

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: BRYAN COLLIER, KIM MERIDETH, PAUL PRATHER, DAVE ZOLLER, 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER (*Vickie Kivett*)

**Minutes**

Daniel Elliott made a motion to approve the June 15, 2020 minutes of the Joint Meeting with the Commissioners. Motion seconded by Vickie Kivett. Motion carried 7-0.

**Additional Appropriations:**

• *Sheriff*

Sheriff Rich Myers requested an additional appropriation of \$3,500 from the General Fund (1000) into Account #1000-105-4315.20 (Chaplin Services). Sheriff Myers stated that this is split between the Sheriff's Office, EMS, Coroner, 911 Dispatch, and the Commissioners; however, this expense was not budgeted. Sheriff Myers stated that this service is used more than anyone realizes. Paul Prather made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Dave Zoller. Motion carried 7-0.

Brent Worth, Morgan County Sheriff Deputy, was present to request an additional appropriation of \$104,190. Deputy Worth stated that this amount was encumbered last year for patrol cars. The order was cancelled by Dodge and the money was refunded. Dodge no longer makes the Charger with a V8 Hemi. The department is now using the Ford Interceptor SUV. They are typically on a three-year rotation with the vehicles except for SUVs, which are 3-1/2 to 4 years. They have placed orders for Fords. The average cost is \$33,000 compared to \$27,000 - \$28,000 for Dodge and \$2,000 to \$2,400 for equipment. Daniel Elliott made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Kelly Alcala. Motion carried 7-0.

• *Commissioners*

Josh Messmer requested an additional appropriation of \$145,000 from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund (1138) or Riverboat Revenue Sharing Fund (1191) into Account #1138-133-4339 (Real Estate Lease) to buy down the lease to the original amount. The original lease is for \$90,000 per year. Anything over that would be an additional cost. The Commissioners voted today to buy it back down to the original amount. The building was to be finished at the beginning of this month, but they are now aiming for August 1. The county entered into an agreement with Artesian Group to remodel the building and costs were estimated. There was not a defined set of plans and there have been several design changes along the way. Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve an additional appropriation from the Cumulative Development Fund. Motion seconded by Kim Merideth. Motion carried 7-0.

**Transfers:**

• *Commissioners*

Dan Bastin stated that as part of the additional appropriation listed above, there is a transfer request of \$100,000 from Account #1138-133-4406 (Real Estate) to Account # 1138-133-4339 (Real Estate Lease). This is an operating lease, not a capital purchase lease. There is an option to purchase at the end of the lease, but lease payments do not go towards this option. Daniel Elliott made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 7-0.

• *Commissioners*

Josh Messmer stated that the Council elected to purchase the copiers rather than lease them and requested a transfer of \$41,406 from Account #1000-133-4318 (Copiers) into Account #1000-133-4446 (Copiers). Kelly Alcala made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Kim Merideth. Motion carried 7-0.

- *Highway*

Tony Hinkle, Morgan County Highway Engineer, was present to request a transfer of \$45,816 from Account #1169-000-4231 (Stone) to Account #1169-000-4464 (Equipment Lease Purchase) for the purchase of a vac trailer. Mr. Hinkle stated that a vac trailer cleans and maintains culverts and structures under the road and does utility location. The department has been using a 1974 fire truck on loan from the Town of Paragon and the pump went out. They obtained a quote for \$70,000, but recently received notice that they could obtain one for \$45,816. The Commissioners have approved the purchase. Mr. Hinkle stated that the Council just approved the appropriation for the stone, but the vac trailer is available now for a large savings. Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Kelly Alcalá. Motion carried 7-0.

- *Coroner*

Annette Butcher, Morgan County Coroner, present via phone, had requested an additional appropriation of \$52,140 from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund (1138) for a vehicle. Ms. Butcher stated that she was able to obtain a quote through Bloomington Ford for a vehicle that meets her needs; a Ford F250 4-wheel drive crew cab for \$38,730.25. She also obtained a quote from Enterprise and Josh Messmer stated that the Enterprise quote is approximately \$1,000 less than Ford. The lease is for 36 months with the option to purchase it at the end of the lease period. Mr. Messmer stated that the original amount of \$52,140 was for a diesel and they don't need that. Kim Merideth made a motion to approve an additional appropriation of \$38,731.00. Motion seconded by Daniel Elliott. Motion carried 6-0.

- *Assessor*

Julie Minton, Morgan County Assessor, requested a transfer as follows: \$20,000 from Account #1188-000-4114 (Reassessment Field Personnel) and \$25,000 from Account #1188-000-4115 (Part Time Data Entry) into Account #1188-000-4361 (Contractual Services). Ms. Minton stated that COVID-19 has added another layer of complexity to visiting the 12,000 parcels that they are to visit each year. Employees are in the office reviewing aerials and measuring things from the 2018 aerials. Ms. Minton is proposing to move forward with an annual flight for the aerials rather than knocking on 12,000 doors each year. This would also be safer for the employees. The Commissioners have approved the proposal which is a six-year contract. Daniel Elliott made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Vickie Kivett. Motion carried 7-0.

**Salary Ordinance Amendment – Weights & Measures**

Josh Messmer stated that the Weights & Measures Inspector resigned and he notified the state. Mr. Messmer inquired how many counties have a part time inspector versus a full time inspector and the state director informed him that Indiana Code requires that counties with a population of more than 30,000 should have a full time inspector. Mr. Messmer requested that the position be made full time for the rest of the year. Daniel Elliott stated that there wasn't a choice. Bryan Collier stated that they need to be in compliance with code. Mr. Messmer stated that the current rate of pay is \$18.44 per hour and the job study recommended a rate of \$21.85 per hour. Vickie Kivett made a motion to amend the Salary Ordinance for a full time 40-hour position with a salary range of \$18 to \$22 per hour. Motion seconded by Kim Merideth. Motion carried 7-0.

**2021 Budget Calendar Discussion**

Dan Bastin handed out the budget review schedule for last year and department assignments. August 17 and 18 is set for budget reviews with department heads. The budget workshop will be August 24 – 26.

Mr. Bastin noted that the next regular meeting is Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Comment**

Vickie Kivett stated that they approved many additional this evening and they will need to tighten their belts.

**Adjournment**

Vickie Kivett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Daniel Elliott. Motion carried 7-0.

MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL

  
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Bryan Collier

  
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Kim Meredith

  
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Paul Prather

  
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Dave Zoller

  
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Daniel Elliott

  
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Vickie Kivett

  
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Kelly McAlcala

ATTEST:

  
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Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor