

## COUNTY COUNCIL

February 11, 2021

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Council convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2021 to consider additional requests in excess of the Budget allowed for 2021, 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; Jack B. Butler, James E. Howard, Rick Patton, Roy Wrightsman, Cameron Martin, Henry Harper; First Deputy Auditor, and Tammy Thomas; 3rd Deputy Auditor. Vice President, Larry Gambaiani, and Auditor, Laura Fischer were absent. Also present were Jim Meece, Justin Cole, Cyndi Todd, Gregg Larson, Bob Clutter, Darla Burgess, and Jessica Lancaster.
- III. READING OF THE MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on January 14, 2021 were approved upon a motion made by Councilman Roy Wrightsman and seconded by Councilman Jack B. Butler.
- IV. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** The Council considered an additional appropriation request as published in the newspaper January 27, 2021. Council President John K. Pratt reviewed the appropriation from a written request 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 2021, BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council of Parke County, Indiana, for the expenses of said County government, the following additional sum of money is hereby appropriated and ordered set out of the funds herein specified, subject to the law governing the same: Councilman Jack B. Butler made a motion to approve the additional appropriation request as advertised on January 27, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rick Patton and carried unanimously.

FUND/ DEPARTMENT		AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
Local Health Trust			
Part-Time Nurse	1206-00-01-1123	7,410.00	7,410.00
Local Health Trust			

- V. TRANSFER OF FUNDS:** None Presented
- VI. JURY PAY:** The first Deputy Auditor presented the Parke County Clerk's certification of jury fees collected for January 2021, and requested \$106.54 be transferred into the Jury Pay Fund, pursuant to IC 33-19-8-8. Councilman James E. Howard made the motion to direct the first Deputy Auditor to transfer the jury fees collected in the amount of \$106.54 from the County Users Fund to the Jury Fee Fund. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cameron Martin and unanimously carried.
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- Redevelopment Commission (RDC) – Roy Wrightsman
    - 2021 officers were elected as follows:
      - President – Roy Wrightsman
      - Vice President – John Pratt
      - Secretary – Ronja Branson
      - Treasurer – Laura Fischer (by Statute)

- Awarded several parcels at the commissioner's sale.
- Pursuing delinquent loans in the revolving loan fund.
- Discussed sewer expansion north on highway 41. \$1 million cost up front and 80% of revenues thereafter.
- Planning and Zoning Commission – Jack B. Butler
- Courthouse Security Board – John K. Pratt

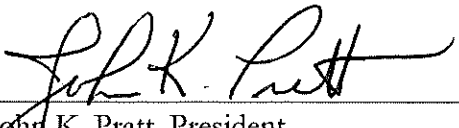
## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Darla Burgess of the Parke County Regional Wastewater Advisory Committee appeared before the board to discuss the preliminary engineering report. The advisory committee considers this engineering report a catalyst for the basis of growth in Parke County. This includes a county-wide assessment, but provides specific areas of the county for the initial project with the ability to expand in the future. After discussion among the Council and Council Attorney Robert Clutter, the Council decided to postpone any decisions until the March 11, 2021 meeting.
- Encumbrances from 2020 budget to 2021 budget were presented to the Council. Encumbrances for expenses were \$529,009.85 and salary encumbrances were \$162,796.75. After review, a motion was made by Councilman Roy Wrightsman to approve the 2020 encumbrances. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jack B. Butler, and the motion carried unanimously.
- Parke County Commissioner – Jim Meece
  - Evaluation of courthouse custodial equipment. Looking to hire a company for the maintenance schedule. Will cost \$12,000 for jail and \$9,000 for courthouse with a 3-year follow up. A representative will be at the next Council meeting on March 11, 2021.
  - Commissioner Meece announced that the Parke County Clerk has resigned her position. A caucus will be held to find her replacement. Mr. Meece advised that if anyone is interested to contact Mike Watts. The deadline for application is February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. The vote will be held on February 23.
- Parke County Sheriff – Justin Cole
  - Presented the fire marshal inspection report
  - Presented the annual jail report
  - Jail inspection is being done today.
  - 51 jail inmates
  - Billed \$11,175.50 in January.
  - Collections for January were \$1,786.37
- Councilman Wrightsman presented an application from Bloomingdale Home Telephone for Broadband Infrastructure Development Zone. Their investment is \$325,644. This application is to exempt the property used from property taxes. The projects that are involved are the Bridgeton Road project and the extension of broadband from Bloomingdale to Marshall. 145 customers have signed on to date. The motion was made by Councilman Wrightsman to approve Bloomingdale Home Telephone's application for the exemption of property taxes. Councilman Rick Patton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**


- Gregg Larson, who recently purchased the old Lee Alan Bryant property east of Rockville on US Highway 36, appeared before the Council to introduce himself and report that he is planning to use the property as a public event site, and plans to renovate the historical buildings.

AYE

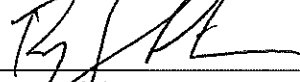
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John K. Pratt, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry Gambaiani, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack B. Butler

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James E. 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 Councilman Jack B. Butler and seconded by Councilman James E Howard.

\_\_\_\_\_  
John K. Pratt, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Fischer, Auditor