Est

Martin

County

THE MARTIN COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

December 5, 2022

MINUTES

The Martin County Council convened in regular session on Monday, December 5, 2022, in the Commissioners’ Room at the Courthouse located at 129 Main Street, Shoals, Indiana. Councilmen attending: Warren Albright, Keith Gibson, James Stiles, Adam Greene, and Councilwomen Barbara McFeaters and Sheri Bowling. Councilman Randy Wininger was absent. Also attending was Auditor Michelle Norris.

President Warren Albright called the meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 6:00 pm.

**RE: MINUTES**

The minutes from the meeting held November 7, 2022, were approved with a motion made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

**RE: FLIPPING FINANCE CHALLENGE**

Jessica Potts, Executive Director with Martin County Alliance, came before to Council to give information regarding the Flipping Finance Challenge, which is organized by the Indiana Bond Bank. Members of the Indiana Bond Bank visited Martin County on November 15th to speak with community leaders regarding the program. The Flipping Finance Challenge is a free program for those who are chosen to participate. The representatives from Indiana Bond Bank and community leaders were able to discuss challenges and assets in the County and how those qualities could be used for economic development to promote the County. Indiana Bond Bank sent suggestions to Ms. Potts, which she has forwarded to community leaders. If the County were to be picked, it would be a free opportunity to promote the County. Innovators from all over the State will be at the Flipping Finance Challenge event and will offer solutions to the challenges the County faces. It would be a great way to network with people from all over the State.

**RE: CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER**

Judge Lynn Ellis came before the Council via Zoom to speak in regards to the chief probation officer salary. Judge Ellis stated she must replace the chief probation officer who had recently resigned. Judge Ellis has interviewed a candidate with experience and who wants to become a long-term employee. This candidate requires a salary of $55,000, but the budget amount for 2023 is only $50,000. Judge Ellis has spoke with Deputy Auditor Teresa Wininger and it may be possible to use funds from the supplemental adult probation fund to cover the additional $5,000, but if the State Board of Accounts says that is not allowable to use that fund, an additional appropriation of $5,000 will be needed. Auditor Michelle Norris stated an additional appropriation can not be done at this meeting because it would been to be advertised for ten days prior to the meeting.

Judge Ellis asked for a verbal consent the $5,000 would be approved if the supplemental adult probation fund could not be used. President Warren stated there is only three Council members at the table who will be members next year. Judge Ellis stated she could not make an employment offer unless she knew the additional $5,000 would be appropriated if the supplemental fund could not be used. President Albright asked two incoming Council members who were in the audience, Andrew Beaver and Jim Hamby, if they took issue with appropriating the money next year. Andrew Beaver responded if the Judge is confident in the applicant, he does not see a problem with appropriating the money if needed.

The Council thanked Judge Ellis for her years of service to the County.

**RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

General Fund- 1000

Soil and Water Conservation District

SWCD- Secretary $3,419.26

A motion was made by Councilman Stiles to approve the additional appropriation for SWCD for $3,419.26 in fund 1000, seconded by Councilman Greene. All in favor, motion passed.

Circuit Court

Psychiatric/Medical $2,000

A motion was made by Councilman Stiles to approve the additional appropriation for the Circuit Court for psychiatric/medical in the amount of $2,000 in fund 1000, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

Jail

Longevity Bonus $2,222.22

Hire Bonus $4,000

An e-mail was sent by Matron Miranda Beaver stating the Sheriff was attending a conference and could not be present for the meeting. Matron Beaver had other obligations and could not attend. The inmate count is 80 inmates with 41 of those being from Vigo County.

Auditor Michelle Norris stated the Sheriff’s department has wrote checks from the commissary fund to cover the amounts for the longevity and hiring bonuses for the Jail and Sherriff departments. A motion was made by Councilwoman McFeaters to approve the additional appropriation for the Jail for longevity bonus and hire bonus in fund 1000, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

Sheriff

Longevity Bonus $17,777.76

Hire Bonus $1,000

A motion was made by Councilwoman McFeaters to approve the additional appropriation for the Sheriff for longevity bonus and hire bonus in fund 1000, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

Courthouse

Utilities $5,000

A motion was made by Councilman Greene to approve the additional appropriation for the Courthouse utilities in the amount of $5,000 in fund 1000, seconded by Councilman Stiles. All in favor, motion passed.

Stop Arm Violation Enforcement Fund- 9118

Social Security $186.37

A motion was made by Councilman Gibson to approve the additional appropriation for the Stop Arm Violation Enforcement Fund in the amount of $187.37 from the General Fund 1000, seconded by Councilwoman McFeaters. All in favor, motion passed.

**RE: TRANSFER REQUESTS**

Martin County Community Corrections

Jail Treatment- Fund 9145

**From**: 387.2000.12 Jail Incentives $2,600

**To:** 387.1000.13 Jail Treatment Coordinator $2,600

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bowling to approve the transfer request in the amount of $2,600 in the Jail Treatment fund, seconded by Councilman Greene. All in favor, motion passed.

Martin County Highway Department

Cumulative Bridge- Fund 1135

**From:** 542.2000.11 Culverts $15,000

542.2000.13 Concrete $10,000

542.2000.14 Steel $5,000

**To:** 542.3000.12 Contract Services $30,000

A motion was made by Councilman Stiles to approve the transfer request in the amount of $30,000 in the Cumulative Bridge fund, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

**RE: 2023 SALARY AND WAGE ORDINANCE**

Auditor Norris presented the 2023 salary and wage ordinance to the Council. Auditor Norris stated as the ordinance was prepared it was realized that the raises the Highway received in July of 2022 were not included in the advertised budgets, so an additional appropriation will be needed next year to cover those salary increases. Deputy Auditor Teresa Wininger stated the salary and wage ordinance shows the correct amounts but after the Council approves the ordinance, she will send it out to the department heads for review. There may need to be a transfer in ARPA if the Ambulance Service uses ARPA funds for salaries next year. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bowling to approve the 2023 salary and wage ordinance as presented, seconded by Councilman Stiles. All in favor, motion passed.

**RE: 2023 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

Auditor Norris presented the proposed 2023 Council meeting schedule for review. There were three conflicts with holidays in the regular first Monday of the month schedule, January 2nd, July 3rd, and September 4th. After review with the incoming Council and current Council members, it was determined to move those dates to the following Mondays which would be January 9, July 10, and September 11th. A motion was made by Councilman Greene to approve the 2023 Council meeting schedule with the date changes, seconded by Councilman Gibson. All in favor, motion passed.

**RE: INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT AND NEW HR DIRECTOR**

Deputy Auditor Teresa Wininger stated insurance open enrollment is scheduled for employees on December 15th and 16th. Deputy Auditor Wininger informed the Council the medical insurance rate is going up 24.74% for 2023. Deputy Auditor Wininger was told that if it would have not been for the longevity, the rate would have been 30% instead of 24.74%.

Deputy Auditor Teresa Wininger informed the Council the new HR Director, Amy Rinker, will be starting on Wednesday.

**RE: AMBULANCE**

Ambulance Director Jeramey Osborn gave an update to the Council regarding the service. Director Osborn stated in November there was a total of 97 runs, 53 of those were transports at 54.6%. Of those total runs, 38 were taken to Jasper Memorial Hospital, 8 to Daviess Community Hospital, 7 to IU Health at Bedford and Bloomington, 11 disregards, 23 refusals, 3 DOA, and 7 standbys. There have been 278 total runs since August 21st.

Director Osborn stated this month the report software within AIM has gone live, which is the next step to start billing. The power load system for two of the ambulances have been delivered, but not yet installed. The third back up ambulance will not have a power load system. The two red and white trucks have been lettered and now say Martin County Ambulance on the side. The two cardiac monitors have come in and are being programed with installation to occur soon. Director Osborn had lunch with State Medical Director Eric Yazel last week. Dr. Yazel is very pleased with what he has been hearing regarding the service and had good things to say.

Director Osborn is still waiting on sponsorship for the service and is told it could be any day. He has been told by Daviess Community Hospital the contract is done but has not been presented. Director Osborn stated County Attorney David Lett will then review the contract. Once it is reviewed and approved by Attorney Lett, Director Osborn will take the contract to the State level for approval.

Councilman Stiles asked if more people will be transferred to Daviess County after the contract is signed. Director Osborn stated ideally because we would be in partnership, the service would recommend or give the first option to Daviess Community Hospital, but patients would still get to choose where they want to go, within reason.

**RE: OUTGOING COUNCIL APPRECIATION**

President Albright expressed appreciation to the outgoing Council members, Councilman Wininger, Councilman Stiles, Councilwoman McFeaters, and Councilwoman Bowling, for their years of service. Plaques were presented to the outgoing members.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm with a motion made by Councilman Gibson and seconded by Councilman Stiles, all were in favor and the motion passed. The next regular Council meeting will be held Monday, January 9, 2022, at 6:00 pm.

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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