

**County Council Meeting
January 17, 2017**

Present: Aaron Benton, Jack Kroeger, Blake Bunner, David Gogel, Steve Winsett, Matt Knepper, Todd Ruxer, Attorney Andrew Foster, Auditor Autumn Winkler

Meeting was called to order by President Blake Bunner at 5:00 P.M.

Bunner welcomed Andrew Foster as the new County Council Attorney

Minutes

Ruxer made a motion to approve the minutes from December 20th and January 3rd as presented. Winsett seconded the motion, motion was approved.

2016 Drainage Report

Drainage Board President Logsdon and Surveyor David Faulkenberg presented the 2016 Drainage Report and a list of 2017 proposed projects. Logsdon stated that the 2016 Drainage Report showed what projects were done with a total spent of \$45,355.71, \$7,100.00 of that being cash donations. The back page of the report shows the total amount of funds invested in the drainage program since 2008. Logsdon explained that much time was spent determining which projects to do in 2017 and the expected total investment will be \$72,000.00. He made a request for \$25,000.00 on behalf of the Drainage Board to go towards the new projects. Benton made a motion to approve they request an additional appropriation for \$25,000.00 from Riverboat. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved. Auditor Winkler will advertise an additional for \$25,000.00 to come from the Riverboat fund for the February meeting.

Transfers

Spencer County Ambulance Service

Decrease: Spencer Co Emergency Ambulance Service	1000-130-4392.00	\$24,000.00
Increase: Equipment Ambulance	1000-130-4441.00	\$24,000.00

Jane Stout explained that they are requesting funds from their original budgeted amount be transferred into the equipment account again so when equipment is needed this year the county can pay for it upfront so we will get reimbursed. We can only file Medicaid reimbursement claims for the counties expenses, not the ambulance service expenses. Ruxer made a motion to approve the \$24,000.00 transfer to the equipment ambulance account. Benton seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Community Corrections – Janice Weber

Weber came before the board to present their proposed 2017/2018 Community Corrections grant. The total grant request is \$315,864.00 which is very close to the current year grant, but an additional \$2,700.00 has been requested for electronic monitoring. Weber and Hedrick always come to present their proposed request as a courtesy to the board and Weber presented a document for Bunner to sign just stating they have seen the proposed budget. Ruxer made a motion to give Community Corrections their blessing to apply for the grant again. Benton seconded the motion, motion was approved.

1782 Notice

Jack Kroeger explained to the board that we received the 1782 notice and that Bunner, Gogel, and himself met and made the necessary adjustments to the rates and levies to improve the County General Fund levy. After calculating new rates and going over the numbers it was determined to lower the rates on the Cum Bridge, Reassessment, and Health funds. This allowed us to transfer the excess levy from those funds to the County General fund. The hope for each fund is to have approximately 50% of the budget in your operating balance and these funds had that much or more. County General however did not have 50% of the budget in their operating balance so any funds that can be transferred to assist county general are necessary. All were in agreement that the adjustments were wise and would work well for all the funds.

Eleisha Shelton - LTRSD

Shelton came to present a binder that shows the LTRSD bi-laws, minutes, ordinances, etc. for the county to keep in the Auditor's Office for commissioner/council review. Shelton will come in and add material to the binder to keep it up to date. It has been discussed the lack of knowledge the county has with what is going on with the sewer district and Shelton has compiled this book to keep the county more informed. She will also periodically attend meetings to update the boards on happenings with the district.

New Business

Bunner stated he would like to congratulate Matt Knepper on his new addition, a baby girl born on January 11th.

Gogel contacted Bunner earlier in the month and suggested that the council recite the Pledge of Allegiance before each meeting, Bunner asked for everyone's thoughts on that. All were in agreement that it is a wonderful idea and will begin in February.

Kroeger stated that we have been given new direction as far as our COIT distribution and were instructed by the State Auditor's office to now put that distribution titled LIT into the county general fund. Auditor Winkler has contacted SBOA and is trying to get a clear answer if it is mandatory to keep those funds in county general or if we can pass it ^{through} to a separate fund designated only for that LIT distribution. Our COIT funds have always been used for infrastructure or other purposes and we would like to keep it that way if possible.

Gogel mentioned that at the re-organization meeting we did not formally approve the attorney's contract. He was appointed as the attorney, but no formal action was taken regarding the contract. Gogel made a motion to approve Andrew Foster's contract for an hourly rate of \$140.00/hr. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Jeff Lindsey explained that the commissioners met with the Judge about the use of the third floor and the need for an additional courtroom. We currently have a judge and a magistrate from Perry County working in Spencer County to assist with the caseload and the auxiliary courtroom is just not sufficient space. The judge has been discussing taking over the third floor which would cause the Assessor's office and Plan Commission office to move. Lindsey stated that they looked around the courthouse at different areas and ended up in the assembly room and discussed the possibility of putting a second floor in and turning it into additional office space. This would allow the offices that are currently renting at different locations to move into the courthouse. All were in agreement that options needed to be discussed and a long term plan established.

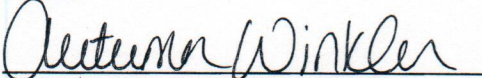
Kroeger stated that he attended the Redevelopment Commission meeting the other night and we need to begin the process of dissolving the TIF District. If anyone has any questions about this or hears complaints about the reasoning behind dissolving the TIF District he would be happy to speak with them. Gogel stated that we promised the people 20 years ago if they would allow AK Steel to come here that they would receive a property tax break and it's time and if we don't stand by our word it's worth nothing the next time. The TIF District was needed for constructing the plant, but now it's time for the assessed value to be passed through and benefit the taxpayers.

Kroeger made a motion to adjourn. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 P.M.



President

Attest:



Auditor, Autumn Winkler

