

**County Council Meeting
March 21, 2017**

Present: Jack Kroeger, Blake Bunner, David Gogel, Matt Knepper, Todd Ruxer, Aaron Benton, Steve Winsett, Attorney Andrew Foster, Auditor Autumn Winkler

Meeting was called to order by President Blake Bunner at 5:00 P.M.

Minutes

Ruxer made a motion to approve the minutes from February 21st as presented. Kroeger seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Additional Appropriations

Cum Cap – Circuit Court/Clerk

Law Books - \$10,000.00

Judge Dartt explained that there was not enough money budgeted in county general for law books and the Auditor's office suggested an additional be requested from Cum Cap, due to these being a capital expense. Benton made a motion to approve the \$10,000.00 additional appropriation for law books from Cum Cap. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Pre-Trial Diversion - Prosecutor

Copy Machine - \$5,000.00

Wilkinson explained that their copy machine is about 6 years old and is requiring more service and having more paper jams, so he feels it's a good time to get a new one while we can still get a little trade in value on the old one. Wilkinson got quotes from Hoosier Business and Ricoh and stated it's a better deal to do the trade in with Hoosier Business for \$3,433.00. They do not have a need or room for a second copy machine and the one from Ricoh does color and staples and things that they do not need. Ruxer made a motion to approve the \$3,433.00 from pre-trial diversion for a copy machine. Gogel seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Transfers

Circuit Court

Decrease: GAL/CASA Services	1000-136-4141.00	\$2,000.00
Increase: Petit Jurors	1000-136-4137.00	\$2,000.00

Judge Dartt explained that we had a jury trial and the juror accounts in the budget were zeroed out for 2017, so they need money to pay the jurors for the service they have already provided. He explained that it looks like there will be more jury cases this year and he will be back next month to request an additional appropriation to compensate jurors and then money will be put back into the GAL/CASA line, because that money will be needed also. Benton made a motion to approve the transfer of \$2,000.00. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Plan Commission

Decrease: Extra Help	1000-124-4112.00	\$2,000.00
Increase: Administrator/ADA Title VI	1000-124-4111.00	\$2,000.00

Kay Erwin came before the council to explain that since she is new to the position former Administrator Jennifer Adams is spreading out her final leave time to train Erwin. The money from extra help will be needed to pay Adams her remaining pay while training Erwin. Benton made a motion to approve the \$2,000.00 from extra help. Winsett seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Tina Gehlhausen - CASA

Gehlhausen came to present information on GAL vs. CASA from 2010-2016 and the cost savings to the county. There has been a significant increase in juvenile CHINS cases thru the years and prior to the CASA program those cases were always handled by GAL attorneys that were paid by the county. Spencer County currently has 66 CASA volunteers, which is more than surrounding counties with programs that have been established longer. The CASA program is a 501c3 that gets a contribution from the county, but is primarily funded thru donations. Gehlhausen explained what a benefit this program is to the children, but also to the county. The summary presented showed significant increase in children being served with county expense going down.

New Business

Layla Thayer – YMCA

Thayer came to discuss with the council her plan of researching the possibility of putting a YMCA in the old Kight Home Center building in Reo. The building has been sitting empty for years and could be such an asset to the community if used for a purpose such as this. She has contacted the YMCA and spoke with individuals from the YMCA of the USA and has been given some direction on what the process would be to open a YMCA. She was instructed to talk with her local government about their interest and support of developing a facility. We could charter a facility ourselves from the ground up or try to branch off a local tri-county facility. North Spencer has been adopted as part of a tri-county, but currently southern Spencer County has not, so they are going to look into which branch would be the best fit to adopt the southern part of the county. The YMCA has requested we create a presentation to present to the YMCA board that they will in turn present to the organization to get a yes or no. Thayer will continue to work on the project and potentially get a group together. She will report back to the council as things progress.

AIC Road Funding

Kroeger and Benton discussed some of the issues surrounding road funding and the possibility of an increase in gas tax. Making an increase like that will impact the ones using the most fuel, such as trucking companies, more so than regular individuals. It is still being discussed at the state level what will actually take place.

TIF District – AK Steel

Bunner stated that there will be a Redevelopment Commission meeting to discuss the AK Steel TIF District on April 6th at 5:00 p.m. and asked if anyone had anything to say regarding the TIF district. There was discussion amongst the board about the purpose of the TIF district and whether or not it had fulfilled its purpose. Kroeger presented some documentation about TIF districts from a Ball State University study and tried to explain how a TIF district works. A majority of the board after discussion seemed to be in favor of dissolving the TIF district, but Ruxer stated he could not say that he was in favor of it at this time, because he doesn't feel as if he is well informed enough to make that decision. Gogel made a motion to send a recommendation letter from the council to the Redevelopment Commission and the Board of Commissioners in support of dissolving the AK Steel TIF District. Benton seconded the motion, motion was approved with Ruxer opposed.

Melissa Brockman – 2016 Annual Report

Brockman presented the 2016 Annual Report handout and stated that 2016 was a pretty good year with lots of bicentennial events. A mailer was sent to all residents in Spencer County listing the Fall and Christmas events, plus many bicentennial events. Brockman stated that they redesigned the website last year and just received an award for best tourism website in our budget range. Brockman gave an update on new lodging that will open in 2017 and the progress on planning a new visitor's center.

New Business

Salary Ordinance

Auditor Winkler presented an amended 2017 salary ordinance including PT Equipment Operators at the rate of \$15.20/hr. Gogel made a motion to approve the amended 2017 salary ordinance. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Coroner – Robert Fuller

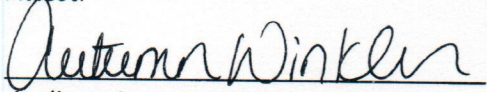
Fuller came before the board to express his need for new computers for the office and a new radio system. Fuller presented a quote for computers and stated they are having issues with their pager system and he is interested in getting a new system that will send all calls through their cell phones. Some of the fire departments already have this system. He was instructed to request an additional appropriation out of Cum Cap and come back to discuss it next month.

Benton made a motion to adjourn. Ruxer seconded the motion, motion was approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 P.M.



President

Attest:



Auditor, Autumn Winkler

