

AUGUST 23, 2021

SPECIAL SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

The Pulaski County Council met in Special Session for 2022 Budget Hearings at 8:30am on Monday August 23, 2021. Councilmembers present were Ken Boswell, Adam Loehmer, Ron DeSabatine, Kathi Thompson, Brian Young, Mike Tiede, and Tim Overmyer with County Auditor Laura Wheeler.

President Boswell opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: BUILDING INSPECTOR/PLANNING ZONING

Building Inspector Karla Redweik added \$2,000.00 to the Building Department budget for Condemned Buildings. If fines are not paid, a lien is filed against the property. The Monterey "Sportsman" building that collapsed several years ago and solar energy discussed briefly. The building department's budget is only \$790.00 higher than 2021. A 3% wage increase will add \$2141 plus to the budget.

IN RE: CORONER

The cost of autopsies increased mostly due to drug overdoses. COVID patients are not autopsied, as Pulaski County's autopsy room does not meet guidelines. The autopsy expense paid this year was actually from 2020, which caused the need for an additional \$20,000.00 in the coroner's budget.

IN RE: SHERIFF

New jailers discussed for future security placement, which increases the jailers' wages from \$500,000.00 to \$605,000.00. Inmate housing and patrol vehicles discussed.

IN RE: TREASURER

Requested budget decreased from a 10% raise to 3% and puts budget at \$95,355.86.

IN RE: SURVEYOR

The 2022 Budget presented with 3% wage increase and very little other changes.

IN RE: HEALTH

The Health Department operates from three funds. The 2022 Budget presented with a 10% wage increase and was put back to 3%. The total budget in all three funds totals \$273,187.00.

IN RE: COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Community Foundation requests \$15,000.00 for the Forward Leadership Initiative be included in the 2022 Budget.

Session recessed for lunch at 11:30am.

Session resumed at 1:00pm.

IN RE: RECYCLING/TRANSFER STATION

CDL wages and department equipment discussed.

IN RE: HIGHWAY

The Highway has three funds with three different departments. Discussed cutting Cum Bridge for 2022 and 2023 and putting those funds into County General for budget shortfalls. Total budget is around \$3.677 million. \$1. Million was added to budget for the Community Crossing Grant.

Session recessed at 2:15pm

Session resumed at 2:30pm

IN RE: ASSESSOR

The assessor operates from two funds with wages from both. Total budget in County General is \$189,189.00 and Reassessment is \$138,000.00.

IN RE: HUMAN SERVICES

Pulaski County Human Services is asking for \$30,000.00 to help fund their services.

IN RE: COMMISSIONERS

County General Health Insurance reduced by \$52,000.00. Fair Premium & Expenses of \$7,400.00 moved to CDC. Commissioners use Fund 1112-LIT-Economic Development for insurance and Crisis Center. Cumulative Capital Development has \$571,000.00 budgeted for IT and \$100,000.00 for building maintenance but only brings in \$200,000.00 per year.

IN RE: AUDITOR

Part-time wages increased to cover wage increases and to cover potential need of training a new deputy.

IN RE: AVIATION

Discussed Aviation grants. Building & Structures reduced with the intent that the grants be used for repairs.

IN RE: SUPERIOR COURT

The substance abuse counselor, previously paid from grant money, has 20 hours/week budgeted out of the Probation Department. Sheriff's budget also includes some funding for Tim's services.

IN RE: PROBATION

The State sets the minimum wages for probation officers, but 3% raise budgeted for part-time administrator.

IN RE: CIRCUIT COURT

CASA makes use of volunteer advocates working with approximately 30 children. A new contracted Grant Coordinator for the Family Treatment court and JDAI grants hired.

Meeting recessed at 5:30pm for the day.

Session resumed at 8:30am on Tuesday August 24, 2021

IN RE: EMS

Equipment grants discussed briefly. Overall budget for 2022 is \$48,160.00 higher than the 2021 budget. EMS brought in \$565,692.00 last year.

IN RE: RECORDER

A part-time position requested to cover office for conferences illnesses. There is \$124,000.00 in the Recorder’s perpetuation fund for part-time salary. Recorder fees has brought in \$32,984.00 so far in 2021.

IN RE: CDC

An additional employee requested and discussed at length.

IN RE: MAINTENANCE

Budget increased \$3000.00 for Pest Control.

Session recessed at 11:30am for lunch.

Session resumed at 1:00pm.

The Community Foundation request for 15,000.00 discussed again as Nathan agree for it to come out of the CDC fund.

IN RE: EMA

The EMA grant that pays up to 50% of the wages discussed. The expected 2021 re-imbusement amount is 23,000.00 but will not be received until 2022. The LEPC budget increased from \$4000.00 to \$11,000.00 for equipment, as they want to purchase a new drone.

IN RE: PROSECUTOR

Laura said Prosecutor operates out of 4 funds: County General, Child Support, Pre-Trial Diversion and Victim Assistance. Some of these are reimbursable grants. The bulk of increase is 5% increase in wages which was recalculated to 3%. Prosecutor Kelly Gaumer advised that she is looking into upgrading their computer equipment and she was advised that any IT purchase has to be taken to DeGroot first. After wage changes, budget is at \$183,575. + \$34,968. + \$17,000. +\$75,679.

IN RE: SOIL & WATER

No change except for the 3% salary increase and postage reduced \$100.00.

IN RE: EXTENSION

Only change is the 3% salary increase.

IN RE: VETERANS

Veterans’ Office Barney Frain works primarily from home and only comes in the office by appointment. Discussion on how he tracks hours. Auditor says he has been nonresponsive to emails and phone calls.

IN RE: CLERK

Clerk operates on three budgets. DeGroot’s fee for 2022 election consulting will increase from \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00. Election budget discussed further.

IN RE: TAX LEVY

Local Income tax allocation discussed briefly. Eliminating Cumulative Bridge levy for a few years to cover other needs suggested.

With no other business to conduct, budget meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

Approved and signed this 11th day of October 2021 by the **PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL.**

KENNETH BOSWELL

ADAM LOEHMER

Ronald DeSabatine

Michael T. Tiede

Kathleen Thompson

BRIAN YOUNG

TIM OVERMYER

ATTESTED BY: _____
LAURA WHEELER, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN