

County Council Meeting
March 15, 2022

Present: David Gogel, Susan Harris, Todd Ruxer, Brian Greulich, Steve Haaff, Todd Grundhoefer, Aaron Benton, Attorney Andrew Foster, Auditor Melissa L. Bunner

County Council meeting was called to order by President Steve Haaff at 5:00 P.M.

Minutes

Grundhoefer made a motion to approve the minutes from February 15, 2022. Harris seconded the motion, motion approved.

Additional Appropriation

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1191 RIVERBOAT/Success Through Mentoring		
Other Services: Success Through Mentoring	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
<i>Benton made a motion to approve. Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>		

Fund Name: 1191 RIVERBOAT/Surveyor		
Other Services: Drainage Plan/Caney Creek Watershed	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
<i>Benton made a motion to approve. Greulich seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>		

Fund Name: 1000 COUNTY GENERAL/Commissioners/Courthouse		
Other Services: Computer Software Contracts	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
<i>Greulich made a motion to approve. Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>		

Fund Name: 1000 COUNTY GENERAL/Circuit Court		
Other Services: Psychiatric Services	\$12,500.00	\$6,000.00
<i>Greulich made a motion to approve. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>		

Fund Name: 1000 COUNTY GENERAL/Child Support		
Personnel Services: Part-Time Help	\$42,000.00	\$42,000.00
<i>Gogel made a motion to approve. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>		

Fund Name: 2600 DRAIN IMPROVEMENT/Surveyor		
Other Services: Anderson River	\$4,200.00	\$0
<i>This needs to be re-advertised under a different fund.</i>		

Fund Name: 1182 PRETRIAL DIVERSION/Prosecutor		
Personnel Services: Clerical Assistant	\$21,350.00	\$21,350.00
<i>Benton made a motion to approve. Greulich seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>		

Fund Name: 1182 PRETRIAL DIVERSION/Prosecutor		
Personnel Services: FICA	\$1,634.00	\$1,634.00
<i>Benton made a motion to approve. Greulich seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>		

Fund Name: 1182 PRETRIAL DIVERSION/Prosecutor		
Personnel Services: PERF	\$3,032.00	\$3,032.00
<i>Benton made a motion to approve. Greulich seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>		

Transfers

SPENCER COUNTY SURVEYOR	AMOUNT
Decrease Account #1191-000-4341.00	\$50,000.00
Other Services: Drainage Plan	
Increase Account #2700-000-4024.00	\$50,000.00
Other Services: Caney Creek Watershed	
<i>Benton made a motion to approve. Gogel seconded the motion, motion approved.</i>	

Clerk / Darrell Stephens

Stephens is requesting approval to advertise an additional for MicroVote which is the 2022 Indiana Election service fees. This was not budgeted for 2022.

Benton motioned to approve this request to advertise out of Cum Cap 1138. Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.

Stephens is also requesting approval to advertise an additional for \$2,000.00 to cover his clerical assistants he will need on election day. This was presented at budget time but not funded.

Benton motioned to approve this request to advertise out of County General Election Board.

Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.

TSW Design Group / Amy Williams

Williams presented an overview of the services that Taylor Siefker Williams Design Group (TSW) can provide to help with the Comprehensive Plan. They look at a three (3) Phase approach. First Phase is to look at the existing conditions. Second Phase to Plan and Third Phase to Implement the Plan. TSW submitted a proposal last year for \$50,000.00. Heidi Young with Lincolnland Economic Development commented on strategies that she feels would be beneficial. Gries reminded everyone of the future meetings on March 28, 2022 from 4pm – 6pm at the Chrisney YCC and April 18, 2022 from 4pm – 6pm at the Chrisney YCC.

Broadband Update / Wayne Blake, Jim Dauby, Steve Seibert

PSC was granted a one-year extension for funded project completion. This extension runs through end of October 2022.

Customer installations have ramped up significantly. There were 90 installations in February versus the low point of 22 last September.

The largest phase (Dale / Mariah Hill) has 100 customers remaining to be installed and is expected to be completed mid-April.

Mainline fiber construction continues to proceed nicely. To date, 465 miles of mainline fiber have been constructed withing Spencer County with 177 miles to go in Phase 6 – 8. Mainline completion is expected by July.

Blake discussed the Indiana Connectivity Program. This program is for those who currently lack broadband service or have actual broadband speeds of less than 25/3Mbps.

Jennifer Head, Spencer County Farmer, expressed concerns about her eligibility to get broadband to her farm. Dauby stated he would personally look into her questions and concerns.

There was discussion about the last installment of the money Spencer County committed to the project. As a rule, final payment is not generally paid until the work is done; however, the County Council also realize the cost to keep moving forward and have agreed to pay 1,275,000.00 payable in April and then the rest at time of completion.

Benton motioned to approve the \$1,275,000.00 payable out of CEDT. Greulich seconded the motion, motion approved.

Salary Ordinance - Amended

Auditor Burner presented the amended salary ordinance. There were three (3) amendments. The first and second amendment pertained to the Prosecutor's Office requesting additional help. The third amendment was an update to the election board ordinance. Nothing changed but additional information was added.

Grundhoefer motioned to approve the amended salary ordinance. **Benton** seconded the motion, motion approved.

ARPA

The Commissioners approved some ARPA requests at the March 1, 2022 meeting. These requests were at the recommendation of the ARPA Task Force. These requests were brought to the County Council for final approval. They are as follows:

Town of Santa Claus Water Board	\$600,000.00
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Gogel motioned to approve. Greulich seconded the motion, motion approved.

Spencer County Emergency Ambulance Service	\$30,842.50
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Greulich motioned to approve. **Ruxer** seconded the motion, motion approved.

Spencer County Highway Department	\$254,942.00
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Benton motioned to approve. Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.

Spencer County EMA	\$3,500.00
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Benton motioned to approve. Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.

Spencer County Emergency Ambulance Service	\$280,000.00
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Benton motioned to approve. Greulich seconded the motion, motion approved.

Legal Report

Gogel asked Foster to draft an ordinance for grant requests. This would require anyone requesting a grant must bring the request to the County Council for approval before applying. Foster will review this request and bring it back when more information is available.

Mid-States Corridor / Bill Kaiser

Kaiser presented a chart showing a summary of the five (5) preliminary routes being considered for the new expressway that would run from I-64 North to I-69 South of Indianapolis. The five (5) routes are being identified as single letters: B, C, M, O, and P.

Alt B joins with I-69 near Washington. The 34-mile-long route passes Huntington and Jasper to the west before eventually connecting to the I-69 at a new interchange which is directly south of U.S. 50 Interchange.

Alt C also connects to I-69 through the U.S. 50 Interchange. This includes a section of U.S. 50 to the east. This route runs for 42 miles.

Alt M travels North, passing Huntington and Jasper to the east before joining State Road 37 near Bedford.

Alt P extends through the heart of Dubois County, eventually connecting I-69 through the U.S. 231 exchange. This route passes through Huntington and Jasper by continuing northward. The 54-mile-long route briefly passes Loogootee to the east before winding its way to I-69.

Apt O route will travel through Paoli and Orleans.

The announcement of the recommended route will be on April 15, 2022.

Old Business

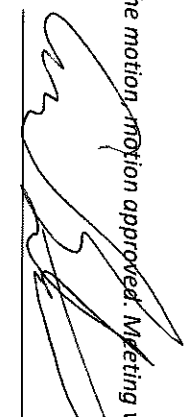
Nothing to report.

New Business

Nothing to report.

Ruxer made a motion to adjourn. Benton seconded the motion. Motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:01 P.M.

President



Attest:

Auditor, Melissa L. Burner

