

AUDIT/FINANCE/PURCHASING/BUDGET COMMITTEE

October 2, 2019

Present: Clark Pearce, Chairman
Venise McWard, Mike McClure, Tim Carlson, Vicki McMahan

Absent: None

Others present: Becky Edwards, Betty Asmussen, Mike Gianasi, Mike Havera, Brian Wilbur, Cindy Drea, Tom Latonis and Jan Bland.

The Audit/Finance Committee met on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the County Board Meeting Room, second floor Christian County Courthouse, Taylorville, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to address agenda items and any other matters properly brought before the committee. Attendance was taken, and Finance Chairman Clark Pearce noted a quorum. There were no public comments.

EXEMPT EMPLOYEE SALARIES MUST BE AT LEAST \$35,568-BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

On March 7, 2019 the United States Department of Labor made a final ruling on the proposed change that would increase the minimum salary threshold to qualify for exemption from the overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The current level of \$23,660 annually has changed to \$35,568 annually for exempt employees who meet the standards. These are employees who are generally in management and other professional positions. Currently in the County, the only salaries not meeting the new rate are the chief deputies at step one (\$35,000). If the salary is not increased, those employees would receive overtime which most likely would exceed the \$568 increase and is unpredictable. A motion was made by Venise McWard and seconded by Mike McClure to increase the starting salary for the chief deputy classification to \$35,568 effective January 1, 2020 and change the policy describing the steps to reflect the \$35,568. The motion carried. [There are three chief deputies in step one of which this increase will apply.]

NON-BARGAINING SALARY INCREASED

Last month the County Board returned the discussion back to this committee for the non-bargaining raises. Committee Chair Clark Pearce reviewed that there are different classes of employees: bargaining, non-bargaining and elected office holders and the salaries should reflect the different groups in an equitable manner. The 2% that was proposed last month is not equitable to this group due to the range in salaries and a flat rate would be more equitable. He proposed a flat rate of \$1000. During discussion and after reviewing the positions of which the Board could make salary determinations the following positions will receive \$1000 in the 2020 budget: 2-Asst. States Attorneys, Victim Witness Coordinator, 1-Chief Deputy of Circuit Clerk, Jail Administrator, County Board Assistant/HR, Maintenance Supervisor; Solid Waste Manager, Solid Waste Educator, and Highway Office Manager. The motion for the increase of the above positions was made by Mike McClure and seconded by Vicki McMahan. The motion carried. Other positions eligible for the County Board to determine are in steps for 2020. [All but three of these positions are deemed exempt employees.]

FY2020 BUDGET REVIEW

Chairman Pearce asked the Treasurer to review the preliminary budget. She explained no real changes in what the department heads had submitted. A few recommendations included:

- the cost of shredding approved documents should be coordinated department wide
- an additional line item was added to separate longevity paid from hours work pay
- money was transferred from bond money to pay for the election equipment
- \$15,000 for specialty courts was removed

The largest increases in the budget are due to salaries and health insurance increases. And

- the increase of IMRF and SLEP percentages will make a large impact in the budget.
- Office "0" numbers were updated with some reductions.

- 911 potentially may have the opportunity for a merger with Montgomery County, so those numbers have been projected both in revenue and expenses if it transpires.

In the past the County has charged the non-general fund accounts a fee for services and both liability and worker compensation expenses. Treasurer Asmussen suggested to the committee that we reinstate those assessments. A motion was made by Mike McClure and seconded by Vicki McMahon to reinstate the assessments in the amount of \$3,000 per year plus the liability: Health-\$6,559; Solid Waste-\$2,761; 911-\$4,200; and Highway-\$22,080. The motion carried.

Treasurer Asmussen also noted that the levy is currently being reviewed for presentation.

The preliminary budget projects a \$220,400 deficit, however that number will change some with the changes suggested during the meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mike McClure and seconded by Tim Carlson. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Clark Pearce
Finance/Audit Committee Chairman
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