

REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL January 8, 2025

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, 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.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS

- Denny Corn made a motion to nominate Charles Smith as Council Chair for the 2025 year. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. Charles Smith accepted the nomination after voting Nay. All were in favor. Motion carried. Janet Kile moved to close the nominations. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Denny Corn made a motion to nominate Scott Barnes as Council Vice-Chair for the 2025 year. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Scott Barnes accepted the nomination. All were in favor. Motion carried. Carl Harcourt moved to close the nominations. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of the December 11, 2024, Regular Session meeting was presented. Amy Grocox made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SENIOR CENTER

- Director Angela Cavaletto requested permission from the Council to apply for the Section 5311 Rural Transit Grant in the amount of \$211,068.00 with a County match of \$10,000.00. Amy Grocox moved to apply for the Section 5311 Rural Transit Grant. Seconded by Denny Corn. Janet Kile abstained from voting due to being on the Senior Center Board. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EMA

- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Council to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$3,580.42 in fund 9123 Duke Foundation Grant Fund. Scott Barnes moved to advertise for the additional appropriation. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested approval from the Council to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$9.61 in fund 8950 CFDA #21.027 ARPA Coronavirus fund. Scott Barnes moved to advertise for the additional appropriation. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton requested approval from the Council to transfer \$1,000.00 from 8950.30218.00000.0000 Comprehensive Plan to

8950.40100.00000.0000 Broadband. Scott Barnes moved to allow the transfer. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Jodi Harr advised the Council that they made a motion on July 10, 2024, that effective January 1, 2025, courthouse part-time employees who are not assigned to a regular full-time position be paid according to the COMOT schedule assigned to that office or position. Harr stated the Soil & Water Board budgeted for 2025, \$20.00 per hour for their part-time employee. Harr stated she has had several other office holders approach her as well regarding not paying the full COMOT amount to part-time employees. Janet Kile moved to amend the 2025 salary ordinance to state Courthouse part-time employees who are not assigned to a regular full-time position are to be paid UP TO the COMOT schedule assigned to that office or position. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Jodi Harr updated the Council on staffing changes.

2025 AMENDED SALARY ORDINANCE

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton presented the Council with an Amended Salary Ordinance 2024-14. Changes that were made are the courthouse part-time employees who are not assigned to a regular full-time position are to be paid UP TO the COMOT schedule assigned to that office or position. And yearly salary amounts for elected officials were updated. Denny Corn moved to approve the 2025 Amended Salary Ordinance #2024-14. Seconded by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2024 EMCUMBRANCES

- Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton advised the Council of the following encumbrances done from 2024 funds: Fund 1000 County General \$11,413.52, Fund 1101 Sheriff's Accident \$6,124.00, Fund 1114 LIT Special Purpose \$73,086.48, Fund 1119 Clerk Perpetuation \$847.96, Fund 1135 Cumulative Bridge \$262,514.06, Fund 1138 Cumulative Cap Development \$200,000.00, Fund 1156 Firearms Training \$1,000.00, Fund 1159 Health \$1,125.00, Fund 1169 Local Road & Street \$9,650.42, Fund 1170 LIT Public Safety County Share \$21,246.00, Fund 1176 Highway \$6,820.34, Fund 1222 Rush County 911 Fund \$9,059.00, Fund 4801 Courthouse Roof Bond Proceeds \$15,989.00, Fund 8895 IV-D Incentive 99/Co \$723.46 and Fund 8950 CFDA #21.0247 ARPA Coronavirus \$1,037,422.00 for a grant total of \$1,657,021.84.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- Dixie Meyer advised the Council that grant #8130 CFDA #93.268 Immunization Coop has a negative balance of \$15,420.53 due to not turning in the correct information to the state for reimbursement. Meyer has received confirmation from David Hopper with the state that funds from Fund 1161 Local Public Health Services can be used to rectify the negative grant balance.

LIT

- County Attorney Leigh Morning prepared Resolution 2025-1 A Resolution Distributing a Portion of the Public Safety Revenue to the County PSAP and to the Volunteer Fire Departments. This resolution is clearing up the breakdown for the State of Indiana and is good for the year 2025. Another

resolution will need to be done for all consecutive years. Kyle Gardner discussed questions the public has brought to him. Amy Grocox moved to sign Resolution 2025-1. Seconded by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2025 APPOINTMENTS

- Alcoholic Beverage Board – letter of interest was received by Daniel Shanahan. Denny Corn moved to reappoint Daniel Shanahan to the Alcoholic Beverage Board. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Area Plan Commission Citizen Appointment – letters of interest were received by Linda Ashwill and Virgil Bremer. Denny Corn moved to reappoint Virgil Bremer to the Area Plan Commission. Seconded by Scott Barnes. 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. Carl Harcourt questioned Keim on how Rush County would benefit from this abatement. County Attorney Leigh Morning advised the abatements are on a yearly declining scale. County Attorney Leigh Morning presented the Council with Resolution 2025-2 Declaratory Resolution For The Designation Of An Economic Revitalization Area On Application Of Hoosier Pallet, LLC. for approval. After discussion, Kyle Gardner moved to approve abatement and sign Resolution 2025-2. Seconded by Scott Barnes. Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Scott Barnes Aye, Carl Harcourt Nay. Motion carried. Public Hearing set for February 12, 2025, at 9:00 am in the Assembly Room of the Rush County Courthouse on this matter.
- Commissioner Jeff Wilson addressed the County Council stating he is very passionate about cleaning up small town blighted areas within Rush County.
- Kyle Gardner advised the Council that Rushville City Council is starting the process to build a transfer station on the west end of town. Charlie Smith inquired on the funding of the project. Gardner stated Lisa Carpenter with Solid Waste would be giving a presentation on possible funding.

Motion to adjourn was made by Denny Corn. Seconded by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The next Regular Scheduled Council meeting will be February 12, 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:

/Tammy Justice/

Tammy Justice, Auditor