County Council Meeting
April 20, 2021

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

Present: Commissioners Tom Brown, Jim Seiler, Heather Gries, and Jeff Lindsey

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

President Gogel acknowledged Brody Berg in attendance from the Boy Scouts of America. Berg led the Pledge of Allegiance to start the meeting.

Minutes
Benton made a motion to approve the minutes from March 16, 2021 as presented. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion approved.

Additional Appropriation

	Amount Requested	Approved
Fund Name: 1000 COUNTY GENERAL/EMA		
Other Services: Utilities	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00

Bunner made a motion to approve. Benton seconded the motion, motion approved.

Transfers
No transfers requested

Lincoln Heritage Public Library Appointment
Debbie Fischer is currently a County Council appointee to the Lincoln Heritage Public Library Board of Trustees. Her fourth term expires on May 31, 2021. The Lincoln Heritage Public Library would like to request a new appointee by the County Council to take Debbie's place. Debbie represented the Harrison Township. This new term would begin May 31, 2021 and end May 31, 2025. The library would like to suggest Linda Hassfurther as Debbie's replacement if no one else is recommended.
Ruxer made a motion to approve this appointment. Greulich seconded the motion, motion approved.

Automated Routing, Inc.
Automated Routing is requesting the CF-1 form be presented to the County Council for consideration and approval.
Benton motioned to approve the CF-1 form. Grundhoefer seconded the motion, motion approved.

Legal Report
Nothing to report.

Old Business
Assessor McGinnis provided an update on the AK Steel settlement. McGinnis provided a breakdown of the settlement amount and an estimation of distribution. They are as follows:

Tax Year 2017	Refund	$ 175,893.00
Tax Year 2018 – 2020	Delinquency	$4,004,349.00
Balance Due		$3,828,456.00

This is the distribution example using tax year 2020 and NOT counting interest:

County and State	(37%)	$ 404,242.00
Township	(3%)	$ 32,776.00
School	(55%)	$ 600,899.00
Library	(3%)	$ 32,776.00
Solid Waste	(2%)	$ 21,851.00
Total:	(100%)	$1,092,544.00

McGinnis discussed amending the prior approved Ordinance to include the additional bills that have incurred since the adoption and to include expenses from the Redevelopment Commission. This will be addressed in the May meeting.

McGinnis asked if she could reschedule her budget meeting time in August. The Council told her to come in on the third Tuesday of August to complete her budget. She agreed.

New Business

The Council and the Commissioners discussed the American Rescue Plan. As of now, the Commissioners have established an Ordinance 2021-07 *"An Ordinance Establishing An American Rescue Plan Fund And Authorizing Use In Accordance With Section 603(c)".* The Auditor has prepared the required information regarding DUNS number, SAM.gov information, and TIN. The next step is to discuss options for using this money and establishing a plan in accordance with the directive issued by the State of Indiana.

The uses of the fund are specified in Section 603(c) as follows:
"USE OF FUNDS – Subject to paragraph (2), and except as provided in paragraph (3) and (4), a metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county shall only use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover costs incurred by the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county, by December 31, 2024.

(A) to respond to public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
(B) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible works of the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;
(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency; or
(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure."

There were many suggestions discussed. For the first round of discussion, the County Council and the Commissioners agreed to pursue the broadband infrastructure option. The Commissioners will amend Ordinance 2021-07 to reflect this as the plan.
Bunner motioned to approve the amending of Ordinance 2021-07 with the plan being in section 603(c) D – investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. Haaff seconded the motion, motion approved.

The County Council and the Commissioners discussed having a task force to search the top priorities in Spencer County that could be used for the ARP. Todd Grundhoefer, Brian Greulich, and Steve Haaff volunteered.
Bunner motioned to approve these Council members to the task force. Benton seconded the motion, motion approved.

Brody Berg from Boy Scout Troop 102 came to the meeting. Berg is working on his Communication and Citizenship badges and is asking the Council if they have any community service for his troop.

Ruxer made a motion to adjourn. Benton seconded the motion, motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:07 P.M.

President
Attest:

Auditor, Melissa L. Bunner