

Jennings County Council Meeting
July 9, 2019 6:00 P.M.

The meeting was opened with Howard Malcomb leading the pledge.

All members were present.

Dave Woodall made a motion to approve the prior meeting minutes with the proposed change in the June 26 meeting. Remove the sentence "Charlie Weber stated that the money was to be used to build a new jail only." Charlie Weber seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

First on the agenda was Heidi Amspagh with Baker Tilly. Heidi gave a presentation on the history of Baker Tilly as well as the services they offer. She explained the different levels of service they provide to their clients and the fees charged. She presented the Council with an agreement for a comprehensive financial plan.

Next on the agenda was Treasurer Kitty Shepherd. She brought up a previous comp time pay out issue. Her previous employee took an elected official position and was not paid out her comp time or vacation. The total money owed to that employee was \$1,047.75. Charlie Weber made a motion to approve the pay out and take the money out of the general fund. Paul Belding seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Andrew Wiley with the Vernon Fire Department Rescue team came before the Council to inform them of what services they provide. They started in 2016 and have expanded since then. The rescue team has performed many rescues and need assistance from all other agencies. Andrew explained that they are asking for jurisdiction over the county. He understands the Council cannot make that decision and will take this issue before the Commissioners. The Council commended the rescue team on what they do.

Last on the agenda was Andrew Lanam with George K. Baum & Company. Andrew also gave a brief overview of the company and what services they offer. He presented the Council with a consulting services engagement agreement. The agreement consisted of a long term financial plan, budget assistance, and general consulting as well as other services. Andrew has worked with Jennings County in the previous years.

Auditor Tessia Salsman then brought up the Assessor's Office pay for employees who have received their Level II and Level III. This topic has been discussed in previous meetings. Currently there are four people in the Assessor's office who have received their level II and one who has received their Level III. An employee would receive \$1,000 once a level II is obtained and \$1,500 when a level III is obtained. These employees have not received their pay at this time. Mike Gerth made a motion to table the increase. Mandy Creech seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Auditor Salsman then presented the Council with Additional Appropriations for EMS in the amount of \$3,500 for Paramedic Training. The Council members signed the form.

Howard Malcomb then asked the Council members if they had any additional questions for either of the financial advisors. After some discussion between the members Charlie Weber made a motion to hire Baker Tilly according to the engagement letter presented. Paul Belding seconded. With a vote of 4 yes from Charlie Weber, Paul Belding, Howard Malcomb, and Bob Ellis, 1 no from Mandy Creech, and 2 abstained from Dave Woodall and Mike Gerth, the motion was passed.

Dave Woodall then made a motion to zero out the special jail tax as soon as possible. Dave stated that there will have to be a public meeting in order to do this. Bob Ellis seconded. With a vote of 3 yes from Dave Woodall, Bob Ellis, and Mandy Creech, 4 no from Howard Malcomb, Paul Belding, Charlie Weber, and Mike Gerth, the motion was not passed. Auditor Salsman then presented the Council with Ordinance 2018-11. Mike Gerth then read from the ordinance Section 1 "The County Council hereby finds that revenues from the county local income tax authorized by IC 6-3.6-7-12.5 are needed to (a) finance, construct, acquire, improve, renovate, and equip the county jail and related buildings and parking facilities (collectively, the "Facilities"). Jail Commander Jason Bliton was in attendance and informed the council that he should have a presentation and more accurate numbers on what it will cost to fix the problems at the current jail at the next council meeting.

Auditor Salsman then provided the Council members with meeting minutes from April 9, 2019 showing that the pay increase for the Assessor levels was approved. The minutes read "With more employees in the Assessor's Office earning their level II and level III certification additional money has to be appropriated. With that being said a total of \$7,000 needs to be coming out of the General Fund \$4,000 for Level II and \$3,000 for Level III certifications salaries, \$3,500 for PTABOA needs to come from reassessment fund not Commissioner's budget. Mike Gerth made a motion to approve those changes to comply with state statute. Dave Woodall seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote." Auditor Salsman then read minutes from May 14, 2019, "After a very lengthy discussion about the Salary Ordinance and the Assessor's Certification Salaries, Charlie Weber made a motion to rescind the approval of the Salary Ordinance that was signed. Dave Woodall seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote." Auditor Salsman stated that the employees need to be paid. No action was taken.

Dave Woodall made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Charlie Weber seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.



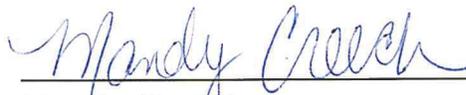
Tessia Salsman, Auditor



Mike Gerth



Howard Malcomb, President



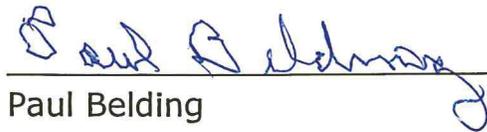
Mandy Creech



Dave Woodall, Vice-President



Bob Ellis



Paul Belding



Charlie Weber