Est

Martin

County

THE MARTIN COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

May 4, 2020

MINUTES

The Martin County Council convened in regular session Monday, May 4, 2020, in the Commissioners’ Room at the Courthouse located at 129 Main Street, Shoals, Indiana. Councilmen attending via Zoom: were C. Richard Summers, Randy L. Wininger, James A. Stiles, Warren Albright and Councilwomen Barbara McFeaters and Sheri Bowling. Councilman Keith Gibson was unable to attend. Also attending were Auditor Bobbie Abel; Courtney Hughett, Martin County Journal; Dena Held, 4-H Educator; Kathy Collins, Director Community Corrections; Lori Carrico, Treasurer; Sierra Rutledge, Shoals Town Clerk, President Paul George, Commissioner; Mitch Green; Jill Ziegler; Jameson Hibbs, West Boggs; Rhonda Rumble, SICD; Kristi Ausbrooks; Carol Richer; Walt Henrickson; Travis Roush, Sheriff; Adam Greene.

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

The minutes from the meeting held April 6, 2020 were approved with a motion made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilman Albright. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Jameson Hibbs, Spokesperson for Leadership Martin County, informed the Council about their Community Project. One of the requirements of Leadership Martin County is to implement a group project. After researching various projects the group choose to focus on the road conditions in Martin County. Their goal is to research and assist in finding new revenue sources to aid in the maintenance and repair of Martin County roads. The Leadership group had held a zoom meeting on Friday, April 17, 2020 to present to the Council their research of the current revenue sources for the Motor Vehicle Highway Department. Included was the State revenue, the Crane Timber revenue and Community Crossing Grant awards. Spokesman Jameson Hibbs gave a synopsis of the previously discussed items. Purdue and LTAP projected that due to the gas sales and price reductions as a result of Covid-19, the Highway’s operating revenue will see a decrease between 35 to 45 percent as soon as June of 2020. Rich Summers, Council President stated more research needed to be done. Councilman Wininger stated he was against a wheel tax. Councilwomen Bowling stated she would like to know what the current expenditures are. It was also asked what the local trucking company would think of a wheel tax. The leadership group thanked the Council for letting them attend the meeting and listening to their proposal.

Travis Roush, Sheriff; requested that the Council approve a .50 cent per hour pay increase for the part time Jail Officers. Sheriff Roush explained that an additional appropriation was not needed to cover the increase in pay because they have been running short of staff during the current Covid-19 pandemic. He explained that potential employees are hesitant to come to work at the jail and he believes an increase in part time pay could be an incentive. After a discussion about current pay rates Councilwomen McFeaters made a motion to approve the .50 cent per hour increase for Part Time Jail Officers, Councilman Albright seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Kathy Collins, Director Community Corrections, advised the Council that the Community Corrections Advisory Board Approved the restructuring of current positions within the department and as a result the pay was also restructured. Auditor Abel advised that there will be an amended Salary and Wage Ordnance for them to sign at the next Council Meeting when meetings are held in person. A motion to approve the changes in compensation for Community Corrections employees was made by Councilman Stiles, seconded by Councilwoman Bowling. All in favor the motion passed.

Dena Held, Educator Purdue 4-H, advised the Council that cancellation of reservations at the Community Building due to Covid-19 has resulted in a financial hardship. They try to keep rental fees at a minimum to help the Community. Mitch Green and Jill Ziegler both stated that the board will be attending the next Council meeting with a financial statement and possibly a request for assistance.

Additional Appropriations Ordinance 2020-09 was approved as follows with a motion to approve both appropriation requests made by Councilwoman McFeaters, seconded by Councilman Wininger. All in favor, motion passed.

Appropriations:

 General

 Commissioners

 Covid 19-Supplies $3,000.00

 Covid 19-Equipment $10,000.00

Barb McFeaters, expressed the Councils condolences to former Councilwomen Lynn Gee in the loss of her son John Gee due to Covid-19 related issues.

Important Dates:

 Safety Meeting to be held Wednesday has been postponed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm with a motion made by Councilman Albright and seconded by Councilwoman McFeaters, all were in favor and the motion passed. The next Council meeting will be held Monday, June 1, 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