

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

October 9, 2024

The following Council Members were present:

President David Yarde
Vice President William VanWye, absent
Member Richard Ring
Member Robert E. Krafft, absent
Member Amy Demske
Member Amy Prosser
Member Rick Collins

Others present: Auditor Susan Sleeper
Attorney Donald J Stuckey

Amy Prosser opened the meeting with prayer at 9:00 a.m.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Richard Ring made a motion to approve the September 18, 2024, as amended, minutes of the Regular Meeting. Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Richard Ring made a motion to approve the Clerk's additional request in the amount of \$10,315 to be appropriated to account 22130 (Supplies) within the Secretary of State Help America Vote Act Fund 9161. Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

Rick Collins questioned why the liaison for the Clerk's office was not given notice of the additional.

MATTER OF TRANSFERS

Richard Ring made a motion to approve the Development Services transfer of \$100 from Office Supplies (22130) to Printing Services (33310) within the County General Fund 1001. Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

Richard Ring made a motion to approve Development Services transfer of \$2,500 from Travel/Training/Education (34290) to Other (10800) within the County General Fund 1001. Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

Rick Collins made a motion to approve the Sheriff's transfer of \$3,090.15 from Building repair & maintenance (33680) to Equipment (44430) within the Cumulative Capital Development Fund 1138. Richard Ring seconded and all approved.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve DCCC's transfers below within the State Grant Community Corrections Fund 9127. Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

\$14,000 from Residential Service Officer (11695) to Food Supplies (22250)

\$4,619 from Residential Service Officer (11695) to Equipment Rental (33710)
\$3,625.29 from Residential Service Officer (11695) to Equipment Rental (33710)
\$900 from Residential Service Officer (11695) to Equipment Rental (33710)

Amy Demske made a motion to approve the Probation's transfer of \$400.00 from Drug Enforcement Supplies (22190) to Testing Services (33900) within the Probation State Grant Fund (9129). Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF FINANCIAL REPORT BY FUND

The Council certified that they have received and reviewed the September 2024 Financial Report by Fund.

MATTER OF AIRPORT UPDATE

Council and Commissioner Brief 10/9/2024

New Business

- The 2024 NAVAIDS Relocation Project is complete but for a few punch list items. The FAA is still onsite doing their work. We are remaining confident that we will have our approaches back by 10/31.
- The airport is looking to purchase some new snow removal equipment. We are looking at a multi-function runway/taxiway plow/broom and a new bi-directional tractor with plow and blower along with a new larger batwing mower. Our current equipment was purchased 20-years ago and while it is well maintained it is not as reliable as we need it to be. We will keep it all as backup.
- BF&S is working on approval for the AWOS and Beacon submittals so we should see those projects starting within the next two months.
- The Board officially adopted Auburn-Dekalb Executive Airport as our new name. We will be interviewing several PR firms over the next couple of months and will be starting a rebranding campaign soon.
- We gave away almost all of our legacy swag at the fair so any new promotional pieces we buy such as balsa wood airplanes, lanyards, keychains, etc, will all have our new name and log when it is unveiled.
- The Taxiway Extension and Lighting project will be starting in the spring.
- The Meese Chapel Church has been moved successfully its new forever home.

Old Business

- None.

MISC. COUNCIL DECISIONS

2nd in Command Positions: Auditor Sleeper gave a recap on last meeting decisions concerning PAT-B and PAT-C categories, along with the request from the Council to compile the 2nd in command positions and figure the percent of pay from the Elected Official or Department Head. Auditor Sleeper explained how the percentages may differ and possible reasons for the difference.

Richard Ring agrees that the part-time 2nd in commands make sense at the 65% and he also feels that the 2nd in Command positions should be in their own WIS Category therefore not affecting the other positions in the other categories, as these 2nd in Command positions are to be able to do the job of the department head when they are absent.

Auditor Sleeper asked how Council planned to take care of the Elected Officials 2nd in commands positions being paid 80% of the Elected Officials pay compared to Department Head's 2nd in command positions that are being paid OVER the 80%. Richard Ring understands the question and also feels that whatever decision is decided by Council will not take care of all issues in one year.

Amy Prosser feels we keep running into issues and can't always be even across the board. Amy Prosser also asked if the Council has set a range of wages with a high end of the category if the Elected Official or Department Head was required to pay the highest level.

Auditor Sleeper explained that the history of wages was that if the Council sets a high rate, the department heads/elected officials will pay the highest. Amy Prosser expressed those Department Heads should be fired for doing that and that is unethical. Richard Ring responded that 'unethical' should not be used as it is the Council's duty to set a range of pay and that is the range the department head is allowed to use and cannot deny them from paying at the high-end of the category.

David Yarde feels there are some departments that have a higher volatility and legal issues that may make sense to have in a different category. Richard Ring agrees.

Richard Ring made a motion to move the 2nd in command for Highway and Central Communications to the SO-Special Occupations category. Amy Demske seconded, and motion passed (4,1).

Collins: aye

Prosser: nay

Demske: aye

Ring: aye

Yarde: aye

Auditor Sleeper asked about the health nurse and environmentalists being kept separate in the PAT-B and PAT-C categories for clarity. Previously the Council had voted to amend those 2 positions in with an increase in wage for just those individuals. Sleeper explained that they aren't changing categories, they had just shown them on a separate line so no motion or vote needed to happen.

2025 DeKalb County Council Meeting Schedule:

Auditor Sleeper provided the proposed 2025 Council Meeting Schedule for review.

Amy Prosser would like to be able to see other people be involved and run for offices, so she would like to see the meetings moved to evening meetings and she has heard that some people can't get involved because they have 9-5 jobs.

Richard Ring discussed as far as the public to view the meetings, we do have the live stream available. Which is a different situation for those that may want to run for Council and dealing with some vendors the night meetings may not work. However, Richard Ring is not opposed to holding a night meeting for special meetings such as the jail or such topics.

Rick Collins is in favor of moving the meetings to start at 8:30 but would like to see the Council still keep the October meeting.

President Yarde asked the members to review the proposed schedule and will revisit at the November meeting.

Tax Abatement Review Criteria for Personal Property:

Richard Ring explained what the proposed changes were to the Personal Property ONLY Tax Abatement Review Criteria as listed below.

~remove the question: Proceed without Abatement?

~adjust the number of points needed to qualify for a certain number of years of abatement

<u>Number of Years</u>	<u>Current Scale</u>	<u>Proposed Scale</u>
10	20 points	40+ points
9	16-19	36-39.9 points
8	15	32-35.9 points
7	14	28-31.9 points
6	13	24-27.9 points
5	12	20-23.9 points
4	11	16-19.9 points
3	10	12-15.9 points
2	9	8-11.9 points
1	5-8	4-7.9 points

Richard Ring motioned to have the Council Attorney amend the Tax Abatement Resolution 2022-RCC-3 to include the proposed changes for the next meeting. Amy Demske seconded and motion passed.

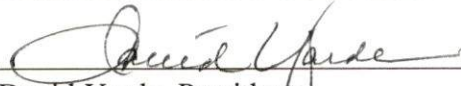
Karen Griggs: CR 35 Ashley thanked for those serving and that personnel issues are hard to address and she knows the Auditor has worked until her fingers bled to get everything in order for the council and for all of that she would like to Thank everyone.


Bill Hartman: CR 56 scheduled to be open on the 21st and the Highway department open house on 21st 3-6. He also brought up that if Ben Parker does not deserve a stipend, then no one else will ever deserve it including himself and that Ben will get his one way or another and that is all he is going to say on the topic.

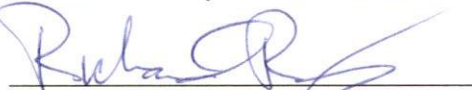
MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Rick Collins made a motion to adjourn at 10:53 a.m. Amy Prosser seconded and all approved.

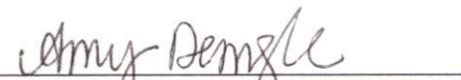
DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL:



David Yarde, President


William VanWye, Vice President


Richard Ring


Robert E. Krafft


Amy Demske


Amy Prosser


Rick Collins

ATTEST:


Susan Sleeper
DeKalb County Auditor