

Hancock County Council Minutes September 13, 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 13th day of September 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.

Public Hearings/2024 Budget

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 8:32 AM for the Hancock County 2024 Budget for \$76,583,692. Councilmember Gray ask for any comments, no comment, the public hearing closed at 8:33 AM.

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 8:34 AM for the Hancock County Solid Waste Management District 2024 Budget for \$185,800. Councilmember Gray ask for any comments, no comment, the public hearing closed at 8:34 AM.

Probation

Josh Sipes requested to advertise \$447.46 for a new grant received from the Hancock County Community Foundation. Councilmembers agreed to advertise for next month.

Josh also discussed the 2024 IDOC (Indiana Department of Corrections) Grant falling short by \$1,797. Councilmembers recommended he return in January to amend the budget.

Budget Meeting Update

Councilmember Shelby stated the 2023pay2024 NAV (net assessed value) was looked through, cash balances were reviewed, discussed the proposed general obligation bond, listened to insurance presentation from Brian Brees and decided to focus on county vehicles and the overall budget.

Minutes

Councilmember Lowder made a motion to approve the minutes from August 9, 2023. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Auditor Business

Auditor Debra Carnes discussed an invoice from PDF Mechanical for \$43,000 to replace the water pumps at the old jail and the need to advertise more than \$200,000 in Fund 1233. Councilmembers had discussion and agreed to advertise \$250,000 in Fund 1233 LIT Correctional Facility to cover the purchase of the new chiller, rental of temporary chiller, and water pump replacement.

Auditor Carnes also discussed a letter from the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter’s Association inviting councilmembers to a meeting on September 16th.

Council Business

Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve a budget transfer for the Highway Department Fund 1135 for \$16,392.97 from Capital to Other Services. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve a budget transfer for the Highway Department Fund 1176 for \$42,011.21 from Supplies to Capital. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Lowder made a motion to approve a budget transfer for the Highway Department Fund 1176 for \$86,000 from Supplies to Other Services. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Homeland Security

Director Misty Moore requested to advertise \$2,425 for the ARDC Grant she received last year. Councilmembers agreed to advertise for next month.

Public Hearings/Additional Appropriations

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 9:00 am for an additional appropriation of \$3,000 for Fund 1001 County General/Commissioners. Councilmember Gray asked for any comments, no comment, the public hearing closed at 9:02 am. Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$3,000 for Fund 1001 County General/Commissioners. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 9:02 am for an additional appropriation of \$992,944.39 for Fund 1135 Cumulative Bridge. Councilmember Gray asked for any comments, no comment, the public hearing closed at 9:02 am. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$992,944.39 for Fund 1135 Cumulative Bridge. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 9:03 am for an additional appropriation of \$30,000 for Fund 1170 LIT Public Safety. Councilmember Gray asked for any comments, no comment, the public hearing closed at 9:04 am. Councilmember Butrum made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$30,000 for Fund 1170 LIT Public Safety. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 9:05 am for an additional appropriation of \$300,000 for Fund 1234 LIT Correctional Facility. Councilmember Gray asked for any comments, councilmembers had discussion, the public hearing closed at 9:07 am. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$300,000 for Fund 1234 LIT Correctional Facility. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 9:07 am for an additional appropriation of \$250,000 for Fund 7201 Food & Beverage. Councilmember Gray asked for any comments, no comment, the public hearing closed at 9:08 am. Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$300,000 for Fund 7201 Food & Beverage. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Gray opened the public hearing at 9:09 am for an additional appropriation of \$3,000 for Fund 8892 Title IV-E Foster Care. Councilmember Gray asked for any comments, no comment, the public hearing closed at 9:10 am. Councilmember Lowder made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$3,000 for Fund 8892 Title IV-E Foster Care. Councilmember Wooldridge seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Borgmann Appraisal Report

Councilmembers discussed appraisal report for the Borgmann property. This property has 14 acres that are contiguous with county property on three sides. Councilmembers agreed that the purchase of this land would be advantageous for the county. Councilmember Shelby proposed a resolution to provide funds for the purchase of the Borgmann property should Commissioners decide to purchase. Council further recommend that the Commissioners create a strategic plan for the county properties. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

CASA

Marciann Miller requested to advertise \$9,000 for the 2023 CASA Wellness Grant. Councilmembers agreed to advertise for next month.

Adjourned 9:27 AM

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

Approved this day:

COUNCIL

Jeannine Gray, President

Mary Noe, Vice President

James Shelby, Councilmember

Kent Fisk, Councilmember

Keely Butrum, Councilmember

Robin Lowder, Councilmember

Scott Wooldridge, Councilmember

Attest: _____

Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor