

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, November 8, 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. Huggins led the invocation and Tynes followed with the pledges.

The Court asked for open comments. Dennis Looney advised the Court that the American Legion Post would be hosting their anvil shoot on Veteran's Day at 5:00 a.m. Kimberly Mc Cullough spoke to the Court regarding subdivisions and the increased threat of reducing our drinking water supply. She asked the Court to rewrite the County's subdivision rules to mirror those of Gillespie County.

A public hearing was held on Hamilton County's Tax Abatement Policy. Tynes said the policy had been posted both on the County's website and the Hamilton Herald News. He urged general comments on the policy, not comments on a specific abatement. Clary wants to hear from the public on the general tax abatement policy. Huggins stated the reasons for an abatement were to generate economic activity and promote growth of the tax base. Curry agreed with Huggins. Wagner reminded the public of a choice between sales tax or payment in lieu of taxes.

Everitt Vandiver spoke against tax abatements for utilities. Kimberly McCollough was concerned about the lack of a bond requirement for decommission. Doug Lynn was against utility tax abatements, but promoted allowing abatements on a case-by-case basis, as long as taxpayers are protected and there is a beneficial return to the County. Richard Layne is concerned about the potential clean-up, adverse environmental impact, and only short-term revenue.

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 \$188,626.45; in-between bills in the amount of \$133.34, payroll in the amount of \$77,628.36**
- D. Certificates of continuing education - Puff**
- E. Application(s) for Culvert - None**

F. Building and Use Request

The Court is considering Hamilton Historic Main Street's proposal to obtain a grant to beautify Courthouse grounds with picnic tables, seating and speakers for broadcasting music

G. Bonds and Deputations - Sixto Rocha, Mariah Whitehead, Angela Tubbs

Huggins made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the exception of Item F (Building and Use Request, and Curry seconded. The Court approved the consent agenda, with the exception of Item F, unanimously.

Kendra Scott was hired as a Dispatcher, effective 10/29/22; Rory Jackson was hired in Precinct 3, effective 10/31/22.

There were no issues to report on Hamilton County facilities.

The Court certified receipt of funds from CTCOG: \$25,000.00 for the generator and electrical work; \$20,000.00 for work stations, all in Emergency Communications Department.

Tynes thanked the County Clerk and her staff and election workers for their continued and tireless efforts on Hamilton County elections.

No action was taken on Agenda item 14.

Tynes had information from Pathway for telephone service in the Courthouse and Sheriff's Office. Clary made the motion to move from Century Link to Pathway for telephone service in the Courthouse and Sheriff's Office, Huggins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Court acknowledged receipt of the subdivision plat for Ranches at Comanche Point. The plat is to be filed with the County Clerk after signatures.

Precinct 3 needs a new crew truck. Huggins made the motion to approve the solicitation of bids for a 3/4 -ton crew truck. Curry seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Alexander updated the Court on the Emergency Communications department. Call volume is ahead of the prior year. Site surveys have been done for both of the new towers. CTCOG updates its maps, to include private roads, on a quarterly basis.

There were no items to discuss concerning the FY2022-2023 budget.

The Court adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

W. J. ...
County Judge

Attest: Cynthia ...
County Clerk

