Est

Martin

County

THE MARTIN COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

November 2, 2020

MINUTES

The Martin County Council convened in regular session Monday, November 2, 2020, in 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; Jim Williams, Director Solid Waste; Pat King Admin Assistant Community Corrections; Adam Greene; Sheriff Travis Roush. Attending virtually were; Courtney Hughett, Martin County Journal; Recorder Rhonda Sanders; Lori Carrico, Treasurer; Dena Held, Director 4-H Purdue and an unknown participant whose name was not displayed.

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

The minutes from the meeting held October 5, 2020 and the minutes from the Special Meeting held October 22, 2020 were approved with a motion made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Jim Williams, Martin County Solid Waste, submitted Budget Order 2020-11 for adoption. Ordinance was read twice by President Summers. A motion to approve Budget Order 2020-11 was made by Councilman Stiles, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor motion passed.

Pat King, Acting Director Community Corrections, had an additional appropriation request in the amount of $5000.00 in Project Income Fund for equipment lease. The appropriation was approved with a motion made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilman Gibson. All in favor, motion passed.

Bobbie Abel, Auditor, approached Council for permission to issue a $50.00 warrant for petty cash. The Auditor’s office is to collect Auditor’s Fees in their office once again. State Board of accounts stated the Auditors Office could begin to collect their fees again beginning in March 2019. Previous to that date they could not process any cash.

Bobbie Abel, Auditor, presented information to the Council regarding standard pay structures in like sized Counties. Three Counties, including Martin County, pay all Deputies exactly the same. The six remaining like size Counties pay on a differential scale based on individual offices. The information provided listed accomplishments by the Auditor’s office that have been obtained. Councilwoman McFeaters asked what programs affected all of the County and its employees. Auditor Abel stated the Risk Management program has saved the County more than $90,000.00 in three years’ of premiums by decreasing the MOD rate and includes monthly safety meetings. The Safety Manual has been implemented and the new Employee Handbooks were the most impactful. Future goals for the Auditor’s Office for 2021 are the implementation of a return to work policy to defer premium expenses and worker compensation claims. There will be a Microsoft Office and Adobe training made available for anyone interested and a housing project, that she hopes comes to fruition, working with several Community Leaders. Auditor Abel stated she was before the Council as a Department Head and representing her office in regards to her Deputies compensation. Lori Carrico, Treasurer, expressed her displeasure with the Auditor requesting compensation for her Deputies. She does not agree with the request of $4,500.00 each. Auditor Abel stated that it was a request. Due to safety concerns Councilwoman Bowling asked about Treasurer Carrico’s childcare, a discussion followed. The Council proceeded to discuss the Auditor’s Office compensation and decided to post pone the decision and will advise the Auditor on how to proceed with the Salary and Wage Ordinance before the next meeting.

Travis Roush, Sheriff, approached the Council regarding the additional appropriation requests made for his office. Sheriff Roush stated that Jail Matron Danielle Murphy had reevaluated their budgets and determined that the additional appropriations request in relation to the stipend that was previously approved by the Council would not be needed. They were able to use the current budget without any additional funds being needed to process the Covid-19 related stipend. The appropriation request for Statewide 911 due to lightning strike damage is still needed.

Additional Appropriation request:

Statewide 911

Professional Services $20,000.00

Equipment $35,000.00

Maintenance Agreement $5,000.00

A motion to approve the additional appropriation totaling $60,000.00 was made by Councilman Albright, seconded by Councilman Wininger. All in favor, motion passed.

Sheriff Roush reported that the jail currently has 28 Vigo County inmates.

A motion was made to approve a two percent increase to salaries for elected officials and a quarter per hour raise for all full time employees by Councilman Albright, seconded by Councilman Stiles. All in favor, motion passed.

The Martin County 2021 Budget Ordinance 2020-25 was submitted for approval. A discussion followed. Auditor Abel explained that the budget ordinance is overall an estimation of projected expenses for 2021. If an item was under budgeted an additional appropriation request will need to be made to cover the expense. If an item is overestimated during the budget process it is ok to come in under budget. This includes wages.

The Martin County Budget Ordinance 2020-25 was read aloud twice by President Summers. A motion to approve the Martin County Budget Ordinance 2020-25 was made by Councilman Albright, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor the motion passed.

Bobbie Abel, Auditor, advised the Council that they needed to appoint someone to the Convention/Tourism Board. She stated that Jameson Hibbs had let her know that Adam Graber was interested in serving on the Board. Councilman Stiles stated if he was interested that they should proceed with appointing Graber. A motion to appoint Adam Graber to the Convention/Tourism Board was made by Councilman Stiles, seconded by Councilman Gibson. All in favor motion passed.

Auditor Abel, submitted the Monthly Financial report. She also advised that the New Employee Handbook for the Council was included in their meeting information. Abel stated that there were forms for receiving the handbook to sign, the County Nepotism Policy needed to be signed and they have documentation to watch the mandatory internal control videos that all employees have to review yearly.

Dena Held, Director 4-H Purdue, supplied the yearly statistic for Martin County 4-H. They had seventy- five learner sessions with ninety-five learner hours. One hundred sixteen learning event volunteers with one thousand, one hundred and seventy-four learning event volunteer hours. They currently have one hundred eighty-five youth enrolled in 4-H. For a full report please go to the following link. <https://extension.purdue.edu/Martin/article/39245> or contact the Extension Office.

Important Dates:

Safety Meeting to be held November 12, 2020.

Courthouse will be closed Monday, November 11, 2020 for Veterans Day.

Courthouse will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27, 2020.

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, December 7, 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