

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING: JULY 27, 2021**

The Howard County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday June 27, 2021, at 4:00 PM in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included Council President Jamie L. Bolser, Vice-President James T. Papacek, and Members Bryan Alexander, Leslie G. Fatum, John J. Roberts, Martha J. Lake, and Daryl Maple. Also, in attendance was County Attorney Alan Wilson and County Auditor Jessica Secrease. The meeting was called to order by Council President Jamie L. Bolser and conducted by Council President Jamie L. Bolser.

President Bolser led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Alexander gave a word of prayer.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes from the regular meeting held on June 22, 2021, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Councilwoman Lake. Councilwoman Fatum seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE. NO. 2021 HCCO-25 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:**

Auditor Jessica Secrease read Ordinance No. 2021-HCCO-25 – Additional Appropriations one time, and the ordinance was acted upon as follows:

	<b>Additional Appropriations and Reductions</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b><u>1000</u></b>	<b><u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND:</u></b>		
<b><u>0005</u></b>	<b><u>Sheriff:</u></b>		
11100	Elected Official	31,171.58	31,171.58
11100	Elected Official	7,050.00	7,050.00
	<b><u>Total County General Fund:</u></b>	<b>38,221.58</b>	<b>38,221.58</b>
<b><u>1114</u></b>	<b><u>LIT SPECIAL PURPOSE FUND:</u></b>		
<b><u>0380</u></b>	<b><u>Jail:</u></b>		
11116	Sheriff 50% (Salary)	(31,171.58)	(31,171.58)
11906	Correction Officer	(95,000.00)	(95,000.00)
12108	Longevity	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)
	<b><u>Total LIT – Special Purpose Fund:</u></b>	<b>(127,171.58)</b>	<b>(121,171.58)</b>
<b><u>1212</u></b>	<b><u>CASA FUND:</u></b>		
32130	Travel & Training	3,000.00	3,000.00
	<b><u>Total CASA FUND:</u></b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>
<b><u>9525</u></b>	<b><u>VETERANS PROBLEM SOLVING COURT FUND:</u></b>		
11700	Part-Time	12,875.00	12,875.00
12012	Coordinator	24,565.50	24,565.50
15210	FICA	1,879.50	1,879.50
15220	PERF	3,488.50	3,488.50
23710	Other Supplies	15,000.00	15,000.00
23745	Incentives	2,500.00	2,500.00
32130	Travel & Training	3,000.00	3,000.00
32640	Drug Screens	7,974.00	7,974.00
	<b><u>Total Veterans Problem Solving Court Fund:</u></b>	<b>71,282.50</b>	<b>71,282.50</b>
	<b><u>TOTAL NET APPROPRIATIONS ALL FUNDS:</u></b>	<b>(14,667.50)</b>	<b>(14,667.50)</b>

**County General Fund 1000, Sheriff Location 0005 – Sheriff Jerry Asher:**

Sheriff Jerry Asher requested two separate additional appropriations for fund 1000. The first request was to appropriate the remaining Elected Official salary for 2021 out of fund 1000 rather than fund 1114, resulting in an additional \$31,171.58

being requested for account fund 1000, account 11100. The second appropriation was to the increase of the Sheriff's salary in the amount \$7,050.00 also for fund 1000, account 11100.

**LIT – Special Purpose Fund 1114, Jail Location 0380 – Sheriff Jerry Asher:**

Sheriff Jerry Asher requested an appropriation reduction for fund 1114, account 11116 in the amount of (\$31,171.58) in order re-appropriate the Elected Official salary for the remainder of 2021.

Sheriff Asher also requested an appropriation reduction for account fund 1114, account 11906 in the amount of (\$95,000.00). This funding was not needed due to not having a full staff at the time. For this same reason, Sheriff Asher also requested an appropriation reduction for fund 1114, account 12108 in the amount of (\$1,000.00).

**CASA Fund 1212 – CASA Director Holly Becker:**

CASA Director Holly Becker requested an original appropriation for fund 1212, account 32130 in the amount of \$3,000.00. This is to cover the staff's mileage costs accumulated when travelling for home visits.

Councilman Roberts asked Mrs. Becker how things are going at CASA. Mrs. Becker stated that things were going very well, and that they have been able to recruit several new volunteers. CASA has two new volunteers in training and have completed two interviews for more volunteers. CASA is also looking into expanding the number of contracted employees due to the wait list that has accumulated during the pandemic.

**Veterans Problem Solving Court Fund 9525 – Court Coordinator Richard Cotterell:**

Veterans & Mental Health Problem Solving Court Coordinator Richard Cotterell requested to appropriate the grant funding that was recently received for fund 9525. The appropriation requests included \$12,875.00 for account 11700, \$24,565.50 for account 12012, \$1,879.50 for account 15210, \$3,488.50 for account 15220, \$15,000.00 for account 23710, \$2,500.00 for account 23745, \$3,000.00 for account 32130, and \$7,974.00 for account 32640. Mr. Cotterell stated that the State is going to begin a new grant cycle in January of 2022. He stated that the grant cycle used to be fiscal, running from July 1st through June 30th. As of January of 2022, the grant cycle will change from being a fiscal to calendar.

Mr. Cotterell gave an update on how well the Veterans Court system worked in Howard County. In 2020, there were seven new participants in the program, nine participants graduated, and only two participants were terminated. Mr. Cotterell went on to say that the graduation rate was 81%, and the overall retention rate was 85%. For 2021 so far, there are 20 active veterans in the program. Mr. Cotterell gave updated statistics from the National Association of the Drug Court Professionals. Approximately 20.2 million American adults (about 1 in 10) have a substance use disorder. Approximately 43.6 million (about 1 in 5) have a mental health problem, and nearly 8 million of these individuals suffer from co-occurring use and mental health disorders. Tragically, people with these disorders are more likely to be incarcerated than treated. It is estimated that 72,000 Americans died of a drug overdose in 2016. In the United States, two thirds of all fatal drug overdoses are due to opioids, 65% of all inmates in the United States have a substance use disorder, and \$80 billion dollars is the amount spent annually on incarceration. Mr. Cotterell stated that the Veterans Court is a district court, so there are multiple counties in the program: Cass, Howard, Miami, and Fulton.

**Commissary Fund – Sheriff Jerry Asher:**

Sheriff Jerry Asher submitted the Commissary Fund report for June 2021.

All additional appropriations and reductions having been presented, a motion was made by Councilman Alexander to approve Ordinance No. 2021-HCCO-25 for additional appropriations and reductions. Councilman Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER RESOLUTION NO. 2021-HCCR-8 – TRANSFERS:**

Auditor Jessica Secrease read Resolution No. 2021-HCCR-8 – Transfers one time, and the ordinance was acted upon as follows:

<b>Transfer From:</b>	<b>Transfer To:</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b><u>1000</u></b>	<b><u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND:</u></b>		
<b><u>0007</u></b>	<b><u>Coroner:</u></b>		
23210	Gas, Oil, & Lubricants	11700 Part-Time	1,000.00
23710	Other Supplies	11700 Part-Time	2,600.00

<b><u>0013</u></b>	<b><u>Center Township Assessor:</u></b>				
11200	Chief Deputy	11700	Part-Time	7,000.00	7,000.00
<b><u>9601</u></b>	<b><u>Information Systems:</u></b>				
11800	Overtime	32130	Travel & Training	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b><u>4903</u></b>	<b><u>HOWARD COUNTY SHERIFF WORK PROGRAM FUND:</u></b>				
47210	Equipment	22530	Equipment Repair Supplies	500.00	500.00
47210	Equipment	32530	Equipment Repair	1,500.00	1,500.00

**County General Fund 1000, Coroner Location 0007 – Coroner Dr. Steve Seele:**  
 Coroner Dr. Steve Seele requested a transfer of funds for fund 1000, account 11700. He requested for \$1,000.00 to be transferred from account 23210 and for \$2,600.00 to be transferred from account 23710. These transfers will cover the cost of training of the new deputies as well as the cost of overtime as a result of receiving multiple calls a day.

**County General Fund 1000, Center Township Assessor Location 0013 – Center Township Assessor Shelia Pullen:**  
 Center Township Assessor Shelia Pullen requested a transfer of funds for fund 1000, account 11700 in the amount of \$7,000.00 from account 11200. This will cover an increase in part-time costs while the Chief Deputy was on leave.

**County General Fund 1000, Information Systems Location 9601 – Director Jeremy Stevens:**  
 Information System Director Jeremy Stevens requested a transfer of funds for fund 1000, account 11800 in the amount of \$1,000.00 from account 32130. This transfer will cover the costs of travelling to a conference.

**Howard County Sheriff Work Program Fund 4903 – Sheriff Jerry Asher:**  
 Sheriff Jerry Asher requested a transfer of funds for fund 4903, account 47210. He requested for \$500.00 to be transferred from account 22530 and for \$1,500.00 to be transferred from account 32530. This transfer will cover the cost of several expensive repairs for older mowers.

Councilwoman Fatum made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-HCCR-8 – Transfers, as read. Councilwoman Lake Seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE. NO. 2021-HCCO-26 – AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE:**

Auditor Jessica Secrease read Ordinance No. 2021-HCCO-26 – Amending Salary Ordinance one time, and the ordinance was acted upon as follows:

	<b>Salary Amendments</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b><u>1000</u></b>	<b><u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND:</u></b>		
<b><u>0005</u></b>	<b><u>Sheriff:</u></b>		
11100	Elected Official	31,171.58	31,171.58
11100	Elected Official	7,050.00	7,050.00
<b><u>0013</u></b>	<b><u>Center Township Assessor:</u></b>		
11200	Chief Deputy	(7,000.00)	(7,000.00)
11700	Part-Time	7,000.00	7,000.00
<b><u>9601</u></b>	<b><u>Information Systems:</u></b>		
11800	Overtime	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)
32130	Travel & Training	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b><u>1114</u></b>	<b><u>LIT- SPECIAL PURPOSE:</u></b>		
<b><u>0380</u></b>	<b><u>Jail:</u></b>		
11116	Sheriff 50%	(31,171.58)	(31,171.58)
11906	Correction Officer	(95,000.00)	(95,000.00)
12108	Longevity	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)
<b><u>9525</u></b>	<b><u>VETERANS PROBLEM SOLVING COURT:</u></b>		
11700	Part-Time	12,875.00	12,875.00
12012	Coordinator	24,565.50	24,565.50
15210	FICA	1,879.50	1,879.50

Auditor Secrease explained that the salary amendment items as amended were previously covered under the additional appropriations which the council had previously approved. Councilman Fatum made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2021-HCCO-26 Amending Salary Ordinance as read; Councilwoman Lake seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

Councilwoman Lake stated that she and Councilman Maple attended the Indiana State County Council Association Meeting. This was a good meeting with a lot of updated information, which was brought back to the Howard County Council.

Council President Bolser thanked the County staff and stated that she appreciates everyone’s hard work. Mrs. Bolser gave a special thank you to the Auditor’s Office for putting in all their hard work for the 2021 budgets, including the work that went into the one-time stipend that was approved during last year’s budget hearings.

**IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:**

Attorney Alan Wilson submitted an ordinance for consideration, which was an ordinance of the Howard County Council Establishing Certain Copy/Duplication Fees to Be Imposed by the County Coroner. This ordinance will cover the fees for the Coroner’s Office to charge for making copies of documents to give to families or other entities. These fees are as follows: \$0.10 per page for a copy, \$0.25 for color copies, and \$3.00 for copies of photos. Councilman Roberts made a motion to approve Ordinance No-2021-HCCO-31 as presented. Councilman Alexander seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

*There being no further business to come before the Council at this time,  
the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m., on a motion made by Councilwoman Lake.  
Councilwoman Fatum seconded the motion and the motion carried.*

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:**

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JAMIE BOLSER, PRESIDENT

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JAMES T. PAPACEK, VICE - PRESIDENT

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BRYAN ALEXANDER, COUNCILMAN

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LESLIE G. FATUM, COUNCILWOMAN

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JOHN J. ROBERTS, COUNCILMAN

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MARTHA J. LAKE, COUNCILWOMAN

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DARYL MAPLE, COUNCILMAN

ATTEST:

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JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

Howard County Council Meeting: July 27, 2021