Est

Martin

County

THE MARTIN COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING OF BUDGETS

September 12, 2022

MINUTES

The Martin County Council convened in regular session Monday, September 12, 2022, in the Commissioners’ Room at the Courthouse located at 129 Main Street, Shoals, Indiana. Councilmen attending: Warren Albright, Randy Wininger, Keith Gibson, James Stiles, Adam Greene, and Councilwomen Barbara McFeaters and Sheri Bowling. Also attending was Auditor Michelle Norris.

President Warren Albright called the regular meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 6:02 pm.

**RE: MINUTES**

The minutes from the meeting held July 11, 2022 were approved with a motion made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All were in favor, motion passed. The minutes from the joint meeting with the Commissioners held August 18th were approved with a motion made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilman Stiles. All in favor, motion passed.

**RE: MARTIN COUNTY ALLIANCE REVOLVING LOAN FUND**

Martin County Alliance Executive Director, Jessica Potts, presented to the Council information regarding a grant the Alliance had received from USDA in the amount of $10,000 which the Alliance added $11,000, for a total amount of $21,000. This money will be set up as a small revolving loan fund to give two to three small businesses a one-year term at a 1% interest rate. On October 3rd the Indiana Small Business Development Center will be in the office from 10:00 am-2:00 pm to help small business owners with questions or to help with business planning.

**RE: SHOALS PUBLIC LIBRARY DECLARATION OF FISCAL BODY**

Shoals Public Library Director, Sylvia Albaugh, and Mary Holt, Assistant Librarian and Bookkeeper, came before the Council asking for a signature from President Albright to declare the County Council the fiscal body of record of the Shoals Public Library if a binding review were needed of the budget. Director Albaugh anticipates this year would be the only year a binding review will be needed due to the excess levy appeal process.

**RE: SHOALS PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT**

Director Albaugh requested Linda Sherfick replace the term of Cathy Collins on the library board. A motion was made by Councilman Greene to approve Linda Sherfick to the Shoals Library Board, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

**RE: SHOALS PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

Director Albaugh stated this year the library’s budget will need to be reviewed and later adopted by the County Council due to exceeding the 5% maximum growth quotient. An excess levy of $117,000 was requested. The tax district population was increased from 700 to 4,400 taxpayers. The library now has increased traffic and activity with the added tax districts. The increased levy of $117,000 brings the spending per capita to about $28. Before adding the districts, the spending per capita was about $92. Director Albaugh and Assistant Director Holt presented the Shoals Library’s proposed budget for 2023 of $224,900. There were no questions from the public.

**RE: SOLID WASTE BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

The Solid Waste budget was presented to the Council in the amount of $445,000. There were no questions or comments from the public.

**RE: TRANSFER REQUESTS**

Community Corrections Director, Danielle Murphy, requested the following transfers:

**PROJECT INCOME FUND 4921**

FROM: DIRECTOR TO: EQUIPMENT LEASE $8,000

FROM: PT FIELD OFFICER TO: EQUIPMENT LEASE $2,000

FROM: PT FIELD OFFICER TO: CONTRACT SERVICES $2,000

A motion was made by Councilwoman McFeaters to approve the transfer requests in Project Income, fund 4921, seconded by Councilman Stiles. All in favor, motion passed.

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT FUND 9148**

FROM: INSURANCE TO: MAINTENANCE $2,000

FROM: INSURANCE TO DRUG TESTING $1,000

FROM: PT CLERICAL TO: DRUG TESTING $900

FROM: CASE MANAGER TO: DRUG TESTING $550

FROM: PT CLERICAL II TO: DRUG TESTING $1,000

FROM: PT FIELD OFFICERS TO: DRUG TESTING $50

FROM: PT FIELD OFFICERS TO: DRUG TESTING SUPPLIES $1,450

A motion was made by Councilman Stiles to approve the transfer requests in Community Corrections Grant, fund 9148, seconded by Councilman Greene. All in favor, motion passed.

Auditor Michelle Norris, requested the following transfers:

**ARPA FUND 8951**

FROM: ADMINISTRATION TO: DIRECTOR $20,000

FROM: ADMINISTRATION TO: EMT-B1 $6,670

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMT-B1 $2,430

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMT-B2 $9,100

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMT-B3 $9,100

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMT-B4 $9,100

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: PART TIME EMT-B $2,500

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMT-P1 $12,740

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMT-P2 $12,740

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMT-P3 $12,740

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMT-P4 $12,740

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: PART TIME EMT-P $2,500

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: DRIVER $1,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: STAND-BY $12,177

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: PERF $25,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: FICA $14,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: INSURANCE OPT OUT $2,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: HEALTH INSURANCE $25,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: OVERTIME $5,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: UNIFORMS $6,200

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: GAS AND OIL $8,750

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: OFFICE SUPPLIES $1,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: VEHICLE MAINTENANCE $5,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: ALS SUPPLIES $30,000

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: LIABILITY & WORK COMP $33,589

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: HOS & DIR SPONSOR $4,500

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: EMS BILLING $1,500

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: HEART MONITOR LEASE $16,163

FROM: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO: NEW EQUIPMENT $10,000

FROM: SUPPLIES TO: NEW EQUIPMENT $40,000

FROM: CAPITAL EXPENSE-INFRASTRUC TO: AMBULANCE VEHICLES $163,900

A motion was made by Councilman Greene to approve the transfer requests in ARPA Grant, fund 8951, seconded by Councilman Wininger. All in favor, motion passed.

**2023 BUDGET HEARINGS**

The Public Hearing was opened by President Albright at 6:45 pm. Form 3 notice to taxpayers was published on Gateway on September 2nd for public review. The following funds were open for questions or comments from the public:

RIVERBOAT FUND RAINY DAY

2022 Appropriated Budget $21,000 2022 Appropriated Budget 0.00

2023 Budget Request $21,000 2023 Budget Request $25,000

Increase $0.00 Increase $25,000

GENERAL REASSESSMENT

2022 Appropriated Budget $3,554,130 2022 Appropriated Budget $338,381

2023 Budget Request $3,828,043 2023 Budget Request $274,045

Increase $273,913 Decrease $64,336

CUMULATIVE VOTING MACHINE LOCAL INCOME TAX

2022 Appropriated Budget $8,000 2022 Appropriated Budget $253,218

2023 Budget Request $24,000 2023 Budget Request $284,658

Increase $16,000 Increase $31,440

HIGHWAY LOCAL ROAD & STREET

2022 Appropriated Budget $1,931,161 2022 Appropriated Budget $158,000

2023 Budget Request $2,197,027 2023 Budget Request $172,000

Increase $265,866 Increase $14,000

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE HEALTH

2022 Appropriated Budget $277,875 2022 Appropriated Budget $71,602

2023 Budget Request $277,875 2023 Budget Request $77,732

Increase $0.00 Increase $6,130

EMERGENCY AMBULANCE/MED SERVICES CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

2022 Appropriated Budget 0.00 2022 Appropriated Budget $84,000

2023 Budget Request $1,225,782 2023 Budget Request $109,001

Increase $1,225,782 Increase $25,001

ECONOMIC DEV INCOME TAX CEDIT JAIL TREATMENT DOC

2022 Appropriated Budget $1,313,728 2022 Appropriated Budget $22,274

2023 Budget Request $1,462,800 2023 Budget Request $28,700

Increase $149,072 Increase $6,426

PUBLIC HEALTH BASE GRANT II ILHD TRUST ACCT

2022 Appropriated Budget $0.00 2022 Appropriated Budget $13,316

2023 Budget Request $25,000 2023 Budget Request $13,008

Increase $25,000 Decrease $308

ARPA RECOVERY FUND LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE

2022 Appropriated Budget $995,957 2022 Appropriated Budget $33,139

2023 Budget Request $900,000 2023 Budget Request $33,139

Decrease $95,957 Increase $0.00

MISDEMEANANT SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

2022 Appropriated Budget $9,450 2022 Appropriated Budget $175,000

2023 Budget Request $9,450 2023 Budget Request $175,000

Increase $0.00 Increase $0.00

CORONER PERPETUATON LOCAL STATEWIDE 911

2022 Appropriated Budget $16,500 2022 Appropriated Budget $268,153

2023 Budget Request $16,500 2023 Budget Request $294,484

Increase $0.00 Increase $26,331

CO ELECTED OFFICALS TRAINING SUPP ADULT PROBATION

2022 Appropriated Budget $2,500 2022 Appropriated Budget $76,000

2023 Budget Request $2,500 2023 Budget Request $70,500

Increase $0.00 Decrease $5,500

SUPP JUVENILE PROBATION ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE

2022 Appropriated Budget $5,000 2022 Appropriated Budget $1,000

2023 Budget Request $2,000 2023 Budget Request $1,000

Decrease $3,000 Increase $0.00

PROSECUTOR COUNTY USER ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM

2022 Appropriated Budget $9,325 2022 Appropriated Budget $39,500

2023 Budget Request $14,644 2023 Budget Request $39,000

Increase $5,519 Decrease $500

CO-OP AGREEMENT FOR EMERGENCY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

2022 Appropriated Budget $0.00 2022 Appropriated Budget $4,000

2023 Budget Request $57,100 2023 Budget Request $4,000

Increase $57,100 Increase $0.00

PROSECUTOR IVD INNKEEPERS

2022 Appropriated Budget $9,325 2022 Appropriated Budget $0.00

2023 Budget Request $9,644 2023 Budget Request $25,000

Increase $319 Increase $25,000

PROJECT INCOME GAL CASA

2022 Appropriated Budget $75,995 2022 Appropriated Budget $4,000

2023 Budget Request $118,817 2023 Budget Request $4,000

Increase $42,822 Increase $0.00

TIF CAPITAL PROJECT- WG JUVENILE COMM CORRECTIONS

2022 Appropriated Budget $75,000 2022 Appropriated Budget $25,000

2023 Budget Request $75,000 2023 Budget Request $25,000

Increase $0.00 Increase $0.00

DRUG FUND GRANT CTP

2022 Appropriated Budget $16,250 2022 Appropriated Budget $8,500

2023 Budget Request $15,000 2023 Budget Request $8,500

Decrease $1,250 Increase $0.00

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DONATIONS BAD CHECK FEE

2022 Appropriated Budget $2,258 2022 Appropriated Budget $2,500

2023 Budget Request $2,258 2023 Budget Request $2,500

Increase $0.00 Increase $0.00

CLERK PERPETUATION COMMUNITY CORRECTION GRANT

2022 Appropriated Budget $9,000 2022 Appropriated Budget $168,410

2023 Budget Request $9,000 2023 Budget Request $179,197

Increase $0.00 Increase $10,787

CLERK IVD COVID CLINIC

2022 Appropriated Budget $10,000 2022 Appropriated Budget $21,019

2023 Budget Request $10,000 2023 Budget Request $19,191

Increase $0.00 Decrease $1,828

RECORDERS RECORD PERPETUATION IN STATE OPIOD RESPONSE

2022 Appropriated Budget $10,000 2022 Appropriated Budget $60,000

2023 Budget Request $10,000 2023 Budget Request $60,000

Increase $0.00 Increase $0.00

**RE: GENERAL FUND**

Sheriff Josh Greene stated he is unable to guarantee the jail will be able to bring in $250,000 in revenue through keeping Vigo County inmates. Vigo County is building a new jail and the laws have also changed regarding inmates. He will try to keep 15 inmates, but is even unsure about that. The amount of revenue a year for 15 inmates is $191,625.

Taxpayer Jared Walton asked President Warren if he felt enough had been cut from the General Fund budget to help cover the ambulance. President Warren responded there is no way to cut 1.2 million from the budget to cover the ambulance. He personally feels taxes will need to be raised to cover the ambulance. There are some non-profits that could be cut from the budget, but he is not the only person on the Council making decisions. He does feel there is more that could be cut from the budget. Councilman Gibson stated they generally cut the budget so that departments do have to come back through the year and make additional requests.

Taxpayer Mike Engleman stated he thinks additional cuts could be made from the budget. Councilwoman McFeaters asked what cuts he is suggesting. Mr. Engleman responded that the Council needs to go through the department budgets line by line. Councilwoman McFeaters stated a line-by-line review was done in the department budget meetings.

Taxpayer Jackie Dant asked the Council how the County’s finances will look that the end of 2022. Greg Guerrettaz, from Financial Solutions Group, stated 2021 ended with 1.6 million. In 2022, if 5% is returned, we may end the year with 1.8 million. At the end of 2023 the balance is projected to be 1.792 million. Mr. Guerrettaz stated the increases in the General Fund budget are necessities such as gasoline and wages.

A taxpayer asked about how the EMS will be funded in this budget. President Albright commented the ambulance service was created before the Council could figure out how to pay for the service. There is limited ARPA money and no additional money in the budget to pay for an ambulance service. If the EMS tax is not instituted this year by October 31st, the County is not able to start the process of adding the tax again until this time next year. If the tax is instituted this year, the County will receive the tax money in January 2023.

There is no history from the previous ambulance service. The Council has had three months to prepare for the ambulance service. Mr. Guerrettaz stated based on many other counties that have had this situation, the County will be lucky in the first year to get one-third of the revenue back. With Medicare, Medicaid, and non-payment it will be tough. FSG’s best guess now is that forty percent of revenue for the budget returned through billing, which is about $400,000. FSG has stated there is no way to fund the ambulance other than the EMS income tax, which is why the State created the tax for counties in this situation. A 1.2-million-dollar problem has been handed to the County when the County was just digging out last year. The general fund ended 2021 with 1.2 million, but before that it was at $600,000. The County was close to bankrupt at that point. The County has come a long way but now there is this 1.2-million-dollar expense.

**RE: ALL OTHER FUNDS**

All other funds were gone through one by one giving the 2023 budget requests from Gateway. The public was asked for comments and questions. There were none.

The public budget hearing was closed at 8:00 pm by President Albright.

**RE: ADDITIONAL MEETING AND SUSTAINABILITY HANDOUT**

After discussion, the Council decided not to have another budget meeting to make cuts. Budget cuts can still be made at the budget adoption meeting. FGS’s sustainability/revenue and spending plan will be available on the County’s website, <https://martincountyindiana.com> for taxpayers to review. Go to Current Notices in the middle of the main page, then click - MARTIN CO. Sustainability 09-12-22

**RE: RAISES**

Auditor Michelle Norris gave the Council a list of wages that were above the 4% standard wage increases. The wages increases will bring the following elected officials up to $18.12 per hour- Assessor, Auditor, Clerk, Recorder, and Treasurer. There are fifteen full-time employees who would be brought up to $15 per hour plus a 4% wage increase. The Soil and Water Director has asked for an increase in the wage for the Director position. Teresa Harder is retiring at the end of the year and asked for an increased wage for the next Director. The Sherriff’s office has six communications officers the Jail has requested the salaries be raised to the same rate as the jailers for cross training purposes.

**RE: JAIL**

Sherriff Josh Greene stated they currently have two openings in the Jail with no applicants, so far. One starting out at $15 per hour and the other starting out at $17. The current inmate count is 70 with 32 from Vigo County. Sheriff Greene invited the Council to stop in and take a tour of the jail at their convenience.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm with a motion made by Councilman Gibson and seconded by Councilwoman Bowling, all were in favor and the motion passed. The next Council meeting will be held Monday, October 3, 2022, at 6:00 pm, which is the budget adoption meeting.

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Warren D. Albright Randy L. Wininger

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Sheri Bowling J. Keith Gibson

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Adam Greene Barbara McFeaters

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James A. Stiles

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Michelle Norris, Martin County Auditor