

COUNTY COUNCIL

June 11, 2020

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Council convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, June 11, 2020 to consider additional requests in excess of the budget allowed for 2020, and to conduct such other business as may be properly brought before the Council.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Council members present were John K. Pratt, President; Larry Gambaiani, Vice President; Jack B. Butler, James E. Howard, Rick Patton, Thomas E. Stambaugh, Roy Wrightsman; Laura J. Fischer, Auditor; and Rhonda Montgomery, 3rd Deputy Auditor. Also present were Katie Potter, Larry Bemis, Jim Meece, Chris O'Brien and Justin Cole.
- III. **READING OF THE MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meetings held on May 14, 2020 were approved upon a motion made by Roy Wrightsman and seconded by Larry Gambaiani.
- IV. **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:** No additional appropriation requests were presented to the Council for consideration.
- V. **TRANSFER OF FUNDS:** Council discussed the transfer request from Chris O'Brien, E911 Director from the Emergency Management Office Supplies fund 1000-40-03-3010 to the Statewide 911 Equipment Maintenance fund 1222-00-03-5040. This is following an audit finding from the State Board of Accounts where two (2) items purchased from the fund totaling \$230.90 were found to be ineligible. As this is considered an inter-fund transfer and therefore not allowed, Council President Pratt tabled the issue until the July Council meeting. The Auditor will review the State Board of Account findings and make a recommendation for the resolution to rectify this issue.
- VI. **OTHER BUSINESS:** None submitted.
- VII. **JURY PAY:** None submitted.
- VIII. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - Redevelopment Commission (RDC) – No report
 - Planning and Zoning Commission – No report
 - Courthouse Security Meeting – No report
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - **Parke County Commissioner – Jim Meece**
 - Meece spoke with Rick Hall of Barnes & Thornburg, Law Firm regarding utilizing the firm as a clearinghouse for all counties as they turn in reimbursable COVID expenses to the state, under the CARES Act. The firm will ensure continuity of the narrative from the counties, prior to submission to the state for reimbursement of expenses.
 - Meece gave an update on the COVID working group that consists of the Parke County Sheriff's Department, EOC, Health Department, Ambulance and Cyndi Todd, from RDC.
 - Meece reported Jackson bridge is now open to traffic and repairs have been made. There was no structural damage and the responsible party has been cited. Better signs will be placed on the road far before reaching the bridge.
 - **Parke County Assessor – Katie Potter**
 - The last day to file an appeal for the 2020 pay 2021 values is June 15, 2020. Currently, there are 35 appeals filed.
 - Reassessments left in Union, Wabash, Reserve Townships and the Town of Montezuma.

- Potter discussed a possible future contract with Pictometry for aerial views, as they do a fly over each year. The current company, WTH completes a fly over every four to six years. If Pictometry is utilized, the Assessor can actually get house measurements from the aerial views and REMC may do a cost share for the service.
- **Abatements**
 - Katie Potter presented abatement request from Superior Forest Products, which is a five (5) year abatement/deduction. The CF-1 reports 14 employees/3.6 million in salaries; the current actual is 113 employees/4.4 million in salaries, finding the company in compliance with the agreement.
 - Roy Wrightsman made the motion to approve the Superior Forest Products abatement. Jim Howard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- **Parke County Resolution 2020-10** was presented for the Council's consideration. The resolution authorizes a six (6) month extension of funds from the Rainy-Day Fund (1186) to the Sheriff Pension Trust Fund (1193). Jack B. Butler made a motion to adopt **Parke County Resolution 2020-10**, Larry Gambaiani seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- **Parke County Sheriff – Justin Cole**
 - Sheriff Cole presented an amendment to the Parke County Police Pension Plan. These amendments had been approved by the Sheriff's Merit Board. The cost-neutral changes in the plan include 1.) the option for an unmarried officer to select a beneficiary whom he/she wishes to receive the included death benefit; 2.) the change of the number of years to be vested in the plan from eight to ten; and 3.) the inclusion of a DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Program), which a participant may voluntarily participate in.
 - Roy Wrightsman made a motion to approve the amendment to the Parke County Police Pension Plan. Rick Patton seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
 - Sheriff Cole reports domestic violence arrests have increased.
 - Back to normal operations at the Jail.
 - No COVID infected in jail or staff.
- **Parke Ambulance – Chris O'Brien**
 - Discussed with Council the purchase of a new firewall for approximately \$5,000 – system will need software upgrades in years 4-5-6 of a new contract for approximately \$1,000, each year.
- **Parke County Council - Roy Wrightsman** reported that all Form 1s were received except for the CVC and Drug Free Court. Revenue projections are complete. Wrightsman suggested postponing the 2021 budget adoption from September to October, but keep the hearings in August 2020.
- **Parke Ambulance – Julie Lanzone**
 - Submitted written report.

X. OLD BUSINESS:

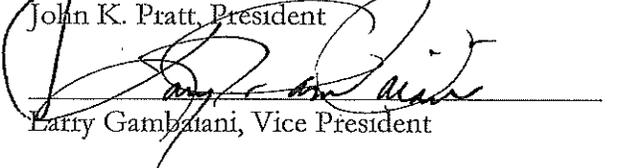
- No old business was brought before the Council.

AYE

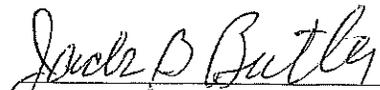
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 John K. Pratt, President



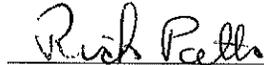
 Larry Gambaiani, Vice President



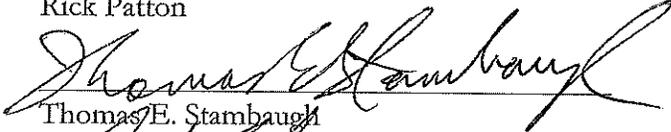
Jack B. Butler



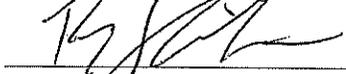
James E. Howard



Rick Patton

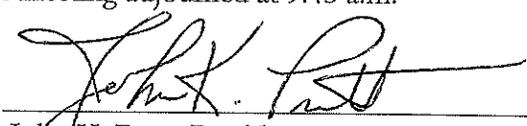


Thomas E. Stambaugh



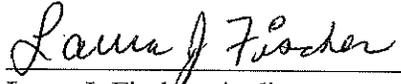
Roy Wrightsman

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Council, the motion to adjourn was made by Jack B. Butler and seconded by Tom Stambaugh, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.



John K. Pratt, President

ATTEST:



Laura J. Fischer, Auditor