

# Jasper County Board of Commissioners

May 9, 2022

## Work Session Minutes

6:00 P.M.

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

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

### Work Session:

#### 1. FY 2023 Budget:

**Sheriff-** Sheriff Pope discussed the increases for his budgets. He highlighted his biggest changes. Tech services (\$4800 increase), General supplies. Most increases are because of general inflation. Sheriff broke the total down between cars, cameras and equipment.

For the Jail budget Sheriff noted that the under Contracted Service Software Maintenance the vendor increased their pricing. Electricity, Water and Natural Gas looks like there is a decrease. The utilities have been broken out so there is a \$6000 projected increase.

**Tax Assessor-** Ms. Lynn Bentley discussed the areas of her budget where she is requesting changes. Under Dues and Fees the vendor increases their fees for the software that the Assessor's office use. The education budget was lowered. Wages and salary budget is decreasing because two employees are dropping family insurance coverage. Contracted service line increase due to the director looking for help with the Building Permits. The increase on Timber for \$6,000 is a requirement by the state to have the appraisals done on large tracts that are sold and wooded.

Chairman Henry asked about the contracted service being a set number or based on the work that he actually do. Ms. Bentley stated that it will be based on work he completes.

**Registrar-** Carole Norris stood before the board to discuss her budget request. She noted that she is asking to increase the number of hours for the registrar employees to 20 hours. She stated that she is asking for a .50 an hour raise. She stated that it is time for the County to discuss what they are going to do when she retires because she will not do redistricting again. She is asking for an increase in training budget.

**Coroner-** Mr. Billy Norris stood before the board, he started by saying he plans to retire January 2024. His increases were in the areas of Professional services and general supplies. He suggested the increases are basically because of inflation.

**Public Works-** Michael Walsh stood before the board to discuss his request. He started with Contracted Services (i.e. Tree Services).

Mike Benton stated that we will be using the tree service less because we will try to use our own equipment and staff.

Mr. Walsh went through his request for pay increases. He asked for a 4% raise for most of his employees. He asked for a 12% raise for his assistant. For the mechanic assistant he is asking for a 7% raise.

Commissioner Stunkel suggested tires are increasing as well.

Mr. Walsh discussed his request for capital items: 2022 Brush Cutter, New Right Away Mowing tractor, 15ft Mower, Three Quarter Ton Diesel Pick-up Truck, 3 Quarter Ton Service truck, a set of loader pourers, compact loader, and debris blower.

Mr. Walsh stated that Vehicle Maintenance is the next area with increase. They are looking to purchase software to track the maintenance of the fleet for Public Works. Communication line (cell phones), Uniforms, Natural gas, Regular gas, Asphalt and Gravel is increasing.

Chairman Henry declared the Work Session closed at 8:01 p.m.

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Bruce Henry, Chairman

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Sharon S. Robinson, Clerk