

## **REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL November 13, 2024**

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members Charlie Smith, Denny Corn, Amy Grocox, Janet Kile, Kyle Gardner and Scott Barnes present. County Attorney Leigh Morning was also present. Carl Harcourt and Auditor Tammy Justice were not present.

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

Minutes of the October 8, 2024, Regular Session meeting was presented. Denny Corn made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of the October 9, 2024, Regular Session meeting was presented. Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **TREASURER**

- Treasurer Susan Spaeth asked approval from the Council to transfer \$540.00 from 1000.31307.00000.0003 Positive Pay to 1000.20010.00000.0003 Supplies. Kyle Gardner moved to allow the transfer. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **CORONER**

- Coroner Brenda McMahan asked approval from the Council to transfer \$4,400.00 from 1000.40052.00000.0068 Council Use Only to 1000.30047.00000.0068 Autopsies. Janet Kile moved to allow the transfer. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **CLERK**

- Clerk Angie Buckley asked approval from the Council to transfer \$2,250.00 from 1119.10018.00000.0000 Part-Time to 1119.30186.00000.0000 Professional Services. Amy Grocox moved to allow the transfer. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **EMA**

- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Council to apply for the 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) in the amount of \$21,645.00 with no county match. The purpose of the grant is for salary reimbursement. Kyle Gardner moved to apply for the 2024 EMPG. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Council to apply for the 2024 Duke Grant in the amount of \$5,794.31 with a county match of \$2,213.89. The purpose of the grant is to provide an emergency high speed mobile wi-fi that has the capabilities to be established in areas of outages and disasters. Amy Grocox moved to apply for the 2024 Duke Grant. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker updated the Council regarding the BRIC Grant pre application.

## **HIGHWAY**

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Council to apply for Local Rural Project Bridge 181 Replacement Grant in the amount of \$2,463,446.00 with a county match of \$492,690.00. The purpose of the grant is to replace bridge 181 on CR 250 E. over North Branch Clifty Creek. Scott Barnes moved to apply for the Local Rural Project Bridge 181 Replacement Grant. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Council to apply for Local Rural Project Bridge 164 Replacement Grant in the amount of \$2,875,784.00 with a county match of \$575,158.00. The purpose of the grant is to replace bridge 164 on CR 300 S. over Little Flatrock River. Janet Kile moved to apply for the Local Rural Project Bridge 164 Replacement Grant. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton requested approval from the Council to apply for Local Rural Project 700 W. Resurfacing Grant in the amount of \$3,689,548.00 with a county match of \$737,909.60. The purpose of the grant is to grind, patch, resurface and stripe 700 W. from US 52 to 800 N. And upgrade all ADA sidewalks along 700 W. in Arlington. Denny Corn moved to apply for the Local Rural Project 700 W. Resurfacing Grant. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **COURT SERVICES**

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton for Director Ashley Stevens asked approval for Ordinance 2024-13 An Ordinance Creating the Rush County Opioid Alternative Fund, for fund #8132. Kyle Gardner moved to approve Ordinance 2024-13. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **SHERIFF**

- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval from the Council to transfer \$4,000.00 from 7109.40000.00000.0000 Equipment to 7109.20010.00000.0000 Supplies and \$1,987.52 from 7109.30020.00000.0000 Repairs & Maintenance to 7109.20010.00000.0000 Supplies. Scott Barnes moved to allow the transfers. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Council regarding a breaker/compressor issue at the jail, warranty will cover the replacement.
- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval from the Council to use commissary funds for the 2024 Rush County Sheriff's Department Awards Banquet. Such costs will not exceed \$3,000.00. Denny Corn moved to allow the use of the commissary funds not exceeding \$3,000.00. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$2,084.61 for 9130.40000.00000.0000 Equipment. Amy Grocox moved to approve the additional appropriation. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

- Director Jodi Harr requested the approval of the Council for the job description for the newly re-added full-time IV-D Administrative Assistant position in the Prosecutor's Office. Janet Kile moved to approve the job description. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Director Jodi Harr advised the Council the Soil & Water department did not get approval for a grant to help offset the costs of a part-time employee.
- Director Jodi Harr advised the Council that part-time employee Emily Mullins would be filling in for the full-time sheriff administrator for 8 to 12 weeks. Mullins will be working 40 hours per week but has not worked the maximum part-time hours for the last 12-month period to change her classification from part-time to full-time.
- Director Jodi Harr advised the Council that the job description for the IT Director needs to be updated and a job description for the IT Assistant needs to be created.

### AUDITOR

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested approval from the Council to advertise for the 2025 appointments for the Alcoholic Beverage Board, Area Plan Commission and the Hospital Board. Letters of interest to be submitted by December 6, 2024. Amy Grocox moved to advertise for the 2025 appointments. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### MISC.

- Mark Spurlin and Kip Burkett with the Rush Memorial Hospital Board updated the Council regarding ongoing and completed hospital projects for 2024. They advised that farm ground in Grant County, owned by the hospital, had been sold and funds from that were put into a restricted fund. Amy Grocox inquired if there were long term goals for the funds from the sale of the farm ground it was stated possible expansion updates. Spurlin and Burkett advised a new ambulance had been purchased to use for transport. Scott Barnes asked if the meeting minutes on the community center funding could be shared with the County Council.
- David Young with Anderson Township Regional Sewer District requested approval from the Council to apply for the Community Development Block Grant Planning Grant in the amount of \$87,000.00 with match funds of \$10,000.00 to be paid by Anderson Township Regional Sewer District. The purpose of the grant will be to obtain a Water, Wastewater and Stormwater master plan. Scott Barnes moved to apply for the Community Development Block Grant Planning Grant. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Scott Barnes inquired where the commissioners were with allocating the ARPA funds.
- Charlie Smith inquired where the commissioners were paying for the purchase of the Senior Citizen Center Building located at 504 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Rushville.

Motion to adjourn was made by Amy Grocox. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The next Regular Scheduled Council meeting will be December 11, 2024.

/Charles Smith/  
Charles Smith, Chairman

/Scott Barnes/  
Scott Barnes

/Denny Corn/  
Denny Corn

/Janet Kile/  
Janet Kile

/Kyle Gardner/  
Kyle Gardner

/Abstain/  
Carl Harcourt

/Amy Grocox/  
Amy Grocox

ATTEST:

/Heather Carlton/  
Heather Carlton, Auditor Assistant