

REGULAR SESSION
SCOTT COUNTY COUNCIL

MAY 12, 2020

The Scott County Council met in Regular Session on May 12, 2020 at 9:30 am in the Commissioners Room, Suite 128, Courthouse. Those present were Council members Mike Zollman, Donnie Richie, Ab Watts, Robert Peacock, Iva Gasaway, and Rachel Hardin. Also present was Auditor Tammy Stout Johnson and Chief Deputy Auditor Teresa Vannarsdall. Council member Raymond Jones was absent from the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Zollman who opened the meeting with roll call. IT Andrew Campbell gave a brief introduction to the new OWL recording device.

ELECTION WORKER COMPENSATION

Clerk Missy Applegate requested consideration be given to the compensation for the 2020 Primary election poll workers. Applegate explained that approximately 95% of her election workers are over 65 years old and most are not wanting to work due to Coronavirus health concerns. Applegate suggested an increase in the pay to get more people interested in working on Election Day. Applegate proposed that Poll Clerks be increased from \$100 to \$200; Judges from \$125 to \$225; and Inspectors be increased up to \$300 (depending on the precincts). The estimated total increase over the customary pay is \$10,100.

MOTION: Gasaway motioned to approve pay increases for the 2020 Primary Election workers as recommended by the Clerk. Seconded by Peacock. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE POSITION

Prosecutor Chris Owens explained that the current Chief Deputy Prosecutor will be replaced by Amanda Herald effective July 1, 2020. After citing caseload comparisons with surrounding counties, Owens stated the statistics and workload pointed to him needing an additional Prosecutor. He requested that a position be created for a First Trial Deputy Prosecutor. This position would be for a Prosecutor with years of experience and expertise in trial proceedings, and therefore be compensated at approximately \$10,000 more annually than a Deputy Prosecutor.

The position would only be funded for the last half of 2020, then proposed in the budget for 2021. With benefits, the funding needed for the position would be approximately \$108,500 per year. In 2020, the position would need funding for six (6) months or \$54,250. Owens said he knew of \$15,000 that he could use toward the compensation. Members discussed finding as much funding from the current budget in Pre-Trial Diversion and Infraction Deferral funds as Owens could afford, then advertising for up to \$39,000 for an additional appropriation.

Richie said he felt the County had turned around lately and wanted to keep things moving in the right direction. Richie said he wanted to act on the position.

MOTION: Richie motioned to approve advertisement of \$15,000 additional appropriation from Pre-Trial Diversion and advertisement for up to \$39,000 for additional appropriation in applicable funds for funding of a First Trial Deputy Prosecutor position. Seconded by Gasaway. Motion carried unanimously.

Owens thanked the Council members and finished by saying he was proud of Scott County.

**MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAN POSITION; MAINTENANCE REQUEST FOR LINE ITEM CREATION
AND TRANSFER**

Maintenance Supervisor Josh Colwell informed members that the Custodian was hired for the Maintenance/Custodian position. With the Custodian position being vacant, Colwell discussed the options for using part time workers or continuing to fill the position with a full time employee. Commissioner Lizenby expressed concerns about the difficulties with retaining part time help, but did favor using part time due to savings on benefits that could be converted to more work hours.

Zollman cautioned about taking out a full time position from any budget because it is harder to get approval for a full time than part time position. Colwell indicated that he wanted more time to decide which direction he wanted to take for his department.

MOTION: Zollman motioned to approve the addition of a part time Custodian line to the Salary Ordinance, leaving the full time Custodian line in place for a potential transfer if hiring of part time is chosen by the Maintenance Supervisor. Seconded by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

Colwell requested creation of an Equipment line item in the Maintenance budget accompanied by a \$1,900 transfer request from the Longevity line to the newly created Equipment line, if approved. Colwell wanted to purchase a lift for use in the Courthouse.

MOTION: Gasaway motioned to approve the creation of an Equipment line item in the Maintenance budget in General Fund. Seconded by Peacock. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Gasaway motioned to approve a \$1,900 transfer from the Longevity line to the newly created Equipment line in the Maintenance budget in General Fund. Seconded by Zollman. Motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT GRANT APPLICATION REQUEST

Sheriff Goodin requested approval for a grant application in the amount of \$11,860.20 from the Community Foundation for the purchase of three (3) in car radios.

MOTION: Gasaway motioned to approve the \$11,860.20 grant application to the Community Foundation for radios. Second provided by Peacock. Motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE #2

An additional appropriation was advertised in the amount of \$20,948 from Hospital Reserve Fund for the second half of 2020 wages of the second Public Health Nurse. The first six (6) months of PHN#2 wages are covered by a grant.

MOTION: Gasaway motioned to approve the \$20,948 additional appropriation in the Hospital Reserve Fund for the compensation of the second Public Health Nurse for the second half of 2020. Second provided by Peacock. Motion carried unanimously.

RAINY DAY FUND ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR MURDER TRIALS AND COVID-19 SUPPLIES

An additional appropriation was advertised in the amount of \$40,000 from Rainy Day Fund divided into \$20,000 for COVID-19 expenditures by the Health Department and \$20,000 into Murder Trials to cover Prosecutor expenses.

MOTION: Gasaway motioned to approve the \$40,000 additional appropriation in the Rainy Day Fund with \$20,000 going to cover COVID-19 expenses and \$20,000 into Murder Trial. Second provided by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

CORONER TRANSFER REQUEST

Commissioner Jones discussed the changes in 2021 with the Coroner's Office. Next year we are faced with the situation that whomever is Coroner, will not be associated with a funeral home. Therefore, a need for a location and equipment could result in additional expenses of around \$10,000 as Jones reported Coroner Buchanan's estimate.

Coroner Jerry Buchanan sent a letter of transfer request for \$1,000 to be moved from Autopsy (#36400) to Body Pouches (#27101) due to COVID-19 mortality preparation. The transfer request was amended \$1,210 during the meeting due to a recommendation from the Auditor’s Office because the line item would be short if only \$1,000 was transferred.

MOTION: Peacock motioned to approve a \$1,210 transfer from the Autopsy (#36400) to Body Pouches (#27101) in the Coroner’s budget. Seconded by Watts. Motion carried unanimously.

DISABLED VETERANS ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST

The discussion about county support of a transport vehicle for Veterans was tabled.

MOTION: Richie motioned to table discussion of financing a support vehicle for Veterans. Seconded by Zollman. Motion carried unanimously.

LOCAL ROAD AND STREETS ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST

An additional appropriation in the amount of \$120,000 from Local Road and Street was advertised for the lease finance purchase of a new asphalt paver and trailer for the Highway Department. Baker said this appropriation would be for one (1) of five (5) payments.

MOTION: Peacock motioned to approve the \$120,000 additional appropriation from Local Road and Streets for the lease purchase of a new asphalt paver and trailer for the Highway Department. Seconded by Watts. Motion carried unanimously.

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND TRANSFER REQUEST

Highway Supervisor Jill Baker requested a transfer of \$20,000 in the Cumulative Bridge Fund from line items Bridge 122 (#64101) to Bridge Inspection (#32002) to cover a shortage.

MOTION: Richie motioned to approve a \$20,000 transfer from line item Bridge 122 (#64101) to line item Bridge Inspection (#32002) in the Cumulative Bridge Fund. Seconded by Peacock. Motion carried unanimously.

HANDBOOK AMENDMENT PROPOSAL FOR LONGEVITY POLICY

Richie revisited the proposition of amending the Longevity section of the Employee Handbook to include any applicable employee with one (1) year of seniority on each November 15 to receive some form of longevity compensation. After getting a figure from the Auditor of approximately \$18,000 of additional funding to put the change in place for 2020, Richie expressed his desire to revoke his motion regarding longevity changes in 2020. Richie said he would be interested in discussing it during the 2021 budget meetings though.

MOTION: Richie motioned to revoke his motion from the January 2020 meeting to change the Longevity disbursement policy in the Employee Handbook, effective for 2020, back to the previous policy where the first disbursement of \$200 begins after one (1) year service by November 15. Second provided by Zollman. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING RECESSED FOR SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH COMMISSIONERS

MOTION: Peacock motioned to recess the Council meeting for the Special Joint meeting with the Board of Commissioners. Second provided by Gasaway. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTINUATION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

President Zollman reconvened members for the continuation of the regular meeting.

ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION DURING PANDEMIC

President Zollman asked members their thoughts on additional compensation for those employees required to work on-site during the period between March 25, 2020 and April 18, 2020. Members discussed the return of Paid Time Off hours that were used during the Pandemic Health Emergency.

MOTION: Zollman motioned to return all Paid Time Off hours taken by employees, excepting those on Family Medical Leave, from March 25 to April 18, 2020 and credit it back to their Service Records. Second provided by Richie. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued over the ideas of additional compensation being in the form of time credits and hazard duty pay for the hours worked on-site during the initial phase of the stay at home directives.

MOTION: Gasaway motioned to create a Clerical Pandemic Compensation Time category for hours worked on-site by clerical employees; on-site work hours from March 25 to April 18, 2020 would be matched with like time as a credit to Pandemic Compensation Time; and any Pandemic Compensation time must be used before any other benefit time and expended before December 31, 2020. Second provided by Hardin. Motion carried unanimously.

Hazard Duty hourly pay of \$2.50 per hour, up to 40 hours per week, was proposed for additional pandemic compensation to those employees considered "essential", such as EMS, Sheriff's Department, Health, etc. The Auditor was asked to provide information regarding the hours worked by "essential" employees for review at next month's meeting.

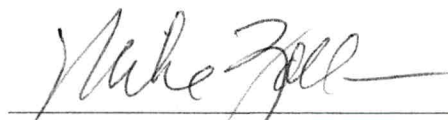
CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 13, 2020 MEETING

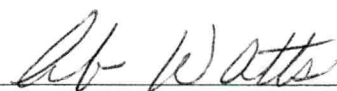
Minutes from the April 13, 2020 meeting were presented for consideration and approval.

MOTION: Peacock motioned to approve the minutes from the April 13, 2020 meetings as written. Second provided by Watts. Motion carried unanimously.


ADJOURNMENT

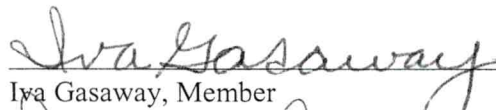
With no other business, Peacock motioned to adjourn the May 12, 2020 Regular meeting of the Council. Second provided by Hardin. Motion carried unanimously.


Mike Zollman, President


Ab Watts, Member


Robert Peacock, Vice President


Rachael Hardin, Member


Iva Gasaway, Member

Raymond Jones, Member


Donnie Richie, Member

ATTEST:


Tammy Stout Johnson, Scott County Auditor