

COUNCIL MINUTES

September 21, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED that a meeting of the White County Council was held at the White County Building in Monticello at 9:00 A.M. on September 21, 2020 for the purpose of discussing any business that might come before the membership.

Council President Kramer called the Council meeting to order in joint session with the Commissioners. The following members were present:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| James B Davis | Dennis E Carter | Arthur A Anderson |
| Janet J Faker | James G Annis | Raymond L Kramer Jr |

Also, in attendance: Auditor Gayle Rogers, HR Director Leah Hull, White County Clerk Laura Cosgray, Election Deputy Shanda Cortez, Election Board President Pat Harper, Election Board member Ingrid Landis, White County Treasurer Jill Guingrich, Council Secretary Libby Billue, Bob Callahan

Absent: Kevin L Crabb

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Pro Tem Carter opened the Council meeting with the Council reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Council minutes for the special meeting held on 8/17/20 and for the budget hearing meeting held on 8/24/20 were presented for approval. Councilor Anderson motioned to approve the minutes of both meetings. Councilor Annis seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous

TRANSFERS

The following requests for transfer were received:

| <u>DEPT.</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> | <u>FROM</u> | <u>TO</u> |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| | | Maintenance | Repair |
| Surveyor | \$500,000.00 | Fund #2700 | Fund #1158 |

Councilor Anderson made a motion to approve the above transfer. Councilor Annis seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous

ELECTION BOARD - 2021 BUDGET

Election Board President Pat Harper spoke on behalf of the Election Board regarding the proposed reduction in board pay for 2021, a non-election year. Election Board members receive \$3,000 for 2020, but the proposed pay for 2021 is reduced to \$1500 due to 2021 being a non-election year. Pat noted that the board plans to meet monthly in 2021 and also attend state-called meetings as required. Other board responsibilities, even during non-election years, include voter

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list management, auditing, handling potential redistricting matters, updating the Emergency Plan Handbook, as well as preparations for the next election year. Additionally, it is currently unknown when the 2020 General Election will be completed.

Council members, Clerk Laura Cosgray, and Election Board members Pat Harper and Ingrid Landis, held discussion regarding Election Board pay in comparable Indiana counties as well as the disparity in pay among the multiple boards within White County Government. Pat and Laura acknowledged that it is unknown if future years will require more or less work for the Election Board and request a raise in pay, or to maintain the 2020 pay rate, for 2021. Councilor Anderson motioned to table any decision regarding changes to the proposed Election Board pay for 2021 until after the 2020 General Election. Councilor Annis seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous

TREASURER JILL GUINGRICH – 2021 INCOMING TREASURER SALARY

White County Treasurer Jill Guingrich requested that Council members reconsider the 2021 proposed salary for Treasurer Candidate Barbara Nydegger. Jill noted that Barbara is a long-time county employee who brings much experience to the position. Following discussion, which included an explanation of the county matrix and concern about setting a precedent for future newly elected officials, Council President Kramer thanked Jill for stepping up in support of Barbara.

HR DIRECTOR LEAH HULL - JOB DESCRIPTION

HR Director Leah Hull requested approval of the job description for Part Time Collection Clerk in the Treasurer's office. Councilor Faker motioned to approve the final draft as presented. Councilor Annis seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOLUTION 2020-09-21-01

WHITE COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-21-01

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of White County, Indiana that the sum of \$240,000.00 may be disbursed, after January 1, 2021, by the White County Auditor to the White County Economic Development Organization for the purpose of aiding in the funding of the operations and projects of the White County Economic Development Organization of White County, Indiana. Said disbursement shall be made from LIT EDIT appropriated budget line item 1112-30209-000-0000; Vendor 884.

Councilor Anderson motioned to approve Resolution 2020-09-21-01. Councilor Annis seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous

SALARY ORDINANCE 2020-02

Salary Ordinance 2020-02 for 2021 salaries was reviewed. Following discussion, there were no motions to amend the ordinance. Councilor Carter motioned to approve the ordinance as presented. Councilor Faker seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous

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BUDGET ADOPTION ORDINANCE 2020-01

Budget Adoption Ordinance 2020-01 (Budget Form No. 4) was presented and reviewed. Councilor Annis motioned to approve the 2021 budget as presented. Councilor Carter seconded the motion.

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Adopted Budget</i> | <i>\$33,575,661</i> |
| <i>Adopted Tax Levy</i> | <i>\$8,671,473</i> |
| <i>Adopted Tax Rate</i> | <i>0.4041</i> |
| <i>Adopted Budget</i> | <i>\$2,812,113 (Home-Ruled Funds)</i> |

Vote: Unanimous

PAYROLL REQUEST

Payroll requests for Probation (1), Area Plan (2), and Sheriff's Departments (1) were presented for approval. The payroll request for the Probation Department was corrected to the appropriate pay amount as per the county matrix. No further amendments were required. Councilor Faker motioned to approve all payroll requests, including the change to the Probation Department's request. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous

BOARD MEETING REPORTS

Council President Kramer noted that the Northwest Indiana Solid Waste District has not met recently due to lack of quorum. This board consists of members from six counties which sometimes impacts meeting attendance.

Councilor Carter advised that Valley Oaks is seeing a large increase in their caseload; approximately 48%. Additionally, Councilor Carter stated that he has been working with Highway Department Supt. Mike Kyburz to establish a schedule for purchase of vehicles. They intend to replace two trucks each year, rather than several at once or none at all, in order to make budgeting easier and to ensure that equipment is replaced timely.

Councilor Faker toured the former McClintic-Downey Insurance building for consideration as a possible location for Tourism Authority's Digital Marketing Director Kaylee Hahn. She also noted that the Health Department has partnered with Cass County for grant funds for a COVID-19 testing site. White County was eligible for \$100,000 in grant funds for establishment of a site, but the funds will instead be provided to Cass County who offers a testing site for all residents.

Councilor Annis reported that Ivy Tech currently has no administrative staff at the Monticello site. The secretary has resigned, and Patty Plantenga has taken a new role with Ivy Tech in Crawfordsville. It is unknown at this time if Ivy Tech will seek replacements. Per Councilor Annis, Patty intends to maintain or assist with the Promise Grant Program that was initiated earlier this year.

Auditor Rogers presented Council members with a record of past and pending (Wind Farm) Economic Development distributions to tax units. Auditor Rogers also asked Council members to consider changes to the budget hearing schedule for 2022 budgeting in order to allow adequate time for department heads and Council to meet without being rushed.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before the Council, Council President Kramer adjourned.

The next monthly meeting of the White County Council is October 19, 2020.

DENNIS E CARTER

JAMES G ANNIS

ARTHUR A ANDERSON

JAMES B DAVIS

(Absent)
KEVIN L CRABB

RAYMOND L KRAMER JR
President

JANET J FAKER

Attest: _____
GAYLE E ROGERS, AUDITOR