

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 21, 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 June 21, 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, Deanna Dreblow, Grace Winkle, Leah Hull, George Loy, and Council Secretary Libby Billue

By electronic attendance: None

For contents of the joint session, see Commissioners' minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

MINUTES

Council minutes for the meeting held on 05/17/2021 were presented for approval. Councilor Faker motioned to approve the minutes 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

PUBLIC HEARING – WOLCOTT LIBRARY ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Wolcott Community Public Library requests approval of an additional appropriation of \$55,000 for Capital Outlay from their Operating Fund. Councilor McKean motioned to approve the additional appropriation, and 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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PUBLIC HEARING – CONFIRMATORY RESOLUTION INDIANA CROSSROADS

Attorney George Loy presented Confirmatory Resolution 2021-06-21-01 designating an ERA in White County for the purpose of real estate and personal property tax abatement for Indiana Crossroads Wind Farm LLC.

Councilor Anderson motioned to approve Confirmatory Resolution 2021-06-21-01.
Councilor Carter seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

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

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

PUBLIC HEARING – CONFIRMATORY RESOLUTION TWIN LAKES SOLAR

Attorney George Loy presented Confirmatory Resolution 2021-06-21-02 designating an ERA in White County for the purpose of real estate and personal property tax abatement for Twin Lakes Solar LLC.

Councilor Anderson motioned to approve Confirmatory Resolution 2021-06-21-02.
Councilor Annis seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

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

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

WHITE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – REQUEST TO WAIVE BOARD PAY

White County Health Department Office Manager Grace Winkle presented a request to waive board pay on behalf of the White County Board of Health. Grace reported that all board members have approved this request through email, and they will officially approve their status as a *voluntary* board at their next scheduled meeting. Up until now, board members were paid \$50 per meeting and meet quarterly. Grace requested Council approval to allow this change. Councilor Anderson motioned to approve this request, and Councilor Faker seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: 7 - 0

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

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE

Council members reviewed several CF-1/UD forms submitted by Meadow Lake Wind Farm, and the CF-1/PP submitted by Monticello Spring and determined that both entities remain

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in compliance. Councilor Crabb motioned to approve continuation of abatement for Meadow Lake Wind Farm and Monticello Spring. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: 7 - 0

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

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

SALARY MATRIX – CONVERSION TO HOURLY RATES FOR NON EXEMPT

Auditor Rogers updated Council members regarding previous discussion of creating a baseline for employee hourly rates to be used with implementation of the new timekeeping software. At this time all current hourly rates will be used, with the exception of minor adjustments needed for some 911 employees. The conversion date has not been set.

AREA PLAN – WAGE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT BUILDING INSPECTOR

Area Plan Director Joe Rogers requested permission to hire a part-time Assistant Building Inspector at an hourly wage consistent with that of the previous Assistant Building Inspector. He requests approval for this position to be held by an ACA employee who will be allowed to work an average of 30 hours per week and offered health insurance, but no other benefits. This position has not been filled in several years, but the increase in building permits and other requirements have made it necessary to do so. Joe noted that there are 2021 budgeted funds available for this position due to other unfilled positions within the department. Additionally, there is an existing job description in place. Following discussion, Councilor Anderson motioned to approve up to \$17.00 per hour for a part-time ACA Assistant Building Inspector. 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 a request to transfer from the Highway Department. Due to an oversight, funds were not appropriated for Bridge 89.

Transfer From: 1135-40104

Amount: \$31,989.00

Transfer To: 1135-64020

Councilor Anderson motioned to approve the transfer, and Councilor Faker seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: 7 - 0

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

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

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Absent: 0

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – CHECKING ACCOUNT

Auditor Rogers requested authorization to close a checking account at First Merchants Bank that was opened an unknown number of years ago for Community Corrections. The account is not required and there is no available documentation that authorized the establishment of the account. It has been used for deposit of fees required by the department, which were then paid to the White County Treasurer monthly by check. Closing the account will improve internal controls and White County Judges, Thompson and Woolley, have given approval for this action. All fees collected by Community Corrections will be deposited directly with the White County Treasurer. Motion Passed: 7 - 0

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

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

REPORTS

Councilor Faker reported that the Tourism Authority has been very busy. With no Director, many tasks are falling on her (as President). She also shared some recent news of some new and planned businesses in the Monticello Area.

Councilor McKean provided a brief review of the activities of KIRPC.

Councilor Annis reviewed his annual report as White County Graduation and Careers Coach. Additionally, he noted that the BMV is seeking a paved area of approximately 350'x150' for CDL training and testing in White County

Councilor Carter reported that the Innkeepers Tax Commission has recently met. He expects revenues to increase as they plan to increase the awareness of this established tax to local Innkeepers.

Council President Kramer noted that the Northwest Indiana Solid Waste District met to begin work on their budget for 2022. They are cutting costs and reducing expenses due to revenue reductions. He also advised that Newton County is again considering the possibility of withdrawing from the 6-county district.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before the Council, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the White County Council is Monday July 19, 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