

**PUTNAM COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**BUDGET HEARING**  
**September 21, 2017**

**ATTENDANCE:** Darrel Thomas, President  
Keith Berry, Vice President  
Larry Parker  
Gene Beck  
Philip Gick  
Jill Bridgewater  
Dave Fuhrman  
Lorie Hallett, Auditor  
Evelyn Williams, Chief Deputy Auditor  
Jacque Clements, Consultant

Pledge given.

Jill Bridgewater stated that Rick Woodall, Commissioner, is to get back with her with numbers for Operation Life.

Jacque – Sheriff & Jail Budget spreadsheet- breakout with it coming out of Public Safety and breakout with it coming all out of county general. Discussed figures for PSAP- can only be used for emergency services. With

25% of Pub Safety for Sheriff/Jail and E-911, would still have over \$200,000 left. Possibility of moving Operation Life (OL) funding from County General to LIT. Larry- just because OL is asking for an amount doesn't mean we must give it to them. Discussed creating new full-time positions at jail and eliminating part-time

Highway – Mike Ricketts, Brenda Turner – Covered bridge repairs – will be working on more next year. Cum Bridge – Not sure about budget due to rate change, so not sure how much will be received. Mike gave figures on progress of bridge work; raised bridge equipment rental, final lease payment due next year. Discussed lease agreement. Roads & Streets – equipment – moved from MVH to R & S. Brenda – state gives estimate on budget for the R & S. MVH – 5% salary increase, tire increase, upped rental due to work load increase, lease payment increase due to the grater payments will be due. Community Crossings Grant – \$541,623.75 for 3 projects

Assessor – Nancy Dennis – looking to purchase new computers for office. 5% salary increase request. New reassessment starts May 1<sup>st</sup>, requires doing ¼ of each type of property every year. Requested more in mileage due to having more people out gathering data

Prosecutor – Tim Bookwalter, Teresa Pingleton – Moved some line items but same dollar amounts, state requiring online filing next year. Title IV-D – Vickie Patterson – looking for new office space, discussed. Pre-Trial – no changes, discussed revenue

GIS – Robbie Cudnick – getting new flyover maps for plat books. Salary increase request

Commissioners – Rick & Dave – Weights & Measures- same. Insurance – possibly could be cut. PERF & Medicare increased, mileage could be cut to \$4,000. Discussed Mental Health line item. Jacque suggested checking into if the state designates who the county uses for their mental health facility. Discussed health insurance trust fund. \$500,000 for Operation Life. Phil – what's the real figure for OL? Rick's guess is \$375,000 to \$400,000. Discussed Star Ambulance Service proposal. Dave Costin- issues with radio communication and Star Ambulance Service. Rick- OL board is dysfunctional; possibility of county taking over the ambulance service? Darrel didn't see how that would be possible. Discussion on director and assistant director. Dave B.- scared to go with Star; OL will still be around in 12 months

LEPC – Dave Costin – same as last year, funded by state  
EMA – requested money to resurface EOC parking lot  
911 – raised utilities and repairs/maintenance, 10-year-old software server needs replaced, and requested salary increases

Custodial – Brian Smith – requested salary increases; increase in part time & elevator maintenance contract

Microfilm – Nicole Watson –all court documents will be allowed to do digital imaging. Discussed who decides if offices go to digital or not. If no agreement met, it would become the Commissioners decision to make

Planning & Building Dept. – Don Hatfield – mileage increased, supplies increased, contractual labor down. Phil- why do office supplies and repairs/maintenance needed such a large increase? Don- need a server, some re-wiring and possible projector on wall. Requested salary increases

Veterans – Jerry Williamson – Gave statistics for veteran assistance

Roachdale Library – Jennifer Stranger – discussed ability to use Rainy Day fund for LED lighting and other miscellaneous upgrades

The Council agreed that salaries would remain at the 2017 amounts, excluding mandates.

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**Attest: Auditor**