

**THE MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY,
DECEMBER 7, 2020 AT 6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: BRYAN COLLIER, KIM MERIDETH, PAUL PRATHER, VICKIE KIVETT, DANIEL ELLIOTT, AND KELLY ALCALA. ALSO PRESENT WERE DAN BASTIN, MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR; DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; AND JIM WISCO, COUNTY ATTORNEY. (DAVE ZOLLER PASSED AWAY ON NOVEMBER 9, 2020.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER (*Vickie Kivett*)

Additional:

- *Coroner*

Mike Ellis, Morgan County Coroner-elect, was present to request an additional appropriation of \$1,500 from the General Fund (1000) into Acct #1000.31520.000.0007 (Chaplin Services). Mr. Ellis stated that this will complete the contract for the end of the year. Daniel Elliott made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Motion seconded by Paul Prather. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Group Health Insurance*

Dan Bastin presented a worksheet showing the additional amount needed for group health insurance. Mr. Bastin stated that for the last two years, the amount has not been funded at the recommended amount and has been falling short of where it should be. The account should be funded at the expected claims level, which was not taken into account when the original 2020 appropriations were set. Mr. Bastin requested a total appropriation of \$900,200 to be distributed into each account as listed on the worksheet as follows: General Fund (1000) \$600,000; Cumulative Bridge Fund (1135) \$52,000; EMS Fund (1151) \$105,000; Health Department Fund (1159) \$42,000; Public Safety (1170) Dispatch \$12,000, Jail \$60,000; Reassessment Fund (1188) \$26,000; PSAP Personnel Fund (4915) \$3,200. Kelly Alcala made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Motion seconded by Kim Merideth. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Cumulative County Building*

Dan Bastin stated that a bond service fee was not included in the budget for 2020 and requested an additional appropriation of \$70 from (1136) Cumulative Building Fund into Acct #1136.31500.000.0000 (Professional Services). Paul Prather made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Daniel Elliott. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Highway*

The highway department requested an additional appropriation of \$7,600 from the Local Road and Street Fund (1169) into Acct #1169.35101.000.0000 (Computer Software). Josh Messmer stated that he thought this was in conjunction with GIS software. Dan Bastin noted that this line item is in the red. Daniel Elliott made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Motion seconded by Vickie Kivett. Motion carried 6-0.

Dan Bastin noted that the following amounts from the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund (1176) are in the red and there is nowhere else to transfer money:

\$10,000	1176.23101.000.0531	(Stone)
82,000	1176.26410.000.0531	(Strip Patch)
245,000	1176.36107.000.0531	(Contractual Paving)
32,000	1176.36111.000.0531	(Crack Seal)
75,000	1176.36305.000.0531	(Bituminous Oil)

The Council expressed their displeasure with the account being in the red. Josh Messmer stated that he thought there was some confusion regarding fund balances and appropriations. He and Dan Bastin will be meeting regularly with highway department personnel next year. Kelly Alcala asked for monthly reports so they could keep an eye on the funds. Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve the additional appropriation with a stern recommendation that it not happen again. Motion seconded by Kelly Alcala. Motion carried 6-0.

Transfers:

- *Sheriff*

Sheriff Rich Myers was present to request a transfer of \$68,000 from Acct #1000.22100.000.0005 (Gas) and \$12,000 from Acct #1000.22110.000.0005 (Oil & Tires) into Acct #1000.44400.000.0005 (Patrol Cars). Sheriff Myers stated that this will allow cars for the new deputies. Daniel Elliott made a motion to approve the transfer as listed. Motion seconded by Paul Prather. Motion carried 6-0.

Sheriff Myers also requested a transfer of \$6,700 from Acct #1000.16570.000.0005 (Long Term Disability) into Acct #1000.31260.000.0005 (Health & Wellness). Sheriff Myers stated that this is a new account that will be used for services after a major event. Dave Rogers, Morgan County Jail Commander, stated that this line item will also be used for pre-employment evaluations. Kelly Alcalá made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Vickie Kivett. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Extension*

Jan Walter, Purdue Extension, was present to request a transfer of \$600 from Acct #1000.32300.000.0011 (Mileage) to Acct #1000.21100.000.0011 (Office Supplies) and \$475 from Acct #1000.32300.000.0011 (Mileage) to Acct #1000.21500.000.0011 (Program Supplies). Ms. Walter stated that this will be used for training supplies they need for Zoom meetings. Daniel Elliott made a motion to approve the transfers as listed. Motion seconded by Kim Merideth. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Commissioners*

Josh Messmer requested a transfer of \$12,000 from Acct #1000.22200.000.0068 (Operating Supplies) to Acct #1000.31250.000.0068 (Wellness Fee) to pay the monthly fee. Paul Prather made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Vickie Kivett. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Superior II*

Dan Bastin stated that Superior II has requested a transfer of \$300 from Acct #1000.45100.000.0202 (Law Books) to Acct #1000.19800.000.0202 (Years of Service). Mr. Bastin stated that this transfer is needed in order to pay the longevity that is in the Salary Ordinance. Kim Merideth made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Daniel Elliott. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Health Department*

Jeanne LaFary, Morgan County Health Department, was present to request a transfer of \$2,000 from Acct #1159.21400.000.0000 (Vaccines) to Acct #1159.40000.000.0000 (Equipment). Ms. LaFary stated that this will be used for an electronic embossing seal for birth and death certificates. Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Paul Prather. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Highway Department*

Dan Bastin stated that in addition to the additional appropriations, the highway department has requested a transfer of \$2,882.88 from Acct #1176.36400.000.0533 (Vehicle Maint/Repair) as follows: \$445.55 to Acct #1176.40000.000.0533 (Equipment) and \$2,437.33 to Acct #1176.44200.000.0533 (Equip/Vehicle Lease-Purchase). Mr. Bastin stated that these accounts are in the red. Kim Merideth made a motion to approve the transfer as listed. Motion seconded by Kelly Alcalá. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Superior II*

Judge Brian Williams was present to request a transfer of \$1,000 from Acct #1000.39500.000.0202 (Instruction/Education) to Acct #1000.400000.000.0202 (Equipment/Furniture). Judge Williams stated that he ordered some furniture for his jury room and the total was over by approximately \$600. Kim Merideth made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Vickie Kivett. Motion carried 6-0.

2021 Salary Ordinance

Dan Bastin stated that the Council needs to take action on the Salary Ordinance before the end of the year. The Ordinance would need five votes in order to be approved. Kim Merideth stated that there were questions on 911 Dispatch salaries. The years of service was based on overall or just in the department. Daniel Elliott stated that they should encourage lateral movement but some job descriptions might not match well for this, while others will. Mr. Bastin stated that Sheriff, jail and dispatch are based on full years of service and/or experience completed with the

department as of December 1, 2020. Scott Hamilton stated that the employees that came from the Sheriff's Department were allowed credit for their years of service as were the employees from the city police department. Mr. Bastin stated that 911 Dispatch is a new department, and while it might not have been a separate department while under the Sheriff, it was an operation within the Sheriff's Department. As a new department, there is no one who has more than six years of service, yet there are dispatchers that have more than six years with the county. Dan Bastin stated that a matrix is in effect for Dispatch based upon years at the department; if an employee would move from the Treasurer's Office to Dispatch, then they would be starting new and would not receive longevity. Mr. Hamilton stated that they are working on a pay system that would give an employee credit if they come to them with 10-years' experience (for example) from another agency, as they bring public safety experience with them. Mr. Hamilton noted that the current Salary Ordinance puts the deputy director salary under what a supervisor is making and the director salary almost the same as a supervisor. Josh Messmer stated that it sounded like they wanted to go with the matrix, and he could consult with the firm that did the job study to re-evaluate the position of director and deputy director. It was mentioned that the director and deputy director could be eliminated from the matrix. After further discussion, the Council came to a consensus to wait until the next meeting to vote on the ordinance.

EMA Update

Mark Turney, Morgan County EMA stated that in order to meet 2019 state requirements, they must have 74% of their assessment done; they have 100%. They have done the same for the 2020 assessment. Mr. Turney handed out the 2019 and 2020 annual reports. They have taken in \$561,000 in grant funds over the last two years. These grants purchase equipment for police and fire departments.

EMS

Donnie Warren, Morgan County EMS Director, stated that he approached the Commissioners to discuss revamping some positions. Mr. Warren stated that several of the applicants for the open position of deputy director are coming from out of state and have only two years of longevity in any position. This is a concern for consistent management. Mr. Warren stated that they need to have 24/7 supervision for the crews and they are offering to drop the training officer positions, add duty officers for each shift, and the deputy director and director would take over some of the training officer duties instead. This change would lead to more consistency and accountability. Kim Merideth stated that this would be an overall \$200,000 increase with benefits factored in. Daniel Elliott stated that this is a 24/7 operation and it is important to have someone in charge. This would be an amendment to the Salary Ordinance. Josh Messmer stated that the projected cash balance as of 1/1/21 is predicted to be \$1.2 million and revenue is expected to increase to \$1.7 million. Bryan Collier stated that with the increase, EMS should be able to fund additional buildings. Daniel Elliott made a motion to direct the Auditor to amend the salary ordinance and present the proposed changes at the next meeting. Motion seconded by Paul Prather. Motion carried 5-1. Kelly Alcala was opposed.

Madison Township Interlocal Agreement

Josh Messmer stated that with the I-69 shut-down at Martinsville, they are concerned about the ability to respond up the corridor and in the north eastern parts of the county during the 18 to 24 month closure. Commissioner Goodwin had worked with Police Chief Lang and Madison Township Trustee Scott McDonough to draft an interlocal agreement that would allow Madison Township to respond first in this area throughout the construction. The annual fee for this is \$48,000 and they will request an additional appropriation for this next year. Madison Twp will staff the station on Landersdale Road 24/7. Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement with Madison Township. Motion seconded by Kim Merideth. Motion carried 6-0.

Personnel Policy/Employee Handbook

Josh Messmer stated that this is the first reading of the handbook. There could be some typos or other items that need changed and Mr. Messmer asked that the Council read through it and submit any comments. Kelly Alcala stated that this is a big step forward. She would like to see some changes in job descriptions such as hours worked.

Resolution - Rainy Day Fund Transfer


Josh Messmer stated that they received the CARES Act funds; however, the mechanism to receive the funds changed midway through the process. The county submitted the salaries of the public safety employees and the county received the money on one lump sum. With this change, the county must now create a special resolution that gives permission to move the funds from the General Fund to the Rainy Day Fund. The amount cannot exceed 10% of the budget. Dan Bastin stated that this would amount to \$2,257,745.00. The county received \$2,274,828.00.

Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve the resolution with up to 10% of the budget. Motion seconded by Kelly Alcalá. Motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment

Paul Prather made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Kim Merideth. Motion carried 6-0.

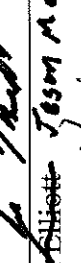
MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL



Bryan Collier ~~Chris Kalan~~


Kim Merideth


Paul Prather


Dave Zoller Tracy A. Sprinkle


Daniel Elliott ~~Tess Maxwell~~


Vickie Kivett


Kelly Alcalá

ATTEST: 
Dan Bastin

Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor