

## **JOINT SPECIAL MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL March 12, 2026**

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting which was a joint special meeting with the County Commissioners on Thursday, March 12, 2026, 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. Auditor Tammy Justice and County Attorney Grant Reeves were also present.

Councilman Charlie Smith called the Regular Session to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner roll call at 9:00 a.m. with Jeff Wilson, Kenny Aulbach and Ron Jarman present.

Councilman Charlie Smith called the Public Hearing for Hulsbosch Farms LLC Tax Abatement to order at 9:01 a.m. The meeting was properly advertised.

- Charlie Smith advised the public that Hulsbosch Farms LLC did not request the proposed tax abatement. Rush County officials were the ones who initiated discussion with Hulsbosch Farms regarding the tax abatement. Smith went on to advise the public that the members of the County Council are the ones who dictate how the revenue from the tax abatement is spent.
- At 9:03 a.m. the floor was opened to the public to speak on the proposed Hulsbosch Farms LLC tax abatement.

Hearing no comment from the public, Amy Grocox made a motion to close the public hearing. Second, by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **COURT SERVICES**

- Director Ashley Stevens requested approval from the Council to apply for the Justice Partners Addictions Response Grant in the amount of \$65,000.00 with no county match. Amy Grocox moved to apply for the Justice Partners Addictions Response Grant. Second, by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of February 11, 2026, Regular Session Meeting was presented. Carl Harcourt made the motion to approve the minutes. Second, by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of February 11, 2026, Executive Session was presented. Scott Barnes made the motion to approve the minutes. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **SHERIFF**

- Sheriff Allan Rice requested approval from the Council to apply for the Local Coordinating Council Grant in the amount of \$5,246.95 with no county match due to it being a reimbursable grant. Scott Barnes moved to apply for the Local Coordinating Council Grant. Second, by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Council regarding the federal inmates as well as the commissary software being down. Rice said they are working to get

the software back up so that the inmates can access their commissary accounts.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- Dixie Meyer requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,000.00 in fund 8125 CFDA #93.354 Co-Agreement Emergency Response. Denny Corn moved to allow the additional appropriation. Second, by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Dixie Meyer requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$5,246.85 in fund 8111 CFDA #93.074 Ebola. Kyle Gardner moved to allow the additional appropriation. Second, by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Dixie Meyer requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$22,101.72 in fund 1161 Health First Indiana Fund. Scott Barnes moved to allow the additional appropriation. Second, by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Dixie Meyer requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,238.74 in fund 1161 Health First Indiana Fund. Amy Grocox moved to allow the additional appropriation. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **CLERK**

- Clerk Jenny Sammons requested approval from the Council for Ordinance No. 2026-3 An Ordinance Providing for the Payment of Certain Election Expenses. Scott Barnes moved to approve Ordinance No. 2026-3. Second, by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **COMMISSIONERS**

- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval from the Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$247,211.02 in fund 4801 Courthouse Roof Bond Proceeds. Kyle Gardner moved to allow the additional appropriation. Second, by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman advised the Council the state had approved the plans for the annex building, and the developer would like to start in the coming week.
- Ron Jarman updated the Council regarding the tree removal and landscaping work taking place in front of the courthouse.

### **AUDITOR**

- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval from the Council for an amended 2026-1 Salary Ordinance. Amy Grocox moved to approve the amended 2026-1 Salary Ordinance. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **HULSBOSCH FARMS LLC**

- County Attorney Grant Reeves advised the Council they would need to vote on the Confirmatory Resolution for the proposed tax abatement after the Commissioners voted on the Economic Development Agreement.
- ECDC Director John McCane addressed the Council and Commissioners regarding the benefits of the economic development payment to the county

with a nine (9) million-dollar revenue impact. McCane encouraged both boards to pass the agreement and the resolution.

- Wim Hulsbosch, owner of Hulsbosch Farms LLC, addressed the Council stating they just want to be a good partner with the county. They would like to encourage the Council to help the schools with a portion of the economic development payment.
- Commissioner Ron Jarman asked if there was a motion from the commissioners on the Economic Development Agreement. Jeff Wilson moved to accept the Economic Development Agreement contingent on the Council approving the Confirmatory Resolution. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Councilman Charlie Smith asked if there was a motion from the Council on Resolution 2026-2, A Resolution Confirming the Adoption of a Declaratory Resolution Designating an Economic Revitalization Area on the Application of Hulsbosch Farms LLC – Dairy. Kyle Gardner moved to approve Resolution 2026-2. Second, by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Statement of Benefits Real Estate Improvements was presented to the Council for approval. Amy Grocox moved to approve the SB-1 for Real Estate. Second, by Kyle Gardner. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- State of Benefits Personal Property was presented to the Council for approval. Denny Corn moved to approve the SB-1 for Personal Property. Second, by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

- Director Jodi Harr wanted to reiterate to the Council to consider giving the schools additional funding from the economic development payment from Hulsbosch Farms LLC.
- Director Jodi Harr reminded the Council the county wide health fair is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>.

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

Commissioner motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Wilson. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The next Council meeting will be a Regular Meeting on April 8, 2026.

/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

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Ron Jarman

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Kenny Aulbach

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Jeffery Wilson

ATTEST:

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Tammy Justice, Auditor