

COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
AUGUST 16, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

David Fuhrman, President
Stephanie Campbell, Vice President
Danny Wallace
Phillip Gick
Jay Alcorn

COMMISSIONERS:

AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

Rick Woodall, President
Kristina Berish

AUDIENCE:

27 Individuals

The Putnam County Council met in Regular Session on August 16, 2022, at the Putnam County Courthouse at 6:30 p.m. Dave Fuhrman opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

PTABOA BOARD APPOINTMENT

Assessor Janet Berish presented list of individuals asking to be appointed. Campbell made the motion to approve. Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ADDITIONALS

Highway Engineer Jim Peck presented:

1176-30414-702 \$500,000

Road Preservation

1173-30414-702 \$600,000

Road Preservation

Gick made the motion to approve. Alcorn seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

1169-30366-706 \$65,000

Equipment Leases

Alcorn made the motion to approve. Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Gave an update on bridge weight limit signage.

NON-BINDING BUDGET REVIEW

Fuhrman stated the Council members reviewed the non-binding levies and circuit breakers and to instruct the Auditor to send a copy to each unit on the list.

SOLAR FARM (POTENTIAL)

Concerned county residents came to the meeting to gain more information regarding the company wanting to come into the county and create a solar farm.

Economic Development Director Kristin Clary gave information about the company. Chad Colvin, county resident, felt if they were a fortune 500 company why do they need a tax abatement. Should they not have enough money to do the project without it? Ms. Clary said that was not for her to decide.

Fuhrman stated the Commissioners and Council would have to weigh the pros and cons and see if this was beneficial for the county. They were in the process of gathering information to decide. The Commissioners would research and see if they want to approve the economic development and the Council would have to decide if they want to grant an abatement.

The concerned residents attending tonight's meeting were not for the solar company coming into the county and taking away productive farmland for 35 years. And after that time, they felt the land would not be good farmland for a long time to come. They were also concerned with the materials for the solar panels contaminating the ground and water.

Other citizens that would be right beside the solar farm were concerned with the impact of what it would do to the value of their property. They had been told by a realtor that it would be hard to sell if they wanted to in the future. It was also stated they did not want to look at a six-foot fence when they walked out of their house.

Residents were very concerned with protecting the farmland. Looking out for the future of their kids and grandkids.

The Commissioners and Council were recently approached. They were just at the point of gathering information.

AMENDED 2022 SALARY ORDINANCE

Gick made the motion to approve. Campbell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

July 19, 2022 – Alcorn made the motion to approve. Wallace seconded. The motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS

Members gave reports from the boards they sit on representing the Council.

ADJOURN

Gick made the motion to adjourn. Alcorn seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

David Fuhrman, President

Stephanie Campbell, V. President

Jay Alcorn

Phillip Gick

Danny Wallace

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