

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioner Keith Curry, Commissioner Johnny Wagner, Commissioner Dickey Clary and Commissioner Loyd Huggins. Judge Yates called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Judge Yates led the invocation and all followed with the pledges.

Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.):

- \$5,000.00 from 021-612-3500, Fuel and \$5,000.00 from 021-612-5720, Contingency to 021-612-4500, Repair & maintenance for Precinct 1 Motor Brush Cutter.*
- \$10,000.00 from 021-612-3300, Fuel & oil and \$2,500.00 from 021-612-1530, Road Hand 3 to 021-612-3500, Road Materials and Supplies for Precinct 1 Road Materials.*
- \$5,500.00, IT Services and \$15,000.00, Contingency to 010-409-4730, IT Software/Hardware for Tyler Technology Annual Fees*
- \$10,000.00 from 022-613-3500, Road Materials & Supplies and \$10,000.00 from 022-613-5720, Contingency to 023-613-5700, Capital for Precinct 2 Trailer Purchase.*

Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve the Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Budget Adjustments (L.I.T.) with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Court considered the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Approve Minutes from September 17, 2024.*
- b. Approve Departmental Reports*
- c. Expense Register in the amount of \$121,920.94*
- d. Continuing Education for Kristen Reid and Lloyd Huggins.*
- e. No Culvert Applications*
- f. No Building & Use Requests*
- g. No Bonds*

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the Consent Agenda as presented with a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates abstained.

Hamilton County Personnel Update:

New Hire:

Lance Toon, Deputy So – September 28, 2024

Steven Carlson, Communications – September 16, 2024

William Sanders, Pct. 2 Road Hand – September 16, 2024

Carl Musick, Pct. 1 Road Hand – September 3, 2024

New Sheriff's Office Deputies Effective October 1, 2024:

Brad Boulton, Sheriff

Tiffany Bryant, Administrative Assistant

Ron Schmidt, Chief Deputy

Keith Kraatz, Captain

Jamie Fry, Deputy

Micah Looke, Deputy

Robert Eller, Deputy

Madison Hailey, Deputy

Lance Christianson, Deputy

Lisa Keeping, Deputy

William Hiens, Deputy

Resignations:

Ed Hood, Chief Deputy SO – September 30, 2024

Ray Miller, Deputy SO – September 30, 2024

Melissa Erexson, Communications – November 8, 2024

Position Changes:

John Donahoo, Captain to Deputy SO – October 1, 2024

No Treasure's Report at this time.

No Investment Report at this time.

Hamilton County Facilities update:

The County Clerk's Basement is now leaking water from a new location and will need to be investigated.

Hamilton County Communications department is having difficulty retaining staff, especially night shift. Lacy Alexander has been covering vacant shifts and putting in too many hours. The Commissioners will move this discussion to a future Agenda so Lacy Alexander can be present in the discussions.

No Action or Discussion on the Burn Ban at this time.

Commissioner Clary made a motion to Ratify the Resignation of Sheriff Justin Caraway, Effective October 1, 2024 at 8:00 am. Commissioner Curry seconded the motion and the court approved the ratification on the order with a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates abstained.

The Court discussed the policy on Retiree Insurance. Commissioner Clary suggested a Demand letter be mailed to any Retiree's more than 6 months delinquent in the payments of their portion of insurance. Commissioner Clary made a motion to create the demand letter and Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Court approved the creation of a demand letter by a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates abstained. Commissioner Clary also made a motion to amend the current policy on retiree's insurance to reflect the 60-day demand letter and state that failure to pay within 60 days will terminate their insurance. Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion and the court approved the change to the current policy by a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates abstained.

The Commissioners discussed the contract for the provisions of Law Enforcement Services at Hamilton General Hospital. The effective date was January 1, 2025 and will now be effective October 1, 2024. Commissioner Clary made a motion to approve and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The Commissioners Court approved the contract with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

The Court discussed the Law Enforcement Contract, Personnel and Budget. Commissioner Clary made a motion to amend the effective date to October 1, 2024 and Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. The Court approved to amend the effective date on the contract with the City of Hamilton by a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates abstained.

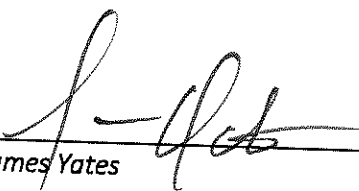
FEMA talks began at 9:37 am

Commissioner Clary is concerned with the Damage Inventory that was submitted to Mike Bell with FEMA because Commissioner Clary has identified multiple mistakes in the information provided at this point and does not feel that it is wise for Judge Yates to sign off on documentation that is incorrect. The Commissioners have reached out to Mike Bell with FEMA but unfortunately, he has only responded to Commissioner Precinct 2 and Precinct 3 at this time. Judge Yates will be drafting a letter to Mike Bell voicing the Courts concerns and requesting clarification on process and information that as already been provided to FEMA. Judge Yates stated that he will not sign off on the documents until they are available to be viewed to ensure that all corrections have been made.

The Court discussed the need to approve the extension agreement to the Current FEMA contracts. Commissioner Huggins made a motion and Commissioner Clary seconded the motion. The Court approved the extension agreement to the current contract for FEMA by a 4-0 vote; Judge Yates abstained.

FEMA talks ended at 9:52 am

Adjourned at 9:52 am



Judge James Yates

