Est

Martin

County

THE MARTIN COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

October 5, 2020

MINUTES

The Martin County Council convened in regular session Monday, October 5, 2020, n the Commissioners’ Room at the Courthouse located at 129 Main Street, Shoals, Indiana. Councilmen attending: C. Richard Summers, Randy Wininger, Warren Albright, Keith Gibson, James Stiles and Councilwomen Barbara McFeaters and Sheri Bowling. Also attending were Auditor Bobbie Abel; Attorney Dave Lett; Treasurer Lori Carrico; Recorder Rhonda Sanders; Clerk Gerald Montgomery; Assessor Carolynn McGuire; Adam Greene; Jim Woody; Prosecutor Aureola Wright; David Sutton; April Sutton; Darla Wagler, Director Loogootee Library; Cyndy Carithers, Deputy Treasurer; Pat King Admin Assistant Community Corrections; Chief Deputy Josh Greene; Sheriff Travis Roush. Attending virtually were; Courtney Hughett, Martin County Journal; Nathan Hoffman, Surveyor.

President Summers called the meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 6:02 pm.

The minutes from the meeting held September 14, 2020 were approved with a motion made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Travis Roush, Sheriff, submitted an example of the Compensatory Time Request and Authorization form to show how comp time is authorized and an example of the reasons Comp time is justified. Roush submitted a proposal for a onetime bonus in relation to the Sheriff’s Office 24/7 operations and added precautions taken during the Covid-19 Outbreak. The proposal requested $1000.00 per fulltime employee and a sliding scale for part time employees based on average hours worked. Part time employees request will range from $100.00 - $500.00. The bonuses can be re-evaluated each year. The Council advised to proceed to the next step with an additional appropriation. Chief Deputy Josh Greene provided a presentation of some of the Community based programs that the Sheriff’s Department has implemented. Sheriff Roush presented the Vigo County inmate revenue for May, June, July and August in the amount of $75,750.00. Currently there are 30 Vigo County inmates housed in the jail.

Aureola Wright, Prosecutor, stated her office is continuously looking for ways to decrease the prosecutor’s budgets. Wright informed that her office has received $85,000 for prior years reimbursable claims, this includes the previous 3 years of unsubmitted claims prior to her taking office. Currently they have received $45,000 reimbursable funds. The Council ask if there was still a need for a Deputy Prosecutor. Wright said they have made progress reducing cases and the need still exists.

Attorney Dave Lett, advised the Council that they will need to appoint someone to the Convention/Tourism Board. He stated they didn’t have to appoint someone this evening, he just wanted them to be thinking about it and appoint someone at the next meeting.

Interfund Transfers were approved as follows:

General/Recorder from Travel to Office Supplies $500.00. A motion to approve was made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilman Albright. All in favor, motion passed.

Edit/Commissioner from Health Insurance to Maintenance Contracts $11,000.00. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Stiles, seconded by Councilwomen Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

Additional Appropriations were approved as follows:

Drug Fund Grant/Community Corrections/Contract services in the amount of $15,000.00. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilman Stiles. All in favor, motion passed.

A request for Reduction of Current Year Budget was approved as follows:

Reassessment/Assessor/Professional Services $272,463.00. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Stiles, seconded by Councilman Albright. All in favor, motion passed.

Darla Wagler, Director Loogootee Library, submitted the approved Ordnance for the Loogootee Library for the Councils final approval. Darla Wagler stated that they stayed below the 4% growth quotient. A motion to accept the final budget for the Loogootee Library was made by Councilman Gibson, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

Attorney Lett, submitted the corrected Local Income Tax Ordinance 2020-20. A motion to approve Ordianance 2020-20 was made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilman Stiles. Motion passed with a five/two vote. Councilman Albright and Councilman Gibson were opposed.

Next on the agenda was the Budget Adoption Ordinance 2020-21. Before voting on the Ordinance, Recorder Rhonda Sanders and Treasurer Lori Carrico asked if the Auditor’s Office were going to receive a wage increase. A discussion followed with Recorder Sanders, Treasurer Carrico, Assessor McGuire and Clerk Montgomery opposed the Auditor’s office staff wage requests. Auditor Abel stated she had justified the request during budget hearings, then defended the increases in a three hour workshop and stated she wasn’t going to defend it again. The increase request was made by the Commissioners. Treasurer Carrico stated it affects morale in the Courthouse. Additional discussion followed with job descriptions among them. Auditor Abel stated the Budget Ordinance approval was not contingent upon a decision regarding the wage increase. Wages will be finalized with the Salary and Wage Ordinance in December. The matter was tabled.

Bobbie Abel, Auditor, submitted the 2021 Budget Ordinance 2020-21. The Ordinance was read twice by Council President Richard Summers. A motion to approve the budget was made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilman Stiles. All in favor the motion passed.

Important Dates:

Safety Meeting to be held October 21, 2020.

Courthouse will be closed Monday, October 12, 2020 for Columbus Day.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 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, November 2, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

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 C. Richard Summers Randy L. Wininger

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Sheri Bowling J. Keith Gibson

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Warren D. Albright Barbara McFeaters

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James A. Stiles

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

 Bobbie Abel, Martin County Auditor