

Finance Committee

Minutes

October 29, 2019

The Finance Committee of the Piatt County Board met on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 9:00 a.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: Jennifer Harper, States Attorney Dana Rhoades, Linda Leach, Debbie Marshall, Jennifer Bryant, Seth Floyd, Alicia Winder, Kyle Reynolds, Mike Holmes, Tony Kirkman, Darlene Baker, Jami Trybom, Henry Motsegood, David Hunt, Steve Hoffman.

Motion: Shumard made motion, seconded by Murrell to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2019 minutes. On voice vote, all in favor, and the motion carried.

FY 20 Budget

The budget with the current cuts was reviewed. Spencer noted the percentage of cuts for each budget. Several departments are not at the 9% requested cuts. Lattz asked if there have been any adjustments since the last meeting. Shumard noted a resolution is in the works to raise the tag fees for animal control. He said he believes most of the available cuts have been made. Spencer said some have done much, and some have done little. The committee would like to see another \$100,000 in savings. Murrell suggested cutting one of the assistants from the SA's office, and reduce the bells and whistles from the EMA operations and keep his current salary. This would make up the savings needed. One of the SA's assistants was already reduced to part time, and that is included in this budget. The part time position eliminated in the County Clerk's office is also reflected in the current budget. Spencer suggested giving each department a dollar amount they need to cut. The current 2020 budget deficit shown is \$501,763. Spencer said the EMA salary is his to set. Murrell cited a Resolution from June 12, 2019 stating the position is reporting to and under the supervision of the County Board. Spencer asked Rhoades to address the question and she responded the discussion was not salaries right now and she would not answer that question at this time. Spencer polled the board. Shumard said he doesn't see anyplace else to cut. Lattz said there seems to be one issue causing most of the problems. He has researched EMA budgets in other counties, and is confused by the comparison. Another issue is fairness with the departments who have made cuts. There is no easy solution. Carroll agreed with Shumard, it is a difficult budget. He would like to see 9% of the EMA operations budgets cut to be in line with other departments. Fruendt said most departments have cut what they can, and would like to see what could be spread over 2 or 3 years in the EMA operations budget instead of all at once in a tight budget year.

Motion: Shumard made motion for Chairman Spencer to meet with department heads and develop a list of suggestions for cuts to be presented at next Tuesdays finance meeting. Seconded by Carroll. Roll was called, all in favor and the motion carried.

Spencer said to clarify that counsel does not serve as parliamentarian, Murrell cited the County Board by Laws stating so. Rhoades said that would not be possible.

Public Comment: Kyle Reynolds, Sheriff Hunt, and Harper asked for clarification of the percentage of budget cuts. Their departments are recorded incorrectly in the budget reviewed today. Probation shows 3% and they are at 7.1% now and with additions will be at 9.2%. County Clerk has cut over 10% and is showing 2%. Mike Holmes had a point of clarification. He said the budget referred to was the part time budget previously done. He has never submitted a part time budget. Murrell said the column he was looking at was the 2018-2019 budget. Kirkman asked about adding a proposed income line.

Motion: Shumard made motion, seconded by Fruendt to adjourn. All in favor, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Nusbaum
Piatt County Zoning Officer