority to transfer any unencumbered balance or portion thereof from one classification of expenditure to another within their respective funds in any amount.

The Budget as a Managerial Tool

The purpose of this budget document is to make the budget an understandable managerial plan as well as an accounting tool. It has been prepared under the format required by the Commonwealth of Virginia for comparative reporting purposes and is for informative and fiscal planning purposes only. The Board of Supervisors must officially adopt a budget for each fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) after an advertised public hearing. The budget process affords the opportunity for County departments to do an internal analysis of their activities and goals. The governing body has the opportunity to review and analyze both department goals and citizen input. These plans are then meshed into a fiscal document which projects the necessary revenue to meet the proposed expenditures. The adopted budget is the means by which public policy is put into effect through the planned expenditure of public funds.