

Hamilton County Commissioner's Court

Regular Session
Tuesday, July 11th, 2017
9:00 A.M.



Hamilton County Commissioner's Court met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: Judge Mark Tynes, Commissioners Johnny Wagner, Keith Allen Curry, Lloyd Huggins and Dickie Clary.

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established.

Clary led the invocation and Tynes followed with the pledges.

Judge Tynes recited a quote from Will Rogers.

Christy Segit stood up for public comments speaking about the decline of Hamilton County due to drugs. She said that one of the main functions of the Commissioner's Court should be to provide a strong well-funded Sheriff's Office. She said that she with most all other citizens doesn't want to see an unnecessary taxation and she wanted to make that very clear, but we are losing a foothold on the safety and security of this county. She is a nurse at Hamilton General Hospital and she said that she is not speaking on behalf of the hospital, but that she is coming to the court with the knowledge of what comes into the hospital. She stated that she is speaking to you not only for the protection of her family but of the children as well. She said that there is stuff going on here that you only see in big cities, and this shouldn't be going on in Hamilton County. We are too small of a County. We are a hometown and we should be. She also wanted to make clear to the Court that law enforcement is not a for profit business that it is a public service. The court needs to back the Sheriff's Office they are one of the most critical parts to make people safe in this county. She said it is too expensive, but it is absolutely necessary. She said that the hospital doesn't always run in the black either, but it's a necessary. She said that she had an expectation of our law enforcement and right now we are so far behind what is considered to be expected for a community in the United States of America. She said that she is the wife of a police officer and she was lucky she never had another law enforcement officer pull up in her drive and tell her that something had happened to her husband. She mentioned that in a small county in New York that an officer was recently killed. She said it's not if it's going to happen, but when it will happen. She said that she understands that there will be no more overtime for law enforcement in the county. She understand that it will come in the form of comp time now. She wanted the court to understand the risk that each officer takes every day in the line of duty and they are the ones that deserve to have the financial backing and stability. She said that right now law enforcement officers in the United States are at a higher risk of being killed in the line of duty than our military, and that's pretty disturbing. She also stated that she had found out that we had quite a number of Banditos living in this county. She said when or if they decide to do something they aren't going to care. She said they didn't care in Waco. She said that they will be armed with full artillery and we will one officer to defend himself and the citizens in this community. She said that if we don't support the law enforcement of this county with the environment and the hate campaign that we have going against our boys in blue, are we any different from them if we don't give them the resources and the support that they need to have to do their job? Then she thanked the court for letting her speak.

There were no budget amendments submitted.

There were no line item transfers submitted.

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

- A. Minutes of the 6-26-2017 Commissioner's Court Meeting

- B. Approve Department Reports (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 57 Page 474)
- C. Approve bills submitted for payment in the amount of \$47,587.82 (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 57 Page 534)
- D. Approve Monthly Treasurer's Report – Not submitted

The motion carried unanimously.

County Auditor Kent Reeves stood and gave his Report.

Certificates of continuing education were submitted for Lloyd Huggins. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 57 Page 542)

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Curry to approve the bond and deputation for Hamilton County Deputy Sheriff Ray Miller. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 57 Page 187)

A motion was made by Wagner and seconded by Huggins to approve the bond and deputation for Hamilton County Deputy Sheriff William Chris Blanton. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 57 Page 543)

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Clary to divide the unclaimed property capital credits evenly between the Hamilton EDC, Hico EDC and Evant Municipal Development district. The motion carried unanimously. (Recorded in Commissioners Court Papers Book 57 Page 550)

A motion was made by Huggins and seconded by Curry to reappoint Johnny Wagner to a 2 year term as Hamilton County's representative of Solid Waste Advisory Committee to be effective September 1, 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

Future Agenda Items: Tynes stated that there would be just a few housekeeping items regarding fees.

The court recessed at 9:24 A.M. for 5 minute break and reconvened at 9:30 for a budget workshop

In the budget workshop the court talked on topics such as what percentage to budget of the property taxes, health insurance and the cost of our current Information Technology (I.T.) Extraco out of Waco vs. Biz Tech out of Glen Rose.

District Clerk Sandy Layhew stood and stated that she would appreciate the courts consideration to adding an additional employee for her office. She said that this should have been requested long before, but now with the case load coming from three different entities they are falling behind and doing all they can to stay on top of it. She said that's not to mention the family and civil cases that are filed. She thanked the court for the opportunity to speak.

Sheriff Justin Caraway also spoke with the court about needing an administrative assistant to help with paperwork, evidence and sex offender compliance. He also asked for another deputy. This deputy would be cross trained as a jailer/dispatcher as well. He said that since we are not housing inmates here and the constable positions have been eliminated, all the civil service, to have someone here to bailiff all of the courts that we have and investigations. HE said they could also be used to help out with the mental health patients that they also have to transport. He stated that he would like to have someone out on the patrol of Hamilton County 24 hours 7 days a week. He thanked the court for their time and for allowing him to speak and Tynes thanked the sheriff for speaking.

Tynes asked the court about these new positions and they all stated that they would be more comfortable answering that when we got the numbers in from the Doyle Roberts from the Appraisal District.

Tynes adjourned the court.

W. Mark Tynes
County Judge

Kiesha F. Bagwell
County Clerk
