

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, 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:

John Wooler expressed his concerns with the ongoing developments within the county.

There were budget adjustments in the amount of \$449,750.00.

The Court considered the following consent agenda:

- A. Minutes from previous Commissioner's Court meetings*
- B. Approve Departmental reports*
- C. Approve bills: Expense Report \$168,970.31 excluding payroll.*
- D. Certificates of Continuing Education – Tonya Cox and Lacy Alexander*
- E. Application(s) for Culvert – None*
- F. Building and Use Request – Ratify the use of a County building for Shelby Slawson on Saturday, July 1, 2023.*
- G. Bonds/Deputations – None*

D. Clary made the motion to approve the consent agenda and K. Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the consent agenda unanimously.

Judge Yates, D. Clary, J. Wagner and K. Curry accepted Cynthia K. Puffs resignation from the County Clerk position as of June 30, 2023. L. Alexander updated the court about the hiring of a new dispatcher, Cassandra Pruitt.

Facilities update – the west porch of the Courthouse is currently under construction. D. Clary is trying to get bids for the recycling center.

An order restricting outdoor burning for 90 days was discussed and J. Wagner made the motion to approve and D. Clary seconded the motion. The issuance of the burn ban passed unanimously.

D. Clary motioned to approve the resolution extending the depository contract with MC Bank and K. Curry seconded the motion. The court approved the resolution unanimously.

The court accepted the Order setting a public hearing for Annual Compensation for the 220th Judicial District Court reporter. The meeting will be held July 26, 2023 at 10:00 am in the District Courtroom.

D. Clary motioned to accept the Interlocal Agreement with the Department of State Health Services – Vital Statistics and J. Wagner seconded the motion and the court passed the Interlocal Agreement unanimously.

The court discussed the renewal of Federal Surplus Property Program. D. Clary made a motion and K. Curry seconded the motion. The court approved unanimously.

Pursuant to local government code 87.041, filling a vacancy by Appointment of Commissioners Court, D. Clary made a motion and K. Curry seconded the motion to fill the County Clerk position and the court approved unanimously. Rachel Lamb Geeslin was appointed.

L. Alexander updated the court on the Communications Department. Last month emergency calls were 1,461 which is an increase of roughly 100 calls in comparison to this time last year. The Hico tower is still on schedule with a completion date before October 1, 2023. The Hamilton tower should start before the end on this month. L. Alexander also updated the court about a Fire Chief meeting being held at the Annex building this Wednesday, July 12, 2023. This meeting is not open to the public.

FY 2022 – 2023 Budget adjustment to amend the current budget and create a line item for an Administrative Assistant for the County Judge. The line item is for the wages and computer needed for the Administrative Assistant. D. Clary motioned to approve and K. Curry seconded the motion and the court approved the budget adjustment unanimously.

Notice received from Riley Funeral Home that indigent cremations increased as of July 1, 2023.

Judge Yates continued discussing the FY 2023-2024 Budget workshop. Clary continued initial discussions and began reviewing each line item within each Department. More information is needed from multiple Departments to continue discussing this matter in the next meeting.