

Floyd County in good shape financially

Written by George Browning
Wednesday, 19 April 2017 07:21 -

By Josh Suiter
Special Correspondent

Floyd County Auditor Scott Clark shed some good news about the county's financial situation during the Floyd County Council meeting on April 11.

Clark requested a few minutes on the agenda to share with the council where the county stands regarding their finances.

Clark said based upon his review of all accounts, revenues, current appropriations, unappropriated funds and other expenditures and if they hold true, he believes the county would have about \$800,000 in surplus at the end of the year. This amount is in addition to the \$1.7 million in unappropriated hospital funds.

Clark praised the council for their work and said "this is my fourth council and this one is as strong as we have had."

Also during the meeting, Council President Brad Striegel delivered additional good news.

He announced that earlier that day the State Senate approved a maximum 5 percent spend rate of \$70 million that the county received and invested into the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana for the sale of the hospital. If Governor Eric Holcomb signs the bill, Floyd County will receive \$6.1 million for 10 years from the hospital sale. The money would then be put into a county foundation or spent, which will be determined by the council.

The council will meet at 5 p.m. May 9 prior to their regular meeting for a work session on the finances.

In addition to this, the council also took action on the following:

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The Council approved repairs to the Emergency Management Agency's vehicle for \$807.71 for tires and various repairs including an oil change and brakes for \$7730.82. It was approved 7-0.

County Coroner David Moore requested additional funds for this department for \$41,000 for training, autopsies and safety equipment and apparel. Moore said the county had to pay for some 2016 autopsies from his 2017 budget and the county has already performed 17 this year. The Council approved \$1000 for training, \$20,000 for autopsies and \$500 for apparel by a vote of 6-1. Councilwoman Leslie Knable, the former county coroner, opposed it.

The council also approved amending the salary ordinance for the health department. Charlotte Bass, the department's administrator, said the county recently hired a registered nurse for 14 hours a week at \$19 an hour and an LPN for three days a week for \$16.63 an hour. The position used to be full-time but was split into two part-time with no benefits. Bass said it was really hard to get full-time job seekers to take the position at its pay rate. It was approved 7-0.