

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

November 8, 2022

The following Council Members were present:

President Richard Ring
Vice President William VanWye, left at 10:20
Member Eldonna King, left at 11:32
Member Robert E. Krafft
Member David Yarde
Member Amy Demske
Member Amy Prosser

Others present:

Auditor Susan Sleeper
First Deputy Carla Winebrenner
Attorney Donald J Stuckey, absent

Amy Prosser opened the meeting with prayer at 8:33 a.m.

MATTER OF MINUTES

David Yarde made a motion to approve minutes dated September 27, 2022. Amy Prosser seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF ADDITIONALS

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Coroner's additional appropriation request of \$15,000 to Medical Fees (32800) within the General Fund (1001). Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

David Yarde made a motion to approve the Probation's additional appropriation request of \$15,000 to Care of Inmates (34190) within the General Fund (1001). Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve Central Communication's additional appropriation request of \$24,000 to Building/Structure Repair (33670) within the Public Safety LIT Fund (1170). Robert Kraft seconded and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve Community Correction's additional appropriation requests of \$500 to Incentives and \$1,176.64 to Testing Services within the Community Corrections Donations Fund (4113). William VanWye seconded and all approved.

made a motion to approve the Commissioner's additional appropriations requests of \$150,000 to Other Service Fees and \$750,000 to Volunteer Fire Dept. Support (32925) within the American Rescue Plan Fund (8950). Seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TRANSFERS

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Surveyor's following transfer requests within the General Fund (1001):

\$500 from Postage (33220) to Office Supplies (22110)

\$600 from Computer Equipment (44420) to Operating Supplies (22130)

\$3,000 from 1st Deputy (11202) to Contractual Services (34330)

David Yarde Seconded and all approved.

Amy Prosser made a motion to approve the Veteran Service's transfer request of \$14,823.03 from Office Administrator/Manager (11444) to Deputy VSO-Office Manager (11457) within the General Fund (1001). Eldonna King seconded and all approved.

Eldonna King made a motion to approve the Public Defender's transfer request of \$3.00 from Part Time (10750) to Deputy Public Defender (11496) within the General Fund (1001). Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

Eldonna King made a motion to approve Human Resource's transfer request of \$1,000 from Overtime-Straight Time (11050) to Administrative Assistant (11501) within the General Fund. Amy Prosser seconded and all approved.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve Community Correction's transfer request of \$6,000 from Part Time (10750) to Utilities (33540) within the Project Income Fund (1122). Eldonna King seconded and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Health Department's following transfer requests within the Health Fund (1159):

\$0.08 from Overtime (11050) to Health Officer (11460)

\$0.12 from Overtime (11050) to 1st Deputy Full Time RN (11468)

Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

David Yarde made a motion to approve Community Correction's transfer request of \$598.42 from Equipment (44430) to Utilities (33540) within the LIT Correctional/Rehab Facility Fund (1233). Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve Community Correction's following transfer requests within the State Community Corrections Grant (9127):

\$15,000 from Administrative Services Coordinator (11633) to Equipment Lease (33710)

\$15,000 from Part Time (10750) to Equipment Lease (33710)

William VanWye seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF FINANCIAL REPORT BY FUND

The Council certified that they have received and reviewed the September and October 2022 Financial Report by Fund.

MATTER OF JOINT RESOLUTION OF DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2022-R-19: DCC 4-1-3-37 AND DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2022-R-8

William VanWye made a motion to approve and all to sign the Joint Resolution of DeKalb County Commissioners 2022-R-19: DCC 4-1-3-37 and DeKalb County Council Resolution 2022-R-8, A Memorial Resolution to honor Janet L. Ordway-Surber. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF ANDREW PROVINES-TOPIC OF ABATEMENTS

Residing at 3920 County Rd 75 Butler | Andrew wanted to ask a few questions from his group of concerned patrons on solar, he feels there is not a lot of concrete statements on how the abatements will affect the taxpayers or how much income it will bring to the County, etc. and he is seeking clarification. Councilman Ring explained how the law changed and how that now comes into play with abatements. Andrew Provines asked if there has been a feasibility study and the outcome. Andrew stated they have momentum and have over 1200 signatures and the Council will be receiving emails and phone calls.

Auditor Sleeper requested the solar group to have one contact request info for quicker response. Councilman Ring also stated that he is willing to meet with anyone at 9th Street Brew for discussion as well.

MATTER OF 2022 SALARY & HOURLY WAGE ORDINANCE- DISCUSSION

Councilman Ring explained that for the 2023 Wage Ordinance there are a few issues that need to be worked out as it had been pointed out that an employee was actually not receiving an increase due to the health insurance increase. Councilman Ring's suggestion is to fix this by instituting longevity pay, rather than just fixing the problem areas as this will continue to widen the gap between the categories. Councilman Ring suggested beginning at year 5 and adding \$500, by adding \$500 every 5 years up to 20 years and stay at that rate for any years over 20. Amy Prosser explained that when the Wage Committee met there was a consensus among those Department Head's in attendance that they would be willing to see an increase in days off. Councilman Yarde does not agree with longevity pay for Elected Officials as they are guaranteed 4 years by being elected. Robert Krafft would like to do what the Department Heads feel would be the most benefit for the employee that would keep our employees at DeKalb County. Councilman Ring explained that the Council has to do what is best for our constituents, but also have to take care of our employees, whom are our most important asset to take care of.

William VanWye left at 10:20

MATTER OF AIRPORT UPDATE

New Business

- The Grade and Drain portion of the Runway 9/27 Extension Project is complete. We are currently removing trees as part of the 2023 Paving and Lighting portion of the project. We expect that all contractors will be off-site by the end of November.
- Runway 9/27 was closed with a 15-minute prior permission from August 22nd through the month of September. Even with that our operations were very good. Jet ops in September were at 118, Helicopter 273, Multi-engine 43, and Single-engine 570. Single engine operations are down because we did not allow touch-and-goes but all others held strong. In October, Jet ops were 107, Helicopter 123, Multi-engine 46 and single engine 787.
- Sweet Aviation made a flawless transition into the GWB FBO on November 1.
- The appraisal and review appraisal on Meese Chapel have both been received. The Appraisal came in at \$81,000.00 and the review appraisal found no issues. Currently we are waiting on title work to return so that we can schedule a closing.
- The storm sewer rehabilitation project is complete.
- The self-serve fuel system bids were received and the low bid was Garsite out of Kansas City at \$256,778.00. There were two others that were significantly higher. We will now go out to bid on the site work required for the installation of the new tank system.

- We had 24 9th graders from DeKalb High School tour the Airport on October 12th. They are part of a class that allows them to research and visit facilities that may interest them from a career perspective. We had students that were interested in being pilots, mechanics, engineers and some that were generally interested in logistics.
- We were audited for 2018-2020 and for 2021 as a federal audit. Overall, the audits were very positive. There were some internal controls enhancements that were made and a change in how we handle federal grants where they want each grant in a separate silo or fund. We are very pleased with these audits and now expect a federal audit every year for at least the next three years due to very substantial federal grants that we plan to receive. We should be very good at the process at the end of this project.

Old Business

- The Paving and Lighting phase of the Runway Extension Project is mostly funded with the Certificate of Award and Contract completed with Fleming Construction.
- We have directed BF&S Environmental staff to look at aerial photos of the Speedway site to help us determine if they are in compliance with the mitigation plan that they drafted and presented to the BZA.
- We continue to work with the Plan Commission on modifications to the Airport Overlay Districts within the UDO.

MATTER OF COMMISSIONER-COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Commissioner Watson said they should have hard numbers on the Highway Department build later this week and hopefully be able to present those to the Council at the December meeting with a few finance options.

MATTER OF DEKALB COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU 2023 BUDGET APPROVAL

Amber Caccamo presented the DeKalb County Visitors Bureau 2023 Budget in the amount of \$469,616 that has increased from \$388,550 that was approved for 2022. The income for 2023 is estimated at \$472,500, which has also increased from \$389,500 for 2022. Amber also presented the changes that has occurred with DCVB and what all they have accomplished. Councilman Yarde wanted to give kudos to Amber for doing a great job representing DeKalb County.

MATTER OF RESOLUTION 2022-R-10: APPROVING A FORM OF INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO IC 36-1-7-4(a) FOR THE POKA-BACHE CONNECTOR TRAIL AND AUTHORIZING THE FINALIZATION AND EXECUTION OF THE INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE POKA-BACHE CONNECTOR TRAIL

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve and all to sign Resolution 2022-R-10: Approving a Form of Inter-Local Agreement Pursuant to IC 36-1-7-4(a) for the Poka-Bache Connector Trail and Authorizing the Finalization and Execution of the Inter-Local Agreement for the Poke-Bache Connector Trail contingent on all the legal reviews and approval of the remaining entities. Amy Demske seconded and motion passes (5,1) with Amy Prosser voting against.

Discussion took place between John Bomberger, Jennifer Starkey and the Council. Jennifer Starkey went through portions of the slideshow she presented. Amy Prosser questioned if the numbers have been run and what the impact and responsibility of the County will be in the future. The numbers are available on the NIRCC website.

MATTER OF 2022 SALARY & HOURLY WAGE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: 2022-OCC-12

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance: Ordinance 2022-OCC-12 on the FIRST Reading. Amy Prosser seconded and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to suspend the rules to pass the Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance: Ordinance 2022-OCC-12 by title only on the 2nd and 3rd Readings. David Yarde seconded and all approved.

Amy Prosser made a motion to approve the Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance: Ordinance 2022-OCC-12 by title only on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. Eldonna King seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Wheel Tax: The Council received information concerning the roads and what part of the County has the most unpaved roads. The current fiscal plan for the MVH Fund 1176 was also distributed and it shows that in year 2025, this fund will be negative and not able to fund the Highway. The Highway is funded by gas tax currently and this will reduce in the future. Wheel Tax will need to be addressed, it does not have to be decided in 2022, but we need to be prepared for 2025. Councilman Ring is not suggesting we implement a Wheel Tax, he is wanting the Council to be aware of the funding situation on the horizon. Commissioner Watson briefly discussed the road use agreement that will come into play as part of the solar project. Additional Discussion took place. Wheel Tax is NOT for the new Highway Department Garage/Facilities, by Statute an instituted Wheel Tax must go to the roads. Attorney Stuckey also pointed out that the Wheel Tax implementation is solely a Council decision, not Commissioners.

LIT percentage handout: Auditor Sleeper, at the request of Councilman Ring put together a spreadsheet showing the Local Option Income (LIT) Tax Rates and Distribution amounts from 2019 to current and the proposed 2023 amounts. This spreadsheet shows the rate and amount allocated to Certified Shares, Public Safety, Economic Development, Correctional Facility, Property Tax Relief and Special Purpose for DeKalb County.

2022 Budget Goal of Cash Balances compared to Actual as of 11/4/2022: Auditor Sleeper, at the request of Councilman Ring provided an update on the Cash Fund Balance percentages. When Council worked on the 2022 Budget in 2021 the 'goal' percentage after budget cuts came in at 29.44% for the General Fund. The current percentage that takes into account the ACTUAL 2021 ending balances, the ACTUAL expenditures thru 11/4/2022, the ACTUAL revenue as of 11/4/2022- so this does NOT include Fall Settlement revenue, and also figured in using ALL of the unspent 2022 appropriations before year end to come in at a 37.96% cash balance.

Eldonna King left at 11:32

MATTER OF TRANSFER FROM COUNTY GENERAL TO RAINY DAY FUND

Eldonna King made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-RCC-9, A Resolution Transferring Funds from the County General Fund to the Rainy Day Fund. Amy Demske seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Amy Prosser made a motion to adjourn at 11:56 a.m. Second by Amy Demske, and all approved.

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL:

Richard Ring
Richard Ring, President

William Van Wye
William VanWye, Vice President

Absent
Eldonna King

Robert E. Krafft
Robert E. Krafft

David Yarde
David Yarde

Amy Demske
Amy Demske

Amy Prosser
Amy Prosser

ATTEST:

Susan Sleeper
Susan Sleeper
DeKalb County Auditor