

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**BUDGET WORKSHOPS**  
**AUGUST 23, 2023**

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Stephanie Campbell, President  
Jay Alcorn, Vice President  
Danny Wallace  
Larry Parker  
Keith Berry  
Wayne Huffman  
Phillip Gick

AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

Kristina Berish  
Evelyn Williams

AIC:

Jacque Clements

The Putnam County Council met on August 23, 2023, 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

The council went into discussion regarding EMS salaries. Discussion was made on ways to increase bridge and road revenue.

**GREENCASTLE SCHOOLS**

Monday is their budget workshop for the school board. The presentation goes into detail of how the different categories of expenditures are used. The General Assembly increased school funding for 2024 & 2025.

**FIRE DISTRICTS**

Roachdale Fire – the repair appropriation upped by \$5000. Phil asked if there was a specific purpose. The answer was no.

Walnut Creek – \$203,510 total budget, increased operation and maintenance as training and education.

Floyd Twp Fire – added an education and training appropriation of \$10,000.

**AIRPORT**

Baker Tilly – Tax rate stayed the same. They ended last year with a 48% operating balance. Paid down building loan to save on interest. Hotel floors are being replaced, which has made the maintenance appropriation increase.

**HIGHWAY**

Jim Peck – increased maintenance in Covered Bridge. They will be implementing “headache bars” by the bridges to avoid large vehicles from entering. Discussion was made on the deplorable conditions of the covered bridges in the county.

Cumulative Bridge – working with a summer engineer for GIS. \$50,000 contract. Tractor lease being paid. Will be asking for \$150,000 additional next month to cover engineering contract costs. Peck’s salary is split between Cum. Bridge and MVH.

Local Road and Street – \$100,000 for improvements on Manhattan Road, 90% reimbursable. \$50,000 for pugmill upgrade. \$30,000 for brine equipment. Vehicles - replace two dump trucks, graders, 6 new pickup trucks. Stephanie asked why the dump trucks had been purchased without the money being approved. Peck stated the Commissioners approved the purchase. Wallace said the Council approves the funds. And no one has come before the Council seeking funding before purchasing equipment. Discussion was made on purchasing of equipment, etc. without Council approval. The budget submitted does not fund, over by \$515,100. Discussion on moving budget items to MVH. The decision was made to move 40410 to MVH.

MVH – increase part time from 2 people to 4. Stone stockpiles dwindling down and trying to build it back up. Community Crossings projects in the works. Discussion was made on moving the “stone” line from LRS to MVH Restricted. A decision was made to move \$150,000 (stone) to MVH Restricted. Building repairs line was increased since there has not been any maintenance in several years.

#### **RECORDER**

Recorder Heather Gilbert – Decreased repairs maintenance in Fund 1160. Perpetuation Fund 1189 – the line item was added because it hadn't been done before and equipment had not been upgraded. Increased per diem/conference.

#### **PROSECUTOR**

Prosecutor Tim Bookwalter – \$25,000 added for Recovery Raw. Child Support (IV-) didn’t change.

#### **VETERANS**

David Heavin – No changes except salaries.

#### **COMMISSIONERS**

Tom Helmer – County General - Health insurance was reduced because premiums went down. PERF, Medicare and Social Security will depend on salaries. Postage amount was discussed to be increased. Equipment line is for time clock system.

Hazardous Waste – discussion on last payment of EOC bond. Did away with contractual labor.

Cum. Courthouse – discussion on security cameras.

Weights & Measures – County General – new part time person coming aboard, current inspector is retiring. Trailer needed for the equipment but not budgeted.

Cemetery – discussion on the board starting to get caught back up with maintenance.

#### **CUSTODIAL**

Tom Helmer – no changes except salaries. A generator is being installed for the courthouse.

## **AUDITOR**

Kristina Berish – increased repairs/maintenance for LOW software and new Data Pitstop program. Equipment line increased because the server is on its last leg.

## **COUNCIL**

Increased per diem/conferences because members are going to more meetings and conferences.

## **EMA**

No changes.

LEPC Fund 4942 – Money must be spent on specific things.

## **E911**

Discussion on moving line items to PSAP because current fund 1222 budget is not sustainable. The decision was made to move director and deputy director's salary to PSAP.

PSAP LIT 1235 – Discussion on buying emergency radios for the county out of this fund. Dave informed the council that his computers are reaching their lifespan expectancy. Submitted a \$20,000 increase in repairs and maintenance. Decided to reduce by \$9,000.

## **EMS**

Kelly Russ – 1151 EMS– over budgeted by \$203,000 to be fundable. Health Insurance was decided to reduce to \$250,000 since the premiums have went down but she had increased the account. Kelly stated she expects reimbursements to go down significantly since they are no longer charging Putnam County citizens. Account 30303 repairs/maintenance was reduced to \$200,000.

EMS LIT – 1236 - \$206,200 added to equipment line that had been submitted in the 1151 budget. Take out lines 10246 EMS Chief and 10249 EMS Deputy Chief. Jacque stated they are still not at the operating balance they need to be at. Kristina suggested moving the health insurance line from 1151 EMS to 1236 EMS LIT. Discussion was made on the department's wages. Phil believes there is an overstatement of the wage amounts. A lengthy discussion was made on wages. The decision was made to take \$50,000 off the radio line.

## **DISCUSSION**

Discussion was made on salary increases and the wage study that is not due to come out until November. The council agreed that they should have a baseline for salary increases and when wage study is received, they can make more informed decisions. They agreed to 5% raises.

Assessor 1000-008 – Per diem & mileage was taken off and moved to Fund 1131. 5% raise. Moved deputy to fund 4928.

Reassessment – 4928 - removed per diem & mileage and moved to Fund 1131, 5% raise. Account 30366 changed to \$52,000.

Circuit Court – 1000-232 – 5% raise, reduced 10170 uniform allowances to \$1,000.

Public Defender Circuit Court – 1000-529– changed the raise request to 5% instead of 10%.

Juvenile Probation 2050 – No Changes

Superior Court – 1000-201 – raises changed to 5%.

Public Defender Superior Court – changed raise request to 5%

Title IV-D 8119 – no changes

Adult Probation –2000 – no changes.

Probation Grant 9140 - no changes.

Pre Trial Services Grant 9145 - no changes

SATP - Fund 4901 - no changes

Family Support Services 1000-035 - no raise because it's a part-time position.

Alternative Dispute Resolution 2200 – new budget

Clerk 1000-001 – 5% raise, reduce part time to \$20,000, reduce per diem to \$3,000.

Election 1000-104 – Repairs/Maintenance 30303 reduce to \$35,000, 5% raise.

Clerk Perpetuation 1119– reduced to \$10,000.

County General, Treasurer 1000-003 – 5% raise

Surveyor 1000-006 – 5% raise

Surveyor perpetuation 1202– no changes

County General, Sheriff – 1000-005 – no changes, 5% raise.

Sheriff LIT 1170 – 5% raise.

Jail 1233 – Inmate meals raised to \$260,000, 5% raise.

Cumulative Jail – 1142 – no changes

Misdemeanant – 1175 – no changes

Animal Shelter 4008 – no changes

MRT Grant – 9137 – Grant wasn't approved.

Soil & Water – 1000-750 – 5% raise.

Extension 1000-011 – part time down to \$3,030, added overtime account of \$2500, 5% raise.

Plan Commission 1000-079 – 5% raise

Building Department 1180 - 5% raise

Coroner 1000-007 – increased autopsy fees to \$6,500, 5% raise.

Plat 1000-180 – 5% raise.

Plat Book 1181 – no changes.

Community Corrections 1122 – 5% raise.

Community Corrections Grant 9131 – no changes.

Health Department 1159 – 5% raise.

Local Health Maintenance 1168 – no changes.

Health Dept Preparedness 4926 – 5% raise.

CSFRF 8201 – no changes.

VAX Supplement 8116– no changes.

ELCID 9150– 5% raise.

Workforce Development 9151 - 5% raise.

Tobacco Master Trust 2802– no changes.

Maternal 8333 – no changes

Health Dept Vaccine 4927– no changes

Environmental Violation fines 4200– no changes

Local Public Health Services 1161– registrar 10259 changed to \$10,000, raise 5%.  
Nurses 10% raise.

Covered Bridge 1134 – no changes.

Cumulative Bridge 1135 – 5% raise.

Local Road and Street 1169 – 20215 reduced to \$150,000.

MVH Restricted 1173 – add \$150,000 for stone.

MVH 1176 – \$425,000 vehicles and other vehicles, 5% raise.

Recorder 1000-004 –5% raise.

Identification Security 1160 – no changes.

Recorder Perpetuation 1189 – 5% raise.

Prosecutor 1000-009 - 5% raise.

Pre-Trial 2503 – 5% raise.

Title IV-D - 1000-660– 5% raise.

Prosecutor IV-D - 8897 – no changes.

Veterans 1000-012 - 5% salary increase, no raise to part time account. The council decided that the part-time office assistant does not get a raise because it's not full-time.

Commissioners – 1000-068 – 5% raise.  
1221-52 – no changes.  
1140- no changes  
1138 – no changes  
1000-019 – 5% raise.  
1000-016 Cemetery – No changes.  
1000-161 Custodial – 5% raise.

Auditor 1000-002 – 5% raise.

EMA 1000-361 - 5% raise.

LEPC 4942 – no changes

PSAP 1222-156 – Accounts 10115, 10520 were removed, 5% raise.

E911 LIT 1235-156 - added 10115 - \$60,300, added 10250 - \$171,000, 30303 lowered to \$226,000, 5% raise.

EMS – 1151 – 10122 reduce to \$250,000, 30303 to \$2000, 40401 to \$0, 40402 to \$0, 40408 to \$0, 5% raise.

EMS LIT - 1236 – 10129 reduce to \$300, 10243 to \$822,664, 10246 to \$0, 10247 to \$203,979, 10249 to \$0, raise request \$0, move 40401 to \$40,000, 40402 to \$115,000, 40406 to \$1,200, 40408 to \$0.

Council – 1000-061 – 5% raise.

**ADJOURN**

Huffman made a motion to adjourn. Wallace seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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**Attest: Auditor's Office  
Kristina Berish**