

*Hancock County Council Meeting
March 14, 2012*

The County Council of Hancock County, Indiana, met in the Commissioner Court in the Hancock County Courthouse Annex, Greenfield, Indiana, on the 14th day of March, 2012 at the hour of 8:30 A.M. in accordance with the rules of the Council. Council members present were William Bolander, John Jessup, Jim Shelby, and Rosalie Richardson, Joseph Skvarenina and Tom Roney. Councilman Brian Kirkwood was not present. Also, present were Auditor, Robin D. Lowder, Deputy Ginny Martin.

President Bill Bolander called the meeting to order.

In the Matter of Council Business)

- President opened a public hearing for the additional appropriation in the amount of \$450,000 for the Highway Department 2012 budget.

No public comment.

Public hearing closed.

Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to approve the additional appropriation for the Highway Department, seconded by Councilman Roney. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Councilman Skvarenina made a motion to approve January 11, 2012, January 31, 2012, February 6, 2012 and February 8, 2012 minutes as written.

Jim Shelby reported on the recommendation to the Council from the budget committee that a \$500.00 raise be given to anyone meeting the following criteria:

- Employee paid from County funds and salary set by the Council.
- Any full-time employee as of 1-1-2011

- Retroactive to 1-1-2012 and who have worked one full year.
- Exempt from the raise: Judges, Prosecutor, Deputy Prosecutor and Sheriff.
- This is \$500 gross and County will pay the FICA and PERF.

Councilman Skvarenina made a motion to approve the salary raise. Councilman Shelby seconded the motion. Before the vote Councilwoman Richardson asked about the funding source for those not in County General. Councilman Shelby advised that the departments shall provide the funding source unless their funding source is inadequate. Councilman Jessup is concerned about the raise not being merit based, and going forward this needs to happen. It is the agreement of the Council that this should be by merit going forward.

Roll call vote 6-0 motion passed.

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Aye | Nay |
| Joe Skvarenina | |
| Jim Shelby | |
| John Jessup | |
| Rosalie Richardson | |
| Bill Bolander | |
| Tom Roney | |

In the Matter of Sheriff)

Sheriff Shepherd and Major Burkhardt appeared before Council to request more items to add to the ongoing list of Commissary expenses and request approval from Council.

- Attorney fees for Sheriff Department
- Firing range expense (prior to getting building in place) septic, boring etc.
- Block parties for neighborhoods for public relations purposes.

Councilman Shelby made a motion to approve the expenditures, seconded by Councilman Jessup. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Councilman Roney introduced the new Economic Development Director, Nolan “Skip” Kuker. Mr. Kuker replaced Dennis Maloy as Director of HEDC.

Break 9:10

Reconvened 9:15

In the Matter of Employee Handbook)

Commissioner Stevens appeared before Council to request funding for the employee manual. The first phase cost is \$14,000 for the rewriting of the personnel policy manual. This will not draft new job descriptions for the County but will be addressed later. Councilman Jessup made a motion to recommend a budget transfer from Council Circuit Breaker expense in the amount of \$14,000 to Contractual Services within the Commissioners budget to pay this expense, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Weights & Measures)

Richard Simon, Weights & Measures had turned in an amended budget for 2012 in the amount of \$680.00 additional funds for conferences. The Council didn't approve in the regular budget hearings. He now has a conference to attend. Councilman Roney made a motion to take this amount from Food & Beverage, seconded by Councilman Shelby. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

In the Matter of Old Reassessment fund 0123)

Mary Noe, Assessor presented a budget for 2012 for the old reassessment fund 0123. There was no budget for this fund for 2012 due to the implementation of a new reassessment fund. There is cash in the fund approximately \$92,000 and DLGF has advised to submit additional appropriations to use the fund. Council gave approval for Auditor's Office to advertise additional in the amount

of \$89,000 as submitted by Assessor.

In the Matter of Library)

Joe Mohr and Dianne Osborne , Library appeared before Council to present their 2011 Annual Report.

In the Matter of Clerk)

Marcia Moore, Clerk appeared before Council regarding a \$25,000 grant that she will be awarded the end of April for voting booths through the HAVA (Help America Vote Act). She requested to purchase the voting booths prior to receiving the grant money. This is a reimbursable grant. Councilman Shelby made a motion to approve the Clerk's request, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

In the Matter of Sheriff Retirement amount)

Councilman Jessup made a motion to rescind the vote 5-0 that was taken in the January budget meeting to take the sheriff retirement amount of \$163,500 from Food & Beverage and take from County General instead. The motion seconded from Councilman Shelby. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

In the Matter of New phone system)

Bernie Harris, IT Director reported on the new phone system. It seems to be up and running well. The new financial software for the Auditor's office will be on board next month.

10:15 Council Break

10:25 Reconvened

In the Matter of Township EMS Financial Assistance)

Jimmy Roberts-- Fire Chief, Bob McDaniel--Jackson Township and Paul Cooper—Blue River Township appeared before Council to request assistance for the EMS within the townships. They currently have contracts with the City of Greenfield. Chief Roberts provided the contract with the City of Greenfield for \$45,000 to the Auditor, which is for Jackson, Blue River and Brown Townships. Green Township does have a levy in her 2012 budget.

Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to approve the following:

1. \$15,000 for each of (3) townships Brown, Blue River, Jackson.
2. This is only short term assistance.
3. After 6 months Township Trustee are to come back to the Council and report on a plan that the townships have come up with for future EMS options.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Skvarenina.
Vote 6-0 motion passed.

In the Matter of Superior Court II)

Judge Marshall appeared before Council to request to rehire of an employee that is leaving his office and employee to begin May 4, 2012 at the same salary that is available in the budget.
Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Shelby. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Councilman Jessup made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Skvarenina. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

Approved this date: _____

Aye

Nay

Attest: _____
Robin D. Lowder
Auditor