

Hancock County Council Minutes

December 9, 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 9th day of December at the hour of 8:32 AM in accordance with the rules of the Council.

The Council meeting was conducted through Zoom. Councilmember William Bolander initiated the County Council meeting. Councilmember William Bolander and Councilmember Kent Fisk were present. Councilmembers James Shelby, Jeannine Gray, Debra Bledsoe, Martha Vail, Mary Noe, County Attorney Scott Benkie participated through Zoom. 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.

Circuit Court Request

- Circuit Court Judge along with the IT Director and CASA Director requested a new system for the hearing impaired for the courtrooms. The IT Director explained the system is wireless and comes with four headsets. He said there is money to pay for this, but requested the money be encumbered.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to encumber \$15,797.15 from Computer Maintenance for next year to update the courts for the Hearing Impaired. Councilmember Vail seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Circuit Court Judge requested to replace a court administrator at a salary of \$38,233.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to allow the Circuit Court to replace a court administrator. Councilmember Vail seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Circuit Court Judge thanked Councilmember Bledsoe and Councilmember Vail for their years of service to the county and presented them with plaques for their years of service.

Talitha Koum Women's Recovery House Request

- Executive Director with Talitha Koum House requested \$35,000 support to assist with rent due to some participants having difficulty with rent.
- Councilmember Shelby made a motion to assist Talitha Koum House with \$35,000 from Food and Beverage, with the Auditors office making a special check before the end of 2020. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Hancock County Comprehensive Plan

- Director of Area Planning Commission presented Councilmembers with a Comprehensive Plan for Hancock County. The plan took two months to draft with input from the Director of Hancock County Economic Development Council and the Hancock County Highway Engineer. Request for Proposal and Scope of Services were discussed. The Director of Planning will report progress back to the Commissioners.
- Councilmember Shelby requested a few changes to the Comprehensive Plan. Councilmember Shelby thanked Director of Area Planning Commission for including the Economic Development Council in the Comprehensive Plan. He requested the following changes; Page 6, under A2 the consultant is requested to collect data from existing businesses could we specifically ask them as they collect data from existing businesses that they ascertain where the current employees live (i.e.). Do they live in Hancock County)? Under A3 Listing special

places for analysis and he fully agree with the US40 corridor, Mt Comfort corridor, the State Street 9 corridor, but he would include the county farm property (East of 40). Director of Area Planning Commission thanked Councilmember Shelby.

- Councilmember Gray made a motion to allow Director of Area Planning Commission to move forward with the Hancock County Comprehensive Plan. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Public Hearing / Fund 8666 Pennsy Trails \$65,620

- Councilmember Bolander opened the Public Hearing at 9:09 AM for Fund 8666 Pennsy Trail \$65,620. Councilmember Bolander asked for public comment; A resident asked where the money is coming from. President for Pennsy Trails for Hancock County explained from Hancock Regional Hospital, NineStar, Hancock County Community Foundation, donations and fundraisers support this project. Councilmember Bolander clarified this is not taxpayer money, this is from outside sources. President for Pennsy Trails clarified this is not tax money, this is funded through local businesses, organizations and private citizens. Councilmember Bolander asked for any other comments; no comments. Councilmember Bolander closed the Public Hearing at 9:10 AM.
- Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve \$65,620 for Pennsy Trails. Councilmember Vail seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Public Hearing / Fund 8667 Indiana Economic Development Corp (IEDC) Grant \$500,000

- Director of Hancock County Economic Development Council explained the grant is part of the road improvement project on 300 N. Councilmember Bolander opened the Public Hearing at 9:14 AM for Fund 8667 Indiana Economic Development Corp (IEDC) Grant \$500,000. Councilmember Bolander asked for public comment; no comment. Councilmember Bolander closed the Public Hearing at 9:14 AM.
- Councilmember Shelby made a motion to appropriate Indiana Economic Development Corp (IEDC) Grant for \$500,000. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Public Hearing / Fund 1001 County General COVID Reimbursement \$746,848.22

- Councilmember Bolander opened the Public Hearing at 9:15 AM for Fund 1001 County General COVID Reimbursement \$746,848.22. Councilmember Bolander asked for public comment; no comment. Councilmember Bolander closed the Public Hearing at 9:15 AM.
- Councilmember Shelby made a motion to appropriate COVID Reimbursement \$746,848.22. Councilmember Fisk seconded the motion. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Prosecutor Replace Employees Request

- Prosecutor requested to replace a paralegal position.
- Councilmember Vail made a motion to allow the Prosecutor to replace an employee. Councilmember Shelby seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Prosecutor requested to replace another employee.
- Councilmember Vail made a motion to allow the Prosecutor to replace another employee. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Treasurers Request

- The Treasurer requested to encumber part-time pay to next year to pay 5 weeks of vacation for an employee retiring.
- Councilmember Gray made a motion to encumber \$4,000 from part-time to 2021. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

E-911 Replace Employees Request

- Director E-911 of requested to replace two employees.
- Councilmember Gray made a motion to allow the Director of E-911 to replace two employees. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Director of E-911 thanked Councilmember Bledsoe and Councilmember Vail for their service to the County and assistance with E-911.

Auditor's Replace Employee Request

- The Auditor requested to replace an employee.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to allow the Auditor to replace an employee. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Council Business

- Councilmember Gray made a motion to accept the 2021 Salary Ordinance as presented. Councilmember Shelby seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Councilmember Shelby made a motion to appropriate \$1,720.63 from F & B to the Jury Pay fund to correct the negative balance. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Councilmember Shelby made a motion to pay \$68,000 to Green Township for air packs from the 2019 GO Bond. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Resolution 2020-12-2 Cares Act Reimbursement

Councilmember Shelby made a motion to pass Resolution 2020-12-2 Cares Act Reimbursement to General Fund. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Resolution 2020-12-7 Encumbrances

Councilmember Shelby made a motion to pass Resolution 2020-12-7 an Encumbrance Resolution to allow departments to encumber 2020 appropriations to be spent in 2021, as long as contract exist with the vendor. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Resolution 2020-12-8 2021 Year End Accounting Transaction

Councilmember Fisk made a motion to pass Resolution 2020-12-8 allowing the Hancock County Auditor to adjust the 2020 budget to balance accounts as needed. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Councilmember Vail left the meeting at 9:34.

Board of Commissioners Request

- Commissioner President Jessup requested additional money for PPE supplies for the Hancock County Offices for the remainder of this year. Councilmember Bolander ask for a motion to allow the Auditor to pay invoices due from Food and Beverage.
- Commissioner President Jessup requested an additional line item for 2021 to cover \$25,000 for PPE supplies from County General. Councilmember Bolander said in January Council will approve an additional line item in the Commissioners budget for \$25,000 for PPE items. Councilmembers agreed 7-0 to advertise for additional appropriation of \$25,000 for PPE supplies.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to allow the Auditor to pay remainder of 2020 PPE invoices from Food & Beverage. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.**

Council Minutes

Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve the November 21, 2020 as presented. Councilmember Noe seconded the motion. **Motion carried 6-0.**

Health Department Comp Time Payout

- Health Department Health Officer requested Comp Time Payout for Crystal Baker and Brittany Hanes that could not be used due to the pandemic. Councilmember Bolander said next year when paying \$4-\$5,000 items to appropriate and pay from General Fund.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to pay Health Departments Comp Time from Food & Beverage \$4,449.33 Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.**

Budget Transfer / CASA Grant Fund

Councilmember Fisk made a motion to transfer \$3,000 from Other Services to Personal Services for CASA Grant Fund 1213. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 5-0.** Councilmember Shelby abstained.

Councilmember Gray left the meeting at 9:52.

Mt. Comfort Distribution Center (CTR Logistics LLC)

- Director of Hancock County Economic Development Council requested abatement for CTR Logistics LLC. CTR Logistics Executives presented to Councilmembers and requested abatement for two buildings on 90 acres. CTR acknowledged they met with the Surveyor to discuss drainage issues.
- Councilmember Fisk introduced Resolution 2020-12-9 a Declaratory Resolution for abatement for CTR Logistics LLC. Councilmember Shelby seconded. **Motion carried 5-0.**
- Public Hearing scheduled for a Confirming Resolution on January 13, 2021 at 8:30 AM.

Treasurer Replacement Employee

- Treasurer requested to replace a retiring Treasurer Deputy position.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to allow the Treasurer to replace a deputy Treasurer position. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Budget Meeting Update

Councilmember Shelby updated Councilmembers that the Auditor would like to take a part-time position to full-time in January.

Sheriffs Update

- Presented Councilmembers with information on a phone app for Safety & Awareness to push out COVID info, but since have found it is too late to utilize \$247,000 in Cares Act dollars this year. The phone app starts out at \$43,000, a three year contract is \$30,000 then \$7,000 annual maintenance. COVID information, County information, tax sale information can be put the phone app. The Auditor clarified a paid invoice must be submitted to receive the reimbursement; this must be done by December 30, 2020.
- Councilmembers agreed 5-0 to advertise additional appropriation of \$30,000 from General Fund in January 2021 to pay for the phone ap.
- The Sheriff thanked Councilmember Bledsoe and Councilmember Vail for their service to the County.

Adjourned 10:31 AM

Councilmember Fisk made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Approved this day:

William Bolander

Kent Fisk

James Shelby

Martha Vail

Jeannine Gray

Mary Noe

Debbie Bledsoe

Attest: _____
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor