

COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
JULY 19, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

David Fuhrman, President
Stephanie Campbell, Vice President
Danny Wallace
Larry Parker
Jay Alcorn

COMMISSIONERS: Rick Woodall, President
ATTORNEY: Trudy Selvia
AUDITOR'S OFFICE: Kristina Berish
AUDIENCE: 12 Individuals

The Putnam County Council met in Regular Session on July 19, 2022, at the Putnam County Courthouse at 6:30 p.m. Dave Fuhrman opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT ADDITIONAL

Director Lisa Zeiner presented:
1180-10122-000-0400 \$1,725
Health/Life Insurance
Campbell made the motion to approve. Parker seconded. The motion carried.

PARK BOARD

Eric Freeman came to the meeting to update the board regarding the 5-year master plan. DNR approved it in April.

SUPERIOR COURT ADDITIONAL

1000-30303-000-0201 \$303.90
Repairs and maintenance (overpayment)
Alcorn made the motion to approve. Campbell seconded. The motion carried.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ADDITIONALS

Engineer Jim Peck & Commissioner Rick Woodall presented:
1176-30414-000-0702 \$900,000
Road Preservation
1173-30414-000-0702 \$900,000
Road Preservation
4944-30352-000-0702 \$300,000
Road Maintenance
1176-30375-000-0702 \$15,000
Parker made the motion to approve. Alcorn seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
Repairs Building/Structures
1176-20204-000-0702 \$20,000
Tires, tubes, batteries
1176-30374-000-0702 \$50,000
Repairs, parts & services
Parker made the motion to approve. Alcorn seconded. The motion carried.
1176-10139-000-0702 \$40,000
Engineer Salary
Parker made the motion to approve. Campbell seconded. The motion carried.

ROACHDALE LIBRARY

Jennifer Stranger came to the meeting for approval on two additional totaling \$6,375 for the brickwork repair on front of building and removal of tree and stump. Fuhrman read additional resolution #2022-07-19 aloud. Wallace made the motion to approve. Campbell seconded. The motion carried.

Stranger requested a board appointment of Ricki Campbell. Wallace made the motion to appoint. Campbell seconded. The motion carried.

SCORPION PROTECTIVE COATINGS, INC. COMPLIANCE W/ STATEMENTS OF BENEFITS

Kristin Clary with Greencastle/Putnam County Development presented resolution #2022-07-19-A. Fuhrman read resolution aloud. Fuhrman made the motion to approve. Parker seconded. The motion carried.

#1 & COMPANY LLC COMPLIANCE W/ STATEMENTS OF BENEFITS

Kristin Clary presented resolution #2022-07-19-B. She said this resolution was the exact wording as the first one except for the company name. Parker made the motion to approve. Alcorn seconded. The motion carried.

SOLAR PROJECT W/ COLD SPRINGS LLC C/O AREVON ENERGY, INC. – RESOLUTION #2022-07-19-C

Kristin Clary said Cold Spring Solar LLC c/o Arevon Energy, Inc. wanted to have their business in Putnam County. Representative of company Jerrod Pitts came to the meeting along with legal counsel Kyle Resetarits and Nick Gentry Community Representative to introduce themselves. Lisa Zeiner created a solar ordinance to prepare for this type of request. Resolution tonight would start the abatement process. Fuhrman read the resolution aloud.

Two county residents came to the meeting to voice their approval of the solar project.

Clary said what was presented tonight was only the first step in getting project moving forward. Wallace made the motion to approve resolution #2022-07-19-C. Fuhrman seconded. The motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS ADDITIONAL

Commissioner Rick Woodall presented:

4946-30362-000-0068 \$7,500

Contract

Campbell made the motion to approve. Wallace seconded. The motion carried.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Commissioner Woodall asked for a topic tabled from last meeting be discussed tonight, highway personnel. One position, the Highway Engineer/Supervisor was being renamed to Highway Engineer. The other proposed pay structure was:

Create position of Highway Director with salary of \$67,822.41

Shop Foreman salary increase to \$50,484.72

Secretary salary increase to \$46,288

Administrative Asst. salary increase to \$42,245.50

Fuhrman made the motion to approve all 5 position changes that were presented. Alcorn seconded. Discussion of whether the two office positions should be increased now or addressed during budget process for 2023.

Campbell stated the county must address the salary issue we are facing with positions being paid all over the place. We have someone that has worked for the county for 30 years and is the Chief Deputy in the Clerk's office. One of the busiest offices and she only makes \$40,000. But we are looking at a secretary at the highway department that already makes more than that and the request before us tonight will only make the span between salaries wider.

Alcorn stated the department was advocating for their employees an increase whereas others have not done that in the past. We did the same for the Auditor's office last year during the 2022 budget process.

Auditor Kristina Berish agreed with Alcorn, the Council did take what she had presented and increased some of the positions in her office more than the 5% raise that was approved. It was greatly appreciated. Her Chief Deputy currently makes \$45,000. Before the Council tonight were two secretaries whose job descriptions were not comparable to her Chief Deputy, and if approved one secretary would be making more and the other not that far behind her deputy. Salaries across the board needed to be addressed somehow

in all the departments. She was not arguing the fact of the secretaries making the proposed new salary, her concern was using those salaries then as a base when looking at other jobs in the county. Berish said she would be using the secretaries' salaries as the bar set when she drew up her budget request for 2023.

Fuhrman called for a vote: Opposed: Wallace and Fuhrman. Approve: Alcorn, Parker, and Campbell. Trudy Selvia said the motion does not pass since this type of a motion calls for a majority vote of the board not a majority of members present at the meeting. Need a vote of 4, which you do not have.

Wallace made the motion to approve the title change for Engineer, creation of a Highway Director salary of \$67,822.41 and the Shop Foreman increased to \$50,484.72. Parker seconded. The motion carried.

MINUTES

June 21, 2022 – Campbell 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

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

David Fuhrman, President

Stephanie Campbell, V. President

Jay Alcorn

Larry Parker

Danny Wallace

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