

MIAMI COUNTY COUNCIL
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, INDIANA 46970
June 28, 2016

Council President Ralph Duckwall called the meeting to order. All members are present.

Councilman Wiles led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

MINUTES

Councilman Wiles made a motion to approve the 5/17/16 minutes. Councilman Manning 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION/TRANSFERS

Surveyor

Surveyor Greg Wilkinson asked for an additional appropriation of \$9,000 from the Surveyor Perpetuation Fund for 100 GPS cornerstone markings. The law requires that the work be done by a Certified Surveyor which necessitates the additional appropriation. Councilwoman Mull made a motion to allow the appropriation. Councilman Manning 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Wheel Tax/Surtax

Mike Sisson, Highway Supervisor, asked for an additional appropriation of \$200,000 of the new wheel tax/surtax to be appropriated in order to chip & seal an additional 20 miles of roads this summer. Councilman Manning made a motion to approve the appropriation. Councilman Boyer 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Clerk

Clerk Tawna Leffel-Sands asked for an additional appropriation of \$22,083 out of County General to purchase and rent additional poll books and hire additional help for the fall election. There was an unexpected high turnout (35%) for the primary election. She thought that early voting had caught on but the high turnout on Election Day caught her off guard. Councilman Wiles recommended waiting until the budget committee has had a chance to meet. After some discussion, Councilman Wiles made a motion to table until next month. Councilwoman Mull 2nd the motion and it passed 4-3. (Harp, Boyer, Wood voted against).

Sheriff

Sheriff Tim Miller requested 2 more full time jail deputies due to a study he had done at the jail. The Sheriff requested that they be paid for out of County General. On May 26th, for the first time, Wabash County wanted to send some inmates over and he had to say no. The jail staff is very stressed. Councilwoman Harp asked what the Commissary fund is used for. The Sheriff replied that they used it for repaving the parking lot at the jail, a new snow blade for the maintenance truck, power washer, lawnmower and those kind of things. The Sheriff stated that he needs them ASAP as it is a public safety matter and the safety of his employees is very important to him.

Councilman Manning stated that he understands what the Sheriff is saying, but he does not believe in adding full time positions in the middle of the year.

Councilwoman Mull made a motion to approve. Councilman Boyer 2nd the motion. Motion passed 6-1 (Manning).

Councilwoman Harp asked if the City had signed the 9-1-1 agreement yet. Commissioner Francis stated that they had not signed yet.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

July Council Meeting

Councilwoman Mull made a motion to move the July Council meeting to the Community Center at the 4H Fairgrounds. Councilman Manning 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Dates for Budget Hearings

Councilman Wiles made a motion to have the 2017 budget hearings on August 30th, August 31st and September 1st. Councilwoman Mull 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Probation Positions

Judge Tim Spahr explained that the Probation Department and Community Corrections had applied for a grant, which would include the salary for 2 Probation positions and 1 Community Correction position. They are requesting the addition of those three positions. The two positions for Probation will be a High-Risk Officer and a Evidence Based Intake Officer, There are currently 4 Adult and 1 Juvenile Officers besides the Chief Probation Office. Councilman Manning made a motion to approve the three positions. Councilwoman Harp 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Treasurer Temporary Full time position

Treasurer Rebecca Morris will be retiring July 29, 2016. The Treasurer's office is requesting a temporary full time position to help get someone trained. There is money available to move around in the budget so no additional funds will be needed. Councilman Manning made a motion to grant a full time temporary position in the Treasurer's office to expire August 1, 2016. Councilwoman Mull 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

MCEDA – Abatement Resolution 6-28-16

Jim Tidd, MCEDA Director, explained that when Orion was expanding their plant, there were improvements done in both the Miami County side and the Cass County side. Mr. Tidd said he mistakenly only applied for an abatement for Real Property. He is asking the Council to grant an abatement on Personal Property as well, the same as the real property, 10 years at 70%. Councilman Manning made a motion to allow. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE

Mary Brown, Chief Deputy Auditor, spoke to the Council regarding Insurance appropriation deficit. Mrs. Brown anticipates we will be \$400,000 in the whole by the end of the year. We have 4 extremely large claimants. The stop loss for 2 of them is \$140,000, another is at \$200,000. We also have several who are hitting the \$85,000. After some discussion, the Council asked the Auditor to advertise \$230,000 out of the extra CREDIT Fund in July, to go towards that deficit.

COMMITTEE UPDATE

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kris Marks, EMA Director, came before the Council with another quote for a new vehicle. Tipton Ford has a 2017 Expedition for \$30,500. He just wanted to run by the Council.

David Sailors asked if they had considered giving a wellness bonus to employees to help with the high insurance cost. Mrs. Brown stated that had been looked at but there was no money to start that kind of program up.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ethan Manning reported that he had attended the State called meeting for County Council members. Councilman Manning stated that he had received some information booklets for the Council members (which he passed out to all members). There was a lot of really good information on the changes to the budget process, new changes in the LOIT and COIT, the Open Door Law and Ag information. Councilman Manning stated approximately 160 – 170 Council members attended.

Councilwoman Mull made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Manning 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted

Jane Lilley

Miami County Auditor