

Vermillion County Council
Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2018

6:30 p.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. **Call to Order.** The Vermillion County Council convened in a regular meeting on Monday, August 13, 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, James McLain, John Michael Major, Robert Spence, First Deputy Auditor Stephanie Simpson and Council Attorney Donald Bonomo. Randy Dreher and Auditor Amy Tolbert were absent.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes.** A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Major to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2018 regular meeting, July 30, 2018 Joint Executive Session Meeting and July 30, 2018 Joint Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Treasurer's Report.** Carty acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's report.
- VI. **Comp Time Report.** Carty stated that the comp time was down around \$900.00 dollars. He said it's still above the amount that was approved.

VII. **Transfer of Funds.**

Reporting only. Sheriff's Department requesting to transfer \$2,000.00 from Flares, Ammo and Boat Repair to Other Garage Repair.

Reporting only. Sheriff's Department requesting to transfer \$500.00 from Tires & Tubes to Other Garage Repair.

Reporting only. Commissioners Court requesting to transfer \$20,000.00 from Fair Carnival to Juvenile Secure Detention Facility.

Reporting only. Commissioners Court requesting to transfer \$5,992.48 from GIS to Katherine Hamilton.

Drainage Board requesting to transfer \$360.00 from Capital Outlays to Board Members. Drainage Board Secretary Mary Crotty said they have had two additional meetings this year and this is to cover pay for 2 additional meetings for 3 board members. A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Bush to approve the transfer for the Drainage Board. 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:

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
Economic Development	\$12,000.00	-0-

Carty said the first additional is the Economic Development that was tabled from last month. James said due to needing to replace two members she said she would like to let it stay tabled for now. No action was taken.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
General Fund	\$3,738.20	\$3,738.20

Judge Jill Wesch told the Council this is what she was at the meeting to explain last month and now is requesting the funds. Wesch explained that this is the match amount needed for CASA program grant for September 1, 2018 through the rest of 2018.

A motion was made by Spence and seconded by McLain to approve the additional for the grant match for the CASA program. All in favor, motion carried.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
CASA	\$13,060.00	\$13,060.00

Wesch explained that this additional is the amount needed to set up the CASA fund. This additional was approved with the grant match additional request.

A motion was made by Spence and seconded by McLain to approve the additional for the CASA fund. All in favor, motion carried.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
PHPER	\$22,521.00	\$22,521.00

Mary Crotty from the Health Department told the Council this is grant funds from the state for PHPER.

A motion was made by Bush and seconded by Major to approve the additional appropriation request for the PHPER fund. All in favor, motion carried.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
Certified Shares	\$135,000.00	\$50,000.00

This request for Spruce Up Sportland was approved by the Commissioners at their July 10, 2018 meeting. Dustin Wilson spoke on behalf of the Spruce Up Sportland Committee. Wilson said the funds would be used to complete several projects. Including the repaving of the walking track with handicap-accessible curbs, and the demolition of the old restrooms and ramps at the stage area. Wilson told the Council that roughly 30 percent of the children who are part of the soccer program at Sportland Park are from the city of Clinton. He said an additional 40 percent are from other parts of Vermillion County, and the other 30 percent are from outside the county. Wilson said the program is drawing a lot of people to the county, and the track, that every spectator at the soccer games must cross, is a safety issue. Wilson said that the track is one of the most heavily used adult fitness amenities in the county. Several people spoke in support of the project. Nikki Royer of Helt Township said the park is used by people from all over the county, and that those coming into the county for events at the park may also stop at other local businesses at the same time. Dominic Hanson, who has been part of the soccer program since he was 3 or 4 years old, said that tons of people visit the park to see their children and grandchildren play soccer. He said he felt the project is a good idea and worth funding.

McLain asked about the city's other parks. Clinton City Councilman Dean Strohm said they are being maintained through donations, with some of the improvements being funded through grants. He said the focus is on Sportland Park right now because it is the most heavily used park. Bush asked about the possibility of using

the city's certified shares money for the project. Clinton City Mayor Jack Gilfoy explained that those funds went into the city's budget to offset money lost due to property tax caps. Gilfoy said without grants we wouldn't have been able to do what we've done. Major asked if this was part of a city plan to improve the parks. Park Board member Pam Hartsough said the project was part of the updated 5-year plan that will be submitted to the state later this year. Bush asked if it would be safer to eliminate the curb around the track entirely, and save some money in the process. Wilson said that is a possibility, but at the very least, the existing curbs would need to be removed.

McLain said he was supportive of the project, but that if the Council helped fund it, he would like to see more people "in the south end support us if we're supporting down there." McLain said that many of the 4-Hers involved in the Vermillion County Fair are from the south end of the county, and the public does not support the fair. He said if we help down there, we should get more help up here. Strohm told the Council that the Vermillion County Community Foundation holds its annual Payback Day for scholarship recipients in the north end of the county every other year. He said that two years ago, at the fairgrounds, there were 75 students and parents who participated, and 58 were from Clinton. Two years before, 48 out of the 65 were from Clinton. He said every year north or south we have a good turnout. Strohm said we're trying to build the idea in the youth to forget about 36 and think Vermillion County.

Major asked if it would be cheaper to wait a couple of years and try to accumulate more money. Wilson said the track needs to be addressed due to safety concerns. James said she would like to see the Council support the project to some extent, since the effort was organized and has people willing to help. Carty agreed with James and said that it was a quality of life issue and he said he is a big proponent for economic development and he said you don't get jobs if you don't have quality of life.

A motion was made by McLain and seconded by Bush to approve \$50,000.00 toward the Spruce UpSportland project. All in favor except Spence who voted against the project. Motion carried.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
General Fund	\$800.00	\$800.00

This request is funding used to pay for the LEPC exercise. Mark O'Heir told the Council they have a fully executed agreement for a federal grant to pay this expense. A motion was made by Bush and seconded by McLain to approve the request for funding for the LEPC exercise. All in favor, motion carried.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
General Fund	\$3,301.51	\$3,301.51

Reporting only additional appropriation. This additional is for money received from the insurance company for sheriff's vehicles and will be used to cover the invoices for auto repair.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
General Fund	\$8,631.00	\$8,631.00

Reporting only additional appropriation. This additional is for money received from the insurance company for sheriff's vehicles and will be used to cover the invoices for auto repair.

IX. Open Issues.

a. **Abatement Compliance – Garmong Development Company, LLC.**

Lou Britton spoke on behalf of Garmong regarding the abatement for the spec building at Vermillion Rise. Britton discussed the abatement in general, and said that under Indiana law, it had to be approved before construction began. He said that everyone understood at the time that a number of jobs could not be specified since there was no occupant of the building.

Britton said that abatements have become routine for any company looking for a location for a facility, and that Vermillion Rise is competing with every city and county in the United States. He said companies realize this and know what tools are available to those cities and counties, so there are things they expect to see offered. Britton said of the 30 leads that Vermillion Rise responded to last year, 24 would only look at sites that had a spec building.

Greg Bishop of Garmong stated that the abatement does not benefit his company, but only benefits a company that locates in the building. He said that the previous director at Vermillion Rise was supposed to work with the assessor's office to make sure the building was not appraised right away, so the start of the abatement would be delayed. As it is, he said, a company moving into the building will not get the full 10-year benefit of the abatement.

Major questioned Britton as to what county entities he represented, and Britton said he represents the Reuse Authority, Major asked if he was representing the Reuse Authority or Garmong right now, Britton said his client was Garmong. He also stated that he don't see that the two are at odds, Britton said we are all on the same side, the Reuse Authority, Garmong, and the County.

Major asked Bishop if he was supposed to be providing reports to someone on the marketing of the building, and Bishop said that was Bob Grewe of Vermillion Rise's responsibility, and that he was in contact with Grewe on a regular basis. Grewe said that if he asks for anything from Garmong, he receives it that day or the next. After considerable discussion the council decided to vote on the abatement.

A motion was made by James and seconded by Bush to approve the abatement compliance for Garmong. All in favor, except Major, who abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

X. New Business.

a. **Sheriff's Commissary Fund Report.**

A motion was made by McLain and seconded by James to accept the Sheriff's Commissary Fund Report. All in favor, motion carried.

b. **Non-Binding and Binding Reviews for 2019 Budget Year.**

A motion was made by McLain and seconded by Major to approve the nonbinding reviews of other taxing entities' budgets for next year. All in favor, motion carried.

c. **LIT (Local Income Tax).** The Council briefly discussed the LIT tax and Carty stated that they would be getting a request next month from the Commissioners to set aside funds from Public Safety and Certified Shares for the Jail renovation.

d. **Redevelopment Commission Appointment.**

James told the Council that they need to advertise for someone to serve on the County Redevelopment Commission as a Council appointment, in order to fill a vacancy. They requested that be advertised for the October Council meeting.

e. **Cayuga Fire Department.**

Cayuga Firefighter Dewayne Osborne showed the Council one of the new air packs that was purchased by the department using Public Safety Local Income Tax funds. He thanked the Council and said they appreciated the Council for providing the funding for new equipment.

XI. Adjourn.

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

AYENAY

Michael Carty, President

Randy Dreher

William Brent Bush

Ashley James

James McLain

Robert Spence

John Michael Major

ATTEST:

Amy Tolbert, Auditor