

Hancock County Council Minutes October 7, 2020

The County Council of Hancock County, Indiana met in the County Commissioner's Court in the Courthouse Annex located at 111 American Legion Place Greenfield, Indiana 46140 on the 7th day of October at the hour of 8:31 AM in accordance with the rules of the Council.

Councilmember William Bolander initiated the County Council Meeting. Councilmembers William Bolander, James Shelby, Jeannine Gray, Kent Fisk, Debra Bledsoe, Martha Vail, Mary Noe, County Attorney Scott Benkie, Auditor Debra Carnes and Financial Administrator Mary Bowmer were present.

President Bolander opened the meeting with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and a moment of silence.

Public Hearing / 2021 Budgets

- The Financial Administrator clarified the 2021 budget changes for Fund 1233 (transferred \$10,500 from another budget line) and Fund 4620 (\$607,500 increased to \$612,400). Councilmember Bolander opened the public hearing at 8:34 AM for the 2021 Hancock County Budget. Councilmember Bolander asked for public comments. No comments. Councilmember Bolander closed the public hearing at 9:34 AM. No vote was required.
- Councilmember Bolander opened the public hearing at 8:34 AM for the 2021 Solid Waste Management District Budget. Councilmember Bolander asked for public comments. No comments. Councilmember Bolander closed the public hearing at 9:34 AM. No vote was required.

Replace Employee / Circuit Court Judge & Probation Officer

- The Circuit Court Judge and Chief Probation Officer requested a replacement employee for a Therapist/Probation Officer.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to allow Probation to replace an employee. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Replace Employee / Auditor

- The Auditor requested to replace an employee.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve the replacement employee for the Auditor's office. Councilmember Noe seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

2021 Pay Schedule

- The Auditor discussed being paid current versus being paid in arrears. The State Board of Accounts confirmed this change needs Council's approval.
- Councilmember Shelby made a motion to allow the 2021 Pay Schedule change. Councilmember Fisk seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Council Business

- Council discussed Senior Probation Officer Salary Ordinance Amendment.
- Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve the Senior Probation Officer's Salary Amendment Ordinance 2020-10C. Councilmember Vail seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Council reviewed Center Townships Capital Improvement Plan and Blue River Townships Capital Improvement Plan.

- Councilmember Noe made a motion Hancock County Council have received and reviewed the Center Township Capital Improvement Plan and the Blue River Township Capital Improvement Plan and is duly noted in Council Minutes. The Capital Improvement Plans have been filed and forwarded to the DLGF. Councilmember Vail seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Council reviewed the Estimated Tax Levy & Reductions Due to Circuit Breakers.
- Councilmember Noe made a motion Hancock County Council have received, reviewed and accepted the Estimated Tax Levy & Reductions documentation for Circuit Breakers. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Council Minutes

Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve the September 9, 2020 minutes as presented. Councilmember Vail seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Budget Transfer / Weed Department

- Council discussed the budget transfer of \$2,000 from Supplies to Personal Services for the Weed Department.
- Councilmember Gray made a motion to transfer of \$2,000 from Supplies to Personal Services for the Weed Department. Councilmember Vail seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Council Budget Discussion

- Councilmembers discuss budget balances.
- The Financial Consultant clarified budget details.
- The Auditor discussed the CARES Reimbursement of Public Health & Public Safety Payroll.

Public Hearing / Additional Appropriations

- Councilmember Bolander opened the public hearing at 9:06 AM for Fund 1112 Economic Development Additional Appropriation of \$160,000. The Financial Administrator clarified the Highway Engineer requested this for the RAB at Sugar Creek. Councilmember Bolander asked for public comments. No comments. Councilmember Bolander closed the public hearing at 9:07 AM.
- Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-10-3 for Additional Appropriation of \$160,000 for Fund 1112 Economic Development. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Councilmember Bolander opened the public hearing at 9:07 AM for Fund 8900 Bureau of Justice Additional Appropriation of \$8,892. Councilmember Bolander asked for public comments. No comments. Councilmember Bolander closed the public hearing at 9:07 AM.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-10-4 for Additional Appropriation of \$8,892 for Fund 8900 Bureau of Justice. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Councilmember Bolander opened the public hearing at 9:08 AM for Fund 8940 Stop Arm Violation Enforcement (SAVE) Grant Additional Appropriation of \$7,000. Councilmember Bolander asked for public comments. No comments. Councilmember Bolander closed the public hearing at 9:08 AM.
- Councilmember Bledsoe made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-10-5 for Additional Appropriation of \$7,000 for 8940 Stop Arm Violation Enforcement (SAVE) Grant. Councilmember Fisk seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Councilmember Bolander opened the public hearing at 9:09 AM for Fund 8955 CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Additional Appropriation of \$200,000. Councilmember Bolander asked

for public comments. No comments. Councilmember Bolander closed the public hearing at 9:09 AM.

- Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-10-6 for Additional Appropriation of \$200,000 for 8955 CARES Act Coronavirus Relief grant. Councilmember Vail seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Ambrose Abatement Request

- The Director of Economic Development Council discussed the new Ambrose Abatement Request.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to schedule the Ambrose Abatement request to a public hearing at the next Council meeting. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve the Declaratory Resolution 2020-10-7 for Ambrose Abatement. Councilmember Noe seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Indiana Becknell Request to Amend Abatement

The Director of the Economic Development Council notified Council of Indiana Becknell's request to amend their abatement, due to Spectra (current lease) filing bankruptcy. Amazon is interested in leasing this building, but would like to request an abatement. Councilmembers requested he return at the next Council meeting to discuss.

Discuss Financing/Budgeting for Sheriff's Admin Building

The Financial Consultant discussed financing and budgeting for the Sheriff's Administration Building. In order for this project not to be derailed, a change order to the pre-existing project was completed for a total of \$6,209,317. The county attorney and the bond counsel are working on a bond anticipation note not to exceed \$5M.

HRH & NineStar Bond Request

- President & CEO of Hancock Hospital and the President of NineStar Connect discussed the Hancock Gateway Park Infrastructure and bond request.
- Councilmember Shelby made a motion to pass the two bonds with changes to end at payoff. Councilmember Fisk seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Tax Increment Guidelines

The Financial Consultant discussed tax increment guidelines and goals.

Discussed RDC Cash Flow Forecast for North TIF

The Financial Consultant discussed RDC Cash flow forecast for North TIF. He requested Councilmembers review the Draft #1 establishing a policy and fees.

Status of Council Declaration to Finance Justice System Improvements

County Attorney informed Council that at the Commissioners meeting October 6th two Resolutions of Need were passed; one was for the Prosecutors Office and one for repurposing of the old jail.

Hancock County Board of Commissioners Resolutions of Need

Councilmember Shelby received two Resolutions of Need from the Hancock County Board of Commissioners President. Resolution 2020-10-1 to redesign and renovate the existing jail. Resolution 2020-10-2 to provide space for the Hancock County Prosecutor's Office.

Councilmember Shelby suggested BOC provide total cost for renovating versus new building cost for both projects.

Animal Control Agreement Discussed

Agreement of the Hancock County Board of Commissioners signed with Animal Control was discussed. County Attorney requested County Council hold off on signing agreement, he had further details to discuss with the City Attorney.

Request for Personal Property Abatement

Real estate representative with Cushman & Wakefield for IFCO Systems requested abatement. Councilmembers were not in favor of Personal Property Abatement. Councilmembers have not received an application for abatement. Councilmember Bolander stated this request died for lack of a motion.

Sheriff's Update

The Sheriff updated County Council on the current jail regarding a portion that is not being built out. The Sheriff is looking into a grant to fund \$3-\$4M to pay for additional cells for Federal Inmates. This would require a guarantee of 3-5 years of use and the County would be required to fund the difference. Councilmembers agreed the Sheriff could pursue the grant to get more details.

Clerk Update

Apologized for the noise from voting in the other half of court room. The Clerk would like to have an 8' partition to assist with noise and will look into purchasing for the next election.

Adjourned 11:17 AM

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

Approved this day:

William Bolander

Kent Fisk

James Shelby

Martha Vail

Jeannine Gray

Mary Noe

Debbie Bledsoe

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor