Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 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. Judge Yates led the invocation and all followed with the pledges.

Open Comments:

Mayor Rodney Cradick provided an update for the Community Center. The month of December they served 2,566 meals which is an average of 135 meals served per day and received \$7,438.81 in donations. The year 2023 the Community Center provided over 29,832 meals and received \$91,831.34 in donations.

There were no budget adjustments to consider.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Minutes from December 27, 2023
- b. Approve Departmental Reports
- c. Bills submitted for payment in the amount of \$80,215.15
- d. Jazmine Robinson Secretary of State Pollworker Training Certificate
- e. No applications for Culvert Installation
- f. No Building and Use request
- g. No Bonds to approve

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the Consent Agenda with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

There were no Hamilton County Personnel updates to approve.

There were no Hamilton County Facility updates to approve.

Lacy Alexander provided the court with a Communications update stating that the total calls for service in the 2023 year was 17,067 which is a 23.5% increase since 2021. Lacy stated that the Hamilton Airport received significant damage due to the high winds yesterday. Pictures were

taken, an assessment was made of the damages and a report was filed with the state. There were luckily no injuries to report.

Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve the payment to Robert Half for services in hiring an Assistant Auditor and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the payment to Robert Half with a 3-1 vote, Commissioner Clary opposed and Judge Yates abstained.

The court discussed the Engagement Letter for the outside audit ending September 30, 2022 with Boucher, Morgan & Young (BMY). Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the engagement letter with a 3-1 vote, Commissioner Clary opposed and Judge Yates abstained.

The court discussed the composition of the Salary Grievance Committee according to Texas Local Government Code section 152.014. Commissioners decided to compile the committee with 6 Elected Officials and 3 citizens and 3 alternate citizens. The citizens selected were; Melinda Little, Christina Keay and Roger Creek. The alternate citizens selected were; Lisa Nail, Jan Davis and Elizabeth Bays. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the Salary Grievance Committee with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

Richard Layne addressed the court in regards to Senate Bill 22 by first stating his support for law enforcement. Mr. Layne is concerned about how to keep funding the financial responsibilities of the grant if and when the grant expires without causing undue stress on citizens by raising taxes. Commissioner Wagner believes the time to discuss applying for the grant would be during the next budget process. NO action was taken on Senate Bill 22 grant at this time.

Commissioner Huggins made a motion to approve the updated Employee Handbook dated March 2023 and Commissioner Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the updated Employee Handbook with a 4-0 vote, Judge Yates abstained.

There was no discussion on the 2023-2024 Budget.

Adjourned at 9:33 am.

Judge James Yates

County Clerk