

**FIRE, POLICE & SAFETY
OCTOBER 10, 2019 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Justice Rick Ash; Justice, Howard Norvell; Justice, Fred Fleeman; Justice, Michael White; Justice, Bill Nelson; Justice, Alvin Clay; Justice, Betty Hepler; Justice, Jo Ann Henton; Justice, Molly Jackson; Captain, David Gladden; Major, Rob Rounsaville; Sheriff, Dale Cook; OEM, Wayne Reynolds; Treasurer, Peggy Meatte; County Clerk, Janice Currie; Public Affairs, Steven Savage; Finance, Kelli Jones; NEA Town Courier, Mark Brasfield.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice, Rick Ash.

2. Justice Ash stated this was our quarterly meeting before budget. Tazers were bought last year. Justice Ash asked Sheriff Cook how many more payments were left on them. Sheriff Cook stated there was 3 payments left around \$14,311.00. This amount was included in the 2019 budget. 31 tazers are still being paid for. The new camera system and control board in dispatch have been installed. Sheriff Cook has several older vehicles. The oldest will be auctioned. The Sheriff's Department has 17 vehicles has have an excess of 200,000.00 miles. Justice White asked how many vehicles the department had running. Total 46. Sheriff Cook stated we have 27 vehicles with 101,000 to 208,000 miles on them. The Sheriff's department was purchasing 5 to 6 vehicles a year. In 2011 12 vehicles were purchased. None were purchased in 2012. 6 slots were added to Courthouse security and 2 transport officers. This has put the Sheriff's Department short on vehicles. The Sheriff stated he would be asking for 12 vehicles in the 2020 budget. After the 12 vehicles have been purchased the department should be able to sustain the fleet with 8 new vehicles a year. Justice White asked Sheriff Cook how long he had been in office. Sheriff stated 9 years. Justice White stated the previous Sheriff had been purchasing used vehicles trying to save the County money. There were so many older vehicles it takes a while to catch up. Justice Ash stated if 8 vehicles are purchased a year you would be rotating vehicles about every 5 years. Justice White asked how much the 12 vehicles would cost. \$350,000.00. We would purchase 6 cars and 6 trucks. The cars would cost \$28,011.00 equipped, trucks \$25,242.00 plus \$4,600 to equip. Radios, cages, consoles, sirens, blue lights and install fees. This price is less cameras and radios. We are asking \$30,000.00 for cameras. We would like to purchase 3 to 5 cameras a year to cover all patrol vehicles.

3. Justice Ash asked when the service contracts start on the cameras installed in the jail. Sheriff Cook stated the contract is for one year starting when installation is complete. Justice Ash asked if we would receive a discount if paid on a yearly basis instead of monthly. Justice Norvell asked how much the dash cameras are. \$5,000.00. Justice Norvell asked if body cameras would be cheaper. Sheriff Cook wants cameras in the vehicles where everything can be filmed. Justice Hepler asked how many cameras the department has. The County has 9 working cameras.

4. Sheriff Cook would like to change the jail uniforms. Cintas would be the company supplying the uniforms. The quote from Cintas was \$21,200.00. This covers 11 uniforms per person, swapped out once a week.

5. Sheriff Cook stated there would be 12 vehicles auctioned. Date not final. Waiting on Road Department. Justice Ash asked if there were any major repairs in the jail. None at this time. Justice Jackson asked about electronic monitoring. Sheriff Cook stated we are not doing that at this time. ADC transports the inmates timely and there are not many to be monitored.

6. Old Fines. There is a new ruling that the County can use a collection agency. Justice Ash stated we can use a collection agency by State Law. It has to be done differently. Normally the collection agency collects the money and sends the percentage. In this case they have to collect the whole fine and send the money to the County, then the County sends the percentage to the collection agency. In addition a \$50,000.00 bond with the Secretary of State has to be posted. Research is being done to see if any other County is using a collection agency. Sheriff Cook stated the Quorum Court would have to have an Ordinance in place to assign an agency to collect the fines. Justice Jackson stated we could decide which fines we would have them collect. Example: If a fine is not paid within 90 days then we would turn it over to the collection agency. Some of the old fines go back 20 years. Depreciation is figured on 25 years. The Sheriff's department is working on getting the arrears into Court. Internal Revenue Service has been notified. Sheriff Cook will get copies of the law for the Justices.

7. OEM, Wayne Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds stated he has been updating the County's Safety Plan. The County's injury rates are high and affects our insurance. The plan is a living document and can be changed at any time. Mr. Reynolds pointed out there were some things that needed to be pointed out. (1). Light duty. When a person is injured they need to be placed on light duty if possible. Insurance rate is not affected when on light duty. (2). Time line for reporting injuries. Needed within 24 hours on injury. Copy of safety plan will be e-mailed to the Justices. Employees will sign safety plan showing they understand the rules. Supervisors in all departments will help supply information for the plan. Plan should be adopted by the end of the Calendar year. Justice Norvell asked about FEMA programs. Tipton County is putting rock on Island 35 and Centennial Island. 400 truck loads per island. FEMA is paying for the gravel. Mr. Reynolds will speak with the Air Emergency Manager.

8. Justice White had a question for Public Affairs, Steven Savage. Justice White stated you video our meetings and post them on our web site and Facebook page. Mr. Savage replied they are archived on You Tube. Justice White asked Mr. Savage if he edited the recordings before they were archived. Do you cut sections out sometimes? Mr. Savage stated he would talk to you after the meeting.

9. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George