

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

The Pulaski County Council met August 28, 2023 4:00pm to continue budget hearings at the Pulaski County Sheriff’s conference room. Council members present were Kenneth Boswell, Tim Overmyer, Mike Tiede, Bradley Bonnell, Jerry Locke, Jeffrey Richwine, and Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez with County Auditor Laura Wheeler.

President Boswell opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pay raises for the remaining employees (not including Sheriff and Highway as 2024 wages are already set), opened the meeting. The DLGF released their 2024 estimated income tax revenue for Pulaski County, which is higher than projected. Estimated 2024 revenue is now \$8.8 million and with the Sheriff’s wage increase coming out of ARPA funds the current County General budget is at \$9,200,000.00. This is ½ of the overage as in prior years. County can sustain budget without any cuts.

Wage study numbers discussed briefly and increased wages to all full-time employees expected.

Grants discussed as Council had questions regarding the use of funding and documentation. The Pre-Trial Release Grant approved for \$81,373.00 for 2024, and covers the salary and benefit package for Carmen Ruff. Discussion on Probation statistics, recidivism, and 4C followed.

Prosecutor Kelly Gaumer was asked to respond to the wage study which indicates her office is over staffed. Prosecutor staff and workload explained.

Assessor’s office also questioned. 25% of homes in the county are reassessed each year. Three full-time, one part-time, and the assessor man the office.

The Clerk’s part-time position to full-time discussed in further detail. The position would be designated as Election Board/Document Retention and part of the position would be paid out of perpetuation fund. There are several rooms of files that need digitized.

Probation also wants part-time to go to full-time position.

Health Department state funding discussed briefly.

Discussion followed on new vehicles requested by Surveyor, Building Inspector and Coroner plus Health will want environment inspections resumed and would probably need use of a vehicle. Building, Surveyor and Health using a shared vehicle suggested.

Board pay discussed as far as consistency and attendance.

Part-time employees pay discussed with a suggested \$1.00 per hour raise. Part-time was not addressed in Sheriff and Highway discussions.

With no other business to discuss, meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm. Will continue budget discussion at next Council meeting.

Approved and signed this 9th day of October 2023 by the **PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL**.

KENNETH BOSWELL

MICHAEL TIEDE

TIM OVERMYER

JEFFREY RICHWINE

BRADLEY BONNELL

SHEILA HAZEMI-JIMENEZ

JERRY LOCKE

ATTEST: _____
LAURA WHEELER, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN