

Decatur County Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 22, 2015, Room 106

Present: Ernie Gauck, Larry Meyers, Geneva Hunt, Bill Metz, Kenny Owens, Danny Peters and Kenny Hooten

President Gauck called the meeting to order.

County Commissioner John Richards led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

After reviewing the November 17th meeting minutes- Mr Meyer moved to approve the minutes and Mrs Hunt seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

Community Corrections Director Mark Cripe asked for the Council's approval to create a new, full-time, road officer position within his department. Community Corrections' monies would fully fund this new position. Since their budget runs a fiscal year- July 1st, 2015 thru June 30th, 2016, the salary would be \$30,000 plus \$25,000 in benefits. The salary would be paid out of grant monies from the State and the benefits would be paid out of Community Corrections' monies. Mrs Hunt moved to allow the request to add a full-time road officer. Mr Metz seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

County Commissioner Rick Nobbe presented information on health insurance costs, comparing 2014 bills to 2015's bills. A few employees had serious health issues 2014(a couple of them did pass) - the bills were more than our Non-Reverting Health Insurance Fund had monies to pay. EDIT monies were transferred to keep the health insurance fund solvent in 2014. Beginning March 1st of this year, the Commissioners opted to change from **SIHO providers** to **Health Smart providers** to offer employees the option of continuing the 'regular' PPO plan which has a 'co-pay' for medical and prescriptions; or they could choose the 'High Deductible Health Plan' where the employee would pay the first \$2,600, then the County would pick up the costs up to the 'stop-loss' cap of \$60,000. Since the renewal date was March 1st, the County still had claims from **SIHO** for January and February plus the 'run out claims' not submitted by the providers from 2014 which totaled over \$1,186,000. Our insurance agent, Marsha Miller-Smith, provided the County Commissioners data on expenses for medical and prescription costs for March 1st, 2015 thru November 30th, 2015. Mr Nobbe noted the County has realized an approximate savings of \$720,000 in medical costs/bills, in part by contracting with our local **Stay Well Clinic** through **DCMH** and having seventy-nine employees on the High Deductible Health Plan. The preliminary quote for March 1, 2016 did not raise the normal 11% as in past years, but only 2.2%. The Commissioners asked Council members to consider 'putting \$250 into HSA accounts/paying' to each of the current HDHP folks in hopes they continue staying on the HDHP Plan. In addition, offer an incentive of \$250 (to go into HSA account) to new HDHP enrollees; as well as put/pay another \$250 into the initial HDHP participants' HSA accounts. The total incentive package would be \$57,500 if all 151 employees enroll/continue in the HDHP Plan. **Greensburg City Mayor Gary Herbert** stated he believes the '2 tier' plan is correct and it's well worth offering employees. Mr Meyer believes the \$250 is not an incentive but a reward. After a little more discussion, Mr Hooten made a motion to move forward with the \$250 incentive for the current HDHP employees; \$250 for new enrollees and \$250 for those 'resigning' on the HDHP Plan. Mr Owens seconded the motion. Five yeas: Mr Meyer, Mrs Hunt, Mr Metz, Mr Owens and Mr Hooten. Mr Peters voted 'nay'. Motion carried. Mr Nobbe thanked the Council. On another topic, Mr Nobbe asked, since the Council approves salaries, what their thoughts are on closing the County's offices at noon on December 31st beginning this year and making it part of the annual Holiday schedule going forward. Several Council members nodded yes, Mr Gauck said to close at noon, for all County offices, on December 31st.

E911 Board spokesperson Rob Duckworth presented **Ordinance 2015-4**, establishing a governing board of directors for the **Decatur County Enhanced 9-1-1 System**. This ordinance establishes that the **Decatur County 911 Dispatch Center** will be the sole **Public Safety Answering Point** for Decatur County with funding provided by the **Statewide 911 Fund**. The County Council will approve the annual budget. Mr Meyer moved to adopt **Ordinance 2015-4**; Mr Hooten seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr Duckworth also presented information on the 911 consolidation-implementation costs for the Central Dispatch Center. The **Statewide 911** monies have supported the annual operating budgets and still have a balance of approximately \$300,000. Mr Duckworth asked Council, and they agreed, to direct the Auditor to advertise for an additional appropriation of \$160,000 for contractual services to be voted on at their January meeting.

County Assessor Dorene Greiwe presented information on lost revenue for the County due to a couple of changes in this year's legislative session concerning **business/ farm personal property and Heritage Barns**. Currently there are 803 taxpayers who file having "under \$20,000 in personal property"; so they would not have to pay personal property taxes resulting in a loss of around \$68,000. State statute sets a cap of \$50 filing fee per personal property statement. Mr Hooten moved to adopt a \$50 local service fee on Personal Property under \$20,000 value, as well as a \$50 filing fee for the **Heritage Barns** exemption. Mr Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Council reviewed several departments' request for appropriation transfers. Mr Metz moved to approve the transfer requests. Mr Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr Owens moved to allow the Auditor's office to pay/deduct the FICA and PERF monies out of various grants and supplements to employees' salaries. Mr Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr Peters moved to adopt the 2016 Salary Ordinance as presented and Mr Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr Gauck thanked Council members for another year of service.

Mr Gauck gave a brief update on the **Tourism Board(s)**. Bill Smith, Rick Nobbe and Mr Gauck are still working to 'move' the **Visit Decatur County Inc** back into the original **Tourism/Visitors** Board.

The next Council meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. on January 19th, 2016, immediately following the County Commissioners' Meeting.

With nothing else to come before the Council, Mr Owens moved to adjourn and Mrs Hunt seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Ernest Gauck, President

Attest: _____

Date: _____