Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met on Tuesday, March 22, 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.

Hamilton Mayor Rodney Craddick spoke to the Court regarding the Hamilton Community Center. The Center fed 1,056 people in February, 2022. Their organization is continually improving and is averaging 50 meals per day.

There were no budget adjustments.

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 $246,847.16 which included approximately $38,000 to the Appraisal District, $12,000 for electrical work on the communications center, and $69,000 to Motorola for the communications center; payroll in the amount of $78,471.54
D. Certificates of continuing education – April Phillips, Linda Goodwin
E. Application(s) for Culvert – Ryan Starnes, Precinct 3
F. Building and Use Request – None
G. Bonds/Deputations – None

Huggins made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Curry seconded. The Court approved the consent agenda 4 to 1, with Clary voting against.

Elle Timmons was hired 3/7/22 in the Extension office; Sharon Sellers resigned from Dispatch 3/8/22. In light of the recent large fires caused by drought, the Court acknowledged their appreciation of the many volunteer firefighters, both local and statewide.

Work on the Courthouse roof has been completed, the roof has been inspected, and Clary has signed the warranty. The Court then discussed the light pole located on the corner of Hwy. 281 and Hwy. 36. This pole repeatedly sustains damage from large
trucks, and the Court considered whether to remove the pole from its pedestal and set it away from the corner.

CTCOG designated a private road off CR 619 in the Paloma Vista subdivision for 9-1-1 purposes. The name of the private road would be 6191. Wagner made the motion to approve the designation of private road 6191, Curry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Clary reported that Precinct 4 needs a newer tractor and mower. He discovered one in another state for approximately $90,000 with 500 hours. He made the motion to post a bid notice on the County’s website and in the newspaper, with specifications located in the County Clerk’s office. The bidding is to remain open for two weeks. Huggins seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Huggins reported that the Hamilton County Emergency Communications department is seeking data to determine the final amount of equipment to order.

Renee French of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services spoke to the Court announcing their newest Board Member, Tonya Cox, and requesting a Proclamation declaring the month of April, 2022, as National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. Tynes made a motion to Proclaim April, 2022, as National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month, Curry seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The County Clerk presented the Court with the canvassed results of the March 1, 2022, primary election. The Court members counted the voters and acknowledged the results.

The County Clerk then requested the petty cash fund in the Clerk’s office be raised from $200.00 to $500.00 due to rising fees and increased needs for changing large bills. Tynes made the motion to increase the County Clerk petty cash fund from $200.00 to $500.00, Wagner seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Court considered the Burn Ban which expires 4/21/22. They chose to wait until the next meeting to decide whether to renew the Burn Ban.

Tynes announced that the budget process for FY2022-2023 would begin soon. He had received word from the Appraisal District that three school districts were in danger of losing funding; any wage increase request should not be based solely on inflation; and County emergency preparedness should be addressed.

The Sheriff's Department submitted its data on three surplus vehicles which it had designated for sale to the Hico Police Department. The Court will consider a nominal price to charge the Hico Police Department for these vehicles.

The Court adjourned at 9:45 a.m.
Attest: ____________________________________
County Clerk