

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Special Session

Tuesday, August 18, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, August 18, 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.

The Court considered eliminating the position of jailer from the Sheriff's Department budget request.

Sheriff Caraway spoke to the Court, advising that pursuant to Administrative Code sec. 275.1, a jailer must be present if there is a jail in the county. Caraway also advised that a jailer is needed to book arrestees and establish their TRNs. He said arrests would be increasing as property IDs are increasing and absentee landowners are increasing. The Sheriff suggested turning his County vehicle over to CID and receiving a \$12,000 yearly stipend as a way of saving funds. He also reiterated that County vehicles would no longer be used for out-of-county commuting. Clary suggested the possibility of extra compensation for a patrol officer performing jailer duties. Clary also expressed the need for more budget cuts in the Sheriff's Department before he could support the salary increases requested. Caraway agreed to look at the budget and try to eliminate some expenses.

The Court then discussed the fact that delinquent taxes, as well as penalties and interest, had decreased, causing a decrease in that revenue.

The Court discussed a possible deficit in the FY2022-23 budget. Tynes asked the Court their thoughts on an acceptable deficit. Clary would like to be as close as possible to a balanced budget. Other Commissioners agreed that a deficit of approximately \$150,000.00 would be acceptable. The Court is attempting to establish a budget without benefit of hard numbers from the Central Appraisal District. They will continue to try to find an acceptable tax rate.

The proposed budget hearing will be Friday, August 26, 2022.

The Court adjourned at 10:51 a.m.



County Judge

Attest:

Cyril A. [Signature]
County Clerk

