

## Decatur County Council Meeting

**Tuesday, May 16, 2023, Room 106**

**Present:** Danny Peters, Bill Metz, Melanie Nobbe, Ashley Hungate, Deanna Burkart, Kenny Hooten and Ernie Gauck.

President Peters welcomed everyone to the May 16<sup>th</sup> Council meeting and asked Animal Control Director Minde Myers to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(Meeting minutes and agendas are emailed to Council members the Friday before their Tuesday meeting)

Mr Metz moved to approve the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and Mrs Burkart seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

**Jill Spaulding, Regional Sales Manager for PHI Air Medical, and Amanda, flight nurse and base supervisor in Rushville**, gave each Council member an information packet on services PHI offers. Ms Spaulding said health insurance does not pay in full the fees for anyone who requires being airlifted to a medical facility. Currently an emergency medical transfer via helicopter ranges from \$45,000 to \$85,000. PHI Air Medical will offer Decatur County a special rate to cover all Decatur County residents a service agreement for an annual membership fee of \$61,056. PHI's standard terms and conditions may be viewed at their website, [www.PHICares.com](http://www.PHICares.com). Mr Peters asked Ms Spaulding to make this same presentation to the Commissioners.

**Health Department Executive Director Sean Durbin** shared updates on **Senate Enrolled Act 4** in which the Public Health Commission defines core public health services. SEA 4 provides some funding to local health departments who must use at least 60% of those funds for core services such as student health, vital statistics and child and adult immunizations; while up to the remaining 40% may be used for food protection, sanitary inspection and surveys of public buildings. Mr Durbin told Council the Department is looking to hire additional staff plus looking to offer grants to help achieve the 'key performance indicators to justify this funding. **Dr James Howell, Board of Health President**, hopes to set aside 10% each year to use for capital purchases. September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 is the deadline to have a plan for programs and the monies for those. Mr Durbin stressed this funding is an 80/20 match and these funds cannot replace the Health Department's regular budget. On another topic, Dr Howell told Council SEA 4 also makes changes to the makeup of the Board of Health: County Council has one appointment- from the general public-, the Mayor of Greensburg has one appointment and the Commissioners will appoint five people with public health knowledge. Council will make their appointment at the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Clerk of the Courts Janet Howell** requested a new title, First Deputy/Election Deputy for Patricia Louagie whose responsibilities include Elections. Mrs Howell told Council she expects to reduce paying MicroVote for some services since Mrs Louagie has taken on those tasks in addition to her daily work. She also asked Council for a \$5,000 salary increase for the Election Deputy, retro-active to January 1, 2023 and monies are within the Election Budget so no additional funds are required. Mrs Howell also explained a First Deputy retains that position even when the elected official changes, but a Chief Deputy serves an elected official so when the elected official leaves so does the Chief Deputy. Council agreed to wait until their June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to decide on Mrs Howell's request since some have a problem with the retro-active pay; Council may also wait to decide since the Salary Committee is working on compensation for office deputies for 2024.

Mr Hooten made a motion to approve the requests to transfer monies and Mrs Hungate seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0. A majority of the transfers are the quarterly health insurance.

Mr Metz moved to approve the Prosecutor's request for an additional of \$30,000, to pay interns up to \$15.00 an hour and Mrs Burkart seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

**Animal Control Director Minde Myers** is requesting a \$2,800 additional to pay the Animal Control Officer a \$20 flat rate per after-hours call and also pay \$2.25 an hour more to the ACO. Mr Peters asked for a motion for the additional of \$2,800. No motion was made since that \$20,000 salary appropriation has not been expended. Mr Hooten made a motion to approve paying the ACO the after-hours flat rate of \$20 plus the \$2.25 an hour increase and Mrs Nobbse seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Mrs Hungate made a motion to approve the **Health Department's** request for additional monies of **\$2,200** for truck maintenance and Mrs Burkart seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Mrs Hungate moved to approve **ARPA Addendum #17 - \$36,000** - for updates to the HVAC and correct drainage for the Animal Shelter and Mr Hooten seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Mr Hooten made a motion to approve the **ARPA Addendum #18 - \$20,272-** for the 911 Radios and Mr Metz seconded the motion.

Mrs Burkart moved to approve the Form 1's submitted by 6 departments receiving grants and Mrs Hungate seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0. All grants are to be budgeted per the State. **Body Cameras Grant, - Fund 8951, \$15,378 – Sheriff's Department; Decatur County Wellness Court – Fund 9150 - \$15,000 – Community Corrections ; Problem Solving Court Grant – Fund 9136, \$10,000 – Community Corrections; Safety Awareness Corona- Fund 8903, \$56,185 – Health Department and PETCO LOVE – Fund 4005, \$10,000 – Animal Control.**

Council reviewed the proposed **2024 Budget Calendar: August 14<sup>th</sup>** Departments may present their budget requests; **August 15<sup>th</sup>** – Council's regular meeting at 9:00 am, followed by budget workshop; **September 19<sup>th</sup>** – Council's regular meeting at 9:00 am, including Public Hearing for proposed 2024 Budgets and **October 17<sup>th</sup>**- Council's regular meeting at 9:00 am, including Adoption of 2024 Budgets. Council will decide if these dates work with their schedules, then set the dates at their June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mrs Burkart announced the **Food and Beverage Tax** did pass this Legislative Session.

Mr Peters asked anyone wishing to rent a booth for the **2023 Decatur County Fair** to be at Fairgrounds on June 10<sup>th</sup>, between 10:00 am and noon, to sign up.

County Commissioner Mark Koors told Council the construction of the new Highway Garage is 1 ½ months ahead of schedule and about \$100,000 under budget; hoping to move to the new facility around Thanksgiving.

**The next Council meeting is June 20<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 am, in Room 106, in the Courthouse.**

With nothing else to come before the Council, Mr Hooten made a motion to adjourn and Mr Gauck seconded the motion. Council's regular meeting is adjourned.

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Danny Peters, President

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Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_