

REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL July 10, 2024

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members Charlie Smith, Denny Corn, Amy Grocox, Janet Kile, Kyle Gardner, Carl Harcourt and Scott Barnes present. Auditor, Tammy Justice was also present. County Attorney Leigh Morning arrived at 9:03 a.m.

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

Minutes of the June 12, 2024, Regular Session meeting was presented. Denny Corn made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

- Chief Deputy Josh Brinson requested approval from the Council to use commissary funds in the amount of \$348.75 for fallen officer signs at East Hill Cemetery. Amy Grocox moved to approve the use of commissary funds in the amount of \$348.75. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Chief Deputy Josh Brinson presented the Council with a letter from Sheriff Allan Rice requesting signatures for the use of the commissary funds for the fallen officer signs. Amy Grocox moved to sign the letter. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RECORDER

- Recorder Debbie Richardson requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation for fund 1189 Recorder Records in the amount of \$50,000.00. Denny Corn moved to approve the additional appropriation. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORONER

- Coroner Brenda McMahan requested approval from the Council to utilize \$4,400.00 from the council use only line for autopsies. Amy Grocox moved to approve using \$4,400.00 from council use only for autopsies. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Jodi Harr gave the Council a personnel report.
- Director Jodi Harr held a discussion with the Council regarding the personnel committee's recommendation for part-time hourly rates. Amy Grocox made a motion that effective January 1, 2025, Courthouse part-time employees pay be based off the COMOT Scale. Seasonal Courthouse employees to be paid on the Up to \$17.00 per hour scale. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Jodi Harr advised the Council that the salary ordinance wording for anniversary pay increases needs to be addressed during the budget and salary ordinance adoption for 2025. Currently the sheriff department and jail use January 10th of each year to increase wages for those employees who had

anniversary increases in the previous year. Everyone else is using the employee's anniversary date to give the increase.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Council the LIT ordinance for the volunteer fire departments will be under review for 30 days with the DLGF.
- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Council with amended 2024 Salary Ordinance 2023-4 for approval. Amy Grocox moved to approve amended 2024 Salary Ordinance 2023-4. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice asked the Council for clarification on how they would like the budgets presented to them in binders or emailed and in what order they would like the pages arranged.

COURT SERVICES

- Auditor Tammy Justice for Director Ashley Stevens requested approval from the Council to transfer \$9,061.78 from 9114.30008.00000.0000 Contracts to 9114.10201.00000.0000 Health Insurance. Kyle Gardner moved to approve the transfer. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BELLFLOWER SOLAR

- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval from the Council to approve the amended CF-1/UD Form from Bellflower Solar. Amy Grocox moved to approve the amended CF-1/UD Form for Bellflower. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Roll Call for the Commissioners was called at 9:50 a.m. with Mark Bacon and Ron Jarman present.

MISC

- Chris May from the Rush County Community Foundation advised the Council that Rush County is a finalist for the Lilly Endowment Grant in the amount of five (5) Million Dollars.
- Commissioner Ron Jarman updated the Council regarding the contract for federal inmates the Commissioners signed at their July 1, 2024, meeting.
- Commissioner Ron Jarman updated the Council regarding the purchase of real estate for the Health Department.
- Commissioner Ron Jarman discussed a proposal with the Council regarding broadband. Scott Barnes moved to approve Commissioner Jarman's proposal to notify the fiber board to proceed with the middle mile fiber infrastructure of 1.1 million dollars in ARPA funds. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Amy Grocox. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/Charles Smith/
Charles Smith, Chairman

/Scott Barnes/
Scott Barnes

/Denny Corn/
Denny Corn

/Janet Kile/
Janet Kile

/Kyle Gardner/
Kyle Gardner

/Carl Harcourt/
Carl Harcourt

/Absent/
Amy Grocox

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor