

REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL August 28, 2024

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members Charlie Smith, Denny Corn, Janet Kile, Kyle Gardner, Carl Harcourt and Scott Barnes present. Auditor, Tammy Justice and County Attorney Leigh Morning were also present.

Councilman Charlie Smith called the Regular Session to order at 9:00 a.m. and read the I Speak statement to the public.

Commissioner roll call was done at 9:03 a.m. with Commissioners Mark Bacon, Ron Jarman and Kenny Aulbach present.

Minutes of the July 10, 2024, Regular Session meeting was presented. Carl Harcourt made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of the July 26, 2024, Special Session was presented. Denny Corn made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of the August 8, 2024, Special Session was presented. Scott Barnes made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

- Auditor Tammy Justice for Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in fund 9126 Community Crossing Highway Grant in the amount of \$455,918.21. Kyle Gardner moved to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$455,918.21. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COURT SERVICES

- Auditor Tammy Justice for Director Ashley Stevens requested approval from the Council to advertise for an additional appropriation in fund 8119 CFDA #93.7889 State Opioid Grant in the amount of \$60,921.00. Denny Corn moved to approve advertising for the additional appropriation in the amount of \$60,921.00. Seconded by Janet Kile. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice presented the Council with the mid-year Commissary and Inmate Trust reports.
- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in fund 7109 K-9 Contribution in the amount of \$20,000.00. Kyle Gardner moved to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$20,000.00. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval from the Council to advertise for the sale of county owned vehicles. Kyle Gardner moved to approve the advertising of the vehicle sale. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice requested a recommendation from the Council regarding the 2025 Estimated Max Levy Report and the 2025 Estimated Property Tax Cap Impact Report. County Attorney Leigh Morning discussed with the Council that Baker Tilly advised of the possibility of tax rates decreasing and suggested short term obligation bonds. Morning also stated Baker Tilly would be available to discuss further if need be. Greg Guerrettaz with FSG, the county's financial advisor, suggested the short-term obligation bonds would be a good idea if a project was currently underway. Carl Harcourt moved to make no recommendation. Seconded by Janet Kile. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested instruction from the Council on where to put the Riverboat Revenue for 2025. Kyle Gardner moved to put the 2025 Riverboat Revenue in the Riverboat Fund. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice informed the Council that the maximum levy growth quotient for 2025 is 4%.
- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Council there is a substantial balance in County General as of June 30, 2024. Discussion was held regarding moving \$500,000.00 out of County General to the Rainy Day Fund. Carl Harcourt made a motion to transfer \$500,000.00 out of County General to the Rainy Day Fund. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Jodi Harr requested approval of two (2) job descriptions from the Council. The full-time cook at the jail, and the part-time nurse in the health department. Janet Kile moved to approve the two (2) job descriptions. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MISC

- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Council with Resolution No. 2024-1 for approval. The resolution allows the County to move forward with the acquisition of the Sickbert Office at 620 E. 11th Street, Rushville for no more than \$300,000.00 and the cost of appraisals. Denny Corn moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-1. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Council with Ordinance No. 2024-6A for approval. The ordinance will allow financing not to exceed \$1,159,746.72 for dump trucks for the Rush County Highway Department. Denny Corn moved to approve Ordinance No. 2024-6A. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Kyle Gardner. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Charlie Smith opened the 2025 Budget Workshop at 9:35 a.m.

The workshop was recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

The workshop was reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

The 2025 budget workshop concluded at 4:10 p.m.

The next Regular Scheduled Council meeting will be September 10, 2024.

/Charles Smith/
Charles Smith, Chairman

/Scott Barnes/
Scott Barnes

/Denny Corn/
Denny Corn

/Janet Kile/
Janet Kile

/Kyle Gardner/
Kyle Gardner

/Carl Harcourt/
Carl Harcourt

/Abstain/
Amy Grocox

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor