



Office of
Mary Jo Spino
Clerk of the County Legislature

Jackson County Missouri

JOURNAL

County Legislature

*Theresa Galvin (6th) Chair, Dan Tarwater III (4th) Vice Chair,
Jalen Anderson (1st AL), Crystal Williams (2nd AL), Tony Miller (3rd AL),
Scott Burnett (1st), Ronald E. Finley (2nd), Charlie Franklin (3rd),
Jeanie Lauer (5th)*

Jackson County Courthouse
415 E.12th Street, 2nd floor
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
(816)881-3242

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

1:00 PM

Forty-fourth Regular Meeting

Eastern Jackson County Courthouse 308 W. Kansas, Independence Missouri, Ground Floor, Legislative Chambers

Theresa Galvin, Chair, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

1 ROLL CALL

Present 9 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Galvin

2 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited.

3 APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Crystal Williams to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on November 04, 2019. The motion passed by a voice vote.

4 HEARINGS

Theresa Galvin, Chair, introduced Whitney Miller, Director of Collections, to present information regarding the 2019 billing season.

Ms. Miller said that a list of frequently asked questions is posted on the Jackson County website. She said that the process to generate tax bills for mailing is completed. It takes approximately a month to prepare tax bills for mailing. The first mail drop will be sent on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 and will continue through Thanksgiving. About 60,000 bills will be mailed each day. All bills should be received by taxpayers by December 1, 2019. If a taxpayer does not receive a bill, by state law, that does not change their obligation to pay. Taxpayers may check the amount of their tax bill online and taxpayers are encouraged to pay online to avoid long waits. Ms. Miller said that as it gets closer to the end of the year the wait time will increase. The Collection Department has added Saturday hours from 8 a.m. until noon during December at its Independence location.

Ms. Miller said that if a taxpayer has a pending Board of Equalization (BOE), State Tax Commission (STC) appeal or an informal review of their taxes, the Collection Department will adjust bills as quickly as possible and issue a new bill to taxpayers. Ms. Miller said that in accordance with state law, tax bills are due by December 31. If there is a BOE or STC adjustment after a taxpayer has paid their bill, the Collection Department will automatically issue a refund of the overpayment. There is no requirement that a taxpayer pay under protest to receive a refund or to preserve their right to appeal. She said that the second adjusted bill will be stamped in red ink that says, "ADJUSTED BILL" and will arrive with a cover letter from the Collection Department. Ms. Miller said that the billing timetable has been on the exact same schedule as in previous years. Their goal is to have tax bills delivered by December 1 to give taxpayers thirty days before the bills are due. Ms. Miller emphasized that if a taxpayer does choose to pay under protest, the timeline for issuing a refund may be delayed.

Scott Burnett, County Legislator, asked about options for taxpayers who cannot pay their bill in full. Ms. Miller said that the Collection Department will receive partial payment of real property taxes in person or by mail. She said that penalties and interest will accrue on the unpaid balance beginning January 1, 2020.

Crystal Williams, County Legislator, asked Ms. Miller if the Legislators have any recourse to assist their constituents with these hefty bills. Ms. Miller said that she appreciates the gravity of the situation for some taxpayers, but her office has little leeway on the issue of values or the amount of the tax bill. She said that is an issue between the taxpayer and BOE. Any taxpayer caught off guard by the amount of their tax bill may write a letter to the BOE to request a late appeal. The BOE website has a list of frequently asked questions about the appeal process.

Mr. Burnett asked how long it will take for a taxpayer to receive their refund after an adjustment. Ms. Miller said that there are many factors that will determine how long it will take to receive refunds, depending on the BOE hearing schedule and the number of refunds issued. She will keep the legislature updated as information changes.

Ms. Miller said that she wants to stress that the Collection Department processes 520,000 billing accounts and less than 5 percent of those accounts are in the appeal process. It is the Department's goal to provide all taxpayers the same customer service regardless of the taxpayer's account status. She asks for everyone's patience with the process.

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

None.

6 PERFECTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

None.

7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

[5279](#) Consent Agenda.

8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE

[20293](#) Finance and Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Tony Miller, seconded by Dan Tarwater III, to waive the reading of Resolution #20294. The motion passed by a voice vote.

[20294](#) Finance and Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Scott Burnett, to waive the reading of Resolution #20295. The motion passed by a voice vote.

[20295](#) Anti-Crime Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[20297](#) Finance and Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[20298](#) A RESOLUTION establishing as a goal for the 2020 Jackson County budget that all County associates be paid a minimum wage of at least \$15.00 per hour.

(Budget Committee - 1st. Meeting)

9 CONSENT AGENDA

[5279](#) AN ORDINANCE transferring \$259,206.00 within the 2019 General Fund and appropriating \$564,412.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 Grant Fund, in acceptance of the Jackson County Sheriff's Office's DWI/Traffic Safety Unit Salary Grant awarded by the Missouri Department of Transportation, Traffic and Highway Safety Division, and authorizing the County Executive to execute a contract with the Missouri Highway Safety Division for the expenditure of grant funds.

(ADOPTED)

[20293](#) A RESOLUTION transferring \$35,900.00 within the 2019 General Fund and authorizing the purchase of two fleet vehicles from the Missouri State Highway Patrol for use by the Sheriff's Office, at an actual cost to the County of \$35,900.00, as an acquisition from another government.

(ADOPTED)

[20294](#) A RESOLUTION transferring \$15,507.00 within the 2019 General Fund and authorizing the Director of Finance and Purchasing to make a payment to Painters District Council No. 3 in the amount of \$15,507.00, to cover the cost of fringe benefits for seasonal employees in the Corrections Department, necessitated by an audit conducted by the district council.

(ADOPTED)

[20295](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a six-month extension to the term and supply contract for the furnishing of outpatient substance abuse treatment for use by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office's Drug Court Program with Heartland Center for Behavioral Change of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of Request for Proposals No. 7-15.

(ADOPTED)

[20297](#) A RESOLUTION declaring certain property within the Sheriff's Office and the Collections Department as surplus and unusable personal property and authorizing its disposal.

(ADOPTED)

Ordinance #5279 and Resolutions #20293, #20294, #20295 and #20297 were moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Scott Burnett, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 9 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Galvin

10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[5284](#) Appropriating \$179,480.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 Park Fund in acceptance of surplus proceeds from the recent real property auction.

(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)

- [5285](#) Transferring \$57,260.00 within the 2019 General Fund and appropriating \$666,689.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 Grant Fund in acceptance of the 2019 JAG Grant awarded to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.
(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)
- [5286](#) A motion was made by Crystal Williams, seconded by Dan Tarwater III to perfect Ordinance #5286. The motion passed by a voice vote.
(PERFECTED)
- [5286](#) A motion was made by Crystal Williams, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Ordinance #5286, appropriating \$16,231.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 Grant Fund in acceptance of the OSCA Juvenile Justice Program Assistance grant received from the Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator. The motion passed by a roll call vote:
Yes: 9 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Galvin
(ADOPTED)
- [5287](#) Repealing Schedule I, Chapter 50, Jackson County Code, 1984, relating to park fees and charges and enacting, in lieu thereof, one new schedule relating to the same subject.
(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)
- [5288](#) Repealing sections 710. and 720., Jackson County Code, 1984, relating to County personnel practices, and enacting, in lieu thereof, two new sections relating to the same subject.
(Assigned to the Rules Committee.)
- [5289](#) Transferring \$125,000.00 within the 2019 General Fund and appropriating \$53,600.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 Anti-Crime Sales Tax Fund and \$22,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 Park Enterprise Fund to cover the costs of health savings account contributions and insurance administrative fees.
(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)
- [5290](#) Appropriating \$330,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 General Fund, \$6,750.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 Health Fund, and \$52,056.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2019 Anti-Crime Sales Tax Fund to cover the costs of vacation and sick leave payouts through the end of 2019.
(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)

11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[20299](#) Authorizing the purchase of a bucket truck for use by the Parks + Rec Department from Time Manufacturing Company of Waco, TX, under the terms and conditions of Sourcewell Contract No. 012418-TIM, an existing competitively bid contract, at an actual cost to the County of \$106,039.00.
(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)

[20300](#) Transferring \$34,274.00 within the 2019 Grant Fund to cover the cost of a previously approved contract amendment with Burns & McDonnell and a legal services agreement with Nossaman LLP.
(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)

[20301](#) A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #20301, authorizing the Jackson County Legislature to hold a closed meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, for the purpose of conducting privileged and confidential communications between itself and the Jackson County Counselor under section 610.021(1) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, and closing all records prepared for discussion at said meeting. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 9 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Galvin

(ADOPTED)

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

[19-28](#) I hereby appoint Kenneth E. Romine, as Director of Human Resources, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Dennis Dumovich, effective December 9, 2019. A copy of Mr. Romine's resume is attached.

Mr. Romine was present and answered questions from the County Legislators.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Scott Burnett, County Legislator, asked about accessing your tax bill online.

Whitney Miller said everyone can access their tax bill online now.

14 NEW BUSINESS

Closed meeting per Resolution #20301. The closed meeting may be followed by the introduction and adoption of a Resolution in open session to authorize the settlement of a legal action, cause of action, or litigation matter.

The County Legislature went into closed session.

The County Legislature reconvened.

15 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Crystal Williams, seconded by Dan Tarwater III, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned until Monday, November 18, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.