

REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL April 13, 2022

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday April 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members, Charlie Smith, Scott Barnes, Denny Corn, Amy Grocox, Janet Kile, Carl Harcourt, and Kyle Gardner. Auditor, Tammy Justice and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also present.

Chairman Charlie Smith called the Regular Session to order at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes of the March 9, 2022 Regular Session meeting were reviewed. Amy Grocox indicated that Under ARPA that a second round of non for profit applications will be accepted until April 22, 2022. Denny Corn made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

- Highway Superintendent, Jerry Sitton requested a Transfer of Funds for Workmen's Compensation 1176.30099.000.0533 in the amount of \$10,200.00 and Liability & Casualty 1176.30168.000.0533 in the amount of \$50,000.00 totally \$60,200.00 transferred to Equipment 1176.40000.000.0533. This is to purchase a new 2021 Broce RCY-350 Broom. Scott Barnes made a motion to approve the transfer. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

- Auditor, Tammy Justice presented an Additional Appropriation for K-9 Contribution Fund 7109.40000.000.0000 equipment line in the amount of \$2,869.78. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

- Auditor, Tammy Justice requested to add a new position in the Auditor's office. This position would be a full time assistant to the Auditor and can be paid out of the ARPA funds. When the ARPA funds are depleted for that position the County General would sustain the salary. Some of the duties would include learning and processing all grants. Auditor indicated that she had spoke to Greg Guerrettaz from FSG to get his opinion for the position and the response was that the Auditor needed assistance. Discussion was held. Ron Jarman indicated that the Fringe Benefit for the salary could be paid out of the commissioner's budget. The salary for the new position would come out of the ARPA fund for this year and next year. Continue discussion was held. Carl Harcourt made a motion to approve to hire a new position in the Auditor's office, salary to be paid out of ARPA funds for 2022 and 2023, and Fringe Benefits to be paid out of the Commissioners Budget 2022. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS

- Ron Jarman discussed project for closure for the southeast corner on Perkins Street.
- Jarman indicated the tree was taken down on the southwest corner of the Courthouse.
- Jarman updated on the storage building
- Jarman also indicated that a representative from ECDC will start being present on a quarterly basis at the Commissioners and Council meetings.
- Jarman gave an update on ARPA funding.
- Discussion was held on Opioid lawsuit and EMS LIT.

SOLID WASTE

- Carol Yeend will be recommending to the Solid Waste Board that they suspend the Recycling for the time being. The Fees are increasing to around \$4,000.00. Discussion was held
- Carol Yeend discussed on April 30, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Boys & Girls Club there will be Rush Tech.

MISC

- Discussion was held on the APC Director position. Denny Corn indicated they are still taking application.
- Kyle Gardner gave an update on ECDC projects
- Ron Jarman updated the council on the maintenance position.

ARPA

- Discussion was held on the Community Center Funding for a letter of commitment. Discussion was held. Scott Barnes made a motion to commit \$1.5 million funds from Rush County to fund the Community Center. Discussion was held. Motion dies. Discussion continued. The Council requested that the Auditor send a request to FSG to see if they could project for the council for \$1.5 million for the Community Center to be paid over 5 years, \$3 million for third floor renovation, new property tax software, and Broadband up to \$10 million. The county has large projects coming up and the council would like to see where the funds will be available and when.

BUDGET RAISES

- Discussion was held on raises for employees in 2023 to let the officer holders to put in for their budgets. Janet Kile made a motion to approve up to two percent raise for 2023 budget year. Seconded by Denny Corn. Denny Corn, Amy Grocox, Janet Kile, Kyle Gardner, and Carl Harcourt were in favor. Scott Barnes was not in favor. Motion carried.

Amy Grocox made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Charles Smith, Chairman

Scott Barnes

Denny Corn

Janet Kile

Kyle Gardner

Carl Harcourt

Amy Grocox

ATTEST:

Tammy Justice, Auditor