

Hancock County Commissioners and Council Joint Meeting

July 24, 2018

The County Commissioners and the Council of Hancock County, Indiana, met on the 24th day of July 2018 at the hour of 10:31 A.M.

Commissioners Brad Armstrong, John Jessup and Marc Huber were in attendance. Councilmembers William Bolander, James Shelby, Debra Bledsoe, Martha Vail, Jeannine Gray and Randy Sorrell were in attendance. Councilmember Kent Fisk was not present.

Also attending, County Attorney Ray Richardson, Auditor Robin Lowder, and Deputy Auditor Mary Bowmer and Trish George

Minutes

Commissioner President Armstrong and Council President Bolander called the meeting to order at 10:31 A.M.

Commissioner Huber made a motion to terminate the contract for \$80,000 previously entered into with Blackmore & Buckner Roofing LLC. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jessup. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Huber made a motion to enter into the contract with Blackmore & Buckner Roofing LLC not to exceed \$198,500. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jessup. This repair is considered an emergency. Commissioners did request companies to give proposals. This is a very specific type of roof. Only one company responded. Motion carried 3-0.

Councilmember Gray made a motion to fund the contract with Blackmore & Buckner Roofing LLC to complete the courthouse roof repairs from Food & Beverage Tax Fund 7201. Funds to be advertised and additionally appropriated. Motion seconded by Councilmember Sorrell. Motion carried 7-0.

Repairs at Prosecutors Office

Commissioner Armstrong informed Council members a contractor will start work to seal and secure the Prosecutors office next week. Windows will be sealed, attic will be sealed and

secured. Drywall has already been repaired. Commissioners will have the contractor return to do a walk through after this is completed.

New Jail/Overcrowding Issues Discussed

Commissioners and Council members discussed new jail and overcrowding issues at the current jail. RQAW reported for the \$30 million Councilmembers instructed to be spent at the County Farm it will include 2 complete pods, holding cells, softcosts, but not administration offices, intake, kitchen and a Sali-port at the County Farm location.

Commissioner Armstrong Summarized: Board of Commissioners still feels the the first plan was the best plan, but without approval to move forward, we need to find a new plan. Commissioner Armstrong discussed the potential master plan would be a New Jail that would include 2 complete pods that will house 440, administration offices, intake, kitchen, medical and laundry at the County Farm. Community Corrections, Probation and Prosecutors Office to stay downtown. This plan was estimated at least 65 million dollars.

Commissioner Armstrong noted with the best case scenario it is 1-2 years out from moving forward. The concern is what to do with the current overcrowding situation?

Councilmember Gray was concerned about spending money and not doing the job right the first time.

There was a discussion the Mayor of Greenfield should be approached about building the new Jail in the City again. Commissioner Huber and RQAW had already met with the Mayor and presented the complete downtown version of this project to him in his office prior to this joint council/commissioner meeting.

Councilmember Shelby suggested a consultant to find out why we have such a rise in jail population.

Brad Burkhart presented an idea for a temporary structure to hold 100 inmates. Units, custom designed semi-trailers would temporarily address the jail overcrowding. Cost estimated at \$822,000 annually for a 13 year lease (\$11 Million project) with the ownership after 13 years, because they prefer you to own. Estimated 12 staff members to run. Lease is flexible. Total cost would be \$1.8 Million yearly with everything included. Missouri has one up and running. As of July

18th the current jail has 259 inmates, not including 52 outsourced inmates and 4 juveniles. Brad will research further into this with a possible trip to Missouri for further research.

Councilmember Shelby would like to have a construction manager to manage building the new jail.

Councilmember Gray made a motion to **adjourn at 12:39 p.m.** Motion seconded by Councilman Bledsoe. Motion carried 6-0.

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to **adjourn at 12:44 pm.** Motion seconded by Commissioner Huber. Motion carried 3-0.

Approved this day: July 24, 2018

Commissioners

Attest: _____

Robin D. Lowder

Hancock Co Auditor

Council Members

Attest: _____

Robin D. Lowder

Hancock Co Auditor