Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge Mark Tynes, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Keith Curry, and Lloyd Huggins. Tynes called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Huggins led the invocation and Tynes followed with the pledges.

There were budget adjustments to consider. Huggins made the motion to approve the budget adjustments, Curry seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Court considered the following consent agenda:

- A. Minutes from previous Commissioner's Court meetings
- B. Approve Departmental reports
- C. Approve bills in the amount of \$162,796.71, payroll in the amount of \$74,552.50
- D. Certificates of continuing education Lacy Alexander
- E. Application(s) for Culvert None
- F. Building and Use Request Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Courthouse grounds 9/1/22 9/3/22
- G. Bonds/Deputations None

Huggins made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Wagner seconded. The Court approved the consent agenda unanimously.

Hamilton County personnel changes are as follows: effective 7/15/22 in the Sheriff's Department, Chief Deputy Robert Young resigned; Captain Isaac Partain will assume Chief Deputy duties; Sgt. Edward Hood will assume Jail Administrator duties; Deputy Lisa Keeping will assume the duties of Investigator II.

There were no issues to report concerning Hamilton County facilities.

County Treasurer Cox reported that as of May, 2022, the County had \$4,050,112.68 in cash. Tynes suggested that \$600,000.00 be moved into an interest-bearing account.

The Court will keep the current burn ban in effect.

The Court will pass on the District Judge's request for funding for Adult Probation, as the Judge was not in attendance at this meeting.

Lacy Alexander updated the Court on the Emergency Communications project. The office will go live on July 20, 2022. There will be an open house for the public on July 18, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The telephone lines and generator will be installed this week. Call volume has increased from 2021. Senator Birdwell responded to the Court's letter regarding the SERI grant, and offered his assistance. The ARPA grant will be addressed below.

The Court addressed the capital expense request for the microwave patch to the existing emergency communications system provided by Dailey Wells, and agreed to pay the reduced invoice. There was no new information concerning the Pilot solar project.

The Court then entered into a workshop on the FY2022-2023 budget. Budget issues discussed and considered:

- A. Principal and interest payments on loans
- B. ARPA proceeds and expenses dedicated account
- C. County Clerk's request for additional employee
- D. Longevity pay for employees
- E. Increase in price of postage
- F. Increase in software maintenance for District and County Clerks as a result of the new case management system
- G. Eliminating all satellite telephones other than the one for the Justice of the Peace
- H. Reduction in Courthouse repairs and maintenance
- I. Increase in cost of electricity at Annex
- J. Reduction in inmate transportation and housing
- K. Re-allocating emergency communications insurance expense between departments
- L. Liability insurance in Juvenile Court
- M. Increase in probation fees
- N. Huggins offered an alternative to wage compensation at the Sheriff's Department; Court may provide higher department salaries in exchange for eliminating out-of-county commuting
- O. Increase in fuel and oil budget for Sheriff's Department
- P. Capital Requests
 - 1. Asked Sheriff's Department to explore any and all options for grant funding of their capital requests
 - 2. Court needs specific data regarding types of vehicles, lease or purchase options, and prices for their fleet
- Q. Court asked Emergency Communications Manager to list any needs she may have for her department, such as additional lighting, security cameras, signage, parking.

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The Court adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Attest: Lyne

County Clerk