

Jasper County Board of Commissioners
June 13, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes
6:00 P.M.

Chairman Henry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Bruce Henry, Chairman, Don Jernigan, Gerald Stunkel, Sheila Jones and Steven Ledford.

Staff Present: Sharon Robinson, County Clerk, Larissa Ruark, Chief Accounting Officer, Mike Benton, County Manager, and David Ozburn, County Attorney.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation: Commissioner Gerald Stunkel

Agenda Approval: Commissioner Stunkel motioned to approve the agenda with the changes. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

Public Hearings: None

Presentations/Delegations-

Citizens Comments:

Sheriff Donne Pope- Sheriff went over some proposed cuts to his budget.

He stated that he has worked with almost 5 people short for most of the year. He stated that he thinks some of the part-time wages were not taken from the specific line. He addressed several other cuts to his budget which totaled \$190K and \$55K of unfunded overages.

County Commissioner's Items:

Commissioner Ledford- None

Commissioner Stunkel- None

Commissioner Jernigan- None

Commissioner Jones- Commissioner Jones stated that the Juneteenth parade will be held this Saturday. She invited everyone to attend.

Chairman Henry- Early voting started today.

Regular Agenda

Business Items:

Item 1: 2022 Fire Protection Special District Fee: Chairman Henry stated that the fee is currently \$28.63 per parcel. The fee is for residents who are within 1000 ft. of a fire hydrant. The total parcels in the Fire Protection District for the 2022 Tax billing is 1762.

Item 2: Curbside: Chairman Henry stated that the per cart fee is going up by \$33 per year with Waste Management. We have to also include the cost of the customer service person.

Mike Benton stated that Steve Edwards will be at the June 30th meeting and we can address some things with him on that day.

Item 2: FY 2023 Budget Consensus: Mike Benton stated that we need a consensus to advertise the General Fund Agreement to advertise: General Fund Projected Revenue, General Fund Budget Expenditures, Countywide

Digest for 2022, M &O mileage rate, Hospital digest, and the 2022 Hospital Millage rate. The rollback rate is 12.159. The total projected revenue is \$12,853,663.

Commissioner Stunkel stated that the 911 Authority does not represent their entire budget. He stated that there is not enough information to see what is included in their budget. Mike stated that he thinks the larger numbers on the payroll are them trying to get three operators.

Sheriff Pope stated that he thinks some of his part-time and over-time wages are coming from his full-time line just based on where they are being coded. He stated that he think the cuts are excessive. He thanked the commissioners for listening when he comes before them. He stated that he always try to come in under the budget.

The board promised that if the Sheriff have to come back to ask for amendments they will let the constituents know that it is on them and not the Sheriff.

Commissioner Jones asked about the Recreation pay for the Assistant Director.

Commissioner Stunkel stated that we should only consider COLA in open session and individuals in Executive Session.

Commissioner Stunkel motioned that we go with the 4% COLA (\$104,485 set aside for all of those to be considered) across the board, other individuals will be discussed in Executive session. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed 4-1, Commissioner Jones opposed.

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to approve to advertise the General Fund Budget of \$12,838,191. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to set the rollback rate at 12.159. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Commissioner Ledford motioned to accept the hospital rollback rate of .678. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

County Attorney Items: None

County Manager Update: Mike Benton Reviewed the Budget Calendar and upcoming meetings.

Executive Session: Commissioner Stunkel motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:04 p.m. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Adjourn:

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Bruce Henry, Chairman

Sharon Robinson, Clerk