Est

Martin

County

THE MARTIN COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

December 7, 2020

MINUTES

The Martin County Council convened in regular session Monday, December 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, and Councilwomen Barbara McFeaters and Sheri Bowling. Also attending were Auditor Bobbie Abel; Commissioner Aaron Summers; Commissioner Elect Cody Roush; Councilman Elect 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; Angie Risacher, Executive Director for Martin County Alliance; Andy Ringwald, EMA; Nancy Summers 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 November 2, 2020 were approved with a motion made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The following appropriations and transfers were approved as follows:

A motion to approve the additional appropriation for the Surveyor, Corner Perpetuation Fund for equipment upgrade in the amount of $8,950.00 was made by Councilman Albright, seconded by Councilwoman McFeaters. All in favor, motion passed.

A motion to approve the additional appropriation for Circuit Court, Gal/Casa for the Director contract in the amount of $6000.00 was made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilman Albright. All in favor, motion passed.

A motion to approve an inter fund transfer for General, Commissioners, from maintenance and repair going to Insurance Opt Out in the amount of $31,000.00 was made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilman Gibson. All in favor, motion passed.

A motion to approve an inter fund transfer for Drug Free Community Grant, Probation, from Salary to Expenditures in the amount of $1,000.00 was made by Councilman Albright, seconded by Councilman Wininger. All in favor, motion passed.

A motion to approve an inter fund transfer for General, Recorder, from travel to office supply was made by Councilman Albright, seconded by Councilman Gibson. All in favor, motion passed.

Bobbie Abel, Auditor, advised the Council that the final claim for the Cares Act Reimbursement Grant had been submitted to the IFA and a reimbursement was received in the amount of $313,017.49. There was an outstanding balance of $32,634.55 which has been deducted from the reimbursement payment leaving a balance of $280,382.94 which will need to be transferred into the General fund to bring the Covid-19 grant balance to zero. A motion to approve the transfer of $280,382.94 from the Covid-19 fund into the General fund was made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed. Abel stated that the County received all eligible funding available to them through the grant.

A discussion followed about a stipend for the Auditor’s Office full time employees. Councilwoman McFeaters thanked the Auditor’s Office for all they have done during the Covid-19 pandemic. It was asked if the stipend would be salary. Abel stated that it is reported as income on a W-2 so is considered income. It was clarified that the stipend would be a one-time stipend. It could be considered yearly. A motion to approve the stipend for the Auditor and both Deputy Auditor’s in the amount of $1,000.00 each was made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilman Wininger. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Salary and Wage Ordinance was submitted. Councilman Albright asked if the ordinance included the .25 cents per hour raise for all hourly employees and a 2% increase for all Elected Officials. Auditor Abel responded that yes they were included in the ordinance. A motion to approve the Salary and Wage Ordinance 2020-31 was made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilman Albright. All in favor the motion passed.

Angie Risacher, Executive Director of Martin County Alliance for Economic Development attended the meeting virtually to introduce herself as the new Executive Director. She told the Council that she saw many familiar faces on the Council and looks forward to working with them in the future.

President Rich Summers, addressed the Council regarding an additional fulltime employee for the Auditor’s Office. He stated he had been into the Courthouse, made observations and a discussion followed regarding adding an additional full time employee to the Auditor’s staff. Councilwoman Bowling stated she would recommend that one part time position be upgraded to full time and the person to be crossed trained not limited to payroll. A motion to approve a full time position in the Auditor’s Office was made by Councilwoman Bowling, seconded by Councilman Wininger. All were in favor, motion passed.

Travis Roush, Sheriff, approached the Council about upgrading the existing Generator. The generator at the jail is over thirty years old. M&M Heating and Air suggested they consider upgrading. A replacement could cost roughly $42,000.00. Roush stated the jail commander is gathering quotes and suggested possibly changing to natural gas. Upkeep could potentially be less. Sheriff Roush, asked that the Council consider increasing the death benefit for the County Deputies. The jail matron and the Sheriff have been investigating the options available. An In The Line of Duty policy can be purchased through the Indiana Public Retirement System under the County Policy for an additional $1000.00 per year for all ten deputies. Roush stated he did not need a decision tonight he just wanted to let them know he was looking into the possibility.

Bobbie Abel, Auditor, submitted the 1782 Notice from the Department of Local Government Finance which provided funding approval for the 2021 budget year. A motion to approve the 1782 notice was made by Councilman Wininger, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor, motion passed.

Abel submitted the monthly financial statement. She also informed the Council that the insurance premium for the County employees was estimated to increase 15%. The initial quote received from anthem included a 14.06% increase. The County Agent of Record, Bridget Redmon with ISU Insurance contacted Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield and requested that they reconsider the quote due to the financial limitations the County is currently under. Anthem came back with a quote with a 2% increase to the current policy.

Sheriff Travis Roush presented a plaque to President Richard Summers for his outstanding leadership through his sixteen years of service.

The Martin County Council presented President Summers with a clock inscribed thanking him for his sixteen years of service to the Citizens of Martin County. Vice President Wininger stated that in the fifteen years as President he could only think of one occasion where he had to fill in for President Summers.

Important Dates:

Safety Meeting for December has been postponed.

Courthouse will be closed Friday, December 18, 2020 from 11:30 am until 1:30 pm for Employee Dinner.

Courthouse will be closed Thursday, December 24, 2020 and Friday, December 25, 2020 for Christmas.

Courthouse will be closed Thursday, December 31, 2020 and Friday, January 1, 2020 for New Years.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 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, January 4, 2021 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