

JULY 20, 2020

SPECIAL SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

The Pulaski County Council met in special session at 7:00pm on Monday July 20, 2020 at the Pulaski County Highway Garage training room. Council members present were Ron DeSabatine, Mike Tiede, Scott Hinkle, Jerry Sullivan, Kathi Thompson and Brian Young along with Auditor Laura Wheeler. President Ken Boswell was present by phone.

Also present were Holly VanDerAa, Deb DeSchepper, Cindy Hickle, Suzanna Wilcoxon, Renita Potthoff, Dave Olds, Gary Kruger, Steve Cotner, Tim Overmyer, MacKenzie Ledley, Nathan Origer, Judge Mary Welker.

The purpose of the special session is to discuss the Local Income Tax and 2021 County Budget.

Vice-President Ron DeSabatine opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: INCOME TAX

The following options were presented at the July 13, 2020 meeting:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Net Revenue Increase for the County	\$1,280,121	\$1,370,827	\$1,371,359
Estimated Increase in Property Taxes for \$100,000 Homestead (2)	\$262	\$169	\$192
Estimated Decrease in Local Income Taxes for \$48,370 Income Taxpayer	(\$281)	(\$232)	(\$256)
Expenditure Rate			
Certified Shares	1.46%	1.46%	1.46%
Public Safety	0.22%	0.22%	0.22%
EDIT	0.58%	0.58%	0.58%
PSAP	0.24%	0.24%	0.24%
Total Expenditure Rate	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Property Tax Relief - All Parcels	0.00%	0.10%	0.25%
Property Tax Relief - Homesteads	0.00%	0.13%	0.10%
Special LIT	0.30%	0.17%	0.00%
Total Local Income Tax Rate	2.80%	2.90%	2.85%

At the July 13, 2020 regular session, Council voted in favor of option 3 which will take the Local Income Tax Rate from current 3.38% to 2.850%. with further consideration of the actual allocation. Public Safety and State Wide 9-1-1 otherwise known as Public Safety Answering Point(PSAP) discussed at length. The PSAP rate can only be used for dispatch.

Ron Desabatine motioned to put Certified Shares to 1.40%, Public Safety to .30%, EDIT to .50% and PSAP to .30%, Mike Tiede seconded and motion carried 4 to 3 with Kathi Thompson, Brian Young and Ken Boswell opposed. This will potentially generate \$1,315,965. new income to the County after Circuit Breaker.

IN RE: 2021 BUDGET

The LIT Special Purpose Fund #1114 was discussed because the amounts budgeted need to be absorbed by other funds as this fund will no longer generate revenue after 2020. Council agreed to allow Auditor Laura Wheeler move the budgeted amounts at her discretion. All salary/wage budgets were limited to a 3% increase and include longevity increase per the MATRIX. To a certain degree, the \$210,000.00 health insurance increase is a pay raise since the employees' health insurance contribution was not increased.

Health insurance cost and wage increases discussed further. Suggestions were:

Budget last year's premium and tell the insurance company to work with it.

Make a 1% across the board cost of living increase.

Make a 3% pay raise in individual budgets and then make the department heads find someplace to cut 3%.

Leave all pay raises at 3% in budgets plus any MATRIX increases.

Postage and postage meter lease discussed. After some investigation, it was determined that a free meter was not a viable option for the county since it would require a credit card and use of standard printers.

\$10,000.00 for the Community Foundation Leadership program and \$46,500.00 for an Employee Analysis brought up.

Comments made on the .30% Special LIT that Doug Gutwein helped Pulaski County get through Special LIT. Legislation was approved for 15 years and unless revoked it can be voted on every year.

Information Technology (IT) Department, security, and the county website commented on.

Brian Young made a motion to create an IT Department but was tabled due to a lack of a second. He is concerned about employees working at home and how it can be tracked.

With no further business to discuss, Ron DeSabatine made a motion to dismiss at 8:10pm, Jerry Sullivan seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 10th day of August 2020

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

Kenneth Boswell

Ronald DeSabatine

Michael T. Tiede

Jerry (Jay) Sullivan

Scott Hinkle

Kathleen Thompson

Brian Young

Attest: _____
LAURA WHEELER, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY