Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge Mark Tynes, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Keith Curry, Lloyd Huggins, and Dickie Clary. Tynes called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Wagner led the invocation and Tynes followed with the pledges.

There were no public comments.

There were no budget adjustments to consider.

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 \$74,187.91, payroll in the amount of \$73,907.38, and longevity in the amount of \$18,109.70
- D. Certificates of continuing education Sandy Layhew
- E. Application(s) for Culvert Precinct 1 Raymond Parks
- F. Building and Use Request -None
- G. Bonds/Deputations Sandra Strickland, Edward Hood, Raymond Lazard

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

Regarding personnel, EMC hired Amanda Phillips effective 1/10/22. The Sheriff's Department hired Raymond Lazard 1/10/22.

The Courthouse roofing project had to be rescheduled due to an anticipated murder trial. Hamilton County will be placed back in the que.

The BMY external audit will be passed until the CFO and auditor can appear.

The Interlocal Agreement between Hamilton County and Lampasas County will be rescheduled, as the agreement is not ready to sign.

Hill County Transit District required an appointment to their Board from Hamilton County. Commissioner Curry accepted the appointment, and the Court approved.

The Court discussed the Hamilton County policy on tax abatement. County Attorney Henkes had drafted additions to the policy, to be located in Part D(6). Clary made the motion to modify and amend the policy on tax abatement, Huggins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Clay Mazur of Hilaco addressed the Court on his application for tax abatement, after resubmitting the applications for five properties located in Hico. All five applications will be rolled into one application. Huggins made the motion to enter into an intent to approve the application after public hearing and posting. Terms will be for five years, 100% on improvements. Clary seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

One FY2021-2022 budget issue was discussed. Emergency Management made a capital purchase in the amount of \$2,420.00 for a server for dispatch. Tynes made the motion to ratify the capital purchase, Huggins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Clint Cooper, owner of the property adjoining the Fire Depot/Domino Hall, spoke to the Court regarding his plans for the wall shared with Hamilton County. Mr. Cooper will demolish a portion of the wall to determine a course of action. Mr. Cooper acknowledged that the cost would be his. He will report to the Court when the determination is made.

Clary suggested new language for three parts of the Hamilton County Employee Handbook. The first suggestion was to add language regarding out-of-county use of County vehicles. Clary made the motion to add the new language clarifying use of County vehicles outside the County, Huggins seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The second suggestion was to add language regarding IRS guidelines for personal use of County vehicles. Clary made the motion to add the new language limiting personal use of County vehicles, Huggins seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The third suggestion was to add language regarding passengers in County vehicles. Clary made the motion to limit passengers in County vehicles, Huggins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The new language will be added to the Employee Handbook and be distributed to all Departments.

The Court entered into an in-depth discussion regarding quarantine leave for County employees due to exposure to covid virus. No consensus was reached. The discussion will be tabled until further research into the issue.

Tynes updated the Court on Emergency Communications. Lacy Alexander needs three consoles and had obtained three bids. The recommended bid was from Watson Console for three consoles in the total amount of \$41,788.05. These items will be

expensed as a capital purchase, and approximately \$20,000.00 will be reimbursed by the COG. Huggins made the motion to approve the purchase of the consoles from Watson Console, Tynes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Court discussed Cybersecurity Training. The County may register with TAC by 2/15/22, and all officials and employees will be required to take the virtual training. Huggins agreed to complete the registration.

The Court adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

County Judge

Attest:

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