

THE MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: KIM MERIDETH, VICKIE KIVETT, TROY SPRINKLE, JASON MAXWELL, CHIP KELLER, MELISSA GREENE AND BRIAN CULP. ALSO PRESENT WERE; AMBER YORK, RECORDING SECRETARY; LINDA PRUITT, MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR; AND JIM WISCO, COUNTY ATTORNEY.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER (*Vickie Kivett*)

Minutes

Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve the February 6, 2023 minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Troy Sprinkle.

Additional Appropriations:

• *Commissioners*

Daree Fry, Morgan County HR Director, was present to request an additional appropriation of \$25,000 from the General Fund (1000) into Acct #1000.19100.000.0068 (Training Overlap). This will be used to train replacement employees so there won't be a loss of knowledge walking out the door. However, this was dropped off the approved budget. Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Motion seconded by Melissa Greene. Motion carried 7-0.

• *Highway*

Grant Collinsworth, Morgan County Highway Superintendent, was present to request an additional appropriation of \$13,294 from the MVH Restricted Fund (1173) into Acct #1173.36107.000.0529 (Contractual Paving). Mr. Collinsworth stated that this was money received from a truck incident. The truck crashed and messed up the pavement. This will cover the quote for repairs. Sheriff Rich Myers stated that the state has a program to collect for repairs to property and Mr. Collinsworth would like to institute this program for the county. Mr. Collinsworth stated that it could include ditches, guardrails, etc. Chip Keller made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Motion seconded by Jason Maxwell. Motion carried 7-0.

Salary Ordinance Amendment - Sheriff

Dave Rogers, Morgan County Jail Commander, stated that the Salary Ordinance allows for only one Jail Matron. They would like to add an additional position for training for March. The current matron has been there 32 years and her last day will be March 31st. Melissa Greene made a motion to approve the additional position for the month of March. Motion seconded by Brian Culp. Motion carried 7-0.

County Investment Policy

Vickie Kivett made a motion to table this item. Motion seconded by Kim Merideth. Motion carried 7-0.

Special Duty Incentive Pay Ordinance

stated that the process to abolish all the buffer zones started quite some time ago. The municipalities have been working with them and the next step is to remove the Interlocal Agreements with each municipality. The Board of Commissioners and the Council are both parties to the agreements. The Board of Commissioners approved the resolutions at their meeting this morning. Chip Keller made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-2-6a, 2023-2-6b, 2023-2-6c and 2023-2-6d, Joint Resolutions of the Morgan County Board of Commissioners and Morgan County Council Terminating an Interlocal Agreement Between Morgan County and the City of Martinsville, Town of Monrovia, Town of Mooresville and Town of Morgantown. Motion seconded by Jason Maxwell. Motion carried 7-0.

Special Duty Incentive Pay Ordinance

Kim Merideth stated that this item was tabled at the previous meeting. A budget time, they addressed an incentive policy at the jail. There was some confusion at the first payroll of the new year as to what positions were entitled to the incentive. Ms. Merideth stated that at budget time, she understood the incentive to be for matrix employees, but it was also given to administrative employees as well. Ms. Merideth stated that she has received phone calls stating that if education was going to be incentivized, then it needs to be done across the board for all employees. Ms. Merideth stated that she did not see allowing an additional incentive for a position that required a degree at hire. Vickie Kivett stated that she also thought the incentive was for matrix employees. Troy Sprinkle stated that he thought it was for matrix employees and that the incentive was for the betterment of the position during tenure, not pay for a degree held at the hire date. Melissa Greene agreed and stated that if an employee earned credentials for something that could be used on the job, that additional training would qualify for the incentive. Ms. Greene stated that if they do this for one department, they should do it across the county.

Ms. Merideth stated that Section 1 of the ordinance lists the following qualifications for special duty incentive pay: education degree, CERT (Correctional Emergency Response Team), Certified Field Training Officer, Active State Certified Instructor (ILEA), Critical Incident Stress Management, PREA Investigator, SWAT Team and Certified K-9. different specialty groups that are in the Sheriff's office, or for education, such as a college degree. Jason Maxwell stated that he would not have a problem with the ordinance if the part about education degree was struck out. Dave Rogers stated that the only position a non-matrix employee would hold would be the CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management position and there is one person on this team. Mr. Maxwell stated that the Council would have to address the education portion county-wide if the job market doesn't change. Chip Keller stated that all public safety departments are struggling to attract and retain personnel they need. They are trying to plan for growth, but are limited by the tax base. Jason Maxwell made a motion to approve the ordinance with the amended language. Motion seconded by Brian Culp. Motion carried 7-0.

Monroe Township Fire District

Chris Mills, Monroe Township Fire District Chief, stated that he was following up on a request for ARPA funds for 20 sets of turnout gear. After a discussion regarding lease options and lead times, Kim Merideth stated that there is an ARPA Committee that is determining the use these funds. Ms. Merideth suggested that Chief Mills contact Josh Messmer regarding the request.

Job Maintenance Committee

Daree Fry stated that the Job Maintenance Committee met regarding incentive funds for Title IV-D. There is an employee that is retiring and a current employee is taking over the office administrator duties. The job description was rewritten to include these duties, but it did not change the tier of the job description and the pay remains the same. The Job Committee approved the reclassification and description. Brian Culp made a motion to approve the change as requested. Motion seconded by Troy Sprinkle. Motion carried 7-0.

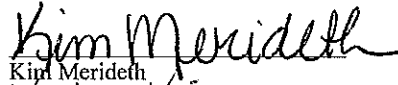
Comment

Kevin Greene, Martinsville Fire Chief, stated that approximately a week ago, there was a fairly sizeable fire on Kristie Drive. There were nine people that were sent to the hospital either via ambulance or driving themselves. They had all the ambulances in the county that were available. Some of the transports were Sheriff's Department personnel, Martinsville Police and EMS. Chief Greene wanted to commend their actions and let the Council know that these people put their lives on the line, not just on the roads, but also in situations like this and they did a great job.

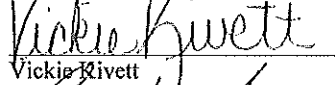
Adjournment

Jason Maxwell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Melissa Greene. Motion carried 7-0.

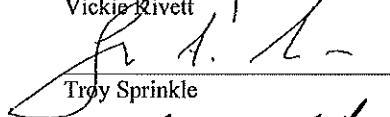
MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL



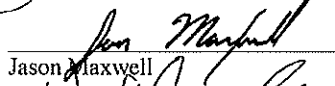
Kim Merideth



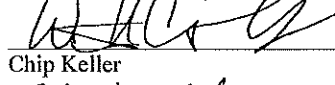
Vickie Rivett



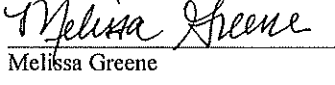
Troy Sprinkle



Jason Maxwell



Chip Keller



Melissa Greene



Brian Culp

ATTEST:



Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor