

**Hancock County Budget, Efficiency & Revenue Committee
And Regular Council Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2023**

The County Council of Hancock County, Indiana met in the County Commissioner & Council Meeting Room in the Courthouse Annex located at 111 American Legion Place Greenfield, Indiana 46140 on the 4th day of January 2023 at the hour of 8:33 AM in accordance with the rules of the Council.

Councilmembers Jim Shelby, Kent Fisk, Jeannine Gray, Mary Noe, Robin Lowder, Keely Butrum, Scott Wooldridge, and County Attorney Scott Benkie were present.

Probation / Juvenile Housing

Judge Sirk and Josh Sipes informed councilmembers of an issue with the juvenile housing contract ending early. The contract amount was \$100 per day, and it will now be \$160 per day and no guarantee of beds or transportation. Councilmembers had discussion.

Budget Committee Issues

Councilmembers reviewed the cash balances. Councilmembers had discussion on the large number of additional appropriations for 2022. Opioid and ARPA funds were also discussed.

Vernon Township Fire Department

John Jokantas and Mark Elder requested funding for in station fire alerting with a cost of \$80,000 to \$90,000. Councilmembers recommended talking to Commissioners to request funding from RDC.

Surveyor

Chad Coughenour received a Multi Hazard Mitigation Grant in the amount of \$19,457. The county will pay Christopher Burke Engineering and then be reimbursed by the grant. This will need to be advertised first. Councilmembers agreed to advertise for next month.

Minutes

Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve the minutes for December 7, 2022. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.** Councilmember Wooldridge abstained.

Prosecutor

Brent Eaton discussed issues with not being competitive with other counties on salaries for Deputy Prosecutors. Councilmember had discussion. Councilmember Noe suggested a salary study committee. Councilmembers Gray and Butrum expressed interest in being on committee. Councilmember Noe made a motion to form a salary and staffing study committee. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Extension / Purdue

Councilmembers and the County Attorney discussed some issues at the Extension/Purdue offices. Councilmembers had discussion and agreed to investigate further. Councilmember Noe made a motion for Councilmembers Fisk and Lowder to investigate what's going on and report back in a

month. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

County Council Officer Elections

Councilmember Shelby nominated Kent Fisk for President. Councilmember Noe nominated Jeannine Gray for President. Councilmembers requested Auditor Debra Carnes do a roll call. Councilmember Shelby voted for Kent Fisk; Councilmember Fisk Kent Fisk; Councilmember Gray Jeannine Gray; Councilmember Noe voted for Jeannine Gray, Councilmember Lowder abstained; Councilmember Butrum voted for Jeannine Gray; Councilmember Wooldridge voted for Jeannine Gray. Councilmember Noe made a motion to accept votes and Jeannine Gray will be new President. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Shelby nominated Mary Noe for Vice President. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. Councilmember Fisk moved the nomination be closed. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

2023 Board Appointments

Councilmember Butrum made a motion to reappoint Bob Hiday to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission. Councilmember Lowder seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Keely nominated Scott Wooldridge to the Area Planning Commission. Councilmember Noe seconded. Councilmember Noe moved to close nominations. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to appoint Scott Wooldridge to the Area Planning Commission. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Noe made a motion for Jeannine Gray to remain on the Community Corrections Advisory Board. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Butrum made a motion to table the appointment to the Fortville Economic Development Board until next week. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Fisk nominated Jim Shelby to the County Economic Development Board. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. Councilmember Fisk moved to close nominations. Councilmember Noe made a motion to reappoint Jim Shelby to the Economic Development Board. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Butrum made a motion to reappoint Mary Noe to the Economic Development Commission. Councilmember Lowder seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Shelby nominated Keely Butrum to the Emergency Operations Center Management Board. Councilmember Noe seconded. Councilmember Fisk moved to close nominations. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to appoint Keely Butrum to the Emergency Operations Center Management Board. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Noe made a motion to reappoint Ken Rogers to the PTABOA Board. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Redevelopment Commission (RDC) has two positions. Councilmember Fisk expressed

interest in remaining on board. Councilmember Butrum also expressed interest in being on the board. Councilmember Shelby nominated Bill Bolander. Roll call vote was taken for open position. Councilmember Shelby voted for Bill Bolander. Councilmember Fisk voted for Bill Bolander; Councilmember Gray voted for Keely Butrum; Councilmember Noe voted for Keely Butrum; Councilmember Lowder voted for Keely Butrum; Councilmember Keely voted for Keely Butrum; Councilmember Wooldridge voted for Bill Bolander. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to appoint Keely Butrum to the RDC. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Noe nominated to reappoint Kent Fisk to the RDC. Councilmember Lowder seconded. Councilmember Wooldridge moved to close nominations. Councilmember Noe made a motion to reappoint Kent Fisk to the RDC. Councilmember Lowder seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Lowder expressed interest in being appointed to the Solid Waste Management Board. Councilmember Noe nominated Robin Lowder for the Solid Waste Management Board. Councilmember Shelby moved to close nominations. Councilmember Noe made a motion to appoint Robin Lowder to the Solid Waste Management Board. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Lowder expressed interest in staying on the Personnel Advisory Board. Councilmember Noe made a motion to nominate and reappoint Robin Lowder to the Personnel Advisory Board. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Tourism

Councilmember Noe stated she would like to have a discussion on Tourism at the budget meeting in February.

Adjourned 11:10 AM

Councilmember Fisk made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Approved this day:

Jeannine Gray, President

Robin Lowder

James Shelby

Keely Butrum

Kent Fisk

Scott Wooldridge

Mary Noe

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor