Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Lloyd Huggins, Keith Curry and Dickie Clary. Judge Yates called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Johnny Wagner led the invocation and all followed with the pledges.

Open Comments:

Mayor Rodney Craddick gave an update on the Community Center. Mayor Craddick stated that during the month of June the Community Center fed 1,963 people and received \$1,413.47 in donations and so far for the month of July the Community Center has fed 1,719 people and received donations in the amount of \$1,458.61. May or Craddick also was appreciative towards the court and thanked all the members for their constant hard work in representing our community.

Richard Layne spoke expressing his concern about the separation of duties between the Treasurer's department and the HR department and asked the court to consider putting payroll back into the Treasurer's department.

The court discussed a budget adjustment in the amount of \$10,000.00 to be moved from the contingency fund to the Administrative Assistant to the County Judge position. D. Clary made a motion to approve the adjustment and L. Huggins seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The court considered the minutes from the previous commissioner's court meeting and approved the departmental reports. There were bills in the amount of \$96,914.81 and the court ratified payroll from last meeting in the amount of \$78,368.84. Sandy Layhew and Terry Short both had Certificates of Continuing Education. There were no culvert installations and no building and use requests to consider. The Bonds presented to the court were for Ray Dale Miller, Deputy Sheriff; Rodney Howard Finch, Deputy Sheriff; David R. Guthrie, Jr., Deputy Sheriff and Tuwana Quigg, Deputy Court Clerk, Justice of the Peace. J. Wagner made a motion to approve and Keith Curry seconded the motion and the court approved the consent agenda unanimously.

Lloyd Huggins announced he has two resignations in Precinct 3, R. Jackson and A. Herrera. The communications department has a new dispatcher, Cassandra Pruitt. Debbie Rudolph has also been hired as the Administrative Assistant to the County Judge.

The court discussed removing the old curtains in the annex building and tinting the windows and received a bid in the amount of \$4,340.00. The court decided to seek other bids before making a decision on this matter.

Tonya Cox presented the Treasurer's report stating that the cash on hand as of June, 2023 is \$1,493,365.83 and Investments in the amount of \$4,522,395.12. The Treasurer also stated that all Quarterly reports and taxes have been submitted.

Hamilton County Burn Ban is still in effect.

The County Clerks office presented the court with the Appointment and Certification of the Election Judges and Alternate Judges for the 2023-2025 Election cycle. L. Huggins made the motion to approve and K. Curry seconded the motion and the court passed the motion unanimously.

- L. Huggins made a motion to remove Cynthia K. Puff from the depository account and to add Rachel L. Geeslin to the depository account. D. Clary seconded the motion. L. Huggins also made a motion to have Kent Reeves removed from the account effective July 31, 2023. D. Clary seconded L. Huggins motion. The court approved the depository changes unanimously.
- D. Clary made motion to approve the CTCOG private road request for Gholson Creek Ranch Development off of CR 511 and J. Wagner seconded the motion and the court approved unanimously.

The court took a five-minute recess at 9:30 and then entered into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and Hamilton County Payroll & Human Resources responsibility and to consider retaining outside counsel. The court came out of Executive Session at 10:40 am and the court resumed with regular session at 10:50 am.

L. Huggins made a motion to accept Kent Reeves resignation effect date July 31, 2023 and D. Clary seconded his motion and the court approved unanimously. L. Huggins also made a motion to transfer some of the current HR, Payroll, and Accounts Payable duties and

responsibilities to the Treasurer and Administrative Assistant offices with further discussion needed as to outline the exact duties. D. Clary seconded L. Huggins motion and the court approved with no further discussion.

D. Clary made a motion to approve the salary of the County Judges Administrative Assistant at \$40,000 per year. L. Huggins seconded the motion and the court passed the motion unanimously.

Continued discussion on the FY 2023-2024 budget workshop.

The court adjourned at 11:35am.

Judge James Yates