

## **REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL February 12, 2025**

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members Denny Corn, Amy Grocox, Janet Kile, Kyle Gardner, Scott Barnes and Carl Harcourt present. Charlie Smith was present by Teams. Auditor Tammy Justice and County Attorney Grant Reeves were also present.

Councilman Scott Barnes read the ISPEAK statement to the public.

Roll Call for County Commissioners was called at 9:00 a.m. with Jeff Wilson and Kenny Aulbach present. Ron Jarman entered at 9:01 a.m.

Councilman Scott Barnes called the Public Hearing for Hoosier Pallet, LLC application for abatements to order at 9:01 a.m.

- Abe Keim gave information to the Council and public regarding the applications for abatements and answered questions regarding the abatement. Clarification by Auditor Tammy Justice regarding SB1's needing filed on this abatement and Keim's other abatement was made.

Motion to close Public Hearing was made by Kyle Gardner. Seconded by Denny Corn. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of the January 8, 2025, Regular Session meeting was presented. Janet Kile made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **AUDITOR**

- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Council with Resolution 2025-3 Confirmatory Resolution for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area on Application of Hoosier Pallet, LLC for approval. Amy Grocox moved to approve Resolution 2025-3. Seconded by Denny Corn. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Nay, Charlie Smith Aye. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Council with Hoosier Pallet, LLC's SB1 for personal property for approval. Denny Corn moved to approve the personal property SB1. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Nay, Charlie Smith Aye. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Council with Hoosier Pallet, LLC's SB1 for Real Estate for approval. Kyle Gardner moved to approve the Real Estate SB1. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Nay, Charlie Smith Aye. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$9.61 in Fund 8950 CFDA #21.027 ARPA Coronavirus. Charlie Smith moved to approve the additional appropriation. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn

Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Council with an Interlocal Agreement By and Between City of Rushville, Indiana and County of Rush, Indiana for approval. The interlocal agreement is to transfer 911 funds in the amount of \$136,968.00 from the county to the city for dispatch salaries. Denny Corn moved to sign the Interlocal Agreement. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Abstain due to being a Rushville City Employee, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. Motion carried.

### **CIRCUIT COURT**

- Tonya Smith requested permission from the Council to transfer from Furniture 1000.40003.00000.0232 to Supplies 1000.20010.00000.0232 in the amount of \$2,000.00. Amy Grocox moved to allow the transfer. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- Auditor Tammy Justice for Dixie Meyer requested approval from the Council to reapply for the Narcan Grant requesting 200 doses of Narcan. Carl Harcourt moved to sign the Narcan grant proposal. Seconded by Denny Corn. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **ENCUMBRANCES**

- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Council there was an incorrect total to the 1138 Cumulative Cap Development fund for encumbrances for 2024. The correct total for fund 1138 Cum Cap Dev is \$216,366.25 with a grand total for all encumbrances being \$1,673,388.09.

### **COURT SERVICES**

- Auditor Tammy Justice for Director Ashley Stevens advised the Council an additional appropriation had been requested for fund 8119 CFDA #93.788 IN State Opioid. After that the state notified Director Stevens that an alternate fund would be required for CFDA #93.788 IN State Opioid. The previous additional appropriation was removed and now is requesting to advertise for an additional appropriation for alternate fund 8132 CFDA #93.788 IN State Opioid. Kyle Gardner moved to advertise for additional appropriation for fund 8132. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **EMA**

- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$3,580.42 in fund 9123 Duke Foundation Grant Fund. Janet Kile moved to approve the additional appropriation. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Council to apply for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant in the amount of \$25,000.00 with no county match. The purpose of the grant is for the part-time position of Emergency Preparedness and Preparedness functions. Kyle Gardner moved to apply for the PHEP Grant. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Council to apply for the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) Grant in the amount of \$28,304.56 with 25% match of \$9,448.60 being funds or In-Kind match. Carl Harcourt moved to apply for the MHMP Grant. Seconded by Denny Corn. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Council to apply for the BRIC 2024 Grant in the amount of \$16,842,500.00 with a match amount of \$4,210,625.00 being split 50/50 between the City of Rushville and Rush County. The purpose of the grant is for the restoration of Hodges Branch and stormwater improvement in the City of Rushville. After much discussion between the Council, Commissioners and Director Kemker, Kyle Gardner moved to approve applying for the BRIC 2024 Grant based on FSG approval and an interlocal agreement with the City of Rushville with the option to withdraw from the grant if funding isn't available. Seconded by Denny Corn. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith had stepped away from the screen. Motion carried.

### **SHERIFF**

- Sheriff Allan Rice presented the Council with the 2024 annual reports for his departments and gave year end stats for jail inmates.
- Councilman Denny Corn requested an update from Sheriff Allan Rice on housing of federal inmates. Rice stated that the project had been on hold due to the IRS audit on the jail bonds.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Council of staffing changes and vehicle updates.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Council his department is now certified as an official qualified member of NIBIRS for federal reporting.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

- Director Jodi Harr updated the Council on what she had been working on in 2024.
- Director Jodi Harr advised the Council the employee health fair is set for April 2, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Director Jodi Harr advised the Council a representative from PERF would be onsite on April 24, 2025, for a group presentation and individual appointments.
- Director Jodi Harr requested clarification from the Council regarding the salary study they requested her do.

**MISC.**

- Commissioner Ron Jarman advised the Council that Comcast had requested a letter of support from the County Commissioners, County Council and the County Auditor. Jarman clarified that only one (1) entity needed to give a letter of support and the Commissioners had already done so.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves along with the Council held a conference call with Taft Law Office and Jason Grubbs to discuss Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Dairy in Anderson Township. The purpose of the bond would be for tax break benefits for the dairy. There would be no local obligation for the county. All legal fees will be taken care of by the dairy even if the deal does not close. County Attorney Grant Reeves advised the Council that there is a statutory function of the County to establish or reestablish an Economic Development Commission and presented the Council with Ordinance 2025-1 An Ordinance to Establish a Department of Economic Development to be Controlled by an Economic Development Commission for Rush County, Indiana for approval. Kyle Gardner moved to establish a EDC and sign Ordinance 2025-1. Seconded by Janet Kile. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Councilman Charlie Smith nominated Amy Grocox to serve on the Economic Development Commission. Seconded by Kyle Gardner. Amy Grocox accepted the nomination. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves presented the Council with Resolution 2025-4 a Resolution of the County Council of Rush County, Indiana Declaring its Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures for approval. Charlie Smith moved to approve Resolution 2025-4. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves presented the Council with an engagement letter with Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP as bond counsel. Reeves advised Auditor Tammy Justice to sign the engagement letter.
- Chris May with the Rush County Community Foundation for SIRPC requested the Council sign the grant proposal for Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program in the amount of \$350,000.00 with the \$125,000.00 match being paid through Lilly Gift VII funds. Denny Corn moved to apply for the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program Grant. Seconded by Amy Grocox. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Denny Corn. Seconded by Carl Harcourt. Roll Call Denny Corn Aye, Amy Grocox Aye, Janet Kile Aye, Kyle Gardner Aye, Carl Harcourt Aye and Charlie Smith Aye. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The next Regular Scheduled Council meeting will be March 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