

Hancock County Council Minutes August 9, 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 9th day of August 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, 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.

CF-1 Non-Compliance

Nicole Byerley presented a list of non-compliant CF-1’s for discussion with councilmembers.

True Fabrications were non-compliant due to delinquent taxes from last year. Taxes were paid on 6/16/2023. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve the CF-1 for True Fabrications. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Landsberg Indianapolis Orora were non-compliant due to delinquent taxes from last year and this year. Last year taxes were paid on 7/27/23 and they have yet to pay the spring taxes. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to pull the abatement and send them a letter. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 6-1.** Councilmember Fisk voted No.

CTR Logistics were non-complaint due to employee count and salary being left blank on CF-1. Richard Archer spoke to council and explained it was a spec building and the time the tenant was unknown. This building now has a tenant and next year the CF-1 will be complete. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve the CF-1 for CTR Logistics. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Transport Enterprise Leasing were non-compliant due to not filing a CF-1. Victor Duggard spoke to council and stated they were unaware it needed to be filed. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve the CF-1 for Transport Enterprise Leasing LLC. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 6-1.** Councilmember Wooldridge voted No.

Minutes

Councilmember Wooldridge made a motion to approve the minutes from May 30, 2023. Councilmember Lowder seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Wooldridge made a motion to approve the minutes from June 14, 2023. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.** Councilmember Butrum abstained.

Councilmember Wooldridge made a motion to approve the minutes from July 12, 2023. Councilmember Butrum seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Auditor Business

Auditor Debra Carnes discussed a shortfall of \$35,000 in the AED Equipment Line in the Fund 1138 CCD/Commissioners. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to transfer \$35,000 from Food & Beverage to cover the shortfall. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Auditor Carnes discussed the need to re-appoint a councilmember to the Economic Development Commission. Councilmember had discussion. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to re-appoint Mary Noe to the EDC. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Council Business

Councilmember Shelby discussed FSG's recommendation to keep the Health and Cumulative Bridge rates the same in 2024 as they are in 2023. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to let the Auditor fill in the rates. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmembers discussed a request from SWMD for \$13,500 in additional funding for Fund 4021 Solid Waste. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to fund \$13,500 from Food & Beverage. Councilmember Shelby seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmembers discussed a Salary Ordinance Amendment for the Treasurer. This was approved last year for the 2023 budget, but was not in the current salary ordinance. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-8A amending the 2023 salary ordinance to include an Assistant Cashier in the Treasurer's office. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve a budget transfer for the Weed Specialist in the amount of \$2,400 from Supplies to Other Services. Councilmember Lowder seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmembers discussed a letter from the BMV and re-visited the Vehicle Excise and Wheel Tax Rates. Auditor Carnes stated that we are currently at our maximum rates. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to re-approve the current rates. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 6-1.** Councilmember Wooldridge voted No.

Public Defender

Jeremy Teipen requested an additional appropriation in 1001 County General/Public Defender for Attorney Services. He is asking for \$100,000 but may need up to \$160,000 to finish out the year. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to pay \$100,000 from Food & Beverage for Attorney Services. Councilmember Shelby seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Jeremy requested a budget transfer of \$17,220.05 from Capital to Other Services. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to approve the budget transfer of \$17,220.05 from Capital to Other Services. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Jeremy requested an additional appropriation in Fund 8892 Title IV-E Foster Care for \$3,000. Councilmembers agreed to advertise for next month.

Highway

Gary Pool requested an additional appropriation in the amount of \$992,944.39 for Fund 1135 Cumulative Bridge. Councilmembers agreed to advertise next month.

Gary stated that they are currently looking into a loan from Cumulative Bridge to RDC for \$2.7M for the design of the Innovation & Education Center (Amplify Hancock) that would be paid back by the end of the year.

Gary has also been working on the Public Transit grant and has figured out to get reimbursed from the federal government.

Assessor

Cindy Roberts requested \$48,000 to help fund the Nexus Contract for the remainder of 2023. For 2024, 2025, and 2026 it will be \$109,000 per year. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Noe made a motion to pay \$48,000 from Food & Beverage for 2023 and pay from Fund 1138 CCD in 2024, 2025, and 2026. Councilmember Lowder seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Food & Beverage Fund

Councilmembers discussed remaining balance appropriated in Food & Beverage and agreed to advertise an additional appropriation of \$150,000 for next month.

2024 Budget Changes

Councilmembers discussed proposed budget changes for 2024. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to approve to approve all changes listed below. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 6-1.** Councilmember Wooldridge voted No.

FUND	ACCOUNT #	Description	LOCATION/DEPT	AMOUNT
1001	36702	Professional Fees	Auditor	-\$10,000
1001	35100	Utilities	BOC	-\$135,000
1001	12500	Group Insurance	BOC	-\$300,000
1001	11150	HR Manager	BOC	-\$20,000
1001		HR Supplies	BOC	-\$10,750
1001	22105	Fuel	BOC	-\$1,500
1001	31200	Contractual	BOC	-\$18,750
1001	31408	Soldier Burial	BOC	-\$5,000
1001	31503	Janitorial	BOC	-\$10,000
1001	14203	Council Salaries	BOC	\$1,400
1001	13301	Separation Sick Pay	BOC	-\$100,000
1001	32400	Telephone	BOC	-\$25,000
1001	39200	Meetings	CASA	-\$2,000
1001	12000	Field Officer	Community Corrections	-\$46,600
1001	12400	FICA	Community Corrections	-\$7,428
1001	12600	PERF	Community Corrections	-\$10,875
1001	12100	Part Time	Drug Court	-\$15,000
1001	22105	Fuel	Homeland Security	-\$1,500
1001	39600	Vehicle Expense	Homeland Security	-\$1,000

1001	30160	Comm Court Expense	IT Dept	-\$5,000
1001	11117	Recovery Works P/T	Probation	-\$10,000
1001	11203	New Deputy Pros	Prosecutor	-\$80,000
1001	11301	New Paralegal	Prosecutor	-\$50,000
1001	Various	Raises	Deputy Pros Raises	-\$17,000
1001	Various	Raises	Non Lawyer Raises	-\$17,000
1001	12601	Retirement	Sheriff	-\$50,000
1001	15600	Holiday Pay	Sheriff	-\$10,000
1001	32100	Contractual	Surveyor	-\$20,000
1001	12100	Part Time	Surveyor	-\$5,000
1001	36300	Garage	Surveyor	-\$2,000
1001	36100	Equipment	Surveyor	-\$1,000
1001	12100	Part Time	Treasurer	-\$2,000
1001	13303	Vacation Payout	Treasurer	-\$9,513
				-\$997,516
1234	35100	Utilities	LIT Jail	\$500,000
1234	32400	Telephone	LIT Jail	\$25,000
1234		Other Insurance	LIT Jail	\$75,000
1138	30160	Comm Court Equip	IT Dept	\$5,000
7201		PTO Payout	new line	\$109,513
7201		Council Use Only	new line	\$100,000

Prosecutor

Brent Eaton discussed the budget cuts to his department with councilmembers. He would like to redistribute the raises for his employees. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Wooldridge made a motion to amend the prior motion and allow him to keep \$17,000 for raises to his non lawyer employees. Councilmember Butrum seconded. Roll call vote: Shelby-No, Butrum-Yes, Noe-Yes, Gray-Yes, Lowder-Yes, Fisk-Yes, Wooldridge-Yes. **Motion carried 6-1.** Councilmember Shelby voted No.

Sheriff

Sheriff Burkhart discussed a shortfall for 2024 in the Sheriff's Retirement Plan Trust. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to pay this shortfall from Food & Beverage. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. Roll call vote: Shelby-No, Butrum-Yes, Noe-Yes, Gray-Yes, Lowder-Yes, Fisk-No, Wooldridge-Yes. **Motion carried 5-2.** Councilmember Shelby and Councilmember Fisk voted No.

Budget Meeting Update

Councilmember Shelby stated the cash balances were reviewed and 2024 budget cuts were discussed.

Hancock Economic Development Council

Councilmember Noe discussed the \$40,000 contribution to HEDC in Fund 1112 LIT Economic Development for 2024. She would like to change the contribution. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Noe made a motion to reduce the contribution by \$30,000 down to \$10,000 for seats on the HEDC board for one councilmember and one commissioner. Council-

member Butrum seconded. Roll call vote: Shelby-No, Butrum-Yes, Noe-Yes, Gray-Yes, Lowder-Yes, Fisk-No, Wooldridge-Yes. **Motion carried 5-2.** Councilmember Shelby and Councilmember Fisk voted No.

Adjourned 10:36 AM

Councilmember Shelby made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Lowder 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