

JUNE 20, 2019

SPECIAL SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

The Pulaski County Council met in a special session on June 20, 2019 at 6:00pm EDST at the Pulaski County Highway Garage Training Room, Winamac, IN.

Those present were Jerry (Jay) Sullivan-President, Michael T Tiede-Vice-President, Scott Hinkle, Ronald DeSabatine, Kathleen Thompson and Auditor Laura Wheeler. Brian Young and Kenneth Boswell absent.

The purpose of the meeting was a work session to hear 2020 department budget requests.

Jay Sullivan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: EMS

Brandon DeLorenzo presented the EMS budget request for 2020. In 2016, EMS wages were paid out of the Public Safety fund in order to save County General money. Public Safety tax brings in around \$500,000.00 per year with rest of EMS coming out of County General. The Public Safety fund is seldom used by any other department. In 2018, EMS billed \$920,738.00, of which the County received 522,835.22. The total EMS 2020 Budget request is \$979,000.

Currently EMS receipts go into the County General fund but there is consideration in having those monies receipted into the Public Safety fund. The 2016 total Budget of \$868,000.00 compared to the 2020 requested Budget of \$979,000.00 discussed.

DeLorenzo explained some processes that he has changed in order to be more efficient. Council asked if he could find ways to cut another \$168,000.00 from the EMS budget. Rates are being reviewed such as the mileage fee as most services charge \$16.00 per mile and Pulaski County is at \$12.75 per mile; however, Medicare will only reimburse \$4.25 per mile and any rate change only affects private insurance and self-pay. Brandon wants to revisit on-call pay to save money and he thinks he has several line items that he can reduce.

IN RE: SOLID WASTE

The Recycle/Transfer station is requesting \$396,369.00 for the 2020 budget year. This is about \$32,000.00 more than the 2018 budget but approximately \$22,000. less than the 2019 budget. Collected fees in 2018 were about \$269,000.00. Fee rate increases and the cost of operations discussed further, but there were no decreases requested at this time.

IN RE: HIGHWAY

Terry Ruff and Jessica Rausch presented the County Highway Department 2020 budget. Most of the County Highway monies are coming from State road taxes.

The Cumulative Bridge fund increased for 2020 by \$400,000.00 to cover County share of replacement bridge.

The Highway department is asking for a 10% salary increase to retain current employees and compete with surrounding county wages.

Season help wages discussed as several departments higher summer help and all pay at different rates. Council determined that part-time seasonal pay needs to be standardized.

Asset Management discussed and the County Highway is asking to pay \$2500.00 or an additional 1.25 per hour more for filling in and submitting the report. Council thought this should be hired out and asked Jessica to add \$25,000.00 to their budget for consultants.

Michael Tiede made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46pm and Scott Hinkle seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

SPECIAL SESSION

(continued)

Signed and dated this 8th day of July 2019.

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

Jerry Sullivan

Michael T Tiede

Scott Hinkle

Kenneth Boswell

Ronald DeSabatine

Brian Young

Kathleen Thompson

ATTEST: _____
Laura M Wheeler, Pulaski County Auditor