

GALLATIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT
September 10, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Gallatin County Fiscal Court was called to order by Judge Ryan Morris on September 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gallatin County Extension Office Annex, Warsaw, Kentucky. The meeting was also streamed on Facebook Live. Magistrates present were Ethan Moore, Donnie Sullivan, Joel Shinkle and M. J Haddix. County Attorney John G. Wright was also present. Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes: Minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2020 were approved by Joel Shinkle via motion. Ethan Moore seconded. All ayes.

Recognition of Audience: None.

Approval of Agenda: Magistrate M. J Haddix requested to add Magistrate Comments to the agenda. Motion to approve the meeting agenda as revised to include a section for Magistrate Comments was made by Donnie Sullivan. Ethan Moore seconded the motion. All ayes.

Vendor Claims: Claims were presented for approval to pay. Magistrate Moore moved to pay the bills as presented. Joel Shinkle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

August 2020 Financial Reporting

1. Treasurer Report – Treasurer Lesa Bullard presented the Fund Cash Statement Summary for the month ending August 31, 2020. Ethan Moore made a motion to approve the report and M. J Haddix seconded. All ayes.
2. Budget Transfers – Treasurer Bullard presented the Budget Transfers for the month of August and noted that the repair for a fire truck was over \$25,000 which was more than their budget for the year, so throughout the remainder of the year the county will have to cover utilities and on-going expenses. Donnie Sullivan moved to approve the budget transfers for the month of August. Joel Shinkle seconded. All ayes.
3. Budget Amendment #081320 #1 2nd Reading – COVID-19 Relief Fund. Federal reimbursement totaling \$301,956.00 for ambulance salaries and sheriff payroll and program support. Motion to approve made by Joel Shinkle and seconded by M. J Haddix. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Judge Morris reported that research since the last meeting has indicated that funds are available to pay the board fees as was outlined in the ordinance. With seven members the cost is approximately \$4200 annually, which is in the budget.

Motion to deny amendment was made by M. J Haddix and seconded by Donnie Sullivan. All ayes.

M. J Haddix asked when the Nuisance Ordinance would be addressed. Judge Morris informed him that is on the agenda to be addressed in New Business.

GALLATIN COUNTY FAIR BOARD UPDATE

Judge Morris informed the court that he has spoken with President Jamie Gould to turn over Gallatin County Fair Board, Inc. within the next week. Donnie Sullivan expressed a need to act quickly on this matter to get the board in place as there is a lot of work to be done. Magistrate Haddix recommended that nominations be made at the October Fiscal Court Meeting. Donnie Sullivan asked if one per Magistrate was the intended number. Judge Morris replied affirmatively to both questions.

NEW BUSINESS

ROAD DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Judge Morris informed the court that per Hinkle Contracting, the county's work should be on their schedule by the end of the month. Mr. Morris also noted that Mayor French of Warsaw has approached the county about installing an asphalt walking path to allow for foot traffic in between the schools and Asbury Park. The county's contribution would be equipment while the city will provide the rock, etc.

Magistrate Sullivan asked if there was any update to the progress of Craig's Creek (Highway 1130) with the flex funds that were returned? Judge Morris explained that with the pandemic many of those items were put on hold. He has already sent a letter asking for an update, but that has gone unanswered. Mr. Sullivan requested to have Ken McCarty come to give a status report at the next meeting.

GALLATIN COUNTY LIBRARY TAX RATE

Gallatin County Librarian Shirley Warnick came before the court and provided an update on the operations of the Library during and since the COVID restrictions were put in place, including offering virtual programming and drive thru service. She also reported that a new outreach program to provide books to underprivileged kids in the county has had over 800 participate which included over 1900 books.

Mrs. Warnick then reported to the court that the Library Board chose to use the alternate tax rates for 2020, which were lower than the compensating rates and last year's rates. Joel Shinkle moved to approve the tax rate as set by the Gallatin County Library Board. M. J Haddix seconded. All ayes.

GALLATIN COUNTY EXTENSION DISTRICT TAX RATE

Judge Morris reported that the Gallatin County Extension District rate for 2020 is a decrease compared to 2019 for Real and Personal Property and the same for Motor Vehicle and Watercraft. Ethan Moore moved to approve the tax rates as presented. Joel Shinkle seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COUNTY NUISANCE ORDINANCE FIRST READING

County Attorney Wright explained to the court that this Nuisance Ordinance updates the original ordinance that was enacted in 1990. Mr. Wright then read the ordinance in summary for the official first reading and explained the changes from the original ordinance. Joel Shinkle asked if the complaint process could be published in the newspaper. Judge Morris answered yes to Mr. Shinkle's request and also noted that the ordinance will be sent to Glencoe City Council for them to get a good understanding of the ordinance. Judge Morris also mentioned that Section 4, which references parking on hard surfaces is not intended to say there must be a driveway of hard surface, but rather to not allow the storage of excess or unused vehicles. Jim Hansen noted

that adding the word storage could allow board discretion as to what is ordinary and what is not. Magistrate Sullivan opined that he thinks everyone is in favor of cleaning up the county but worries that trying to determine which vehicles are ok and which are not could be time consuming. Judge Morris then pointed out that Section 3 appears to possibly address what the real concerns are in regard to vehicles.

Magistrate Shinkle interjected to say that it seems the 1st Reading can be voted on and then reviewed to make changes prior to a 2nd Reading. He then made a motion to accept the 1st Reading as presented. M. J Haddix seconded the motion. Mr. Haddix asked if after the passage of a 2nd Reading would the board be able to move forward and operate, more specifically to begin after the October meeting if at such time the ordinance was passed. Judge Morris and Mr. Hansen both answered yes and noted that the county is currently operating under the existing ordinance but it doesn't have the same teeth or specifications as the new version being considered. Judge Morris then explained that a meeting under the new ordinance could take place on October 22 after a passage of the ordinance on October 8. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

PLANNING AND ZONING APPOINTMENT

Judge Morris informed the court that a representative for Planning and Zoning will from Warsaw/Upper Warsaw is needed to replace Skip Bannick, who has stepped down. Ethan Moore made a motion to appoint Casey Stewart. Donnie Sullivan seconded the motion. All ayes.

COMMENTS

Magistrate Shinkle asked that County Clerk Miles explain the voting procedure for the upcoming election. Mrs. Miles explained that absentee voting is available by mail. Early voting is available in her office beginning October 13, 2020 per statute and there will be two voting centers on Election Day located at the Gallatin County Extension Annex and Paint Lick Baptist Church. Voters may go to either center regardless of their precinct. She also noted that October 5th is the last day to register to vote.

Magistrate Haddix asked about the dirt on Steele's Bottom Road. Judge Morris reported that the homeowner said the improvements have been made and Nugent has emailed to provide a timeline to complete.

Magistrate Haddix passed along speeding complaints on Little Sugar to Sheriff Neale to be aware of.

Magistrate Haddix asked if there was any update on the trailer at the Fair Grounds. County Attorney Wright explained that he has determined the process to deal with the trailer and will take a number of steps to complete but he will get started on the process. Magistrate Sullivan asked if Mr. Wright had a timeframe he thought it would take. County Attorney Wright said four to six weeks.

Magistrate Haddix informed the court of traffic in and out of the fair grounds at night time and asked if there was anything that could be done. Judge Morris explained that park rules will be posted and the back section will be blocked off with cable and posts.

Magistrate Haddix asked about when the playground equipment that has been previously discussed will be able to be moved. Judge Morris answered that a spot to put it needs to be identified. Magistrate Shinkle recommended the split in the walking trail as a possibility. Judge Morris will look into it further.

Magistrate Haddix asked if Amazon has a business license for their trailer being stored in the county. Judge Morris explained that Kentucky Speedway has a license and it is operated under that. Magistrate Haddix asked if the employees there are paying the payroll tax. Judge Morris answered that he does not believe there are any employees.

Magistrate Sullivan asked if there were any updates to the road conditions on Hwy 42 in Ethridge. Judge Morris reported that there has been some ditching done but there are no plans for repairs at this time that he is aware of.

Magistrate Ethan Moore made a motion to go into closed session to discuss property acquisition per KRS 61.810(1) (b). Motion seconded by M. J Haddix. All ayes.

Donnie Sullivan made a motion to come out of closed session. M. J Haddix seconded. All ayes.

With no further business before the court, Joel Shinkle made a motion to adjourn. Ethan Moore seconded his motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Doug Miles
Gallatin County Fiscal Court Clerk