

COUNCIL MINUTES

September 20, 2021

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 20, 2021 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:

In Person:	Dennis E Carter	Arthur A Anderson	Matthew A McKean
	James G Annis	Raymond L Kramer Jr	Janet Faker
	Kevin L Crabb		

Also, in attendance in person: Auditor Gayle Rogers, Atty George Loy, Prosecutor Bob Guy, Chris Green of Tri-Global Energy, Kelly of Leeward, Bennett Fuson & Andrew Magner of EDP, and Council Secretary Libby Billue

By electronic attendance: Leah Hull

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Kramer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Council minutes for the meeting and budget hearings held from 08/09/2021-08/12/2021 were presented for approval. Councilor Anderson motioned to approve the minutes. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

VISITOR BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC HEARING – CONFIRMATORY RESOLUTION MEADOW LAKE SOLAR

Attorney George Loy presented *CONFIRMATORY RESOLUTION 21-09-20-01 FOR THE DESIGNATION OF AN ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA ON APPLICATION OF MEADOW LAKE SOLAR PARK, LLC*. There being no objection or comment from the public, Council President Kramer closed the public hearing.

Following discussion, Councilor Anderson motioned to approve Resolution 21-09-20-01.

Councilor Annis seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: 7 - 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb

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Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

DECLARATORY RESOLUTION - HONEY CREEK ENERGY LLC

Attorney George Loy presented Resolution 2021-09-20-02, *DECLARATORY RESOLUTION FOR THE DESIGNATION OF AN ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA ON APPLICATION OF HONEY CREEK ENERGY LLC*. Honey Creek Energy LLC seeks real and personal property tax abatement for a solar farm to be located in Honey Creek Township. Councilor Anderson motioned to approve Resolution 2021-09-20-02. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. **Motion Passed: 7 - 0**

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT – HONEY CREEK ENERGY, LLC

Attorney George Loy presented an Economic Development Agreement for Honey Creek Energy LLC. Following discussion, Councilor Faker motioned to approve the EDA as presented. Councilor Carter seconded the motion. **Motion Passed: 7 - 0**

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Resolution 2021-09-20-06 provides for the additional appropriation of American Rescue Plan Act funds to the following budget classifications:

<u>Budget Classification</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Allowed</u>
8950-40142-000-0000 Cthse Stormwater	\$ 373,878.00	\$ 373,878.00
9850-40143-000-0000 Cthse Plaza	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
8950-TBD Other Cap Improvements	<u>\$1,766,887.50</u>	<u>\$1,766,887.50</u>
TOTAL	\$2,340,765.50	\$2,340,765.50

Following discussion, Councilor Crabb motioned to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Councilor Carter seconded the motion. **Motion Passed: 7 - 0**

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

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PAYROLL REQUEST – PROSECUTOR BOB GUY

Prosecutor Bob Guy requested approval from Council to offer a starting wage that is above the normal base pay for a new employee, to replace Ashley Shafer who has resigned and submitted her two-week notice. Prosecutor Guy noted that the person he anticipates hiring is experienced and should meet matrix requirements for a starting pay at or near the current pay level of Ms. Shafer. After much discussion, Councilor Crabb motioned to allow the Prosecutor to offer \$37,968 as the 2021 starting wage for this position. Councilor McKean seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

JOB DESCRIPTIONS – HR DIRECTOR LEAH HULL

HR Director Leah Hull presented for approval (via Go To Meeting) several job descriptions for multiple departments. All job descriptions were previously reviewed by the committee and recommended for approval. However, the written description for the Jail Sergeants was submitted for review two days past the Council imposed deadline, leading to discussion by Council members regarding the validity of the request. Following further discussion, Councilor Anderson motioned to approve all job descriptions as presented. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 – 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

TRANSFERS

Auditor Rogers presented the following transfers for approval.

<u>From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>To</u>
1000-39999-000-0061 Coun Misc	\$80,000.00	1000-30903-000-0380 Genl Jail Nurse

Councilor Crabb motioned to approve the transfers as presented. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

<u>From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>To</u>
1194-39999-000-0061 Coun Misc	\$61,800.00	1194-40150-000-0000 SWOP Morgue

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Councilor Anderson motioned to approve the transfers as presented. Councilor McKean seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 – 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

2022 BUDGET ADOPTION ORDINANCE

Auditor Gayle Rogers presented 2022 Budget Ordinance 2021-09-20-03 for consideration and adoption. The 2022 budget submitted for adoption includes wage increases for the newly approved Jail Sergeant positions as discussed earlier in the meeting. So as not to punish the Jail Sergeants for the disregard of their superiors, who did not provide required job descriptions by the imposed deadline, Councilor Anderson motioned to approve the budget as presented. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 4 - 3

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Crabb
Nay: Faker, Kramer, McKean
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

2022 SALARY ORDINANCE

Auditor Gayle Rogers presented 2022 Salary Ordinance 2021-09-20-04 for adoption. Without available knowledge of which employees who will serve as Jail Sergeants, it is expected that the Salary Ordinance will require amendment at a future Council meeting. Councilor Carter motioned to approve the 2022 Salary Ordinance as presented. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 – 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

2022 WCEDO RESOLUTION

Auditor Gayle Rogers presented Resolution 2021-09-20-05 to disburse \$240,000.00 from LIT EDIT after January 1, 2022, to the White County Economic Development Organization of White County, Indiana. Councilor Faker motioned to approve Resolution 2021-09-20-05. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 – 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

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PAYROLL REQUESTS

Auditor Rogers presented several payroll requests. A request for a part-time public health nurse at \$30/hour was questioned and discussed as it is in excess of the matrix rate of \$18.20/hour. Councilor Annis motioned to approve a payroll amount for the part-time health nurse at \$18.20/hour. Councilor Crabb seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

Councilor Carter motioned to approve all other payroll requests as written. Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT- 7 BAY GARAGE/STORAGE

Council considered the proposed contract with Garmong to complete a new 7-bay garage with storage for the Sheriff's Department. Per Auditor Rogers, this project may be paid with ARPA funds. Councilor Anderson motioned to approve an expenditure of \$260,000 from ARPA funds for this project. Councilor McKean seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

Aye: Anderson, Annis, Carter, Faker, Kramer, McKean, Crabb
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

BOARD REPORTS

Council President Kramer says that the Northwest Indiana Solid Waste District has met and approved a 2022 budget with a cut in expenditures in order to allow an annual raise for the Executive Director.

ADJOURNMENT


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

The next meeting of the White County Council is Monday, October 18, 2021.

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DENNIS E CARTER


JAMES G ANNIS


ARTHUR A ANDERSON


MATTHEW A MCKEAN


KEVIN L CRABB


RAYMOND L KRAMER JR
President


JANET J FAKER

Attest: 
GAYLE E ROGERS, AUDITOR