

**Vermillion County Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**

May 14, 2018

6:30 p.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Courthouse

- I. **Call to Order.** The Vermillion County Council convened in a regular meeting on Monday, May 14, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
- II. **Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.**
- III. **Roll Call.** Members present were President Michael Carty, William Brent Bush, Ashley James, Randy Dreher, James McLain, Jill Wesch, Robert Spence, Auditor Amy Tolbert, First Deputy Auditor Stephanie Simpson and Council attorney Scott Craig.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes.** A motion was made by Wesch and seconded by Dreher to approve the Minutes from the April 9, 2018 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Treasurers Report.** Carty acknowledged receipt of the Treasurers report.
- VI. **Comp Time Report.** Carty stated that the amount of comp time increased \$3000 and was partly due to the highway employees who worked at the recent countywide cleanup event. Carty said that while the cleanup event was a good thing, we need to think in the future about how we're going to handle it, and make sure all cost are considered rather than a guesstimate.

VII. **Transfer of Funds.**

Reporting only. The PHER is requesting to transfer \$432.00 from Operating Expenses to Travel.

Reporting only. The Health Department is requesting to transfer \$100.00 from Animal Lodging to Travel.

Transfer. The PHER is requesting to transfer \$28.00 from Social Security, \$10.00 from Medicare, \$134.00 from Unemployment, \$760.00 from Operating Supplies to Operating Expenses. A motion was made by Wesch and seconded by Bush to approve the transfer. All in favor, motion carried.

VIII. **Additional Appropriations.**

The Council considered additional appropriation requests as published. President Michael Carty reviewed the appropriations from the written requests submitted by Auditor Amy Tolbert. Thus, the following ordinance was adopted: WHEREAS: it has been determined it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget for 2018, BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council of Vermillion County Indiana, for the expenses of said county government, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set out of the funds herein specified, subject to the law governing the same:

<b>FUND/DEPT</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b>
County General	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00

This additional is the EOC for a grant from the Duke Foundation for radios, the check has been deposited into County General Fund and just needs appropriated for radio upkeep.

A motion was made by Wesch and seconded by McLain to approve the additional for EOC for radios. All in favor, motion carried.

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<b>FUND/DEPT</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b>
Highway	\$6860.00	\$6860.00

This additional is to appropriate the money receipted into County General from the sale of Highway Trucks and Equipment.

A motion was made by Bush and seconded by McLain to approve the additional for the Highway Department. All in favor, motion carried.

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<b>FUND/DEPT</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b>
Lit Public Safety	\$172,071.00	\$172,071.00

This additional is for the Fire Departments request for 2018. Fairview \$33,478.00, St. Bernice \$15,495.00. Dana \$36,345.00, Newport \$32,760.00, and Cayuga \$53,993.00.

A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Dreher to approve the additional appropriation for Lit Public Safety for the Fire Department. All in favor except Bush who abstained, motion carried.

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<b>FUND/DEPT</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b>
Certified Shares	\$200,000.00	\$50,000.00

The Council discussed the Grandstand Improvement request from the Town of Cayuga. Wesch said she had received calls both in favor and against the request. She also stated she's in favor of improving the county but not sure about the amount requested. Dreher said he had received 17 calls, and all but one was against the request. McLain said he had received 15 to 20 calls, all in favor of the request. He said it's used for the county fair and he said he feels like they should help. Spence said people he had talked to were not against the project, but expressed concern about the amount of money involved. Bush said those he spoke to were also concerned that it was too much money for the county to put toward the project. Carty said about 80 percent of the people he had talked to were also opposed. Carty stated that Cayuga received around \$32,000.00 in certified shares money from the Local Income Tax increase, and asked if, since that amount had not been included in the budget, the town would be open to having the county give them part of the money, and loan the rest, with the certified shares money used to repay it. Albert Clark said he is not interested in a loan, he said he won't do that to the town.

After further discussion McLain made a motion to approve \$100,000.00, seconded by Wesch. McLain and Wesch voted in favor, Bush, Dreher, James, Carty and Spence voting against. Motion was denied.

Wesch made a motion to approve \$50,000.00 for the Grandstand seconded by McLain. Wesch, McLain, Carty and Bush voting in favor, Dreher and Spence voting against. Motion carried.

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<b>FUND/DEPT</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b>
Drug Free Community	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00

A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Dreher to approve the additional for Drug Free Community. All in favor, motion carried.

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<b>FUND/DEPT</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b>
DOC Reimbursement	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00

The amount requested is to purchase a new lawn mower for the County Jail. County Highway District #2 is paying \$2,500.00 toward the purchase as they will be using this piece of equipment as well.

A motion was made by Wesch and seconded by Bush to approve the DOC Reimbursement additional for Equipment. All in favor, motion carried.

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#### IX. Open Issues

- a. **Vermillion Rise – Leasing Module Building for Offices.** Vermillion Rise Executive Director Bob Grewe gave a more detailed presentation to the Council regarding a proposal to lease a modular office building for Vermillion Rise. Grewe stated that if they enter into a lease that it has to be approved by the Council. He said this is no cost to the county. He said the estimated costs for 24 months in the modular office building would be \$94,100 and in the existing building for 24 months would be \$310,000. He said this would be a savings of over \$200,000.  
Carty asked why this was back on the agenda. Simpson stated that she received an email request from Grewe to be put on the agenda.  
After further discussion no action was taken.

#### X. New Business

- a. **Southern Power Reimbursement Agreement.** Carty said he had received a call from Mike Casey at Southern Power confirming that the company's project in Vermillion County is no longer under consideration. Carty said several projects were halted by the company, and that the decision was, according to Casey, not a result of anything the county had done. He said Casey had complimented the county and Vermillion Rise for their efficiency in handling matters related to the project.
- b. **Unsafe Building Fund.** Commissioner Tim Wilson asked the Council to consider appropriating some money for the unsafe building fund so that some dilapidated homes in the county could be demolished.  
Larry Beard from the county Health Department reported that the fund has about \$4,300 left in it. Dreher said that he would like to see the commissioners pass an unsafe building ordinance that would give the county more ability to recover costs from property owners.  
Beard said he keep hearing economic development preaching quality of life. He said if you drive through the county and see all the dilapidated buildings, that's not quality of life. He said he asked for \$50,000 last year and was turned down. He said if we can fund a lot of the other things that are going on, we should be able to fund the unsafe building fund enough to start tearing down some of these houses.  
Spence asked how much Beard was requesting, and Beard said he would like to start with \$50,000.  
Carty stated that the request would need to go through the appropriation process and encouraged Beard and the Commissioners to present an appropriation request along with an idea of what they are trying to accomplish and what the plan is. Zoning Administrator Penney Barton said the zoning board is looking at a new unsafe building ordinance, and possibly establishing an unsafe building committee to help address such properties.
- c. **County Wide Cleanup Report.** Barton gave the Council a report on the County Wide Cleanup days. Barton said that a total of 20 dumpsters of trash were collected, along with 9 to 12 gaylord bins of televisions and electronics and 38,700 pounds of metal that was recycled. Barton stated that 86 miles of roads in the county were officially adopted and cleaned up by residents and organizations, and she stated there were more areas cleaned up that were not officially reported.  
Carty stated that the event demonstrates the fact that there is a lot of trash lying around. He suggested that the county should work on establishing some sort of ongoing recycling facility that would allow residents to dispose those items.

#### I. Adjourn.

Having no further business to come before the Council, the motion was made to adjourn by Wesch, seconded McLain. All in favor, motion carried.

**AYENAY**

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Michael Carty, President

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Randy Dreher, Vice President

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William Brent Bush

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Ashley James

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James McLain

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Jill Wesch

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Robert Spence

ATTEST:

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Amy Tolbert, Auditor