

Vermillion County Council
Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2020
6:30 P.M.

Commissioner's Court, 2nd Floor Courthouse

- I. **Call to Order.** The Council convened in a regular meeting on January 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Courtroom.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**
- III. **Roll Call.** Members present were President John Michael Major, Vice President Ashley James, Neil Costello, Ronald L. Dunavan Jr., Robert Spence, William Brent Bush, Randy Dreher, Auditor Amy Tolbert, Deputy Auditor Annie Wickens and Council Council Attorney DJ Bonomo.
- IV. **Organization-President & Vice President.** Motion for Vice President was made by Ronald Dunavan Jr. that Robert Spence be assigned. William Brent Bush second the motion. Motion for President was made by Ronald L. Dunavan Jr. that Ashley James be assigned as President. William Brent Bush second the motion. Motion for President was also made by Randy Dreher for John Michael Major to be assigned. The motion was not carried. Ashley James was assigned President and Robert Spence was assigned as Vice President.
- V. **Approval of Minutes.** A motion was made by Robert Spence and seconded by Ronald L. Dunavan Jr. to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2019 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- VI. **Treasurer's Report.** President, Ashely James acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report.
- VII. **Comp Time Report.** No Comments.
- VIII. **Transfer of Funds.** See Additional for DOC.
- IX. **Additional Appropriations.** The Council considered additional appropriations as published. President Ashley James 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 that was appropriated in the annual budget for 2020, 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:

| <u>FUND/DEPT</u> | <u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u> | <u>AMOUNT APPROVED</u> |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>County General/CC</i> | \$228, 251.00 | \$0 |
| This is to cover the increase in cost for personnel & equipment to man an additional paramedic level ambulance in the County on a 365/24 basis. Eric Shaughnessy spoke on the run times for the ambulance and discussed what the ambulance was currently doing for the county. Shaughnessy stated that the commissioners requested this information. After a long discussion for approval for additional funds Randy Dreher motion to disallow until contract time so it can be bid out. John Michael Major seconded the motion. Neil Costello and Bob Spence opposing the motion. Motion was carried. | | |
| <u>FUND/DEPT</u> | <u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u> | <u>AMOUNT APPROVED</u> |
| <i>County General/CC</i> | \$333,000.00 | \$333,000.00 |

To Place matching funds into restricted rainy day to use for 2020 Community Crossings Grant match if awarded. Motion was made by Brent Bush to allow and was Seconded by Randy Dreher. All in favor, motion carried.

| <u>FUND/DEPT</u> | <u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u> | <u>AMOUNT APPROVED</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>County General/CC</i> | <i>\$211,590.77</i> | <i>\$211, 590.77</i> |

Additional funding needed for outside offices in the IT Refresh. EAS gave a brief description on what was being done to the additional offices for the IT Refresh. Robert Spence motion to approve and Randy Dreher seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

| <u>FUND/DEPT</u> | <u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u> | <u>AMOUNT APPROVED</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Public Defender Service</i> | <i>\$10,064.64</i> | <i>\$10,064.64</i> |

Monies left over from 2019 needed for Non-Contractual Attorney Fees. Nancy Wilson stated that this was funds from 2019 that needed to be carried over. John Michael Major made a motion to approve and Ronald L. Dunavan Jr. seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

| <u>FUND/DEPT</u> | <u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u> | <u>AMOUNT APPROVED</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>PHPER 8111</i> | <i>\$228,251.00</i> | <i>\$228,251.00</i> |

To set up PPHPER grant 2020. Wendy Farley from the Health Dept is setting up her Budget since her grant is only a 6-month budget. This is for January -June budget. John Michael Major motioned to approve and Robert Spence seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

| <u>FUND/DEPT</u> | <u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u> | <u>AMOUNT APPROVED</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>DOC 4203</i> | <i>\$60,000</i> | <i>\$60,000</i> |

This is for inmate medical. Motion made by John Major and seconded by Robert Spence. All in favor motion carried.

The council then did a transfer of funds out of County General \$60,000 from inmate medical to addiction Recovery Services. Motion made by John Major and seconded by Robert Spence. All in favor, motion carried.

X. Open Issues

a. Jail Renovation/Expansion

Richard Hall from Barnes and Thornburg spoke about the jail project. He stated he would be able to help on the legal side of the renovation. He would be putting together a Bond Council to do the work. He stated that Baker Tilley would be doing the financial part of the process. He also stated that we were on the right track of expanding on the jail and this is a difficult task ahead for the County and that he would help with the process.

Jack Krouse went over the Baker Tilley Report, stating there were 2 variables for the project. Sanjay Patel went over the plans and had a diagram with a review which was passed out to the council. Council President Ashley James asked what they were needing from the Council and Mr. Patel stated that they needed a guideline approval to move forward. Mr. Major wanted to know if there was anything we could do, to get the cost down. Mr. Patel stated this was the best option for the county. Kim Hawkins stated that we needed to slow down and make sure this was the best option for the County. Kim Hawkins and Sheriff Phelps had a lengthy debate on what was needed for the jail. Mr. Hawkins stated he doesn't understand how it could be any different from when he and Robert Spence was the Sheriff.

Mr. Krouse concluded that this was just to get the guidelines for the project. Councilman Randy Dreher stated he thinks we need to have a joint meeting with the Commissioners to figure out what we need to do to move forward. A joint

meeting was set for January 22, 2019 at 6:30 for the Council and Commissioners to decide what needs to be done to move forward.

- b. Parke-Vermillion Humane Society Update/Parke County**
Tim Yocum to speak with the County Council in Parke county. Comment was made that Parke County has their own building that they hold animals.
- c. Salary Ordinance**
David Robinson has reached his 10 -year status so his salary goes up but it was not budgeted for. We are amending the salary ordinance to reflect his new pay. They will come to the February council meeting and request the additional funding. The State mandates what Probation officers are to be paid. Motion made by Robert Spence and seconded by Ronald L. Dunavan Jr. Also 1000-11606-000-151 numbers were transposed. Should have been \$37,973.00. Motion made by Ronald L. Dunavan Jr. and was second by Randy Dreher. All in favor, motions carried.

Bruce Aukerman was asked to clarify the raise in his budget for the Paralegal in his office. Mr. Aukerman stated that he had requested a Secretary and a Paralegal and knew he was not going to get both and he really needed a Paralegal to do the Child Support cases. So, he asked for a pay increase for that position and was granted the pay increase. Ashley James wanted to know if the position had changed from when the last employee was there. Mr. Aukerman stated yes, she is very valuable asset to the Child Support office. She is doing the civil and the criminal side of the Child Support. Mr. Aukerman stated that the County is really only paying \$13,000 for this position due to the reimbursement from the IV-D incentive funds. Councilman Randy Dreher stated that the Council made a mistake by not letting all offices explain why they were asking for higher pay and that they should have done a better job in the budget meetings. President Ashley James stated that they have remedied the situation by adding more time to the budget hearings for next year. Commissioner Tim Wilson stated that maybe we needed to do a salary study. Councilman Neil Costello stated that he had brought this up in previous meetings. Commissioner Tim Wilson stated he would look into the cost for the salary study. Bruce Aukerman stated to keep good workers we need to pay good wages. Florinda Pruitt stated she would like to come back before the Council and go over her budget.

- c. Alcohol Beverage Board Appointment**
Appointment Cynthia Myers is the only applicant. She was served on this board for 20 years. John Major motion to appoint Cynthia Myers and Robert Spence seconded the motion. All in favor, Motion carried.

- d. Economic Development Board Appointment**
There was some confusion on the appointments. Dylan Riggen stated he didn't think that Basil Ave's position was term limited. Auditor Amy Tolbert replied that she would have to do some research on the terms of this appointment. Council table the appointment. Motion to table by Brent Bush and seconded by Neil Costello

- e. Meeting Schedule**
Council signed off on meeting schedule that was approved at their December meeting.

XI New Business

- a. CASA**
Jill Wesch talked about combining the Parke & Vermillion CASA program and have one director for both counties. Katlyn Wells will be the director. Miss Wells talked about Grants from both counties to run the program. She also stated that on February 8, 2020 they are having a CASA Class. Jill Wesch stated that the goal is to make a full-

time position base either in Vermillion or Parke County. She stated they share the same client.

b. Community Plan

RIL Solutions was to have a representative speak tonight but had to cancel. They will reschedule for a future meeting.

c. Public Comment

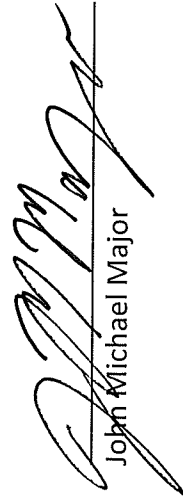
Nick Woodard stated he doesn't agree with not approving the appropriation for the ambulance service. That Eric Shaughnessy is working 16 -hour days for the County and the County will suffer now since the council didn't approve.

XII Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn made by John Major and 2nd by Robert Spence.
Meeting Adjourn.

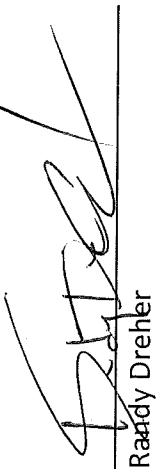
AYE

Nay


John Michael Major

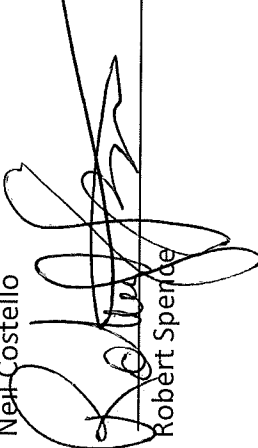

Ashley James


William Brent Bush


Raddy Dreher


Ronald L. Dunavan Jr


Neil Costello


Robert Spence

Attest:


Amy Tolbert, Auditor