

Finance Committee
Minutes

October 17, 2019

The Finance Committee of the Piatt County Board met on Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 7 p.m. in Room 104 of the Courthouse. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Spencer. Attending were members: Robert Murrell, Dale Lattz, Randy Shumard, Shannon Carroll, Renee Fruendt. Also in attendance: Assistant States Attorney Dobson, Jennifer Harper, Linda Leach, Jennifer Bryant, Seth Floyd, Mike Holmes, Tony Kirkman, Jami Trybom, David Hunt, Debbie Marshall, and Keri Nusbaum.

FY 20 Budget

Budget cut requests were sent out to the department heads. Spencer said he participated in a conference call today with IEMA. They reiterated that Piatt County EMA has been underfunded and needs to be updated. Part of those costs are reimbursed by grants. The salary is reimbursed at 65%. Shumard said part of the EMA inventory reported is not correct. Dobson reported the salary request and the county contribution for those amounts. She detailed the possible issues arising if EMA is not funded. Murrell questioned the fuel costs including the costs of the director driving from out of the county.

Fruendt shared research she did regarding the discrepancy in neighboring counties EMA director's salaries and the request by the Piatt County EMA director for this year. Spencer asked it be recorded in the minutes that the county has been asked by the state to fully fund EMA. Bryant noted that the rise in EAV should result in approximately \$260,000 increased revenue. That amount is not included in the current budget. There are some properties that could be sold which would help in the short term for next year. Shumard proposed 10% cuts this year. Lattz said 8-10% this year and additional next year would be a start. Fruendt agreed smaller cuts may be easier to handle. Lattz suggested 9% as a compromise. He said there are consequences to an unbalanced budget and there needs to be better controls.

Motion: Shumard made motion, seconded by Lattz for ask for 9% cuts and be ready for discussion at Monday's finance committee meeting. Roll was called. Shumard, Lattz, Fruendt, Spencer, Carroll – Yes; Murrell – No.

Motion: Shumard made motion to go into recess until Monday morning. No second. Motion was withdrawn.

Spencer proposed a motion to fully fund the EMA.

Motion: Shumard made motion to fully fund EMA budget with the figures provided other than the salary. Seconded by Spencer. Motion was withdrawn.

Leach will send out revised spreadsheets with the 9% cuts in the formula.

The individual budgets were reviewed. Animal control no cuts were offered but revenue was added. Suggested possible savings by cutting pay to administrator.

Circuit Clerk – would mean \$30 thousand cut with at least one layoff.

County Clerk – overtime is included for the elections

Court budget – can law library be cut. The PC in the library is old and cannot be updated.

Death examiner – Lattz asked which cases require an autopsy, they are very expensive.

Elections – there are two budgets next year.

Maintenance- budget was already cut 15%. More cuts to salary are proposed.

Building and Grounds – can possibly cut electric with a rate change.

Probation- Reynolds salary is fully reimbursed by the state and officers are reimbursed \$1,000 each per month.

Public Defender- the county is reimbursed for a portion of one.

Sheriff Department – these types of cuts would mean layoffs.

Zoning – the 15% previously proposed would mean 38 furlough days. This would make the zoning office open 4 days per week for the year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Trybom asked if the EMA fuel was being purchased tax exempt.

MOTION: Shumard made motion, seconded by Carroll to adjourn. All in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Nusbaum
Piatt County Zoning Officer