

**Hancock County Budget, Efficiency & Revenue Committee  
And Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
May 3, 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 3rd day of May 2023 at the hour of 8:31 AM in accordance with the rules of the Council.

Councilmembers James Shelby, Keely Butrum, Mary Noe, Jeannine Gray, Robin Lowder, Kent Fisk, Scott Wooldridge, Commissioner Bill Spalding, and County Attorney Scott Benkie.

**Budget Committee Issues**

Councilmember Shelby discussed the letter sent to CF Mount Comfort (Amazon) for non-Compliance regarding the number of employees reported on the CF-1 compared to the SB-1. Councilmembers agreed the letter should not have been sent. Councilmember Noe made a motion to accept the CF-1 for CF Mount Comfort. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmembers reviewed fund balances. Councilmember Shelby questioned the negative balance in Fund 8916 Hancock Public Transit. Auditor Carnes stated this fund is for Senior Services and the state is slow in reimbursing us. Gary Pool is looking into the matter.

The Planning Director Salary line needs to be increased to match the salary ordinance. Councilmembers agreed to discuss at the next meeting.

The Liability Insurance line is out of money due to a large increase in our policies. Greg Guerrettaz recommends splitting out the new jail's portion and paying it from the LIT Correctional Facility Fund.

Greg Guerrettaz updated councilmembers on the following legislative changes: the growth quotient went up 4% and is capped for the next 2 years, Food & Beverage tax will be gone in 2045, the TIF bill died, LIT estimates are in, LIT PSAP is up, and we will receive a supplemental distribution again. He recommends the county look at paying off the 2020 Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) early. He will discuss this again next month.

**Sheriff**

Sheriff Burkhart introduced Ben Langhammer from One America. The total liability is currently \$18.1M and the plan is 70% funded. Councilmember Shelby stated he would like to see the plan 100% funded. Council will begin using the recommended contribution instead of the minimum contribution.

**Economic Development Flow Chart**

Greg Guerrettaz distributed an Economic Development Flow Chart and stated that CTR Logistics LLC should follow this new procedure. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to decline the request for a Declaratory Resolution for CTR Logistics LLC. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

### 911 Issue

Director John Jokantas discussed the need to cover shifts if two employees go out on medical leave. He would also like to hire for a new position this year instead of waiting until 2024. Councilmember Shelby stated they will discuss this in the council meeting.

### American Rescue Plan (ARP) Update

Greg Guerrettaz updated councilmembers on the American Rescue Plan. All reports have been filed and he believes we are good with the State Board of Accounts Audit.

### Opioid Initiative Update

Councilmember Butrum said we were not awarded a grant from the state. She would still like to move forward with a program using our half of the money. We will continue to receive money for the next 13 years. Councilmember Noe is in support of this. Councilmembers agreed to discuss further at the council meeting.

### Prosecutor

Brent Eaton presented a detailed report on cases, court hearings, meetings, etc. Councilmembers thanked him for the detailed information.

### Salary Committee

Councilmember Noe reviewed information from the salary study questionnaire. The current inflation rate is 5% and the cost-of-living rate is 8.7%. Councilmember Shelby recommended a 4% or 3.5% raise. Councilmember Noe said office holders would like a 5% raise. Councilmembers had discussion.

*Councilmember Gray left at 10:24 am*

Councilmember Butrum made a motion to allocate for the 2024 budget \$1,700 per head on all full-time salaried positions, elected officials, and department heads to be disbursed at the discretion of the department head except for their own raise. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.** Councilmembers agreed that the Commissioners will submit what they want for those employees in obscure situations.

### Minutes

Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve the minutes for April 5, 2023. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.**

### Adjourned 10:48 AM

Councilmember Noe made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.**

### Approved this day:

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Jeannine Gray, President

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Robin Lowder

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James Shelby

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Keely Butrum

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Kent Fisk

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Scott Wooldridge

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Mary Noe

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor