

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Budget Workshop

Friday, August 4, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Friday, August 4, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. with the following members present: County Judge James Yates, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Lloyd Huggins, Keith Curry and Dickie Clary. County Judge James Yates called the meeting to order a quorum was established. Lloyd Huggins led the invocation and all followed with the pledges.

Open Comments:

Richard Layne began by saying in his opinion the Constitution of the State of Texas says the Commissioner's Court is in charge of the business of the County and he also understands that the District Judge has the ability to appoint an Auditor. Mr. Layne stated that he doesn't care for the fact that the District Judge wants the commissioners to resend the vote made during the July 25, 2023 Commissioner's court meeting accepting the resignation on the county auditor. Mr. Layne hopes that the court will stand behind their original vote so we can "get back to business."

Rachel Geeslin spoke expressing her concerns with the court possibly delegating some Election duties to the County Judges Assistant. Rachel explained that the responsibilities and duties are within the County Clerk's office and requested clarification from the court regarding which election duties they are wanting the Administrative Assistant to obtain. Rachel stated that it is within her clerk duties to obtain the election staff. She also addressed the Administrative Assistances potential salary stating that none of our Chief Deputies get additional money for working elections and that election workers pay is set by the Secretary of State. Rachel concluded by thanking the court for their time.

Terry Short addressed the court stating that she was taught a long time ago to stand up for her office and Chief Deputies. Chief Deputies are able to act in the absence of the Elected official and are essentially their "right arm" therefore they are due the same consideration in the salary process as others in the same position. Terry also expressed her concern as a tax payer saying it is hard to justify the salary for that position considering it is only \$3,000 less than an Elected official. Terry concluded by thanking the court for their time.

Judge James Lively addressed the court and stated that he agreed with the feelings of T. Short and R. Geeslin and that he was there to support his staff in being considered equally in the salary process as well.

The Court had no budget adjustments (L.I.T.)

There was no Consent Agenda or Bonds to approve.

Judges Yates spoke about available Tax Credits and how it should be utilized with the Voter approval tax rate without going into an additional election.

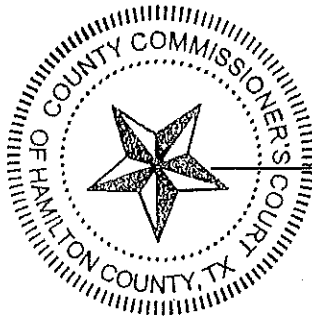
Carla De La Hoya gave an overhead projector presentation discussing various tax rates as well as a cash analysis reviewing the projected ending balances for FY 2022-2023.

Discussion on the FY 2023-2024 Budget workshop

- Precincts
- Reserves
- Tax Rate
- Investments
- Capital
- 020 Road and bridge – transfers
- 611 Road and bridge – Contingency
- Salaries

All was discussed today in Budget workshop.

The Court adjourned at 11:49 am.



James Yates

Judge James Yates



Rachel L. Geeshi

County Clerk