

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court



Regular Session
Monday, August 25, 2014
9:00 A.M.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met in Regular Session on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: County Judge Randy Mills, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Mark Tafel, Lloyd Huggins and Dickie Clary.

Mills called the meeting to order and Wagner opened with prayer.

Judge Mills called the public hearing on the proposed 2014 tax rate to order.

The proposed tax rate is .5724 which is composed of:

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|-----------------|-------|
| General Fund | .4255 |
| Road and Bridge | .0291 |
| Debt Service | .0305 |

Damon Chumney spoke against the tax rate increase as it is based on salary increases.

Mr. Chumney stated that he was visiting with some senior citizens who was opposed in particular a widow lady who was on a fixed income and raises were miniscule and she cannot afford a tax increase. The lady stated that her appraisals hadn't gone down.

Clary responded that he hoped that if the lady was 65 years or older had applied for her tax freeze so that her taxes were not going up.

No other comments.

Mills closed the public hearing and opened the court's regular meeting.

Public comments:

Chumney approached the court stating that you ran on a conservative platform, not raising taxes or salaries. You need to help grow the economy here and not raise the tax rate.

County Clerk Debbie Rudolph spoke stating that whenever called upon the offices were there to help whether it be moving the courthouse, implementing a federal mandate without asking for supplemental salaries but look for salary increases when the court considers them.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct One James Lively stated that he wanted a court that was fiscally responsible.

No more public comments.

A motion was made by Tafel to approve the payment of \$23,234.39 to Hamilton County Commissioner Mark Tafel for legal fees incurred during November 14, 2011 Commissioners Court arrest while engaged in the performance of official duties. The motion died for lack of a second.

There was no discussion on an emergency budget amendment for unanticipated legal encumbrances.

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Tafel to approve the following budget amendments: Sheriff's Office from Janitorial Supplies to Bonding Insurance, Sheriff's Office from Equipment Repair and Maintenance to Uniforms, Non-Departmental/Revenue General Fund-(Budget Amendment as opposed to Line Item Transfer), County Jail from Inmate medical to Equipment Rental, Sheriff's Office from Unemployment Compensation to Service Contracts, County Jail from Bonding Insurance to Inmate Supplies, County Jail from Bonding to Uniforms, County Jail from Jail/Dispatcher to Prisoner Transport and Housing, County Jail from Health Insurance to Food and Non-Departmental from Longevity to Autopsy. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Book 49 Page 381)

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Mills to approve the following consent agenda:

- A. Minutes of 8-11-2014 Commissioner's Court Meeting
- B. Minutes of 8-18-2014 Commissioner's Court Meeting
- C. Approve Department Reports (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Book 49 Page 419)
- D. Approve bills submitted for payment \$62,974.52(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 49 Page 404)

The motion carried unanimously.

The changes by the Commissioner's Court in the proposed Hamilton County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015 that it considers warranted by the facts and law and required by the interest of the taxpayers are as follows:

County Auditor:

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| | | |
|-------------------|---------|----------|
| Salary: | 495 102 | \$39393. |
| Health Insurance | 495 202 | \$ 3404. |
| County Retirement | 495 203 | \$ 3286. |

Non-Departmental:

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| | | |
|-------------------|---------|----------|
| Service Contracts | 409 459 | \$63786. |
|-------------------|---------|----------|

Total Expenditures:

Page 12 \$2,947.186.

A motion was made by Mills and seconded by Clary to approve the adoption of the Hamilton County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015 with a deficit of \$5,120.00. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel who had left the meeting.

A motion was made by Mills and seconded by Huggins to appoint Central Counting Station Manager Debbie Rudolph and Tabulation Supervisor Kiesha Bagwell. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Wagner and seconded by Huggins to ratify the appointment of Judge John Firth of Coryell County for a two year term to the Board of Trustees for Central Counties Center MHMR. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel who had left the meeting.

Wagner stated that the County Hog Abatement Program (CHAMPS) Grant would be ending officially August 31, 2014 as that was a weekend he would hold collection for the program until Friday August 29, 2014 at 4:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to approve the agreement between Coryell County, Texas and Hamilton County, Texas Regarding Administration of the Performance of Hamilton County's Obligations to Residents of Precinct 3 of Hamilton County and Hamilton County Jail Inmates Under the Indigent Health Care and Treatment Act. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel who had left the meeting. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 49 Page 430)

Hamilton County Treasurer Debbie Eoff stated that bank reconciliations were up to May 2014.

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to approve the bond renewals for Hamilton County Deputy Sheriffs David Michael Southerland, Justin R. Caraway, Kenneth Love and Hamilton County Auditor L. Marliessa Clark. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel who had left the meeting. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers book 49 Page 432)

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Clary to ratify the appointment of Louella H. Tate of Bell County for a two-year term to the Board of Trustees for Central Counties Center the Political Subdivisions constituting the Mental Health Mental Retardation Centers. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel who had left the meeting.

A motion was made by Wagner and seconded by Clary to declare surplus property from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel who had left the meeting. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 49 Page 421)

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to approve the transfer of surplus property from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office to the City of Hamilton Municipal Police Department with the caveat that the intent for the city to provide law enforcement services to the citizens of Hamilton County. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel and Wagner who had left the meeting. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 49 Page 421; Executed copy is recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 49 Page 525)

A motion was made by Mills and seconded by Clary to approve the request from 220th Judicial District Judge for an extension of time to submit the salary order for the Court Reporter of the 220th District. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel and Wagner who had left the meeting.

Future Agenda Items: None

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor except for Tafel and Wagner who had left the meeting.

County Judge

Attest: _____

County Clerk