

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. with Gerald Mohr, Warren Norris, Charles Smith, Janet Kile, Marvin Hedrick, Scott Barnes, Steve McCorkle, Mary Ann Beard, Auditor and Leigh Morning attorney in attendance.

Gerald Mohr called the meeting to order and presented the first order of business.

PUBLIC HEARING

Auditor Mary Ann Beard noted that a public hearing for the County and Solid Waste budget had been advertised and posted on the Indiana public portal "Gateway". Council Chairman Mohr asked if the public had comment on the Solid Waste or the County budget. Hearing none, Mr. Mohr entertained a motion by Charles Smith to close the public hearing. Warren Norris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

In anticipation of lengthy budget hearing the board scheduled a budget workshop on Thursday, September 8th at 9:00a.m. in the Auditor's office of the Rush County Courthouse.

Minutes of the July 13th meeting were approved on a motion by Marvin Hedrick. Scott Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AMENDED SALARY ORDINANCE

Community Corrections Director Ashley Stevens requested an amended salary ordinance to coincide with fiscal year budget. Probation Officer Jake Colb salary is set by the State at \$43,030. Field supervision officer Duane Raab's salary is based on performance and the requested salary is \$34,970. Scott Barnes moved to adopt the amended salary ordinance. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS-Highway

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested an additional appropriation of \$19,639 to replace the roof of the Highway Garage. The new roof will be a vinyl product with a 15 full lifetime warranty. Marvin Hedrick moved to allow the request. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sitton then asked that \$200,000 be appropriated for Summer Construction. Mr. Sitton reported that 70 miles have been through the chip & seal process with 40 miles remaining along with a few miles of blade mix. Steve McCorkle made the motion to allow the appropriation with Charles Smith seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Community Funds for roads & bridges have been awarded to Rush County in the amount of \$127,000 which will cover half the County's cost of bridge 450E.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS-Jail

Sheriff Jim Cowan requested that an additional appropriation be granted by the Council for additional funds of \$45,000 for part time help. The increase is required because of the additional jail population and transport needs. Marvin Hedrick encouraged the sheriff to transfer funds when possible but moved to allow the additional. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McCorkle moved to allow the next additional appropriation of \$5,000 for jail overtime. Scott Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TRANSFERS

The Sheriff then asked for the following four transfers:

- \$1,000 from Vehicle Maintenance to Tires & Tubes in the Sheriff's budget. Motion to allow by Charles Smith and seconded by Warren Norris. Motion carried.
- \$5,000 from Jail Medical to Jail Part time. Motion to approve by Marvin Hedrick and seconded by Scott Barnes. Motion carried.
- \$8,000 from Jail Fuel to Jail Overtime. Motion to allow by Steve McCorkle and a second was offered by Scott Barnes. Motion carried.
- \$1,500 from K-9 Equipment to K-9 Repairs and Maintenance. Steve McCorkle moved to approve with Warren Norris seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Marvin Hedrick stated with the budget issued at hand he would like to disallow year end encumbrances. The motion died for lack of a second.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Cowan presented his monthly report. The current jail population stands at 59 (36 males and 23 females) with only 4 level 6 felons sentenced. Cowan submitted the State Jail Inspection and reported that the Commissioners approved the new jail design. Time was taken to inspect the design blueprints. Attorney Morning stated that agreement had been reached on the Pavey building but Attorney Tracy Newhouse made changes after the agreement.

NON-BINDING REVIEW

Auditor Mary Ann Beard disbursed DLGF estimates of maximum levies and property tax caps for all political subdivisions. Steve McCorkle moved that no recommendations be made for 2017. Scott Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMS

Raleigh and Anderson Township EMS units submitted quarterly financial reports as required by the county contract.

RIVERBOAT FUND

Auditor Beard reported that the annual state distribution of \$58,807.93 from the Riverboat fund has been received. The Council has the opportunity to determine if the funds are deposited in the Riverboat Fund or the General Fund. Marvin Hedrick stated that the General Fund has the most need for the funds at this time and moved that the Riverboat distribution be deposited in the County General Fund. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Steve McCorkle reported on the EMA. Courthouse Cameras have been installed. The radio license has been received. Director Kemker has applied for a \$30,505 grant for radios. Marvin Hedrick requested a list of needs required for each department. A mitigation plan has been completed for the department. Mr. McCorkle stated that he attended the Merit Board meeting but there wasn't a quorum.

Councilman Barnes shared information from the APC. The City had traded ground with the Liggett family. The City owned property had been re-zoned to commercial use. The City requested that the area be subdivided into 5 acre lots but received a denial. Barnes shared his frustration that he didn't know why the land in question was rezoned if it could not be replatted.

The meeting was recessed at 11:30 a.m. to reconvene at Rush Memorial Hospital for a guided tour on a motion by Marvin Hedrick. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

/s/ Gerald Mohr
Gerald Mohr, Chairman

/s/ Warren Norris
Warren Norris

/s/ Charles Smith
Charles Smith

/s/ Janet Kile
Janet Kile

/s/ Marvin Hedrick
Marvin Hedrick

/s/ Scott Barnes
Scott Barnes

/s/ Steve McCorkle
Steve McCorkle

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor