

Decatur County Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 19, 2016, Room 106

Present: Ernie Gauck, Larry Meyers, Danny Peters and Kenny Hooten

President Gauck called the meeting to order.

Greensburg Daily News Reporter Brent Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

After reviewing the December 22nd meeting minutes- Mr Hooten moved to approve the minutes and Mr Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

Sara Marten and Terri Hornberger, Extension Office Educators, presented their request for additional funds to replace their **Minolta** copier. They gave Council members information and costs for a new copier from **The Office Shop**. The current copier 'counter' shows almost three million copies were made including Home Ec Lessons and Club books, 4-H County project manuals, County Fair materials and more. Their 2016 budget only has \$4,000 for office equipment. Mr Gauck advised the educators to submit a written request for \$10,500 to the Auditor's office, which will then be advertised for the Council's February meeting to be acted upon.

After reviewing the list of 'transfer monies requests', Mr Peters moved to approve and Mr Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Most of the requests were a step necessary to encumber 2015 monies for salaries to help fund the twenty-seven pays in 2016.

County Assessor Dorene Greiwe answered questions concerning the "personal property filings for total value under \$20,000. She will notify those taxpayers are already in her 'system' they need to file a certification form stating their personal property has a value less than \$20,000. If they don't file timely, her office will send out another notice; if they still refuse to file the certification form, a \$25 penalty plus 10% of their prior year's assessment will added to their property tax bill. Another new filing is a property tax deduction for "Heritage Barns". The County Assessor is required to go out and review the barn to ensure it meets the criteria for the deduction. Once a property owner files the paperwork for this deduction, the County Assessor is required to do a 'site visit' each year. Section 3 of Senate Enrolled Act 436 allows the County Council the option to adopt filing fees charged to the property owners' tax bills to recover some of the lost revenues on the personal property and to cover the Assessor's expenses of 'checking' on each Heritage Barn annually. Mr Gauck suggested waiting until their February meeting to decide on these fees when more Council members are in attendance.

Community Corrections Director Mark Cripe presented his **Advisory Board's** request to Council members that the 'new road officer' begin his full-time duties on January 25th, 2016 instead of July 1st, 2016. Council members had approved hiring a full-time officer at their December 22nd meeting. Grant monies and "project monies" will be used for the new officer's salary and benefits. The Council was fine with Mr Cripe's request.

EMA Director Rob Duckworth had submitted a written request for additional monies in the **State Wide E911 Fund** to pay contractors for work done in the **Central Dispatch Center**. The Auditor's Office had emailed the "additional" legal ad to the newspaper, but the 'legal ad' was not in the newspaper ten days before the Council meeting, so Council members could not act on the request. This will be on the February agenda.

Mr Cripe presented four transfer requests, but only one was given to the Auditor's Office timely to be on the Council's list. Three of the four transfers were to 'move' monies for FICA, PERF and insurance into the current budget. He will give the transfer list to the Auditor's Office for the Council's next meeting.

The next Council meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on February 16th, 2016.

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

Ernest Gauck, President

Attest: _____

Date: _____