

Be It Remembered that the Greene County Council met in Regular Session on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room on the third floor of the Courthouse.

The meeting was called to order by Brent Murray.

The Pledge of Allegiance opened the meeting.

Those present were Ronald Lehman, Brent Murray, Karen Abrams, Randall Brown, Bryan Woodall and County Attorney Marvin Abshire. Kelly Zimmerly observed and was heard electronically via Zoom, but could not vote or be part of the quorum due to failure to broadcast. Absent was Jerry Frye.

Re: Minutes

The minutes of the regular session held on April 24, 2023, were approved as presented with reading waived, on a motion made by Ron Lehman. Bryan Woodall seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: Additional Appropriation- Final Consideration

- I. **Clerk- Stuart Dowden- Extra Hire Employee**
Ron Lehman moved, and Randall Brown seconded, final approval for an additional appropriation for an extra-hire position for the Greene County Clerk. The amount of the additional appropriation would be \$7,000.00. The position would be 12-20 hours a week and the person selected for hire would be given the prescribed duties in the offering letter. Motion passed 5-0.
- II. **Nicole Noel- LCC Granted Check**
Karen Abrams moved, and Randall Brown seconded, final approval for the additional appropriation in the amount of \$6,315.00 to the Drug Screening Fund. This money was granted to the Local Coordinating Council. Motion passed 5-0.
- III. **Health Department- EHS Position for Retail Food Inspections and Job Description Revision**
Ron Lehman moved, and Karen Abrams seconded, final approval for \$33,346.09 for the additional appropriation of the new Health Inspection position. Motion passed 5-0.
- IV. **Sheriff Dallaire- Check from Insurance**
Karen Abrams moved, and Randall Brown seconded, final approval for \$4,511.60 for a radio insurance claim that was paid to the Greene County Sheriff. The claim is from radio equipment in a Sheriff's Deputy vehicle that was totaled out. Motion passed 5-0.

Commissioners- Loan to Greene County General Hospital

Commissioner Nathan Abrams came before the Council to propose a loan to the Greene County General Hospital. The hospital currently has two chillers. One chiller was replaced in 2020 and is under warranty; and the other chiller is a 1998 model that serves as a back-up for the 2020 model. The 2020 model currently has warranty repair issues and must be shut down for 3-4 days. The 1998 back-up chiller cannot carry the full load of the hospital and needs to be replaced before the warranty work can be completed. The Commissioners are willing to loan the hospital the \$350,000.00 for the new back-up chiller, from Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. It will be a loan for seven years at 0% interest, with annual payments of \$50,000.00. The Commissioners have requested that once the money is returned from loan, that it goes back into their budget instead of the general fund. Commissioner Abrams will seek an amendment of the local fiscal recovery plan at the next Commissioners' meeting and return to the Council next month for ratification of the amended plan and to request for local appropriation from Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Per Diem Rate Change

Randall Brown moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to approve the raise of the daily travel per diem rate for county employees. The rate will change from \$25.00 a day to \$50.00 a day with no receipts required. This rate increase will take effect immediately. The council noted that it has been many years since the per diem rate was changed. Motion passed 5-0.

Additional Appropriations- To Advertise

I. **Sheriff Dallaire- Voice Recorders**

Bryan Woodall moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to advertise for appropriation of \$32,690.00 from the E-911 fund for the E-911 voice recording system update for the Greene County Sheriff's Department. After the initial payment of \$17,490.00, a yearly maintenance fee of \$3,800.00 will be paid, in years 2 through 5. The total amount for the additional appropriation is \$32,690.00 to pay initial cost and annual fees for the duration of the contract. The current contract expires June 3, 2023. Motion passed 5-0.

II. **Sheriff Dallaire- Med Co-Pays**

Randall Brown moved, and Karen Abrams seconded, to advertise for appropriation of \$4,308.52 inmate medical co-pay reimbursement from general fund to the Inmate Health Fund in the Sheriff's budget. Motion passed 5-0.

III. **Sheriff Dallaire- Insurance Checks**

Ron Lehman moved, and Bryan Woodall seconded, to advertise for appropriation of \$4,592.00 and for \$24,927.29 from general fund, to return to the Sheriff's budget the insurance money from two Sheriff's vehicles totaled earlier this year. The first was a 2011 Escape in the amount of \$4,592.00 and the second was a 2019 Interceptor in the amount of \$24,927.29. Motion passed 5-0.

IV. **Re: Sheriff Dallaire- Transfer**

Ron Lehman moved, and Randall Brown seconded, approval to transfer \$1000.00 from the Security's overtime account to security uniforms account. Motion passed 5-0.

V. **EMS-Doug Hall**

EMS Director, Doug Hall, presented the council with a request to increase EMT and Paramedic salaries. The EMS Director explained that the EMTs and Paramedics are underpaid according to surrounding counties near us and that results in our county being short staffed. The EMS Director said that his overtime budget for the year is already over budget by \$76,000.00. Mr. Hall explained that if he could increase wages for his employees to a competitive rate, then he believed he would be able to hire and retain new employees and wouldn't have to pay so much in overtime. After extended debate, Ron Lehman moved, and Randall Brown seconded, to advertise for appropriation of \$550,000.00 from the EMS LIT revenues, to facilitate pay increases for EMTs and Paramedics. Motion passed 4-1, with Karen Abrams voting nay.

Re: County Attorney

Bryan Woodall moved, and Ron Lehman seconded, to reschedule the next Council meeting from Monday, June 26, 2023 at 4:00 pm to Monday, June 19, 2023, at 4:00. Notice of the change of meeting date will be posted and sent to the media.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Randall Brown made a motion to adjourn. Ron Lehman seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Jerry R. Frye

Ronald Lehman

Kelly Zimmerly

Brent Murray

Karen Abrams

Bryan Woodall

Randall Brown

Attest:

Heather Perry, Auditor