

REGULAR MEETING RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL June 10, 2026

The Rush County Council met for the regular Rush County Council meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. with County Council Members Charlie Smith, Denny Corn, Amy Grocox, Janet Kile, Scott Barnes and Carl Harcourt present. Auditor Tammy Justice and County Attorney Grant Reeves were also present. Kyle Gardner was not 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.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

- Councilman Charlie Smith called to order the 2nd Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of Resolution Making a Preliminary Determination to Enter Into a Lease Agreement to Finance and Construct the Design, Renovation and Improvement and Equipping of the County Courthouse and Other Facilities of the County (Collectively, the “Courthouse Renovation Project”), Including the Incidental Expenses Necessary to be Incurred in Connection with the Courthouse Renovation Project. The meeting was properly advertised.

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

- County Attorney Grant Reeves updated the Council on the bonding for the Courthouse renovation project as well as the scheduled building corp. meeting.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves requested approval from the Council for Resolution No. 2026-4, A Resolution of the County Council of Rush County, Indiana Making a Preliminary Determination to Enter into a Lease Agreement and Making a Determination of Need for the Courthouse Renovation Project. Amy Grocox moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-4. Second, by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves requested approval from the Council for Ordinance No. 2026-5, An Ordinance of the County Council of Rush County, Indiana, Approving a Lease Agreement and the Issuance of Bonds Related to the Courthouse Renovation Project. Amy Grocox moved to approve Ordinance No. 2026-5. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes of May 13, 2026, Regular Session Meeting was presented. Amy Grocox made the motion to approve the minutes. Second, by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PROSECUTOR

- Prosecutor Phil Caviness requested approval from the Council to transfer in fund 1000 County General from 1000.30057.00000.0009 Witness Fees to 1000.10238.00000.0009 Deputy Prosecutor 4 in the amount of \$868.34.

Amy Grocox moved to allow the transfer. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Prosecutor Phil Caviness requested approval from the Council to transfer in fund 8897 IV-D Incentive Pros. from 8897.30013.00000.0000 Contract Services to 8897.10018.00000.0000 Part-Time in the amount of \$2,500.00. Janet Kile moved to allow the transfer. Second, by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Prosecutor Phil Caviness advised the Council that Superior Court Judge elect David Thompson would not be assigned any new cases due to conflict of interest and that he would like to hire a replacement for Thompson and start training in November. Caviness would need \$17,000 to cover the training period. The Council advised Caviness to first get approval from the Commissioners and then come back and ask for the funding.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

- Public Defender Bryan Barrett requested approval from the Council to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$4,000.00 in fund 1200 Supplemental Public Defender for the purchase of a new copier. Amy Grocox moved to advertise for the additional appropriation. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- Amy DeJager requested approval from the Council to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$17,516.75 in fund 1161 Local Public Health Services to purchase new cabinets and other furniture /equipment at the annex building. Amy Grocox moved to advertise for the additional appropriation. Second, by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Amy DeJager requested approval from the Council to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$7,172.50 in fund 8113 PHEP Grant for the Health Department Emergency Preparedness support and functions other than salary. Amy Grocox moved to advertise for the additional appropriation. Second, by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLERK

- Auditor Tammy Justice for Clerk Jenny Sammons requested approval from the Council to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$5,200.00 in fund 1119 Clerk Record Perpetuation for support staff on election day. Denny Corn moved to advertise for the additional appropriation. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS

- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval from the Council to transfer in fund 1138 Cum Cap Development from 1138.30020.00000.0000 Repairs & Maintenance to 1138.40106.00000.0000 Courthouse Renovations in the amount of \$50,000.00. Amy Grocox moved to approve the transfer. Second, by Denny Corn. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman advised the Council the Commissioners had signed a lease for the old John Deere building to house some of the courthouse offices during renovations.

- Ron Jarman updated the Council regarding bidding for the courthouse renovation project. Jarman also gave the Council a status update on the annex building.
- Ron Jarman updated the Council on the data center moratorium.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Council that the treasurer had received the Bellflower Solar Economic Development payment in the amount of \$578,571.00 and the funds had been invested with Trust Indiana.
- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Council with Ordinance 2026-1 Amendment 06.10.2026 to the salary ordinance for approval, which included adding the part-time veteran service officer position and amending the sheriff salary. Carl Harcourt moved to approve the Salary Ordinance 2026-1 Amendment. Second, by Amy Grocox. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves advised the Council that they needed to set a public hearing to review the applications for the township/volunteer fire departments to adopt a resolution by September 1, 2026. Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Council that she had notified fire chief Zach Tucker of the deadline for the applications.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Jodi Harr presented the Council with the full-time jail transport officer job description for approval. Denny Corn moved to accept the job description. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Jodi Harr updated the Council regarding open enrollment for health insurance.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice gave the Council an inmate update as well as an update regarding an incident with one of the federal inmates.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Council that Brent Dougherty had submitted his intent to retire, and that his position would need to be filled.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Council on the hiring process for the open sheriff deputy positions as well as the dispatch position.
- Sheriff Allan Rice gave a vehicle update to the Council.

MISC

- Compliance with Statement of Benefits Real Estate Improvements, 2026 pay 2027 Form CF-1/Real Property for Abe and Darlene Keim for development of 1.88 acres, stone and asphalt parking lot and 33,000 sq ft manufacturing and warehouse building was presented to the Council for approval. Amy Grocox moved to accept the CF-1/ Real Property form. Second, by Denny Corn. Carl Harcourt voted Nay. Motion carried.
- Compliance with Statement of Benefits Real Estate Improvements, 2026 pay 2027 Form CF-1/Real Property for Abe and Darlene Keim for 25,000 sq ft assembly/production warehouse which includes attached exterior concrete storage lot was presented to the Council for approval. Amy Grocox moved to accept the CF-1/Real Property form. Second, by Denny Corn. Carl Harcourt voted Nay. Motion carried.
- Compliance with Statement of Benefits Personal Property, 2026 pay 2027 Form CF-1/PP for Abe and Darlene Keim DBA Hoosier Pallet LLC for the purchase of a Viking Pallet Nailer was presented to the Council for approval.

Amy Grocox moved to approve the CF-1/PP form. Second, by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Compliance with Statement of Benefits Personal Property, 2026 pay 2027 Form CF-1/PP for Abe and Darlene Keim DBA Hoosier Pallet LLC for the purchase of a lumber remanufacturing equipment and purchase of pallet assembly was presented to the Council for approval. Denny Corn moved to approve the CF-1/PP form. Second by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Scott Barnes inquired about whether there were any checks and balances of the CF-1's regarding their actual numbers presented. It was stated that the taxpayer signs the form under penalty of perjury.
- Statement of Benefits Utility Distributable Property, CF-1/UD for Bellflower Solar 1, LLC for the Utility Scale Solar Plant was presented to the Council for approval. Amy Grocox moved to approve the CF-1/UD form. Second, by Scott Barnes. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Greg Guerrettaz with FSG discussed with the Council the 2026 supplemental LIT and the 2027 budget planning. Guerrettaz also presented the Council with the sustainability analysis.

Motion to adjourn was made by Scott Barnes. Second, by Carl Harcourt. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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

/Charlie Smith/
Charles Smith, Chairman

/Scott Barnes/
Scott Barnes

/Denny Corn/
Denny Corn

/Janet Kile/
Janet Kile

/Abstain/
Kyle Gardner

/Carl Harcourt/
Carl Harcourt

/Absent/
Amy Grocox

ATTEST:
/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor