

Hancock County Council Minutes **May 10, 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 10th day of May 2023 at the hour of 8:30 AM in accordance with the rules of the Council.

Councilmembers James Shelby, Keely Butrum, Mary Noe, Jeannine Gray, Kent Fisk, Robin Lowder, Scott Wooldridge, Auditor Debra Carnes, Financial Administrator Mary Bowmer and County Attorney Scott Benkie were present.

President Gray opened the meeting with the “Pledge of Allegiance” followed by a moment of silence.

Prosecutor

Brent Eaton updated councilmembers on the status of his office. He is requesting three new positions and raises for the attorneys. Councilmembers had discussion and thanked Brent for the update.

Red Rock Loan Ordinance

Lisa Lee presented an amended Ordinance for the Red Rock Forgivable Loan. The dates were changed and the \$500,000 payment by the county for the reconstruction of Buck Creek Road was removed. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-5A. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 6-1.** Councilmember Wooldridge voted No.

Sheriff

Greg Goelzer with Goelzer Investment Management introduced himself, Elaine Beaty, and Janet Sweet. They are glad to be working with the Sheriff and have presented two trust agreements for signature. We should expect a 7.3% return on investment. County Attorney Scott Benkie will look over the Trust Agreement and the Supplementary Trust Agreement and have these added to the May 30th joint meeting agenda.

Sheriff Burkhardt discussed invoices he has received from Diversified for audio visual at the new Jail. The invoices appear to be combining two projects and he’s waiting on a response from them. He will return later to discuss these again.

Sheriff Burkhardt requested the addition of two expense items to the Commissary Agreement. He would like to add the purchase of bus tickets for the homeless and to pay employee dues for the Public Safety Survivor’s Fund. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to add the purchase of bus tickets to the Commissary Agreement. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** Councilmember Lowder made a motion to pay employee dues for the Public Safety Survivor’s Fund. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

CF-1 Approvals

Nicole Byerley presented CF-1’s for approval. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve MEA Properties. Councilmember Lowder seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve CTC02 LLC. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve Ambrose Mount

Comfort. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 6-1.** Councilmember Wooldridge voted No. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve Ambrose (Amazon). Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve GDI Companies. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** Councilmembers agreed to have 70 Connect II and 70 Connect III on the June budget meeting agenda.

Recorder

Marcia Moore presented the Recorder's Sworn Statement for the Perpetuation Fund for the 2024 calendar year. Councilmember Gray made a motion to accept the Recorder's Sworn Statement. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Public Hearings / Additional & Reduction Appropriations

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 10:01 am for an additional appropriation in Fund 1001 County General/Auditor for \$33,232.86 and a reduction appropriation in Fund 1001 County General/Commissioners for \$33,232.86. Councilmember Gray asked for any comments; no comments; the public hearing closed at 10:02 am. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$33,232.86 for Fund 1001 County General/Auditor and the reduction appropriation of \$33,232.86 for Fund 1001 County General/Commissioners. Councilmember Shelby seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 10:02 am for an additional appropriation of \$55,000 for Fund 8962 State Homeland Security Grant. Councilmember Gray asked for any comments, no comments, the public hearing closed at 9:02 am. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$55,000 for Fund 8962 State Homeland Security Grant. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Surveyor

Chad Coughenour requested advertisement of \$17,414.03 that he received as part of a class action Lawsuit with the City of Long Beach et al. v. Monsanto Company. This will help cover the cost of MS4 requirements. Councilmembers agreed to advertise next month.

Opioid Initiative

Keely Butrum proposed that since the county did not get the matching grant, that we just use half of it. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Butrum recommended a possible motion be made on May 30th.

Budget Meeting Update

Councilmember Shelby stated the cash balances were reviewed and direction was given on raises for 2024.

Auditor Business

Auditor Debra Carnes stated that we have finally received the 2023 rates for the county share and that we will be keeping a close eye on the medical claims fund. We also have several lines that will have shortfalls this year. Councilmembers had discussion and agreed to use the Food & Beverage fund to cover some of these shortfalls. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to use \$31,913 from the Food & Beverage fund for a shortfall with the Planning Director's Salary. Councilmember Shelby seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** Councilmember Noe made a motion to use \$115,262.13 from the Food & Beverage fund for a shortfall with the Liability Insurance. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** Councilmember Butrum made a motion

to use \$2,500 from the Food & Beverage Fund for a shortfall in the Elevator Contracts. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** Councilmember Butrum recommended we advertise \$300,000 for the Food & Beverage Fund to address the remainder of the shortfalls. Councilmembers agreed to advertise for May 30th.

Salary Ordinance Amendments

Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-5B making changes to the bi-weekly salary on two positions in the Auditor's Office. Councilmember Shelby seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-5C changing the title of one position in the Auditor's Office. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Minutes

Councilmember Wooldridge made a motion to approve the minutes for April 12, 2023. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 6-1.** Councilmember Butrum abstained.

Council Business

Councilmember Noe made a motion to reappoint Tonya Galbraith to the Fortville Vernon Township Library Board. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Lowder made a motion to approve the budget transfer in Drug Court for \$500 from Supplies to Other Services. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Adjourned 10:40 AM

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

Approved this day:

COUNCIL

James Shelby

Robin Lowder

Keely Butrum

Kent Fisk

Mary Noe

Scott Wooldridge

Jeannine Gray

Attest: _____

Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor