

Decatur County Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 12, 2017, Room 106

Present: Ernie Gauck, Danny Peters, Judge John Westhafer, Kenny Owens, Bill Metz, Kenny Hooten and Larry Meyer.

President Gauck called the meeting to order. Bill Metz led the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

After Council members reviewed the October 17th meeting minutes, Mr Metz moved to approve the minutes and Mr Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried, 6 – 0.

House Enrolled Act 1087 (2016) restructured and consolidated certain vehicle type weight classes, which now requires the Council to amend **Decatur County Council Ordinance 2016-5** to reflect the required changes by **HEA 1087**. Council members did not make any changes to the surtax or excise tax rates; this is a formality required Mr Owens moved to adopt **Decatur County Council Ordinance 2017-20**, amending **Ordinance 2016-5**. Mr Hooten seconded the motion. Motion carries, 7-0.

County Treasurer Brenda Dwenger presented **Ordinance 2017-19**, establishing processing fees for mobile home title transfers and moving permits prepared by the **Decatur County Treasurer**. Mrs Dwenger explained the time involved researching her records to insure all taxes due has been paid. Mr Westhafer moved to adopt **Ordinance 2017-19** and Mr Metz seconded the motion. Motion passed, 7-0.

County Sheriff Greg Allen described events requiring him to submit a ‘request for additional monies’ for the **2017 Jail Budget**: two cooks retired, one resigned and seven found better paying jobs; this all in addition to the high jail population- a sign of the times. Mr Meyer moved to approve the request for the \$16,000 additional monies. Mr Hooten seconded the motion. Motion carries, 7-0.

Community Corrections Director Ben Buening submitted a written request for \$137,103.35 additional monies to purchase two new vehicles, a smart TV and cover some building improvements. These funds are in the **Project Income Fund (9109)**. The **Community Corrections Advisory Board** approved the above request at their October meeting and Mr Buening submitted his request to the Council as a courtesy since the Council officially approves the **Community Corrections’** budget. Mr Metz moved to approve the request for additional monies and Mr Peters seconded the motion. Motion carries, 7-0.

Since the Council did not meet in November, Council members took some time to review the three pages of ‘requests to transfer monies within each department’s budget. Mr Owens moved to approve the transfers and Mr Hooten seconded the motion. Motion carries, 7-0.

Mr Meyers moved to reappoint the following people:

Alcoholic Beverage Commission-----Rheadawn Metz

Council Attorney-----Lora Reed Williams

Parks and Rec Board----Sue Fortman

Solid Waste Board----Kenny Hooten

SE Regional Planning Board----John Westhafer

Economic Development Commission-----James Tomson

Mr Peters seconded the motion. Motion carries, 7-0. The Auditor’s office will mail letters to notify the people listed above of their reappointment.

Mr Owens moved to adopt the 2018 Meeting Schedule as presented, third Tuesday of each month. Mr Metz seconded the motion. Motion carries, 7-0.

Council members agreed to wait until April, 2018, to set a budget for the new **Public Safety Income Tax** revenues. The **State Budget Agency** certified the County will receive \$861,979 in 2018; but Council wants to wait to see if that amount is disbursed to us.

Mr Hooten moved to keep the same officers for 2018 and Mr Westhafer seconded the motion. Motion carries, 7-0.

Mr Gauck told members he appreciates the cooperation Council members have shown throughout 2017.

Council members asked for the minutes of the scheduled jail meetings to be emailed to them since some will be unable to attend those meetings. The Commissioners have scheduled meetings for the second and fourth Mondays of the first six months of 2018 should they need to discuss and/or vote on items for the new jail project.

Deputy Auditor Christy Smiley asked if the new position of a full-time EMA Director is a PERF position. Yes, Mr Gauck said that's the way it was presented to them.

Council members asked Jerry Hermann to talk to the County Commissioners on the topics of a noise ordinance and ATV's speeding on county roads.

The Council's next meeting will be January 16th, 2018, at 10:00 am.

With nothing else to come before the Council, Mr Peters moved to adjourn and Mr Hooten seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Ernest Gauck, President

Attest: _____

Date: _____

