

Owen County Council
Special Meeting-May 25, 2021

Meeting was called to order by President Andy Wood.

Pledge of Allegiance was said, and Opening Prayer was given by Chuck Hess.

Roll was called, and Public Sign in Sheet attached for permanent record.

Mr. Wood began with Acknowledging and Thanking Detective Erich Teuton for his service to Owen County as he is taking retirement.

Attorney Bryan began with an overview and general outline of Funds and Line Items based on a 700-page receipts/expenditures Report.

As the County Fiscal Body there are Five (5) proposed Options

1. 2022 General Tax Increase to help with deficit

2. Increase in Jail Lit

3. Budget Cuts and Hiring Freeze.

4. Personnel Cuts/Layoffs

5. Combination of any of the above

Selecting any of these options will help guide everyone during the Budget Projections.

2021 offers no possibility of a tax increase for the remainder of the year.

Three dates:

06/01-Appropriate/Transfers due to the Auditor for all possible cuts to advertise properly

06/14-Meeting to develop a Strategic Plan/Movement for finding solutions

06/30-Plan be ready State DLGF is looking at our numbers and Pre-Budget Worksheet is due to them.

Number One Priority--Clarity and Measurement

Review of Funds and Corrections to clean-up line items.

Multiple Funds have expenditures from the wrong places.

Internal Controls review of claims versus appropriations that were approved for budgets

If no appropriations-Do not Spend

Grants Accepted need Budgeted and Appropriated. Look at Balances of current Grants and monitor.

Mr. Wood asked "How has this much been spent already" Ms. Reeves and Mr. Bryan explained that some corrections need made and some were carried amounts from the 12/14/20 and 12/18/20 things that were not done properly.

Negative Funds--Three Problem Accounts:

General Fund #1000 (as of today \$1.9M in the red)

Payroll Clearing Fund #5100 (\$524000)

Community Crossing Grant Fund #9151 (\$448000)

Mr. Bryan reviewed Form 22 and related that Settlement came in for \$1.7M

Review of LIT Edit Fund#7332 with a balance of \$1.3M Line Items need to be corrected

Correctional Facility Fund#1233-seed money for the new Jail and Maintenance. 20% can be used for Jailers pay

Statutory Funds-Perpetuation Funds not as simple to appropriate/use as other funds.

Redevelopment Fund Balance \$1M cannot take and put in General Fund

LIT \$455000 Budget, only \$87000 spent; review for accuracy

January 1st to May 7th no monies spent in several funds totaling \$400000-Don't spend if it isn't needed.

Settlement-Take a closer look at revenue and estimate of fall amount to be received.

Property Tax Cap Loss was not Budgeted. A motion to cut \$78270 from the line item was made by Anton Neff; seconded by Chuck Hess. Motion carried 7-0.

Perf-Security was not budgeted for 2021 in the amount of \$10769, correct/remove Health Insurance Lines need fixed immediately. A motion to Correct/Appropriate \$144850 from the proper Line Items for Sheriff Rotation Vehicles, Insurance and JDAI was made by Anton Neff; seconded by Chuck Hess. Motion carried 7-0. Added that will also include Liability and Workman's Comp with a motion from Anton Neff; seconded by Chuck Hess. Motion carried 7-0.

Highway Greg Melton explained budget formula, management of worker safety. Insurance Company John Parmley is reviewing our numbers. Also noting that Liability is a 15% increase at this time.

Next Mr. Bryan reviewed Revenue Streams for the Highway and Mechanisms. Further noted was at this time all their Funds are positive Cash Balances.

Judge Hanlon suggested that a meeting be held with all Departments in the same room at the same time to review all options and/or direction to be given and reviewed.

Judge Quillen is concerned with the department relationship and cuts. The challenge to provide continued services when arrests are still being made, Hearings set, probation, Prosecutor; can't justify cutting staff if others aren't.

Judge Quillen offered a possible Meeting location of the In Gods Arms Building.

Mr. Wood agreed the road ahead needs to be working together.

Mr. Hess directly asked of Mr. Bryan in research from last years is anything been done criminal? Reply was no. Further explained that massive amounts were overspent with no proper authorization.

The 12/14/20 transfers for LIT/EMS/General were over \$2M.

2019-\$910000 mistake made; that they only cut half of the amount they were short

2020-Overspent

2021-Underbudgeted

Mr. Hess feels that numbers are not accurate and approved; somebody is responsible.

Mr. Bryan recommended Departments meet with their Liaison.

Reference to the ARP monies to be received. It needs to be put in an account and not touch at this time.

In review of all the aforementioned items to be looked at/reviewed/cuts etc. it was decided to hold a Workshop with all Departments and it was decided June 14th starting at 8am. Location to be determined.

Mr. Hess asked for a percentage breakdown Report, Ms. Reeves will provide copies to members.

A break was taken and returned to meeting at 7:46pm.

Mr. Wood began with thanking Clerk-Peggy Robertson for her service to Owen County as she is retiring also.

Mr. Neff added he is thankful for her attendance to many AIC Meetings both as Recorder and Clerk.

Next Item for review were the 911 Dispatch Funds in the negative. Specific amounts were discussed and Ms. Lamb has already submitted Additional Appropriation Forms for the next Council Meeting in June.

Building Department-

Surveyor Bill Pursell offered a proposal using 20% of his Surveyor's Corner Fund to reduce expenditures in the County General where part of there expenses is being paid out of. It was agreed for Mr. Bryan to review code

and present a Resolution at their June 14th Meeting. Also noted was the Revenue that has come in to date in the amount of \$31000+ that could possibly allow them to move expenses back to the Fund#4908.

Sheriff will present proposals at the June 14th Meeting for Jail Housing and Maintenance.

Recorder Perpetuation Fund was to be considered for possible monies. Ms. Foster has plans/projects already in place for some of the monies.

A motion to allow EMS Director-Cris Lunsford to be placed on the agenda was made by Chuck Hess; seconded by Nick Robertson. Motion carried 7-0.

Highway-A Freeze Exemption Form was presented to request for a seasonal part-time summer employee. The hourly rate was figured and agreed to \$12.72/hr. for a total of 348 hours. A motion to approve the request was made by Chuck Hess; seconded by Anton Neff. Motion carried 7-0.

Auditor- Auditor Reeves presented a request to combine two full time positions. A motion to approve the request contingent upon the job description and available upon hire was made by Chuck Hess; seconded by Nick Robertson. Motion carried 7-0. A Freeze Exemption Form to hire an employee based on the pre-approved combined position job description was presented with the request.

A procedural motion to allow EMS Director-Cris Lunsford to be placed on the agenda was made by Chuck Hess; seconded by Nick Robertson. Motion carried 7-0.

EMS-Mr. Lunsford presented a request for a Freeze Request Form to be allowed to hire three part-time persons. Employees are leaving for other programs being offered and unfortunately causing his shortage. A motion to approve the hires was made by Chuck Hess; seconded by Nick Robertson. Motion carried 7-0.

No action was taken on any Job Classifications.

Paycor/Payroll was noted that the Commissioners have table it until November. Mr. Burton noted that a time management system and HR will be implemented. Mr. Neff agrees that emergency action needs to be taken on Comp Time. Commissioners to address a possible freeze policy.

No Further discussion from Department Heads, Council, Commissioners, Auditor or Attorney were made.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chuck Hess.