Hancock County Council Minutes  
February 12, 2020

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM  
111 American Legion Place  
Greenfield, Indiana 46140

The County Council of Hancock County, Indiana, met in the Commissioner Court in the Courthouse Annex, Greenfield, Indiana, on the 12th day of February at the hour of 8:30 AM in accordance with the rules of the Council.

Councilmembers William Bolander, James Shelby, Debra Bledsoe, Kent Fisk, Martha Vail, Jeannine Gray and Mary Noe were in attendance. Also attending County Attorney Scott Benkie, Auditor Debra Carnes, Financial Administrator Mary Bowmer and Trish George, Secretary for County Commissioners & County Council.

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

Public Hearing Opus Development

- Randy Sorrell (Director HEDC) spoke for Opus Development; as you recall Opus was here for a declaratory Resolution in December; there was the question of a potential connecting road that might dissect their site. They have met with Planning Department and Highway Department as requested.
- Councilmember Bolander opened the Public Hearing at 8:33 AM. Gary Pool (Highway Department) came to the podium to speak. Representatives from Opus and Gary talked and they have an agreement on the dedication of ROW. They have committed to constructing a new road. We will not require the road until they have established the development in that area to establish a revenue stream to off-set that expense. Gary is satisfied with the highway portion, this will not have any adverse effect. The road will be dedicated to the County. Councilmember Bolander closed the Public Hearing at 8:37 AM.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve the Declaratory Resolution 2020-2-2. Councilmember Gray seconded. Motion carried 7-0.
- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve the confirming Resolution 2020-2-3. Councilmember Shelby seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Probation Additional Appropriation Grant-Scholarship / IDOC Grant

- Josh Sipes (Probation) explained that Kevin Minnick, a probation officer, attempts to get scholarships to attend a class at Harvard where they have a Treating Addictions Course, March 6 & 7. Kevin obtained a scholarship that pays 80% of the cost, total expenses around $901.60. Mary Bowmer (Financial Administrator) explained this will need to be
appropriated and advertised for the March 11th Council meeting. Councilmembers agreed 7-0 to advertise.

- Josh said the IDOC grant was more than expected and needed to request an Additional Appropriation for $2,435. This grant pays part of Amy Ikerd’s salary. Josh clarified there is no change in the Salary Ordinance. Councilmembers agreed 7-0 to advertise additional appropriation for the March 11th Council meeting.

2019 Surveyor’s Report / Regional Retention

- Susan Bodkin (Surveyor) notified Councilmembers the report has changed since last week. At the Budget Committee Meeting, we talked about a regional retention pond to serve the area of 700 West to 800 West to I-70 to 250 North. Since then, we have added more. Private enterprise will move faster than the government. Each of the four enterprises will be responsible for their own retention pond and taking the drainage pipe to the property line. Susan will need to be sure they are all interconnected. Also, retention ponds will need to be bigger than anticipated.

- Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve $40,700 budget transfer from Economic Development to pay for the Regional Retention Study. Councilmember Noe seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

- Councilmember Shelby made a motion to approve $66,000 budget transfer from Economic Development to pay for the Charles Briar Study. Councilmember Gray seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Hearing Additional Appropriations / Reduction of Appropriations

- Councilmember Bolander Opened the Public Hearing at 9:05 AM for Additional Appropriations Fund 1001 $25,000/Juvenile Detention Bed Contract. No Comment. Councilmember Bolander Closed the Public Hearing at 9:06AM. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve. Councilmember Gray seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

- Councilmember Bolander Opened the Public Hearing at 9:06 AM for Additional Appropriations Fund 1001 $48,750/ New Probation Officer. No Comment. Councilmember Bolander Closed the Public Hearing at 9:06 AM. Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve. Councilmember Gray seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

- Councilmember Bolander Opened the Public Hearing at 9:07 AM for Additional Appropriations Fund 1001 $36,704/ Move Drug Court. No Comment. Councilmember Bolander Closed the Public Hearing at 9:07 AM. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

- Councilmember Bolander Opened the Public Hearing at 9:07 AM for Additional Appropriations Fund 1138 $137/Recorders Copier. No Comment. Councilmember Bolander Closed the Public Hearing at 9:07 AM. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve. Councilmember Shelby seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

- Councilmember Bolander Opened the Public Hearing at 9:07 AM for Additional Appropriations Fund 8952 $14,876/DOC Grant Increase. No Comment. Councilmember
Bolander Closed the Public Hearing at 9:08 AM. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to approve. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- Councilmember Bolander **Opened the Public Hearing at 9:08 AM** for Additional Appropriations Fund 8953 $1,200/Jail Treatment Grant Increase. No Comment. Councilmember Bolander **Closed the Public Hearing at 9:08 AM**. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- Councilmember Bolander **Opened the Public Hearing at 9:08 AM** for Additional Appropriations Fund 8900 $74,778/BJA Grant. No Comment. Councilmember Bolander **Closed the Public Hearing at 9:08 AM**. Councilmember Bledsoe made a motion to approve. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- Councilmember Bolander **Opened the Public Hearing at 9:09 AM** for Reduction of Appropriations Fund 1001 $27,528.50/Community Corrections. No Comment. Councilmember Bolander **Closed the Public Hearing at 9:09 AM**. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve. Councilmember Vail seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

**Health Department / Hire Environment Health Specialist**

Dr. Aspy requested to hire an Environmental Health Specialist. This new position would be paid through the fee increases. This was approved by her Board of Directors, the County Commissioners and this position is in her 2020 Budget. Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve the request to hire a new Environmental Health Specialist with the funding already in the 2020 Budget. Councilmember Vail seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

**Prosecutors Office / Salary Ordinance Amendment / Replace Investigator**

- Brent Eaton (Prosecutor) notified County Council he will be losing a Child Support Specialist to pursue other employment. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve replacing the Child Support Specialist. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- Brent would like to replace an Investigator going to the Police Department. Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve replacing the Investigator. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- A part-time receptionist will transfer into the Child Support Specialist position and this will leave the part-time receptionist position open. Councilmember Noe made a motion to approve replacing the part-time receptionist position. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- Brent would like to transfer $5,000 from the part-time line to the paralegal supervisory position. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to adopt a new Salary Ordinance change. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- Brent discussed the new Chief Deputy Prosecutor and requested assistance with moving her. Councilmember Bledsoe made a motion to allow up to $2,000 from the Diversion Fund to assist the new Chief Deputy Prosecutor with her move. Councilmember Bolander asked for a second, with no second, motion failed due to lack of a second vote.
Abatement Applications & Funding HEDC

- Randy Sorrell (Director HEDC) discussed with Council the Abatement Application and funding HEDC with abatement fees. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to move the Abatement Fees to the Economic Development Fund. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**
- Randy requested approval for Resolution 2020-2-5. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-2-5. Councilmember Noe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Highway / IPEP Grant

Gary Pool (Highway Department) requested Additional Appropriation for IPEP Grant. This Grant is for $2600 to reimburse workers for shoes. Councilmembers agreed 7-0 to advertise.

2019 Tourism Review & Board Changes

Amanda Everidge introduced herself as the new Tourism Board President. January 14th the new elections took place and the following are Tourism Board Members: Brigette Cook Jones (Executive Director), Amanda Everidge (President), John Goss (Vice President), Bob Mattsey (Treasurer), Janet Jarson (Secretary), Alex Rau (Member), Kelly McClarnon (Member) and George Langston (Member). Amanda presented the Councilmembers with a 2019 Tourism Review booklet and briefly went through the report. Councilmembers thanked Amanda. Councilmember Fisk requested Tourism find common ground to work with the Ag Association on how to enhance activities.

Alcoholic Beverage Commission (ABC)

Councilmember Noe made a motion to appoint Bob Hiday to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission (ABC). Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Fitzgerald & North Bill

Councilmember Shelby made a motion to pay Fitzgerald & North, Phase II ($38,232.60) and Phase III from Food & Beverage. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

CASA Additional Appropriation

CASA received additional grant money and need additional appropriation $13,366. Councilmembers agreed 7-0 to advertise.

Approve Council Minutes

Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve Council Minutes for January 8, 2020 as presented. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Approve Council Minutes

Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve Council Minutes for January 22, 2020 as presented. Councilmember Vail seconded. **Motion carried 5-0.**
Clerk’s Office / HAVA Grant / Purchase Voting Equipment

- Lisa Lofgreen (Clerk) requested the remainder of the 2018 HAVA Grant $3,293 be appropriated to complete the purpose of the grant. Councilmembers agreed 7-0 to advertise.
- Lisa requested to update poll pads and scanners for $18,387.47 from CCD. Councilmembers agreed 7-0 to advertise. Councilmembers approved Lisa to move forward with purchasing.

Emergency Management Agency / Update Repair Sirens
Misty Moore requested to update and repair Vernon Township tornado sirens at a cost of $40,000. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to repair sirens and pay from Food & Beverage. Councilmember Gray seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Planning Department / Salary Ordinance
Councilmembers discussed a Salary Ordinance Amendment for Planning department. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve a prorated salary increase of $5,000 for Darla Smoak in Planning Department from General Fund effective March 6. Councilmember Gray seconded. Councilmember Shelby voted no. **Motion carried 6-1.**

New Palestine Economic Development Commission (EDC)
Councilmember Fisk made a motion to appoint Joe Franklin to the New Palestine Economic Development Commission. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Abatement Applications
- Randy Sorrell (Director HEDC) discussed BlueScope Properties request for abatement. Jason Lake (Cushman & Wakefield) financial consultant for BlueScope and Matt Roth, Vice President & General Counsel for BlueScope Properties were present to request abatement. This is a speculative development for industrial use. We are respectfully requesting designation as an economic revitalization area and for a tax abatement on real property. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2020-2-14 Declaratory Abatement for BlueScope. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded. **Motion carried 7-0.** A public hearing will be scheduled March 11th at 9 AM.

**Councilmember Gray left at 11:05 AM**
- Randy Sorrell (Director HEDC) discussed Indiana Becknell’s request for abatement. Larry Siegler with Peterson Property Group and Derek Hawkins, Senior Vice President with Indiana Becknell requested a ten year abatement. Councilmember Fisk disclosed he cuts grass for Becknell and this will take work away from him. Councilmember Shelby made a motion to introduce Resolution 2020-2-15 a Declaratory Abatement for Indiana Becknell. Councilmember Bledsoe seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.** A public hearing will be scheduled March 11th at 9 AM.
- Randy Sorrell (Director HEDC) discussed GDI Construction abatement. Ed Walter (attorney with Pritzke & Davis) requested a 10 year tax abatement for GDI. Councilmember Noe made
a motion to approve Resolution 2020-2-16 a Declaratory Abatement for GDI Construction. Councilmember Fisk seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.** A public hearing will be scheduled March 11\textsuperscript{th} at 9 AM.

- Randy Sorrell (Director HEDC) discussed abatement for CTC02, LLC. Ed Walter (attorney with Pritzke & Davis) requested a standard 10 year tax abatement. Councilmember Fisk made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-2-17 a Declaratory Abatement for CTC02, LLC. Councilmember Vail seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.** A public hearing will be scheduled March 11\textsuperscript{th} at 9 AM.

**Budget Meeting Update**

Councilmember Shelby discussed updates from the Budget Meeting. Commissioners brought forward a proposal to make temporary housing for Probation, Prosecutors Office and to build onto the IT Department using money from the current GO Bond at a cost of $125,000. They brought forward a plan longer-term plan to house Community Corrections and Probation in the vacated jail. Then they could use the vacated Community Corrections building to house the Prosecutors Office. Councilmember Noe asked when the completion date for the new jail would be? Councilmember Shelby said March of 2021.

**Adjourn 11:41 AM**

Councilmember Bledsoe made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Vail seconded. **Motion carried 6-0.**

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Approved this day: February 12, 2020

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Attest: __________________________
Debra Carnes, Hancock County Auditor