

REGULAR MEETING**RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL****MARCH 11, 2020**

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members Charles Smith, Warren Norris, Ralph Adams, Janet Kile, Scott Barnes and Carl Harcourt, Jodi Harr, Auditor and County Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance. Councilman Marvin Hedrick was absent.

Chairman Charles Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes of the regular meeting held on February 12, 2020 were reviewed. Ralph Adams made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Scott Barnes seconded. Motion carried.

ABATEMENTS

Brad Berkemeier was present to see what kind of workshop the council wanted to hold regarding abatement training. It was agreed to hold the workshop following the regular council meeting on April 8, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

COURTHOUSE REMODEL FINANCING

Greg Martz with GM Development was present to discuss IC 5-23 which is titled Build, Operator, Transfer. This is another way of financing that most municipalities are not aware of. It can be used for new build or remodel.

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS GRANT

Chuck Kemker requested permission to apply for the fiscal year 20/21 Health Preparedness Grant through the Indiana State Department of Health. It is a federal grant with some funds being advanced and some funds being reimbursement. The amount of the grant will be \$29,166. There is no county match required. This is the grant where a part of Kemker's salary is paid. Scott Barnes made the motion to approve. Ralph Adams seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

He reported the Health department is making preparations for the Coronavirus breakout.

HR

HR Director Tony Personett presented the salary study findings that he was requested to do by the council.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Ashley Stevens requested permission to advertise for an additional appropriation in fund 1123 RCCC CTP in the amount of \$15,000. It is for new furniture for the RCCC offices in the new jail. Warren Norris made the motion to approve the advertising. Janet Kile seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CONGRESSINAL SCHOOL FUND

Auditor Jodi Harr presented Resolution 2020-02 Transferring Monies from the Congressional School Funds to the State of Indiana. Treasurer Cindra Humphry has cashed all of the bonds. Ralph Adams made the motion to approve. Carl Harcourt seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The 2019 treasurer's report for the Rush County Redevelopment Commissioner was presented for the council's review.

EDIT FUND

BOK Financing sent a check in the amount of \$150,786.37 to Rush County. It is the return of excess Series 2003 Bond proceeds. This was from the Rush Memorial Hospital renovation. Auditor Harr was able to find a check issued from the EDIT fund on May 31, 2007 for this expenditure. The check from BOK was deposited back into the EDIT fund.

SPECIAL PURPOSE FUND 1114 NEW JAIL

An additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,646,056.00 was advertised and presented for approval. The additional expenses are for the remaining construction cost and operations of the new jail. Scott Barnes made the motion to approve the additional appropriation. Carl Harcourt seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Allan Rice presented a new pay scale for all part time employees at the sheriff, jail and dispatch departments. Much discussion was held. Scott Barnes made the motion to approve with the understanding that the Auditor report back to them with a procedure on how to track the hire dates and payroll changes to be effective on April 11, 2020. Warren Norris seconded. Janet Kile voted no. Warren Norris, Ralph Adams, Scott Barnes and Carl Harcourt voted yes. Motion carried. It was noted that current staff would need to be moved to the new rates as of April 11, 2020. When asked how he would pay for this increase, the Sheriff replied he will probably need an additional appropriation.

There are problems with the radios and doors in the new jail. Training continues.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Janet Kile reported the personnel committee had several meetings regarding changing to the current Personnel Policy. She and Commissioner Bruce Levi have given the proposed changes to department heads to get their comments and to review with their employees. Suggestions/comments are to be given to the HR Director. The goal is for the changes to be effective January 1, 2021. It was decided the policy would be reviewed on an annual basis.

