

AUGUST 26, 2024

SPECIAL SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

The Pulaski County Council met in special session Monday August 26, 2024 7:00PM at the Pulaski County Highway Garage training room. Councilmembers present were Kenneth Boswell, Michael Tiede, Jeffrey Richwine, Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez, Bradley Bonnell, Tim Overmyer, and Jerome Locke with County Auditor Laura Wheeler.

Special Session held to discuss 2025 department budget requests, wages, tax levies, approve additional requests and to conduct whatever other business that may come before the Board.

Also present were Nathan Origer, Chris Brucker, Connie Ehrlich, Gail Lambert, Larry Lambert, Jenny Knebel, Dan Knebel, AJ Gutwein, Crystal Kocher, JoLynn Behny, and Chris Schramm.

President Boswell opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: ADDITIONALS

The following advertised additional presented for approval:

1000-0005 County General/Sheriff (Medical, Dental)	15,000.00
1112-0700 LIT Economic Development (Loan to Willow Creek Housing Development)	350,000.00
1148 DRUG FREE COMMUNITY (Treatment, Intervention and Criminal Justice)	14,000.00

Michael Tiede made a motion to approve additional, Bradley Bonnell seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: 2025 BUDGET

Open items needing discussion: HR Department, CDC Project Coordinator, Superior Court Navigator position, Assistant for Surveyor, Auditor stipend, PT position/newer vehicle for EMA, Probation-office administrator from PT to FT, Clerk-move position from PT to FT, wage increase for Maintenance Director, Community Foundation request, increase Soil & Water coordinator wages. 2025 estimated revenue at \$16,400,000 and 2025 budget now at \$20,102,363. County has 158 active funds: 88 not budgeted, 70 budgeted with 10 primary funds. Certain budget requests still need work. The HR department with over 200,000 budget discussed at length. One county has this position out-sourced and no assistant. Michael Tiede said Benton County does not have HR while Jasper and Cass do. Treasurer Teresa Bryant has been looking into upgrading time clock and it will help with some of the HR issues. Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez made motion to publish budget as is and make cuts later, Jerome Locke seconded. Further discussion took place on part-time wages which are included in the budget without known increase and information technology. The official vote on the motion was 3-3 with Jeffrey Richwine, Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez and Jerome Locke in favor and Michael Tiede, Tim Overmyer and Bradley Bonnell opposed. President Boswell broke the tie and voted in favor. The advertised budget will include the HR Department and Community Foundation request for 15,000.00 in the LIT Economic Development budget.

Michael Tiede talked about the supplement tax, which he thinks is unfair as he feels income tax payers are supplementing his rentals.

With no other business to discuss and no public comment, meeting adjourned at 8:06PM.

Approved and signed this 9th day of September 2024 by the PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL.

KENNETH BOSWELL

MICHAEL TIEDE

JEFFREY RICHWINE

SHEILA HAZEMI-JIMENEZ

TIM OVERMYER

BRADLEY BONNELL

JEROME LOCKE

ATTEST: LAURA WHEELER, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY. IN