

Finance Committee

Minutes

October 16, 2020

The Finance Committee of the Piatt County Board met on Friday, October 16, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Spencer. Attending: Dale Lattz, Shannon Carroll and Renee Freundt. Randy Shumard arrived approximately 8:50 a.m. Robert Murrell was absent. Also attending were Doug Johnson and Dustin Harmon of Bellwether and Keri Nusbaum.

Motion: Freundt made motion, seconded by Carroll to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2020 finance committee meeting. On voice vote, all in favor, and the motion carried.

Dustin Harmon presented 3 options which were previously emailed to the board members. He described them as Small, Medium, and Large. Option A (Large) would be a deficit of \$240,000 and represents the full requests of all department heads. Option B (Medium) would involve some cuts outside of labor and would be a deficit of \$81,387. Option C (Small) would be a balanced budget and would involve \$1,282,031 in cuts. It would cut all travel, equipment and all non labor items. It would impact every office and department. The board will need to choose Small, Medium or Large. Harmon does not recommend the Small budget. Spencer asked Harmon to go through the Medium budget. There would be impacts to the Sheriffs department purchasing cars, and other departments equipment and supplies. The building maintenance should be moved to the PBC fund. Harmon explained the creation of the tort fund, and the different levies. Harmon said he needs a decision from the County board on labor costs Carroll asked what the COLA is for this year, and it is 2.3%.

Tony Kirkman, the mental health director suggested the county sell some assets, such as some of the real estate not being used.

Circuit Clerk Seth Floyd said a balanced budget was discussed last year and a deficit was identified. 9% was cut last year, none of these options make more headway. Kicking the can down the road will make it worse. He said treading water for another year will not help. Option C is a 10% cut, Option B is a 9% cut, and Option A is a 7% cut.

The board asked Harmon to show options B and C with labor costs of 0, 1 and 2%. Those will be sent to the board members and the finance committee will meet again October 23.

CURES update: The Sheriff's department payroll is eligible and will be claimed for the \$218,000 funds.

Public Comments: None

Motion: Shumard made motion, seconded by Carroll to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote, all in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Nusbaum
Piatt County Zoning Officer

