

Garland County  
Public Health Welfare and Safety Committee  
February 8, 2021  
Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Raney, Vice-Chairman Young, Justices Dixon, Sorrells, McKee, Braziel, and Anderson  
Members Absent: None  
Also present: Citizens, Elected Officials, Staff, and Media

Chairman Raney called the meeting to order, and Justice Young offered the invocation.

Chairman Raney explained that there were some changes made to the Interlocal Governmental Cooperative Agreement with the City of Hot Springs. He asked Judge Mahoney to speak about these changes, and he indicated that City Manager Burroughs is available for questions.

Judge Mahoney went over the change in the calculation. He stated that the baseline included the past eight-year average of 3.6%. The City and County agreed to use the number of years the water policy had been in place. If the county only grows 3% from the past year, there is no split. If the county grows 5%, the county will split the 1.4% growth with the city per capita. This agreement will be effective April 1, 2021.

Justice Horner asked if there are any restrictions on how the funds would be used? Would it be used to extend or to maintain water? City Manager Burroughs said the city does not extend water; land developers do. We inspect it and accept it for long-term maintenance. This money is tax revenue and will go into the regular tax base that the city currently has. Mr. Burroughs said they look at this as an economic development tool for growth inside and outside the city. He spoke about the relationship he and Judge Mahoney have been striving to build. Chairman Raney and Justice Dixon both commended Mr. Burroughs and Judge Mahoney.

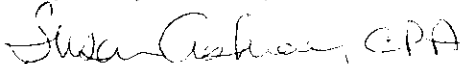
Justice Anderson asked if this agreement would give any discount on new connections. Mr. Burroughs said it would not affect or provide discounts for new customers or on connection fees.

Justice Braziel asked if adding city water and sewer will the city look at annexing in those areas? Mr. Burroughs said annexation is a difficult question. Those that want to annex into the city voluntarily are welcome. The county does lose revenue as well as the responsibility of roads and services. He said he thinks it's a good thing in our area, but he said that he did not see an appetite on the current board to force any annexations.

Chairman Raney asked for a motion to approve Ordinance **O-21-7**, an ordinance approving an interlocal governmental cooperative agreement between Garland County and the City of Hot Springs. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Dixon seconded by Justice Anderson. Chairman Raney asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Ashmore, CPA

Garland County Comptroller