

COUNTY COUNCIL

July 9, 2020

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Council convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, July 09, 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 Tammy Thomas, 1st Deputy Auditor. Also present were Katie Potter, Larry Bemis, Kim Shorter, Jim Meece, and Justin Cole.
- III. **READING OF THE MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Thursday, June 11, 2020 were approved on a motion made by Roy Wrightsman and seconded by Jack B. Butler.
- IV. **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:** The Council considered additional appropriation requests as published in the newspaper on June 24, 2020. Council President John K. Pratt reviewed the appropriations from written requests submitted by Auditor, Laura J. Fischer. The first two appropriations are for corrections for those funds. The third request is from the probation department because they are having to process more people. The additional appropriations were approved on a motion by Jack B. Butler and seconded by Larry Gambaiani.

LIT EDIT FUND

Courthouse Attic-Roof Principal	1112-00-04-7062	\$ 700.00
Total Reserve Deputies Fund		\$ 700.00

DEBT SERVICE FUND

Courthouse Attic-Roof Principal	4600-00-04-7061	\$ 1,400.00
Total MVH Restricted Fund		\$ 1,400.00

SCRAM USER FEE FUND

Service Contracts	2502-00-03-5080	\$ 7,000.00
Total Scram Fund		\$ 7,000.00

- V. **TRANSFER OF FUNDS:** The Council approved the request for a transfer of funds for the Assessor's office and tabled the requests for the Probation department on a motion by Roy Wrightsman and seconded by Larry Gambaiani. The following resolution was adopted.

TRANSFERS

Be it resolved, the Parke County Council hereby approves the following request for transfer:

Amount: \$400.00  
From: 1000-09-03-5070 Dues  
  
To: 1000-09-02-3010 Office Supplies

The following transfers were tabled while waiting on reimbursement from the CARES act on a motion by Roy Wrightsman and seconded by Larry Gambaiani:

Amount: \$511.00  
From: 2100-00-03-5040 Equipment Maintenance  
To: 2100-00-04-7020 Equipment

Amount: \$1,800.00  
From: 2150-00-02-3100 Operating Supplies  
To: 2100-00-04-7020 Equipment

VI. **JURY PAY:** The Parke Co Clerk presented jury pay in the following amounts. The Council approved the Jury Pay amounts from the Clerk on a motion made by J.B. Butler and seconded by Larry Gambaiani.

2/29/20	\$ 92.45
3/31/20	\$ 122.14
4/30/20	\$ 24.57
5/31/20	\$ 64.26

### VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Redevelopment Commission (RDC) – Roy Wrightsman
  - Working on creating a steering committee for the County Wide Sewer District Study to work with the engineers on that project.
  - Working on filing suit for revolving loan delinquent accounts.
- Planning and Zoning Commission – Jack B. Butler
  - Did not meet.
- Courthouse Security – John K. Pratt
  - Did not meet.

### VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- **INDOT**
  - The Council reviewed a letter from INDOT regarding a proposed culvert replacement project on SR 59.
- **Councilman Roy Wrightsman:**

Councilman Wrightsman asked the following questions of the Auditor:

  - Has reassessment loan from rainy day fund been repaid? Auditor Fischer stated that it will be now that everything is balanced.
  - Has the Sheriff's pension fund loan been repaid? Auditor Fischer stated that it will be paid this week.
  - Has the debt transfer for miscalculation for principal and interest been done? Auditor Fischer stated that it had.  
Where is the money coming from to pay the \$5,000 attorney fee for the COVID claims?  
Auditor Fischer stated the claim has not come in yet for that fee. It will be paid out of the commissioner's line in the general fund, 1000-15-03-5041 in the amount of \$5,015.03.

Council Wrightsman discussed a few points regarding the 2021 budget:

- MVH (Motor Vehicle Highway) fund revenue projections are expected to be 82% of the 2020 actual revenues.
- Excise and Fuel tax projections are expected to remain the same as 2020.
- Budget hearings: Councilman Wrightsman suggested that the August 20 meetings with the department heads be held as scheduled. However, the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting for the budget review be pushed back to mid-late September to see how the local income tax revenue projections come

through. The actual budget adoption to be held on October 8. Councilman Wrightsman commended the department heads on being fiscally responsible on their budget requests.

- The hearings will still be held in the Auditor's office on August 20; Councilman Pratt stated if anyone has a problem with being in close quarters to let him know and other arrangements will be made.

- **Parke County Commissioner Jim Meece:**

- The shrubs at all corners of the courthouse have red berries that fall off and stop up drains, and the birds carry the seeds and make messes on the sidewalk. Don Pruner would like to remove these shrubs to prevent this situation. Also, the lawn care professionals need to do better with the lawn regarding the weeds that are coming up. The evergreen tree at the northwest corner of the courthouse building that is dying needs to come out.
- During the courthouse renovation, several limestone shards were collected that had fallen off the building. The company that re-did the courthouse before is going to charge a lot to come back and fix them. Jim has contacted Kenny Zigler, from Zigler Masonry who advised he would do the work for \$8,000. The council tabled this decision until a later meeting.
- Jim advised the council that the Commissioner's will make a final decision on the Covered Bridge Festival Monday, August 17. All the commissioner's control is the courthouse lawn. The rest of the festival is held on private property.
- Jim advised the council that the INDOT closure of SR 59 will add 12-15 minutes to emergency response vehicles. Therefore, two landowners agreed to have their driveways used as a runaround for emergency traffic. The cost was \$3,700. The county contributed \$3,000 of this cost.

- **Parke County Assessor Katie Potter:**

- The property tax appeals are closed. There were 80 appeals. Most of the appeals are from the Raccoon Lake area, as assessed values had been raised this year. The Assessor's office is working through those. Informal hearings will be held August 24 thru August 27. IVTR phone hearing for Mrs. Hatke July 30 at 9:30 and 12:45 is the real estate appeal hearing. The hearing for Merle Heinlein has been continued due to attorney schedule conflict. The Assessor rolled personal property to the Auditor on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

- **Parke County Treasurer Kim Shorter:**

- The treasurer reported that tax collections are up from last year. As of this date, under 200 properties are going to tax sale. The tax sale is scheduled for September 18, 2020.

- **Parke County Sheriff Justin Cole:**

- Currently the jail is housing 51 inmates. Fountain County opened their jail up and picked up their inmates being housed at Parke County. For DOC and out of county holdings we have billed \$129,678.50. \$17,175 for June. The sex offender registry fees brought in \$5,250.26. Almost half of that was personal protection permits. This is quadrupled in June compared to the rest of the year.
- The computer server room A/C unit has been replaced.
- The new Tahoes were put in service last week.
- An Officer got rear ended by a motorcycle and totaled out the oldest car (2013 Taurus) in the fleet. This is one of the officers to receive a new Tahoe.
- The Sheriff presented the council with the 2020 Commissary Fund Annual Report.
- Seventeen employees have been tested for COVID after coming in contact with a positive case. None of the employees have tested positive.

- **Parke County EMA/E911 Chris O'Brien:**

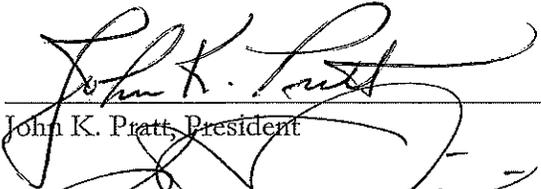
- CARES Act grant: We have received around \$78,000 worth of requests; the working group has approved \$77,000 of that \$28,000 has been through the legal review and approved as valid expenses. \$37,000 has not been paid out yet, and this is for the audio system for the court for tele hearings.
- ICJI grant back up for CARES grant. If the expenses fail in the CARES act, they will be moved to the ICJI grant. Asking FEMA to reimburse 75% of expenses. FEMA will pay 75% of expenses and 25% will come out of the CARES act.
- Three other grants not COVID related AED grant \$3,500. Should be getting reimbursed soon.

- Homeland Security program grant \$86,000 bought automatic license plate reader, ID card machine and licenses for servers in dispatch.
- Salary grant \$18,000 for the director and deputy director salaries.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None presented.

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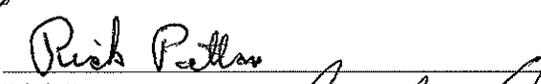
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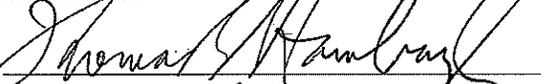
  
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 John K. Pratt, President

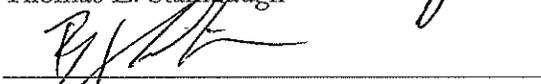
  
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 Larry Gambiari, Vice President

  
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 Jack B. Butler

  
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 James E. Howard

  
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 Rick Patton

  
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 Thomas E. Stambaugh

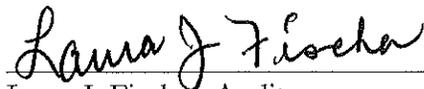
  
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 Roy Wrightsman

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**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business to come before the Council, the motion to adjourn was made by Jack B. Butler and seconded by Thomas Stambaugh, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

  
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 John K. Pratt, President

ATTEST:

  
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 Laura J. Fischer, Auditor