

**UNION COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2016**

PRESENT: Russel Rude, Tim Williams, James Hensley, Dannie Witter, Jack Heeter, Richard Blank, Pam Tharp, Matt Snyder, Jennie Brown, Dale Dishmond, Shaun Tudor, and Gene Sanford.

President Russel Rude opened the meeting by leading the group with the pledge to the flag. Blank moved to approve the minutes of the September 22 meeting. Hensley seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

TREASURER: The Auditor reported that Treasurer Bonnie Adams had invested \$500,000 in a 1 year CD at 1.10% interest with West End Bank.

2017 BUDGET: Council met twice for budget workshops prior to this meeting. The first meeting was September 30, 2016 with Rude, Williams, Hensley, Witter, Heeter, Thomas, Blank, Pam Tharp, Matt Snyder, and Gene Sanford present. The Auditor stated that he had met with DLGF and more potential revenue along with a programming error had been found. The maximum levy of \$1,915,307 which reflected an increase of 3.8% was discussed along with options for cuts to meet the levy. An increase in the local option income tax was also mentioned. After lengthy discussion, Council asked the Auditor to go back and fund the 2017 budget at last year's amounts along with mandatory increases and a \$500 increase for full time employees and \$250 for part time employees. The medical insurance increase is not known yet but the Auditor budgeted a 15% increase. Council also asked to get premiums with larger deductibles. Council agreed to meet again on October 11 to determine how the proposals affected the budget and discuss the Sheriff's Department pay and longevity pay.

Council met again on October 11, with all members present along with Matt Snyder, Pam Tharp, Trish Witham, Jennie Brown, Caleb Greene, Alan Alcorn, David Woeste, Paul Wiwi, Dale Dishmond, Diane Baker, Loree Persinger, and Gene Sanford. The Auditor stated that the budget proposals allowed at the previous meeting could be met with a healthy working balance also. After much discussion, Blank moved to budget \$1,000 for full time positions and \$500 for part time. Hensley seconded the motion and it carried 6-1 with Heeter opposed. The discussion then centered on the Sheriff Department pay and longevity pay. Council, Commissioners, and the Sheriff discussed the matter at length and finally decided to table the matter of longevity pay for further study. Rude asked Witter and Williams to join him in meeting with the Sheriff to negotiate salaries.

At the present meeting, Rude announced that the negotiating team had not been able to meet with the Sheriff. The Sheriff and the negotiating team then set a meeting for October 26 to negotiate the salaries. Council then agreed to postpone the budget adoption meeting to October 27 at 9:00 AM.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS: The Auditor presented an additional appropriation of \$30,000 to fund the salaries and benefits of the Health Department for November and December (5 pays) from the Riverboat Wagering Fund. The Health Fund has to repay a \$37,000 loan by the end of the year and may have little or no operating balance to begin 2017. This would assure repayment of the loan and allow a modest operating balance to begin 2017. After much discussion, Hensley moved to appropriate \$19,250 for salaries, \$2,000 for Board salaries, \$1,500 for OASI, \$2,750 for PERF, and \$4,500 for medical insurance for the Health Department from the Riverboat Wagering Fund. Williams seconded the motion and it carried 4-2 with Heeter and Witter opposed.

TRANSFERS: In County General for the Sheriff, Blank moved to reduce Gas/Oil \$500 and increase Office Supplies \$500. Williams seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Also in County General for Communications, Williams moved to reduce a dispatcher salary \$10,608 and increase Contractual Services \$10,000 and Equipment \$608. Heeter seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

MISC: Rude read a letter from the Brookville Lake Regional Waste District stating Council had an appointment to their Board to begin January 1, 2017. After some discussion, they asked the Auditor to advertise the appointment and they would act on it at the November meeting.

There being no further business, Hensley moved to adjourn. Thomas seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Attest _____, Auditor _____