

## Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session  
Monday, June 22, 2015  
9:00 A.M.



Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met in Regular Session on Monday, June 22, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: County Judge Mark Tynes, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Keith Allen Curry, Lloyd Huggins and Dickie Clary.

Tynes called the meeting to order stated that a quorum was present and ask Wagner to lead the court in prayer. Following the prayer Tynes led the court in the pledges.

There were no public comments.

A motion was made Huggins and seconded by Clary to approve the following budget amendments: Health and Welfare Department from Appraisal District and Autopsy to Contract Services-CPS, County Jail from Dispatcher No. 2 to Overtime, County Jail from Law Enforcement Liability to Employee Medical, County Jail from Equipment Repair and Maintenance to Prisoner Transport, Sheriff's Office from Training to Schools and Conferences, Precinct Three from Fuel to Equipment Rental and Precinct Two from Road Materials to Bridge Replacement. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 52 Page 120)

A motion was made by Wagner and seconded by Huggins to approve the following consent agenda:

- A. Minutes of 6-8-2015 Commissioner's Court Meeting
- B. Minutes of 6-15-2015 Commissioner's Court Meeting
- C. Approve Department Reports
- D. Approve Bills Submitted for Payment-\$97,201.71

The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Paper Book 52 Page 137)

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to approve the donation of \$1,000.00 made to Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for use on the purchase of a vehicle. (The donation will be set up under Donation/Vehicle 087-367-000 and Capital Equipment 087-560-570) The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Wagner to approve the Bell Tex Construction Contract for the removal of the black algae from the Hamilton County Courthouse in the amount of \$16,867.00. The treatment kills the algae within thirty seconds, reactivates when moisture hits it and comes with a (36) thirty six month guarantee. The motion carried unanimously.

Ray Bussell presented a request from Pathway Com-Tel (owned by Alenco Communications, Inc.) to access the communications tower at the fairgrounds. This provides internet access to the public which provides a public service. The court discussed the liability if someone were to fall and hurt or cause death from the tower that Hamilton County would not be liable. This would provide another service to the public other than Century Link. The county attorney stated that there would need to be some type of compensation.

Mr. Bussell will prepare a proposal and present it to the court for consideration at the July 13<sup>th</sup> Commissioner's Court meeting. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 52 Page 149)

The Court then discussed the bonded debt on the courthouse trying to determine if the county needs to retire that debt for the best interest of the taxpayers of Hamilton County. As of 10-1-2014 the county had \$1,598,141.55 in reserve funds.

The question was asked what did the court consider an adequate reserve.

If the court decided to pay off the debt it would be a savings of interest in the amount of \$67,290.00.

Richard Layne stated that he thought the court was doing the right thing. A savings of \$67,000.00 is a great thing. If it's a benefit to the taxpayers, the reserve will re-grow. The question should be asked, "Are we collecting too many taxes?" The unfunded mandates are coming to this court. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers book 52 Page 152)

County Auditor Marliessa Clark stated that the court cannot pay the debt off this year because it was not budgeted, but you can pay it off next year as long as it is budgeted for. Clark stated that I warn you that the fund balance can be effected because of the revenues and expenditures. I recommend that you wait until the budget is completed and you know the tax rate.

No decision will be made but the court has been asked to think about this and what it would like to do about the bonded debt.

Future Agenda Items: July 13, 2015 –  
1. Bonded Debt  
2. Approval of Audit and Financial Statements 2014

The court took a brief recess at 9:50 A.M. and reconvened at 10:00 A.M. for a budget workshop.

Tynes ask the court to explain the difference in the total expenses budgeted of \$3,251,174.91 and the total revenue of 2,942,000.00. The court replied the law enforcement contract.

The district attorney submitted his budget request at an 18.5% increase for the county's share.

Tynes informed the court that he had a long discussion with Kent Reeves and that he will be here on Thursday morning for a meeting.

The court discussed the EOC/Emergency Management.

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Judge

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk