

Franklin County Council
August 23, 2016
Commissioners/Council Meeting Room 203

Council: Becky Oglesby, Daryl Kramer, Aaron Leffingwell, Keith Hall, Jeff Koch, Joe Sizemore and Dean McQueen

Auditor: Stephen Brack

Open: The meeting was called to order by President Becky Oglesby and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Jeff Koch to approve the minutes of the previous meeting and was 2nd by Joe Sizemore. Motion carried.

Franklin County Surveyor – Joe Gillespie: came to the council to discuss 2 items: (1) why surveyor is paid more than other elected officials (2) Right of Way – Bridge 139 – making sure money has been appropriated for landowners. Mr. Gillespie explained that to become a registered surveyor this requires a bachelor's degree and eight our exam and then eight year apprenticeship. He also added that during 40 years of service to the county he has subsidized the county office by using equipment from his own personal business. Another complaint is that none of the council members have ever visited his office to see what the surveyor job consists of. During the budget workshop Councilman Leffingwell had asked the question about pay and never meant to offend Mr. Gillespie and that the statement in the paper were incorrect. President Oglesby said to Mr. Gillespie if equipment is needed that he should come to council and Mr. Gillespie stated that he felt Council had not been helpful in the past. This is Mr. Gillespie's last year and Nathan Meyer will be taking over.

Additional: May 24 - A motion was made by Daryl Kramer to approve and was 2nd by Jeff Koch. Motion carried. July 26 – A motion was made by Daryl Kramer to approve and was 2nd by Jeff Koch. Motion carried.

Additional – 2016-25 – A motion was made by Dean McQueen to approve and was 2nd by Joe Sizemore. Motion carried.

Transfers – a motion to approve Transfers as submitted was made by Aaron Leffingwell and the President of Council to sign a transfer of \$5,000.00 to Various Culverts and Bridges in Cum Bridge to pay the landowners and was 2nd by Daryl Kramer. Motion carried.

Pay Increase: Much discussion was held concerning the proposed pay increases for county employees, which would even out the employee salary schedule. Over the years employees in some offices received had gained increases while others missed out. Council tried to rectify this by evening up the pay which means some employees would receive a small amount and others would do better. President Oglesby said she had discussed this with Judge Cox and he stated the scheme is illegal and County Attorney stated it doesn't set well. She proposed a new schedule of across the board for all clerical employees of 50 cents an hour, 75 cents for highway and \$1.00 an hour for law enforcement. Councilman Leffingwell disagreed and said that county employees would receive a total of \$50,000 less with that plan and with the original plan. He also stated that every time the council tries to do something we get these trigger words such as illegal to make the council back down. In his opinion, council's plan was not illegal. In the end council decided to set a separate meeting on this topic. A

motion was made by Aaron Leffingwell to set a meeting for August 29, 2016 at 1:00PM with their attorney present and was 2nd by Daryl Kramer. They want to come to a conclusion by Sept. 27 when there is a public meeting on the 2017 budget and the adoption on October 11.

Metamora Waste District: a notice was received from Robert Bean of his decision to resign from the Board. President Oglesby noted if anyone is interested to stop in the Auditor's office.

Resolution 2016-27 – Public Safety Income Tax Money for EMS and Volunteer Fires Services – Councilman Leffingwell stated that next year Batesville will send in a contract to the Commissioners for areas they serve in Franklin County. Roy Hall noted that the Township Trustees along with the Commissioners and Council need to have a meeting and give an explanation and maybe the Township Trustees would help out with funding. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Aaron Leffingwell and 2nd by Jeff Koch. Motion carried. 4 ayes – Keith Hall, Aaron Leffingwell, Jeff Koch and Joe Sizemore – Nay Dean McQueen and Becky Oglesby and Daryl Kramer abstained.

Dean Nay because she wanted them to have more than \$2,500
Other business: President Oglesby stated that Council may argue over issues but they do bring info to the public and the media needs to think about their message to the public. The council does get a lot of feedback and they are not a yes board. She also said her thoughts may cost her votes but this is how she feels. Councilman Hall thanked her. He also said that if council doesn't change how they manage expenses in 2017 we will be right back in the same position. Roy Hall commented that the County could be bankrupt in 2 to 3 years. He agreed that employees need to make a decent wage. If we aren't careful the state will be in and take over.

Adjourn: with no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Joe Sizemore and 2nd by Dean McQueen. Motion carried.

Others in attendance: Jeff Batchler, Jana Selke, Linda Hall, Mark & Mildred Simmermeyer, Bob and Betty Lecher, James and Jamie Sprague, Marlene Flaspohler, John Estridge, Pam Beneker, Shannon Meyer, Sharon Halcomb, Eric Roberts, Nathan Meyer, Wayne Monroe, Ed Cooley and Don Smith. The names are spelled correctly per the sign in sheet.

AYE

Becky Oglesby

Aaron Leffingwell

Keith Hall

Daryl Kramer

Jeff Koch

Joe Sizemore

Dean McQueen

Attest:

Stephen Brack

Stephen Brack, Auditor

NAY

Becky Oglesby

Aaron Leffingwell

Keith Hall

Daryl Kramer

Jeff Koch

Joe Sizemore

Dean McQueen