

Minutes for February 04, 2021

Commissioners Present: Porter, Cameron, Crooks

Staff Present: Susan Reese

RES 21-0126 Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on the motion of Commissioner Porter and the second of Commissioner Cameron.

Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye;

Motion carried.

Commissioner Porter moved to approve the payment of bills, pending review.

Seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye;

Motion carried.

Commissioner Cameron reported that the Sheriff wants to stop in to see the Commissioners regarding the running of AT&T and Spectrum wiring at the new Dog Warden Facility.

In reviewing the minutes of the February 01, 2021 session, Commissioner Crooks recommended not using the term "COVID Money" anymore, because it has been transferred to the General Fund and General Fund guidelines are to be used when spending the money.

- Commissioner Cameron says it should be noted that we took COVID money that was left and put it in the General Fund
 - Which was allowable
 - It's not now identified as COVID/CARES money, but that is why there is extra money there to be used for safety/Sheriff's salaries
 - If we designated that to help pay his (Sheriff) salary, should he have extra in his account
 - We didn't transfer the money
 - Commissioner Crooks' concern is that the general public will think that we still have CARES Act money
 - Commissioner Cameron reminded that we did tell other departments that have not upgraded to touchless bathrooms, etc., that we would still pay out of CARES General Fund money
- Commissioner Porter is concerned that Perry Township will read the minutes and say, you said you couldn't give us money and the purpose for what we are requesting is safety
 - Commissioner Crooks said it's already been used for safety

Commissioner Porter moved to approve the minutes of the February 01, 2021 session, with changes. Commissioner Cameron seconded.

Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

The following legislation was now considered:

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RESOLUTION 21-0127 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2020 with 2021 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Sheriff Matthew Lutz.

| <u>Name of Vendor</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Clever Towing and Recovery | Oct 18 Tow | \$125.00 |
| Clever Towing and Recovery | May 23 Tow | \$143.00 |
| Modern Office Methods | Inv 32131106 Contract 10012512-01 | \$671.95 |
| Verizon | Inv 9871962837 Cameras | \$ 14.08 |
| NGO Propane | Cruiser Fuel | \$2,278.30 |
| Magloclen | Membership User Fees | \$ 400.00 |

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.
 Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0128 approve the creation of a new Expenditure line item within Fund 055 for the Muskingum County Sewer Department as requested by Peggy Taylor, Office Manager, as follows:

CREATE NEW EXPENDITURE LINE ITEM

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Line Item Number</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Engineering | 055-373-504013 |
| Contingency | 055-373-504999 |

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.
 Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0129 authorize that Chantell Hall, Muskingum County Maintenance/Housekeeping Department, be granted prior service credit 2.497 years to reflect her prior service to:

Muskingum County Juvenile Detention
 11.21.2015 – 5.20.2018 = 2.497 years
 In addition, she is eligible to have her Accrued Sick Leave balance of 170.46 hours transferred.
 Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.
 Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0130 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2020 with 2021 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Beth Iden, Deputy Clerk, Muskingum County Commissioners.

| <u>Name of Vendor</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Modern Glass | Broken IG Unit | \$959.00 |

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.
 Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0131 authorize Mollie S. Crooks to sign Pay Application Number 2 for the EastPointe Waterline Project to serve AMG. Pay Application Number 2 is for the sum of \$108,237.99.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.
 Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

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RESOLUTION 21-0132 authorize Mollie S. Crooks to sign Pay Application Number 3 for the EastPointe Waterline Project to serve AMG. Pay Application Number 3 is for the sum of \$16,152.22, this is the final pay application for the project.
Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0133 authorize Mollie S. Crooks to sign the Substantial Completion document for the EastPointe Waterline to serve AMG.
Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0134 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2020 with 2021 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Peggy Taylor, Office Manager, Muskingum County Water Department.

| <u>Name of Vendor</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Sprint | Dec/Jan Charges | \$ 77.22 |
| Cardmember Services | Stamps | \$200.00 |
| Badger Meter | Customer Data | \$4,080.00 |

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0135 approve and authorize the ADVANCE of Funds from County General Fund 001 to Fund 155 for the Muskingum County Community Development as requested by Sheila Samson, Director, as follows:

ADVANCE OF MONIES

| <u>From Fund</u> | <u>To Fund</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 001-000-101000 | 155-000-414001 | \$50,000 |

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0136 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 155, for the Muskingum County Community Development, as requested by Sheila Samson, Director.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Account Code</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Contract Services | 155-375-50112 | \$150,000.00 |

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0137 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2020 with 2021 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Tiffany Beardsley, Administrative Assistant, Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

| <u>Name of Vendor</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Lowes | 2019 Grant USAR Supplies (Partial) | \$32.27 |

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

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RESOLUTION 21-0138

WHEREAS, Section 305.14(A) of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio permits the Court of Common Pleas, upon the application of the Prosecuting Attorney and the Board of County Commissioners, to authorize the employment of outside legal counsel to assist the Prosecuting Attorney, the Board of Commissioners, or any other County Officer in any matter of public business coming before such board of officer, and in the prosecution or defense of any action or proceeding in which such board or officer is a party or has an interest, in its official capacity; and

WHEREAS, the County Auditor has indicated to the County Prosecutor that it is necessary to employ the services of outside legal counsel to assist the Auditor with appeals from the County Board of Revision to the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals; and

WHEREAS, the County Prosecutor is in agreement with the County Auditor that it is necessary to employ the services of outside legal counsel specializing in the area of tax appeals from a County Board of Revision to the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by this Board of Commissioners, Muskingum County, Ohio to make application to the Muskingum County Court of Common Pleas for permission to employ the services of Kelley A. Gory, Esq. Rich and Gillis Law Group, LLC, 6400 Riverside Drive, Suite D., Dublin, Ohio 43017, at the rate of \$165.00 per hour, for the purpose of representing the County Auditor and the County Board of Revision before the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0139

approve the decreases and increases in Appropriations within Fund Number 064 for Muskingum County Juvenile Court, as requested by Vicki Vallee, Financial Supervisor, as follows :

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Account Code</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Equipment | 064-444-503032 | \$1,681.56 |
| Diversion Equipment | 064-444-503032DVRSN | \$ 41.61 |

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Account Code</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Restitution – Youth Wages | 064-444-504178 | \$27,684.78 |

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

Robert Moore, IT Director, came to talk with the Commissioners about wiring at the new Dog Warden facility.

- Robert will contact AT&T, Spectrum and Kim Hambel at the Sheriff's office to coordinate
- It's Robert's understanding that Image will be running the computer cable inside the building

Commissioner Cameron reported that Thasia from Families and Children First will be leaving to take a position at Mid-East.

- They are currently looking for a replacement for this position
- Currently MCJFS and the Health Department are sharing the cost
 - Commissioners are currently not providing funding

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Commissioner Cameron reported that Alma Tennent, County Court Clerk, asked if the current signage could be moved to the new entrance.

- Scott said that moving the signage would create large holes where the sign used to be
 - He is going to work with Alma on correct signage

There was discussion regarding the meeting with the Health Department today at 1:30p.m.

- Are we to continue to pay expenses that are COVID related

Commissioner Crooks reported that she called Jamie McConnell, Extension Educator, about the video she requested for 4-H Week.

- Commissioner Crooks had concerns about doing the video all together and not wearing masks
 - Jamie said the Commissioners could do them individually then she would put them together
 - thank the volunteers
 - congratulate the award winners
 - send best wishes to the 4-H participants for a successful year
 - Commissioner Cameron thought they had agreed to all three do the video together
 - Commissioner Crooks has concerns with standing together with no masks
 - Commissioner Porter said Jamie's request was pretty simple. If you (Commissioner Crooks) want to do it, you can do it

Commissioner Porter informed the Board that the new Dyengy letter is out with the new rate.

- Commissioner Porter said the Perry Township Trustees were disappointed that Bob Snavelly didn't call them to inform them of the first letter that had a mistake in the price. He's always communicated well in the past.

There was discussion regarding an email with Mark Zanghi about Township Funding.

- Commissioner Porter asked why we hadn't been cited in an audit.

Commissioner Porter reported that he attended the Perry Township Trustee meeting Tuesday night.

- He did mention to them that they did have the opportunity themselves to take advantage of the township COVID funding and did not
- There was discussion at the meeting about fire districts and all three Trustees are in favor
 - Their Fire Department is not as enthusiastic
 - It will require a tax levy
 - Will do away with individual township levies

Erik Zamias and Scott Armstrong from Sheetz join the Commissioners virtually and the following was considered:

RESOLUTION 21-0140 declare an Executive Session at 11:02 a.m. for the purpose of discussing Real Estate Matters of Muskingum County. This session ended about 11:17am

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

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Commissioner Porter talked with Jason Baughman regarding Mayor Mason's proposal for the Department. Discussion is needed with all parties.

Commissioner Porter said that Mr. Hill has been texting him about the residence at Zanesville Historical.

- At this time they are still there
- The Health Department referred to The Salvation Army

The Commissioners worked on the 2021 Budget.

Mike Babcock was asked for a report showing what each department had returned in 2020.

While discussing the excess that some departments included as wage increases for their 2021 budget, Commissioner Porter asked what is the percentage that we gave in here not too long ago, to a few.?

Commissioner Crooks said that is the importance of the departments communicating with us to say we're going to hire, we've got this change, we've got someone that's busted butt...

Commissioner Cameron said that's not what we normally do, that wasn't a raise, that was a pay adjustment for their job and position.

The Commissioners adjourned for lunch to resume session at 1:30 p.m.

The Commissioners met virtually with Corey Hamilton and Erin Wood of the Health Department. Commissioner Crooks was meeting with someone in the Lobby.

- How are the COVID bills being paid now
 - The Health Department is paying bills from their General Fund
 - There is no COVID fund pool now
- Commissioner Porter asked if they are anticipating more COVID funding in 2021
 - They haven't been told specifically
 - They were given permission to carry some funds forward from 2020
 - Some funding is directed
 - Just had a large surge in hotel rooms because of a large number of cases that didn't have safe housing to isolate and quarantine
- Is the Health Department expecting funding from the Commissioners at this time
 - Corey thinks they are in a good place at this time
 - Erin says her concern would be the grant for temporary workers
 - The cost for December and a little bit of January was \$99,000
 - Contact tracing, nurses administering vaccines, and some administrative staff added since COVID
 - Corey said if there is still CARES money available that could help with alternative housing, that would be a benefit to them
 - They are making adjustments in staff according to the funding they are receiving
 - Commissioner Crooks joined the meeting
 - Commissioner Porter asked if alternative housing works
 - ORC states Health Departments responsibility to provide alternative housing
 - However, not all counties interpret the ORC that way

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- Corey feels it their obligation to protect the public
- Commissioner Porter asked about transporting open vials of the vaccine
 - Manufacturer will only guarantee viability until opened
 - More than one vaccine per vial
- Is the Mall charging for the Elder-Beerman site?
 - Not sure

Corey thanked the Commissioners for their support during this pandemic.

- Commissioner Cameron thanked the Health Department and Genesis for doing a great job with the vaccines....not heard one complaint

WHIZ interviewed Commissioner Cameron regarding the Health Department discussion.

The Commissioners continued work on the 2021 Budget.

There was discussion regarding the budget for Disaster Services.

- Commissioner Porter asked if Mark Zanghi's ruling about Fire Departments applies to giving money to Fire Squad's through EMA
 - Like going through the back door
- It used to be used for fire school and now they keep some for their pocket
 - In the past, had to ask EMA for it, some got it and some didn't
 - Commissioner Porter struggling with that; Mark Zanghi will have to clarify.
 - At the point of doing it and asking for forgiveness
 - Would like to wait for legal opinion

Commissioner Cameron asked Commissioner Crooks about the person she was meeting with in the Lobby during the first part of the Health Department meeting.

- Commissioner Crooks said it was Jim Jordon a resident of Shinnick Street
 - He was asking about the Commissioners meeting with Sheetz today
 - Commissioner Porter asked why we couldn't have all heard the conversation
 - Commissioner Crooks said Mr. Jordon came in and she was the only one here at the time
 - He was told by the real estate person at Sheetz, that the Commissioners are on board
 - Commissioner Porter's point....we are being used as a pawn
 - Commissioner Cameron pointed out that Sheetz has told us that the people involved have already agreed to sell
 - He is not willing to sell

A call was placed to Mark Zanghi, Assistant Prosecutor to ask budget questions.

- General fund money given to EMA and then given to Fire Departments
 - Mark would have to look at EMA statutes to see if permissible
 - You can give money to EMA, but who can they give to
 - Can give money to EMA for the time being, but hold off on distribution
 - Commissioner Crooks will contact Jeff to contact Mark
- Mark will research and talk with Jeff Jadwin for explanation of matching funds
- Commissioner Cameron asked Mark about funding Engineer and Townships

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- Township roads are part of the County highway system and the Engineer is in charge of County highway system per ORC
- Commissioner Porter noted that the majority of Fire Departments are governed by their Township Trustees
- Mark said there is nothing in ORC saying County is to have Fire Departments
- It was confirmed that Mark said you can leave the money in the EMA budget for the time being, but to hold off on distribution, until he does further research
 - Commissioner Porter suggested putting \$280,000 in that line item for the townships, just in case
 - Commissioner Crooks said she is not comfortable with that, we already got the opinion
 - Commissioner Cameron said she didn't see how the Budget would get approved today, anyway, and if he's (Zanghi) going to call us back us if it can go in there. At the very least, I think we should at least leave that in there as it is now. It's not like we don't have the money somewhere else, if he comes with a reason we can put it in there for fire departments.

A call was placed to Matt Abbott, Port Authority, asking about the cost for the annual audit.

- He is still working with the State Auditor on that
- Depends on what County Auditor charges
- Matt Abbott texted Commissioner Porter after the conversation and said \$6,000 would cover it
 - Commissioner Crooks thought the County was only responsible for half of the charge

Commissioner Porter said he would not be voting on budget until they have an opinion on the townships.

Commissioner Porter reported that the Perry Township Trustees asked about sewer service to East Lawn Circle and Boggs Road.

- Commissioner Porter told them he would ask the Board
- Commissioner Porter will call Stanley to see if Sewer Department wants to pursue

A call was placed to Don Madden regarding his email about Imlay-Wilsonwood project. The following was then considered:

RESOLUTION 21-0141 declare an Executive Session at 4:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Pending Litigation of the Muskingum County Water department. This session ended about 4:18 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

Robert Moore, IT Director, came in to determine the exact location for AT&T and Spectrum for the new Dog Warden facility.

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Commissioner Crooks said that the Mayor mentioned working together on the Policy Committee appointments for Solid Waste Board. Also, about the Building Department agreement. The Mayor will be asked to call or come in.

RDT will be coming in Monday to discuss the discrepancy in pricing.

- Why no discount
- Why no contract

There was discussion regarding the Sheriff cruisers and why lease versus purchase.

- What is the reason
- Is it time to revisit

There was further discussion regarding the making of the 4-H video.

- Commissioner Cameron suggested that the Commissioners just sit at their desks and make the video together
- Jamie will be in next Thursday, February 11 and can help with the taping then
- Wear green that day

Commissioner Porter brought to the Board's attention the recent jail citation.

Sheriff Lutz announced at the Republican Club meeting last night, that he has two Kennel Master candidates to hire.

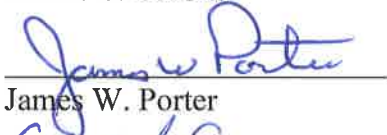
Current Deputy Dog Wardens are still working on alternating schedule.

When will the new Kennel Masters be starting?

With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:50 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Crooks.



Mollie S. Crooks



James W. Porter



Cindy S. Cameron

This is a condensed version of today's session. For a more detailed account, feel free to request a DVD recording.

