

**Hamilton County Commissioner's Court**

Regular Session

Tuesday, February 09, 2016

9:00 A.M.

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 09, 2016 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.

The meeting was called to order, Wagner opened with prayer and Tynes led the pledges.

Damon Chumney encouraged the court to participate in the Jason Harris Pavilion fund raiser scheduled for the weekend.

Chumney continued talking about the sheriff's police cars that were given to the city stating that a while back it was told that these vehicles were taken out of service and a couple of weeks ago the city talked about replacing them. He also stated that when Bewley took office he went to all police cars and now the department was going to all pickups and he would like an explanation for this.

Closing his public remarks Chumney stated that there was an aggressive group from New York trying to push low rent housing. Currently, they were in Lubbock addressing the commissioner's court where they were denied.

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Clary to approve the line item transfers as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 53 Page 592)

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

- a. Minutes of 1/26/2016 Commissioner's Court Meeting
- b. Approve Department Reports (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers book 53 Page 605)
- c. Approve Bills Submitted for Payment -\$118,177.11 (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 53 Page 594)

The motion carried unanimously.

County Auditor Kent Reeves presented his report for January 2016 stating that approximately 79% of the taxes have been collected to date and 32% of the delinquent taxes. There is \$2,706,384.00 cash in the bank as well as \$1,000,096.00 invested for a total of \$3,706,480.00. Continuing Reeves added that the county had \$3,284,480.00 revenue and \$2,718,519.00 expenses leaving a current balance of \$565,901.00. The report submitted is for management purposes only. The balances reflected may not have been reconciled or audited as of the report date. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 53 Page 672)

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to approve the appointment of Joyce Sommerfeld, Alternate Election Judge, in Precinct 23. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Wagner and seconded by Curry to approve the bond for Hamilton County Reserve Deputy James Dace Clifton. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 53 Page 673)

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Clary to approve the United Telephone Company of Texas, Inc. dba Centurylink proposal to install buried communications cable upon and along the right of way of county roads in Hamilton County. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 53 Page 669)

There were no future agenda items.

The court recessed for a brief five minutes and reconvened for a workshop to discuss:

- a. Precinct operations- at which time Clary stated that he felt like the court needed to consider funding the precincts with more finances to operate. Short term goal would be \$25,000.00 as soon as possible; long term goal would be \$50,000.00

Huggins added that he had reviewed his precinct and had made a determination of \$20,000.00 for his short term goal estimate.

Clary added determine how we could utilize the money we already have.

Tynes admonished the court to use our county auditor; utilize the expertise that he brings to the table.

- b. Process for approving and paying Hamilton County bills

Reeves addressed the purchase order system and its efficiency and usefulness to each department and the county. It is beneficial to all; making all more accountable and aware of their budget.

Tynes read the code where it states that the county judge's approval is required on each of these purchase orders and he wants the court to waive that approval in a written order at the court's next Commissioner's Court meeting.

Tynes added that the auditor is the chief financial officer and should be utilized by the county at the inception of our procedures.

After completing the workshops court adjourned.

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County Judge

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