

Finance & Personnel Committee
Monday, November 8, 2021
5:00 PM, 2nd Floor VCAB

MINUTES

Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order and Roll Call

Committee Chairman Steve Fourez called the Finance & Personnel meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Upon the call of the roll, the following members were present; Steve Fourez, Wes Bieritz, Mary Ellen Surprenant, Craig Golden, Bruce Stark, Becky Stark and Crisi Walls. Also, in attendance; Larry Baughn – Vermilion County Board Chairman, Cassy Carter – Financial Administrative Manager, Lindsay Light – County Clerk’s Office, Robyn Heffern – County Clerk’s Office, Bill Donahue – Risk Consultant, Darren Duncan – Vermilion County Treasurer, Erika Briggs – Auditor, Nancy Boose – Human Resources Director, Doug Toole – Health Department Administrator, Mike Davis – Land Bank, Cathy Jenkins – County Clerk and Steve Brandy – WDAN.

Agenda Item 2 - Adoption/Amendments to the Agenda

Walls motioned, second by Bieritz to approve the agenda. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Minutes – October 7, 2021

Bruce Stark motioned to approve minutes, second by Golden. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 4 – Land Bank

Mike Davis presented a proposal requesting \$500,000 from the county American Rescue fund. This money would help to repair or replace roof, porch, siding, etc. This would be for owners that lived in the homes and meet income requirements. The goal is to rehab these homes for community improvement as well as preventing demolition in the future. This item will be added to the next finance and county board agenda for discussion.

Agenda Item 5 - Audience Comments

None

Agenda Item 6 – Financial Update

Ms. Briggs reviewed the finance update that consisted of the General Fund Revenue document, and the Fund Equity Changes Report. She stated not much has changed on the funds since the last meeting.

Agenda Item 7 – Ordinance – RE: Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the County Clerk - \$8,800.00

Bieritz motioned, second by Bruce Stark to discuss. Light explained this is moving money into the salary line in order to pay employees. This is moving money from one line to another, not requesting additional money.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Steve Fourez, Wes Bieritz, Craig Golden, Mary Ellen Surprenant, Bruce Stark, Becky Stark and Crisi Walls. 7 yes, 0 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 8 – Ordinance – RE: Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Sheriff’s Department - \$20,000.00

Golden motioned, second by Becky Stark to discuss. Chairman Baughn explained this is moving money from one line to the Prisoner Supply line so that mattresses may be purchased for inmates.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Steve Fourez, Wes Bieritz, Craig Golden, Mary Ellen Surprenant, Bruce Stark, Becky Stark and Crisi Walls. 7 yes, 0 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 9 – Ordinance – RE: Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Animal Control Department - \$9,872.00

Surprenant motioned, second by Bieritz to discuss. Chairman Baughn explained this money is to be used to care for animals in a seized case. This will be reimbursed with bond money paid from the owner. Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Steve Fourez, Wes Bieritz, Craig Golden, Mary Ellen Surprenant, Bruce Stark, Becky Stark and Crisi Walls. 7 yes, 0 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 10 – ARPA Expenditures

Chairman Baughn explained this is the federal COVID money of \$7 million dollars received with another \$7 million to be paid in early 2022. The current projects being reviewed are the Courtrooms with technology upgrades to allow social distancing. Also, paying off the County Clerk's voting equipment of \$234,000, this save the interest. Outside requests are coming in such as the \$500,000 request from Land Bank as well as a few others.

Agenda Item 11 – Formation of Personnel Expense Ad Hoc Committee

Chairman Baughn stated they would like to form an Ad Hoc committee to review salaries to ensure we are competitive and each department is paid fairly. The plan is to have this completed within 90 days and have wages back paid to December 1. Baughn stated we could also reach out to others in community, such as Vermilion Advantage, to help come up with a pay scale solution. Becky Stark stated she felt this project should stay in the Finance committee and use inhouse resources as well. Discussion ensued on county salaries. Chairman Baughn asked for dates to be emailed to him of days that don't work so that he will schedule a Special Finance meeting that only addresses salaries.

Agenda Item 12 – Executive Session

None

Agenda Item 13 - Items of Information

Chairman Baughn reviewed changes to the 2022 budget which included moving money from FY 2021 to FY 2022 for the highway department truck, decreasing the revenue from the penalty cost and interest line, and changing the EAV to 3.5%.

Agenda Item 14 – Adjournment

Committee Chairman Fourez adjourned the meeting at 6:26 PM.

Minutes by: Cassy Carter, Financial Administrative Manager