

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY QUORUM COURT

December 17, 2019

The Quorum Court of Mississippi County, Arkansas, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Circuit Courtroom of the Burdette Courthouse with County Judge John Alan Nelson presiding. Clif Chitwood led the Pledge of Allegiance and Justice Neal Burge gave the invocation.

The following members answered roll call:

Justice Ash	Justice Hepler
Justice Burge	Justice Jackson
Justice Clay	Justice Nelson
Justice Fleeman	Justice Norvell
Justice Henton	Justice White

Absent: Justices Belcher. Also in attendance: County Attorney Jeremy Thomas.

Justice White moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes as copies had been provided to the members. Justice Fleeman seconded the motion and the voice vote was unanimous.

In the treasurer's report, County Treasurer Peggy Meatte reported the current interest rate at Farmers Bank is currently 2.25% on \$100,000.00 for one year and the sales tax revenue received for last month was up the highest it has been for the month of November in nine years. She also reported the balance in County General was \$3,000,000.00 before payroll. She also reported the Senior Citizens Center and the county jail were in the negative. Funds had been transferred for the Senior Citizens Center and would be made shortly for the jail.

Committee Reports:

Sanitation and Solid Waste: Justice Burge reported the committee met on December 3, 2019 and discussed:

- The landfill's operating budget expenditures for the first ten months of 2019.
- The beginning of the new cell construction in the first of 2020.
- Employee overtime running over budget and some possible solutions to remedy this matter.

Personnel Committee: Justice Ash reported the topics of discussion during their December 4, 2019 meeting were:

- The Collector's/Assessor's request to make a part-time clerk's position into a full-time position and change the job title. The committee agreed upon submission of a revised job description.
- The Juvenile Office's request to make the secretary's part-time position into a full-time position. The committee agreed this was a necessary move.
- The request of the County Clerk to change the job description and salary of an employee. This was tabled until later.

Insurance Committee: Justice Nelson reported the committee had been working diligently to find an insurance company with better rates. The committee had voted earlier to go back to using the services of Stephens and Associates to broker our insurance. After meeting with Stephens and Associates, the committee was pleased to report there would not be a 22% premium increase and the deductible would be considerably lower. He also informed the court the lower premiums would allow for a Christmas bonus to the employees.

Finance Committee: Justice White reported the committee met on two occasions during the month and discussed:

- Finalizing the 2020 budget
- Supplementing the budgets of the Senior Citizens Center and the county jail.
- Being able to give the employee a bonus. Timing, however, wouldn't allow the bonus to be given until after Christmas.

Energy and Property: Justice Jackson asked Justice Ash to give the report as she had been unable to attend the meeting. Justice Ash told the court the committee meeting entailed discussion of the courthouse renovation plans and allowing the judge to hire a project manager for the renovations.

New Business:

The clerk was asked to read a resolution titled: A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING A PART OF ARKANSAS HIGHWAY 198 LOCATED BETWEEN U.S. HIGHWAY 61 AND THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO BE KNOWN AS "CORRENTI-KENNEMORE PARKWAY". Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher. R-2019-14 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE ADDITIONAL MOTOR FUEL TAX FUND (ACT 416 OF 219); AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY. Following the reading by the clerk, Justice White informed the court this ordinance requires three readings and made a motion to suspend the rules and advance to the second reading by title only, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher. Following the second reading by title only, Justice White moved to proceed to the third reading by title only, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher. Following the third reading by title only, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Fleeman seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher. O-2019-41 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020; APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATING ACCOUNTS; APPROPRIATING TRANSFERS; AND FOR OTHER COUNTY BUDGET PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Nelson seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher. O-2019-42 was adopted by the court.

The clerk was asked to read an ordinance titled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING/MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING CHANGES IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR CERTAIN DEPARTMENTS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT FOR THE CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR OF 2019 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Following the reading, Justice White moved for adoption, Justice Norvell seconded and the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher. O-2019-43 was adopted by the court.

Old Business

Justice Ash made a motion to override the veto of O-2019-39 and Justice Hepler seconded. Following some discussion, the vote was: Aye --- Ash, Burge, Clay, Fleeman, Henton, Hepler, Jackson, Nelson, Norvell and White; Nay --- None: Absent--- Belcher.

There being no further business to come before the court, Justice White made a motion to adjourn, Justice Burge seconded and the voice vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice Currie
County Clerk/Secretary