

REGULAR MEETING

RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL

JUNE 8, 2016

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. with Gerald Mohr, Chairman, Warren Norris, Charles Smith, Janet Kile, Marvin Hedrick, Scott Barnes, Steve Mc Corkle, Mary Ann Beard, Auditor and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Gerald Mohr called the regular meeting to order.

Minutes of the May 11th meeting were approved on a motion by Steve McCorkle. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT

Councilwoman Janet Kile attended the workshop presented by INDOT explaining the requirements to attain the Community Crossing Matching Grant. This is a 50/50 match of road & bridge funds being distributed by the State.

STATFLIGHT AIR AMBULANCE

Marvin Hedrick reported on a membership meeting for StatFlight, the air ambulance company at Rush Memorial Hospital. After an inmate required the air ambulance, the county is attempting to work with the hospital to attain coverage for those that are incarcerated. With a StatFlight membership the amount that is paid by your insurance for an emergency flight is all that is required regardless of the cost of the flight. Hedrick spoke of a plan that would cover the entire county.

EMA

Councilman Steve McCorkle presented the following EMA report. FEMA is no longer in the disaster business. Each state will be responsible for disaster funding by establishing a \$3.30 escrow per state resident.

The radio licensing is close to being approved. The radio repeaters located in both the North and South portions of the county are no longer in service.

Three security cameras remain to be installed in the courthouse. The EMA director must now have a new computer in order to utilize the new security system.

AREA PLAN

Scott Barnes reported that updating the Comprehensive plan needs to be the next step in the reorganization of the APC. Barnes anticipates more litigation dealing with the wind farms and the proposed dairy facility.

JAIL PROJECT

Charles Smith and Marvin Hedrick, co-chairman of the jail committee discussed the proposed cost of construction, the estimated revenue and funds received generated by the jail construction income tax.

STELLAR DESIGNATION

Mayor Mike Pavey had requested the Council and the Commissioners to approve a letter of support for the Rushville Stellar project. Council President Gerald Mohr recommended financial support of \$60,000 a year for four years. Charles Smith stated that this amount may be too much money. Steve McCorkle and Scott Barnes supported the \$60,000 contribution. Marvin Hedrick proposed a lesser amount and increase it at a later date. Brian Sheehan representing the City stated that if the designation was about dollars we would be out of the game but the City is focusing on the quality of life and the need for increased population. Steve McCorkle moved to approve the letter of support with the recommended \$60,000 pledge. Scott Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF CARS

A report was presented giving the proposed cost of \$37,000 each for 4 Chevy Tahoes and \$29,500 for a transport van from Hubler Auto Center. A four year lease was discussed but no action was taken.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Gracie Marlatt reported that the Rush County Extension Office moved to the Root building at the fairgrounds. Marlatt explained that there will be no loss of service and the staff will be back in the office on June 27th. Volunteers are needed for two hour shifts to man the root building during the course of the fair. A new nutrition education coordinator, Anna Tanaglia has been assigned by Purdue. Funding is provided by the USDA.

AMENDED SALARY ORDINANCE

Deputy Horton a former city police officer was hired by the merit board as a new deputy at a bi-weekly rate of \$1,503.00. The budgeted amount by the County Council was only \$1,391.89. Auditor Beard presented an amended salary ordinance to raise the approved salary retroactive to the date of hire. Councilman Smith stated that the Sheriff's Merit Board has made a decision that was not their decision to make. The council is elected not the merit board and it is the Council that must answer to the public. Steve McCorkle volunteered to talk to the merit board and moved to pay the deputy the higher amount as of his date of hire. The motion died for lack of a second. Scott Barnes moved to pay the bi-weekly pay of \$1,503 going forward. Marvin Hedrick seconded the motion with no back pay. The motion carried with Charles Smith and Janet Kile voting "no".

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Rush County Redevelopment Commission submitted a letter according to IC 36-7-14-39(b)(4)(B) attesting that the commission has determined that there is no excess assessed value to be allocated of 2016 taxes payable in 2017. Members of the Commission are Mark Bacon, President, Charles Smith, Dr. Robert Jackman, Tom Barnes, Jerry Sitton, Secretary, and Mary Ann Beard, Financial Officer.

ORDINANCE-BLANKET BOND

An ordinance is required to approve the use of a blanket bond for county employees. Leigh Morning presented the following ordinance. Marvin Hedrick moved to sign the ordinance. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Assured Partners the County’s insurance company will be providing the bonds required by State statute. Auditor Beard shared that she has received several complaints from supervisors regarding the subpar service they are receiving from Assured Partners. Janet Kile moved that a letter be sent to the Commissioners informing them of complaints. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

INTERNAL CONTROL

Attorney Morning presented the policy on Internal Control, Materiality, and Ethics as required by legislation passed this session. Steve McCorkle moved to approve the policy and Warren Norris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

The Sheriff’s report revealed 56 inmates occupying the jail. Five juveniles have been arrested in the mailbox vandalism case. Three stops have been made on the interdiction program with no arrests. The Sheriff reported that the Jail will run out of part time funds in 7 to 8 weeks.

COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS

Mary Ann Beard, Auditor was instructed to send the Council a list of offices for assignment. Each Councilman will select three offices to spend time with the Office holder or Supervisor to discuss the 2017 budgets.

The next meeting is July 13th.

Warren Norris moved to adjourn. Scott Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Gerald Mohr, Chairman

Warren Norris

Charles Smith

Janet Kile

Marvin Hedrick

Scott Barnes

Steve McCorkle

ATTEST:

Mary Ann Beard, Auditor