

COUNTY COUNCIL

February 10th, 2022

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Council convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, February 10th, 2022 to consider additional requests in excess of the budget allowed for 2022, and to conduct such other business as may be properly brought before the Council.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Council members present were John K. Pratt, President; Larry Gambaiani, Vice President; Roy Wrightsman, Rick Patton, Jack B. Butler, James E. Howard and Cameron Martin. Present from the Auditor's Office were Laura Fischer, Auditor and Michelle Woods, 3rd Deputy Auditor. Also present were Katie Potter, Jessica Lancaster, Justin Cole, Cyndi Todd, John Martin, Jim Meece and Council Attorney Bob Clutter.
- III. **READING OF THE MINUTES:** Minutes from September 2021 were presented. Motion to approve made by Roy Wrightsman and seconded by Jack B. Butler. Motion carried unanimously. January 2022 minutes tabled until March meeting.
- IV. **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:** The Council considered additional appropriation requests as published in the newspaper January 26th, 2022. Council President, John K. Pratt, reviewed the appropriations from written requests submitted by Auditor, Laura Fischer. Thus, the following ordinance was adopted: WHEREAS: it has been determined it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget for 2022, BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council of Parke County, Indiana, for the expenses of said County government, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set out of the funds herein specified, subject to the law governing the same: Larry Gambaiani made a motion to approve the additional appropriation requests as advertised on January 26th, 2022. The motion was seconded by Cameron Martin and carried unanimously.

<u>FUND/DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u>	<u>AMOUNT APPROVED</u>
RDC Operations Fund	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Service Contracts – 1001-00-03-5080		
Total RDC Operations Fund:	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
 K9 Equipment Donation Fund	 \$10,000.00	 \$10,000.00
K9 Equipment – 4113-00-04-7020		
Total K9 Equipment Donation Fund:	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00

V. TRANSFER OF FUNDS: N/A

VI. REAPPROPRIATIONS: N/A

VII. JURY PAY: December 31st, 2021 - \$104.46 Motion to approve jury pay made by Rick Patton and seconded by James E. Howard. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Redevelopment Commission-Met and had an election of officers. Retained who was already in place. Grant for more money for revolving loan.
- Planning and Zoning Commission-Met and elected same officers as before.
- Courthouse Security-Did not meet.
- Solid Waste-Met Tuesday but Cameron was unable to attend meeting.

IX. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

• **Jim Meece, Commissioner:**

- Stated the courthouse had closed a couple days due to the snow storm. Don Pruner did a good job cleaning around the courthouse. Tractor cannot get to all places so Don is wanting to purchase a snow blower. Jim explained what happened to Bowsher covered bridge as a county highway worker damaged the bridge while plowing snow. The driver was in a county dump truck and crossed the bridge with the bed up and took out both ends of the bridge and the cross ties. The bridge is clearly marked 3 ton maximum. The driver was asked to return to the highway garage and was given a breathalyzer. Employee was also sent to hospital for a blood test. Due to insubordination the driver was let go from his position at the highway department. All drivers are instructed to never cross any of the covered bridges with the dump trucks. The bridge will be fixed by the highway department. Jim stated the third set of courthouse doors are being finished but not reinstalled as of yet.

• **Justin Cole, Sheriff's Dept:**

- 50 inmates as of today. 1 staff member with COVID, only a few inmates with COVID so far this year. Annual jail inspection being done now. 733 people were booked into the jail for 2021. Annual commissary was \$155,000.00. Still plan on doing the parking lot job, was unable to get to it last year. Buying 2 new cars. Compensation agreement same as previous years. Council to sign and approve agreement today. Commissioners have already approved agreement. Smoke test conducted Tuesday and was good. The department is down 3 deputies. Chris McCann is still out. Do not know if he will be returning or not. Ed McHargue is a state trooper and will be retiring. PCSD is considering hiring him. Provision requested from Officer McHargue is he would like the county to honor his longevity from previous employment with the county. Motion to grant exemption to Resolution 2018-20 to give longevity to Officer McHargue made by Cameron Martin and seconded by Rick Patton. Motion passed unanimously. Council states this is a one-time deal and will not become a regular occurrence.

• **Katie Potter, Assessor:**

- Sales file that leads to ratio assessment was submitted and approved within a day. Started ratio study process. Market value is up which means assessment is up. Rolled mobile homes to Auditor. Sent to state.

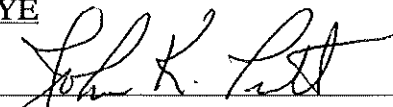
X. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Amendment to the 2022 Salary Ordinance:** The Council has determined to amend Ordinance. **Fund:** 1119-00-01-1501 **Position:** Extra Clerical **2022 Amount Approved:** \$12.50/hr. **2022 Amended Amount:** \$12.75/hr.
Motion to approve amendment to Salary Ordinance made by James B. Butler and seconded by James E. Howard. Carried unanimously.
- **Encumbrances submitted to Council for Approval.** Motion to approve encumbrances as presented today made by Roy Wrightsman and seconded by Jack B. Butler. Motion carried unanimously. An amendment to the encumbrances will be presented and adopted at the March meeting.

XI. GENERAL BUSINESS:

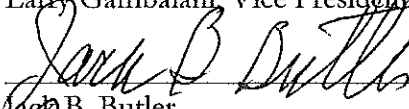
- Council attorney Bob Clutter was asked to come to meeting. Council wants to adopt ordinance for virtual meetings. **Same day same meeting:** Motion made by Jack B. Butler and seconded by Larry Gambaiani. Carried unanimously. **Ordinance 2022-01-Permitting Virtual Attendance at Meetings:** Motion to approve made by Jack B. Butler and seconded by Larry Gambaiani. Motion carried unanimously.
- John Pratt has been contacted by Surveyor, Greg Lohrmann, who is in need of a new computer and printer in his office. There is no money in his budget to purchase these. Roy Wrightsman will get ahold of Greg and have him get a quote for a computer and printer. Roy will supply a fund number to pay it from.
- The Health Dept is applying for a grant that will partially pay a public health nurse. This grant will help get the rate of pay where it needs to be. Motion to approve application for grant made by Larry Gambaiani and seconded by Cameron Martin. The motion passed unanimously.
- An employee at the jail, maintenance supervisor, was overpaid by approximately \$1,000.00. This person is no longer with the department. Auditor, Laura Fischer, has contacted this person for the money to be paid back to the County. The overpayment was due to an error in data entry. The employee was paid the full salary instead of partial salary. Council states that it is the Auditors responsibility to recover this money by any means necessary and it needs to be done as soon as possible. Auditor is to notify Council when the money has been collected.
- Justin Cole presented the Council with **Compensation Agreement In Lieu of Statutory Fees Between Justin W. Cole and The County of Parke.** Motion to approve agreement made by Jack B. Butler and seconded by Cameron Martin. Motion passed unanimously.
- Roy Wrightsman asked Auditor, Laura Fischer, when the HSA distributions would be completed. The Auditor said it would be done by the 24th.

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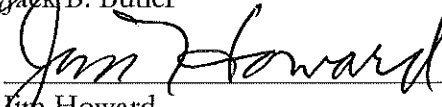


John K. Pratt, President


Larry Gambaiani, Vice President



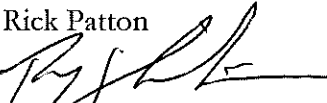
Jack B. Butler



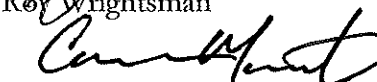
Jim Howard



Rick Patton



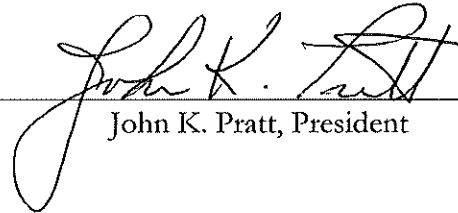
Roy Wrightsman



Cameron Martin

NAY

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Council, the motion to adjourn was made by Jack B. Butler and seconded by Larry Gambaiani. The meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.



John K. Pratt, President

ATTEST:

Laura J. Fischer, Auditor