

## County Council okays EMA/911 position

Written by

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? The Washington County Council met in regular session on Monday, February 2, with all members present; the minutes of previous meetings and all claims were approved unanimously.

As the first order of business after the conclusion of a joint meeting with the Board of Commissioners and the Park Board, the Council acted upon a recommendation from the Commissioners about combining the positions of Emergency Management Director and 911 Coordinator. With a unanimously vote, the Council approved a request to amend the salary ordinance to reflect a salary of \$35,000 for the new combined position and a \$1500/year stipend for an assistant to the new director.

In other business, the Council heard from Washington County Treasurer, Bob Woodward, about a budgetary problem recently discovered in his office. According to Woodward, the bill for preparation of the property tax statements is nearly \$6000 more than what was put into the 2009 budget for that expense. After a discussion on the possibility of doing the process in house, it was determined that an addition would have to be made to the Treasurer's Office's budget and that the appropriate legal notice for that addition would be advertised.

Manship asked if the county has a "layoff" policy. Manship emphasized that with current economic conditions, he would prefer to look at establishing such a policy now rather than at a time if layoffs became necessary. Apparently, no such policy exists and it was agreed that research needs to be done on the subject.

With no further business to conduct, the Council adjourned until its next regularly scheduled meeting on March 2.