

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session
April 10, 2018
9:00 A.M.



Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met in regular session on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: County Judge Mark Tynes, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Keith Allen Curry, Lloyd Huggins and Dickie Clary.

Tynes called the meeting to order and established a quorum.

Huggins led the invocation and Tynes followed with the pledges.

Richard Layne stood for the public comments stating that there was never any talk or anything about the Assistant Auditor position that had been appointed. He said that now the court has a position that no one has control over but the District Judge. He feels like the more that the court says transparency, the less transparent they are becoming. He feels this subject should have been brought in Commissioner's Court for the public. He thanked the court for allowing him to speak.

The court received and will file the order appointing assistant auditor from the 220th District Judge dated April 4, 2018. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 783)

Tynes addressed an error he made during the Commissioner's Court Meeting September, 2017. Agenda item #14, September 12, 2017: ACCEPT several orders from the 220th District Judge. The orders included (1) Appointment of Lisa D. Lambert for Assistant Director of the 220th CSCD, (2) Reappointment of K.C. Debusk as Court Reporter for 220th Judicial District Court, (3) establishing the budget for the office of County Auditor for Hamilton County and, (4) Order reappointing Hamilton County Auditor Kent Reeves.

As the presiding officer of the Court, the Judge accepted a Motion to address agenda item #14. He took the second, allowed discussion and called for a vote. The motion should have been considered INAPPROPRIATE. To comply with the District Judge's Orders, the Clerk of the Court was to include the Orders from the District Judge in the minutes of the meeting. No action from the court should have been considered.

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Curry to approve all line item transfers. After a lengthy discussion the motion carried unanimously. Court action on agenda item #7 (line item transfers) satisfied agenda item #8. No action was required. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 784)

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Wagner to approve the following consent agenda:

- A. Minutes of the 4-3-2018 Commissioner's Court Meeting with a change in the second paragraph on the second page stating that to replace the bridge would cost around \$3,000,000.00 and rehabilitating the bridge would be around \$1,000,000.00. The county would have to match 10% of that.
- B. Approve departmental reports submitted (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 786)
- C. Approve bills submitted for payment in the amount of \$57,250.10 (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 833), payroll in the amount of \$67,654.50 (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 842) and accounts payable payroll in the amount of \$25,557.39. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 843)
- D. Approve monthly Treasurer's report – Not submitted

The motion carried unanimously.

There were no certificates of continuing education submitted.

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to approve the building and use request from Patricia Leach to use the Courthouse hallway and east side of the Courthouse steps (Grand March) for the high school prom on Saturday May 5, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 850)

A motion was made by Wagner and seconded by Curry to approve the bond and deputation for Hamilton County Deputy Sheriff, Danny Ragsdale. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 846)

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Curry to declare the bridge at Fall Creek on County Road 266 salvage and enter into a 3 party agreement from TxDot to move the bridge to the Hamilton County Historical Museum. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made Huggins and seconded by Wagner to certify special budget revenue received after the start of the fiscal year for the receipt of loan proceeds from Government Capital in the amount of \$65,000 to be used to purchase the motor grader for Precinct 3. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 59 Page 844)

Justice of the Peace, James Lively updated the court on the relocation of his office. He said that it was mentioned to him that he might use the Commissioner's Courtroom for his personal office. Upon further inspection he confirmed it would work great for his office. The space already has phone and internet access and is adjacent to the existing Justice of the Peace office. This would also keep the Justice of the Peace office in the courthouse.

Lively said they would utilize the office he currently occupies as their receiving and payment office. They will remove the big counter from the office his clerks occupy. These changes would provide more efficient utilization of available office space, create more file storage and enhance efficiency of staff. The changes outlined above would solve a multitude of problems.

The court discussed what kind of impact this would have on the people that use the commissioner's courtroom and the money that would be saved by not moving the Justice of the Peace offices to the annex and utilizing the commissioner's courtroom as the office for Judge Lively would keep the entire Justice of the Peace operation in the courthouse.

It is the consensus of the court that they are all in agreement that the Justice of the Peace office will utilize the commissioner's courtroom as outlined by Justice of the Peace James Lively.

Future Agenda Items:

- A. Consider proposals for the sale of the old Precinct 3 barn in Hico

Tynes adjourned the court at 10:02 A.M.

W. Mark Tynes
County Judge

Attest: Kiesha F. Bagwell
County Clerk

