RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Budget Meeting – June 15, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Norm Hansen at 1:00 p.m. Members present: Gilbert, Olerud, Mathern, Schwab, and Hansen.

The budget was passed out by Gentzkow, along with a treasurer’s cash trial balance, a revenue expenditure guideline, and the previous years mill worksheet from budget.

Joe Mathern brought up the VSO position and how Reinke would like to become a forty hour a week employee due to the workload he has in Ransom and Sargent.

Hansen said in the past wages have been dealt with towards the end of the budget process, this year he would like to make that one of the first budgeted discussions. Olerud would like to see the base for raises start at $2.00 per hour. Then department heads can evaluate the employees and the raise can go up or down from the base of $2.00 on the evaluation. Olerud feels the county is going to be extremely shocked by the salary survey of how behind the Ransom Counties wages are after doing research on the NDACO website. He would like the county to give higher raises this year to try to start working towards getting closer to where the wages need to be. The board discussed doing evaluations on employees. Department heads can do an evaluation on the deputies that work under them in their respectful offices, and then the portfolio holder will do the evaluation on the department head. Gentzkow will ask Tanya Weiler for a standard evaluation form for deputies and department heads.

The Enderlin Police Contract was discussed. The contract seems to be working well with Enderlin paying thirty one percent of the sheriff’s budget. The board will leave it is and Gentzkow will prepare the numbers based off the 2021 budget for the 2022 budget year so it can be presented to Enderlin.

Various line items in the highway department were discussed. The board talked about increasing the gravel line item this year to allow Hopkins to purchase some class thirteen gravel to use throughout the county where needed. The gravel line item was increased to $600,000. The new equipment line item was also discussed. The board lowed it from $150,000 to $125,000 for new equipment. The lease payment line item was reviewed. The lease prices continue to increase yearly, no changes were made to that line item at the time.

The next budget meeting was scheduled for July 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Hansen adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission