

## **REGULAR MEETING    RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL    December 11, 2024**

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members Charlie Smith, Denny Corn, Amy Grocox, Janet Kile, Kyle Gardner, Scott Barnes and Carl Harcourt present. County Attorney Leigh Morning was also present. Auditor Tammy Justice was present by phone.

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

Commissioner Roll Call at 9:00 a.m. with Mark Bacon, Ron Jarman and Kenny Aulbach present.

Minutes of the November 13, 2024, Regular Session meeting was presented. Amy Grocox made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **CORONER**

- Coroner Brenda McMahan asked approval from the Council to transfer \$500.00 from 1000.20011.00000.0007 Misc. Supplies to 1000.30064.00000.0007 Deputy Coverage and \$500.00 from 1000.400000.00000.0007 Equipment to 1000.30064.00000.0007 Deputy Coverage for a total of \$1,000.00. Janet Kile moved to allow the transfer. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **SHERIFF**

- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Council on interviews within the department and thanked the Council for allowing the replacements.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Council of damage to a 2024 Durango during a recent storm.
- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval from the Council to use \$477.29 of commissary funds to offset fees from the Sheriff's Office Family Day. Scott Barnes moved to allow the use of the commissary funds in the amount of \$477.29. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **AUDITOR**

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested approval from the Council to transfer \$150,000.00 from 1138.30020.00000.0000 Repairs & Maintenance to 1138.40073.00000.0000 504 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Rushville and \$50,000.00 from 1138.30186.00000.0000 Prof. Services to 1138.40073.00000.0000 504 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Rushville for a total of \$200,000.00. Kyle Gardner moved to allow the transfer. Seconded by Denny Corn. Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Scott Barnes Nay, Carl Harcourt Aye. Motion carried.
- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested approval from the Council to allow the auditor the ability to encumber with invoices until year end. Amy Grocox moved to allow the Auditor to encumber. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested approval from the Council to allow the auditor the ability to sign transfers between series until year end.

Carl Harcourt moved to allow the Auditor to sign transfers between series. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Auditor Tammy Justice clarified with the Council the amount of ARPA funds left in each line of the budget.

### **2024 SALARY ORDINANCE**

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested approval for an amended 2024 Salary Ordinance as follows: Sheriff Department Deputy Peck name change to Deputy Russell effective 9.19.2024. LIT CO Storey changed to Co Cpl Storey effective 11.23.2024 with pay up to \$22.28. LIT Co Denney name change to CO Feaster effective 12.21.2024 with pay up to \$21.21. LIT CO Woodham name change to CO Patterson effective 9.29.2024 with pay up to \$21.21. Amy Grocox moved to amend the 2024 Salary Ordinance. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **2025 SALARY ORDINANCE**

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton presented the Council with Ordinance 2024-14 Adopting the 2025 Salaries and Wages for Rush County Employees for approval. Amy Grocox moved to approve the 2025 Salary Ordinance #2024-14. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **2025 APPOINTMENTS**

- Hospital Board – letters of interest were received by Linda Ashwill, Kaci Bennett, Morgan Flanary, Michelle Herbert, Cora Lienemann and Mark Spurlin. Scott Barnes moved to nominate Michelle Herbert. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Carl Harcourt moved to nominate Mark Spurlin. Seconded by Denny Corn. No other nominations were heard. Motion for Michelle Herbert as follows: Denny Corn Nay, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Nay, Scott Barnes Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Nay. Motion for Mark Spurlin as follows: Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Nay, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Nay, Scott Barnes Nay, Carl Harcourt Aye, Charlie Smith Aye as tie breaker to accept Mark Spurlin to the Hospital Board. Motion carried.
- Alcoholic Beverage Board – no letters of interest were received. Auditor Assistant was directed to readvertise for the Alcoholic Beverage Board with letters of interest due to Auditor by January 7, 2025.
- Area Plan Commission Citizen Appointment – letter of interest was received by Linda Ashwill. Virgil Bremer sent a letter of interest after the posted deadline by email. Janet Kile moved to reject letters of interest and readvertise with letters of interest due to the Auditor by January 7, 2025. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Area Plan Commission – Denny Corn
- Eastern Indiana Development District – Scott Barnes
- Economic Development District – Kyle Gardner
- Employee Health Insurance Committee – Charles Smith
- Fiber Board – Carl Harcourt
- Solid Waste Board – Kyle Gardner
- EMA Board – Carl Harcourt
- Community Corrections Board – 4-year council member – Kyle Gardner
- Revolving Loan Board – Charles Smith
- Redevelopment Board – Charles Smith
- Personnel Committee – Janet Kile
- JRAC – Charles Smith

- Extension – Amy Grocox

Amy Grocox made a motion to approve the 2025 County Council Appointments. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**MISC.**

- Abe Keim with Hoosier Pallet LLC presented the Council with a Statement of Benefits Personal Property as well as a Statement of Benefits Real Estate Improvement for abatement approval. County Attorney Leigh Morning advised there were incorrect dates and recommended making corrections and returning them for approval at the January 2025 meeting.
- Judge David Northam thanked the Council for working with him for the past 28 years. Northam stated that 28 years ago he requested the Council approve a Corvette as a court vehicle, since that was not awarded, he had to purchase his own Corvette and would like the Council to pay off his current loan. Seeing no motion, Charlie Smith found the request to be dead.
- County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Council with Resolution 2024-3 for approval. Approval will allow the County to move forward with the acquisition of the Senior Center located at 504 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Rushville, for no more than \$200,000.00. After much discussion and concerns Denny Corn moved to approve and sign Resolution 2024-3. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile abstained due to being secretary of the Senior Citizen Board, Kyle Gardner Aye, Scott Barnes Nay, Carl Harcourt Aye. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Ron Jarman updated the Council on vendors Comcast, Frontier and NineStar who interviewed for the fiber contract. Jarman also advised that the fiber cable and conduit had been delivered and invoice would be received.
- Chris May with the Rush County Community Foundation advised the Council the Gift VIII grant application of Five (5) Million Dollars from the Lilly Endowment had been awarded to Rush County.
- Commissioner Mark Bacon thanked the Council for the good working relationship for the past 12 years of his term and for the work the Council does.

Motion to adjourn was made by Carl Harcourt. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The next Regular Scheduled Council meeting will be January 8, 2025.

/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

/Amy Grocox/  
Amy Grocox

ATTEST:  
/Heather Carlton/  
Heather Carlton, Auditor Assistant