

## **DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**

December 7, 2020

### The following Council Members were present:

President Richard Ring  
Vice President William VanWye  
Member Eldonna King – ATTENDED ELECTRONICALLY  
Member Robert E. Krafft  
Member Martha Grimm  
Member David Yarde  
Member Amy Demske

Others present: Auditor Jan Bauman  
Attorney Donald J Stuckey

Robert Krafft opened the meeting with prayer at 8:33 a.m.

### **MATTER OF MINUTES**

Eldonna King made a motion to approve regular meeting minutes dated November 2, 2020. David Yarde seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Sheriff's \$27,000 appropriation request for Personal Services within County General (1001). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved. This is for a \$500 COVID stipend for the 54 hourly employees in the department, and County General will be reimbursed by the Sheriff's commissary fund and has been vetted through State Board of Accounts.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Commissioners' \$267,951 appropriation request for Insurance (12200) within County General (1001). David Yarde seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Probation's \$1,074.80 appropriation request for Care of Inmates (34190) within County General (1001). Martha Grimm seconded, and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the Auditor's \$119,736.47 appropriation request for Capital Outlay (44210) within the 2018 Bond Project Fund (4801). Martha Grimm seconded, and all approved.

David Yarde made a motion to approve the Information Systems' \$97,053.72 appropriation request for Contractual Services (34330) within the CARES Judicial Grant Fund (8904). Eldonna King seconded, and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve Probation's requests to appropriate \$1,003 to Insurance (12200), \$2,500 to Incentives (22255), and \$3,190.86 to Other Service Fees (32780) within the Veterans Court Grant Fund (9153). Martha Grimm seconded, and all approved.

Martha Grimm made a motion to approve Probation's requests to appropriate \$1,966 to Insurance (12200), \$5,000 to Incentives (22255), \$4,000 to Testing Services (33900), and \$8,729.12 to Other Service Fees (32780) within the Family Recovery Court Grant Fund (9154). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF TRANSFERS**

Eldonna King made a motion to approve the Auditor's request to transfer \$600 from Part Time (10750) to Budget/1<sup>st</sup> Deputy (11212) within County General (1001). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Sheriff's request to transfer \$25,000 from Captain (11220) to Overtime (11050) and \$50,000 from Patrolman 2 (11239) to Overtime (11050) within County General (1001). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

Martha Grimm made a motion to approve the Veterans Service Officer's request to transfer \$600 from Memorial Day Flags (22460) to Furniture and Fixtures (44410) within County General (1001). David Yarde seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve Weights & Measures' request to transfer \$300 from Other Garage & Motor (35151) to Operating Supplies (22130) within County General (1001). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve Weights & Measures' request to transfer \$89 from Repair & Maintenance Supplies (22310) to Department Head (11201) within County General (1001). William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

Eldonna King made a motion to approve the Commissioners' request to transfer \$35,000 from Social Security (12300) to Health Insurance (12200) within County General (1001). William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

Eldonna King made a motion to approve Community Corrections' request to transfer \$5,000 from Case Manager 3 (11613) to Case Manager 2 (11493) within Project Income Fund (1122). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Highway's requests to transfer \$4,000 from Perf (12100), \$4,000 from Social Security (12300), and \$5,000 from Overtime (11050), all to Insurance (12200) within the Highway Fund (1176). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

Martha Grimm made a motion to approve Community Corrections' request to transfer \$4,000 from Administrative Service Coordinator (11633) to Residential Services Supervisor (11686). Eldonna King seconded, and all approved.

### **MATTER OF FINANCIAL REPORT BY FUND**

The Council certified that they have received and reviewed the November 2020 Financial Report by Fund.

### **MATTER OF DEKALB COUNTY AIRPORT UPDATE**

Randy Fox distributed a brief of new and old business for the Airport.

Mr. Jerry Korchyk is due to be reappointed to the Board this year. The entire DCAA Board recommends reappointment. He is the current Vice President of the Board.

Tree clearing has begun on the County Road 62 road project. They expect clearing and a structure set across the wetlands yet this year.

The appraisal process on County Road 31 has begun. The Board needs an airspace easement.

The Board granted both Mrs. Dickmeyer and Mr. Nelson an extension in their homes until December 31, 2020. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, if he is not out, anything left on the property will become property of the Airport.

The Board is currently working on engineering for the next phases of the runway extension project. The Airport had a Capital Improvement Plan meeting with the State and the FAA where everyone seemed to be on the same page with moving the project forward in the coming years.

The Airport is proceeding with a mini documentary with the Midwest Film Factory. It is an exciting project to help preserve the history of the Airport.

#### **MATTER OF REPLACEMENT OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE**

County Nurse Cheryl Lynch is replacing part time employee Donna Murphy who is going to retire. Furthermore, since the local health departments are being given more tasks to manage by the State—more information to track, more information to report, verifying information that the State used to do, etc., Ms. Lynch would like to increase the hours of her part time person to a full 28 hours per week. She has received permission from the Commissioners and would like reassurance from Council that they will support this also. She will be doing an additional appropriation request sometime in 2021 for the additional hours to what is already budgeted for the part time position. There will be someone in the department to help train the new person. William VanWye made the motion to give Cheryl a commitment that Council will approve the additional funding needed next year for a new part time person to work 28 hours per week. Martha Grimm seconded, and all approved

#### **MATTER OF LIFE SAVING AWARD PRESENTATION**

Sheriff Cserep presented a Lifesaving Medal to Sergeant Jordan T. Baker for measures he took on November 16, 2020, that saved inmate Rodman. “Due to Sergeant Banker’s quick action, situational awareness and training, was able to manage a life threatening event, saving Mr. Rodman’s life. Sergeant Baker demonstrated those values of selfless service, unhesitating courage, and decisive actions which are consistent with the DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office and played a pivotal role in saving the life of a DeKalb County inmate. His actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of community service and reflect distinct credit upon himself, his Command and the DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office.” After the details of November 16<sup>th</sup> were given, Sheriff Cserep gave Sergeant Baker a medal to pin to his uniform.

#### **MATTER OF 2021 SHERIFF SALARY CONTRACT**

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the 2021 Sheriff Salary Contract in the amount of \$109,287. Second by Martha Grimm, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF SALARY & HOURLY WAGE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE 2020-OCC-20**

This is for the Sheriff’s Department COVID-19 Stipend.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-20 on the FIRST Reading. William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to suspend the rules to pass the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-20 and read by title only on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Readings. William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-20 on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. Eldonna King seconded, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF YEAR END TRANSFER APPROVAL FOR THE AUDITOR**

Eldonna King made a motion to approve for the Auditor to make needed end of year transfers within Departments' budgets to bring all accounts into compliance of the State Board of Accounts guidelines at the close of 12/31/2020. Seconded by David Yarde, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF 2019 COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BUDGET CARRYOVER REQUEST**

Director Kellie Knauer explained that for their 2020 budget, a month after they had turned their budget in they were notified that 2020 would have 27 pays. They have requested FY 2019 carry over funds to cover the 27<sup>th</sup> pay in 2020. Due to COVID, there were significant delays in the audit process by the State. They have not heard yet whether their request has been approved. After looking at her budget more closely, Ms. Knauer believes they should only need to transfer \$500 to cover the shortage.

The Department of Corrections is not going to be fully funded for 2021; it is funded fully for January-June 2021. They originally thought that the 2020 budget was going to be extended by six months. This is not the case. They will be working with the Auditor's Office to get all of the line items correct for 2021.

President Ring told Ms. Knauer to make sure that everything submitted is done through the Auditor's Office and that they need to keep in constant communication with them to prevent extra work for their office.

#### **MATTER OF DISCUSSION ABOUT ENERGY CONSERVATION AND THE COUNTY**

Rick Anderson from Johnson Melloh Solutions returned to speak to the Commissioners further about adding solar panels to the Community Corrections campus. He had waited until the hot summer months were over so he would have a better picture about what kind of utility bills Community Corrections had paid. Mr. Anderson referenced the Guaranteed Savings Legislation, IC 36-1-12.5. His company has done a third of the solar in the State of Indiana. Going solar guarantees your utility rates for the length of time your solar remains in place rather than sustaining increases to utilities regularly by the utility companies. Commissioner President Hartman said possible locations for solar are Central Communications, Community Corrections and the Sunny Meadows properties. A site plan needs to be done of the farm property to where other potential buildings will eventually be built.

Mr. Anderson said a third party lease loan or bond would need to be obtained to pay for the installation of the solar panels. An RFQ would be done and a vendor chosen.

Commissioners' President Hartman said the Commissioners are just trying to get an idea of what the cost would be and what the payback would be. Utilities are currently \$4,500-\$4,700 per month for utilities. They would like to install solar in an area where it can be added to later (solar field). LED lighting has already been installed in all of the buildings. Mainly the new jail and Community Corrections and Central Communications would be the focus of solar. The Commissioners are looking to add this to the 2022 budget. Mr. Hartman did learn that the cost of the solar could be rolled into the new jail bond. He

also learned that the Community Corrections bond could be rolled into the new jail bond. There would be a second quote for comparison purposes.

Mr. Anderson said the goal is to find a budget-neutral solution so that it pays for itself.

#### **MATTER OF COUNCIL-COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION**

**EMS Agreement:** A 5-year contract has been signed with Parkview for EMS services. It will cost \$250,000 per year. Dispatching will be going through Parkview rather than Central Communications. There were several items in the original proposal that were negotiated. Quality standards are going to be very important to watch over, which includes response time by ambulances. There is also a provision in the agreement to have a commissioner on the Parkview EMS Board. That will be helpful for keeping communication open.

**Health Department excessive hours worked:** Regarding the Health Department during this year of COVID-19, the three nurses have logged many extra hours: one nurse has worked 260 extra hours, and the other two nurses have logged an extra 300 and 1,580 hours. Would Council like to pay the nurses a stipend for the extra time worked? Allen County gave their employees a dollar amount on a per hour basis. Commissioner Grogg said that when this is done, there are other departments that should be considered. Hourly employees have received their additional pay by way of overtime. Homeland Security and the Auditor's Office would be other departments that would have worked extra time due to COVID administration. There was lengthy discussion about stipends. There was consensus to give \$4,000 to Chery Lynch and \$750 each for the other two nurses. This will be through today's date and will come out of the Health Department's fund.

**Courthouse light post repair:** The light posts have been repaired and should be good for 10 years. John Bry referred the Commissioners to the company that did the work. The cost was approximately \$42,000.

**208 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street:** The Commissioners asked for local engineer Jeremy Bowers to study what the plans are for building next to the County's office building at 220 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street. He has been communicating with the architect to guarantee that the company will take full responsibility for any problems with the county's building in the future. Initially the Commissioners wanted to have 5 feet of access to the west wall of the building, but the plans for the new building will only leave 2 inches of space. Moisture will most likely be a problem unless proper ventilation can be achieved.

**New Commissioner orientation:** Mr. Hartman held a meeting with the newly elected Commissioners and invited Auditor Bauman to join them. Auditor Bauman explained during that meeting many of the things that happen during a Commissioner meeting and responsibilities of the Commissioners. Also discussed were projects that the Commissioners will be overseeing. Each project was "given" to a Commissioner to take the lead on. Councilman Yarde asked whether the Commissioners had talked about specific funding sources for those projects. Mr. Hartman gave a couple of the funding sources they know of currently.

**New Highway location:** Mr. Henderson is going to do an appraisal of his property to see if the price will be in line with his expectations. An appraisal is going to be coming in for the old Highway Department.

**Sunny Meadows:** The director and the head cook have been quarantined due to COVID. The jail is providing 2 meals per day. Sunny Meadows believes they are not needing additional help at this point. President Ring had asked the Sheriff to keep track of the money he is spending on meals in case an additional appropriation needs to be done.

**Red Room:** It is going to be remodeled and converted into one large room that can be used for meetings or additional office space as needs arise. It will cost a little over \$10,000.

**Solar Field:** A second quote is being obtained by a company out of Avilla for a solar field.

#### **MATTER OF SALARY & HOURLY WAGE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE 2020-OCC-21**

This is for items that need to be cleaned up or clarified from the original September 28, 2020 ordinance.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-21 on the FIRST Reading. Amy Demske seconded, and all approved.

David Yarde made a motion to suspend the rules to pass the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-21 and read by title only on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Readings. William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-21 on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF NEPOTISM CERTIFICATIONS**

Auditor Bauman collected the nepotism certifications from Council.

#### **MATTER OF RECOGNITION OF COUNCILWOMAN MARTHA GRIMM**

President Ring thanked Martha Grimm for her work as Councilwoman as well as County Clerk. William VanWye also expressed his gratitude to her. David Yarde mentioned how she has been such a stable force, whether in Council or the Clerk's Office. Robert Krafft and Eldonna King also thanked Councilwoman Grimm for her dedication and service to DeKalb County.

Along the same lines, Commissioner Grogg is retiring this year, and he commended Council on the relationship that has been fostered to what it is today compared to what it was 12 years ago when he first began. .

#### **MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT**

Amy Demske made a motion to adjourn at 11:39 a.m. Second by David Yarde, and all approved.

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL:

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Richard Ring, President

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William VanWye, Vice President

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Eldonna King

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Robert E. Krafft

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Martha Grimm

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Amy Demske

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Amy Prosser

ATTEST:

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Jan Bauman  
DeKalb County Auditor