

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

September 18, 2024

The following Council Members were present:

President David Yarde
Vice President William VanWye
Member Richard Ring
Member Robert E. Krafft
Member Amy Demske
Member Amy Prosser, absent
Member Rick Collins

Others present: Auditor Susan Sleeper
Attorney Donald J Stuckey

Rick Collins opened the meeting with prayer at 9:01 a.m.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Amy Demske made a motion to approve the August 7, 2024, minutes of the Regular Meeting. Richard Ring seconded and all approved.

Richard Ring made a motion to approve the August 27, 2024, minutes of the Budget Public Hearings. Rick Collins abstained from the vote as he was absent during the hearing meetings. Amy Demske seconded and all approved by a vote of 5-0.

MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Richard Ring made a motion to approve the Sheriffs additional request in the amount of \$15,000 to be appropriated to account 22490 (Institutional/Medical Supplies) within the General Fund 1001. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF TRANSFERS

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Surveyors transfer of \$1,000 from Travel/Training/Education (34295) to Furniture & Fixtures (44410) within County General Fund 1001. Richard Ring seconded and all approved.

Rick Collins made a motion to approve the Coroners transfer of \$3,000 from Body Pouches (22240) to Deputy Coroner (11255) within County General Fund 1001. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

Rick Collins made a motion to approve the Coroners transfer of \$1,000 from Supplies (22720) to Deputy Coroner (11255) within County General Fund 1001. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the Superior Courts I transfer of \$200 from Office Supplies (22110) to Dues (33940) within County General Fund 1001. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

Richard Ring made a motion to approve the Sheriff's transfer for \$6,703 from Building Repair & Maintenance (33680) to Equipment (44430) within CCD Fund 1138. Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve Prosecutors transfer of \$181 from Vehicle Repair & Maintenance (33610) to Operating Supplies (22130) within the Pre-Trial Diversion Fund 2401. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF FINANCIAL REPORT BY FUND

The Council certified that they have received and reviewed the August 2024 Financial Report by Fund.

MATTER OF AIRPORT UPDATE

Council and Commissioner Brief 9/18/2024.

New Business

- The 2024 NAVAIDS Relocation Project is complete but for a few punch list items. The FAA is now onsite doing their work. They plan to be here for approximately 2-weeks working double shifts to get the site ready for FAA flight check. We have been told that flight check is down one aircraft because they had a bird strike at another airport so we know they are behind schedule as well. We are remaining confident that we will have our approaches back by 10/31.
- The EAA's Ford Tri-Motor visit was a success. It was a record breaker for this site.
- We have received both grants for our projects moving into next year. The AWOS and the Beacon Project will kick off yet this year and the Taxiway A Extension and Lighting Project will kick off spring of 2025.
- As you know by now, the Board has floated Auburn-DeKalb Executive Airport as their top pick for an airport name. Auburn Executive Airport was the name that came out of the survey. Adding the DeKalb kept the historical perspective and makes the name so unique as to never be confused with another airport across the country. There have been some suggestions to be considered at the Board Meeting on the 20th, but really nothing of note and nothing that hasn't already been covered.
- Sweet Aviation has taken over the FBO at Goshen Airport as of September 1, 2024. They did so for a number of strategic reasons but one of the main reasons is that they have charter, and, radio shop assets on the airport that will benefit both sites. The radio shop is a Garmin dealer, and the technicians can now travel to GWB and service avionics which has been a void that needed filled for some time. This is a good customer service move that will benefit both locations in many ways, not to mention the economies of scale with respect to purchasing power.

Old Business

- None.

MATTER OF ABATEMENT DISCUSSION: ANDREW PROVINES

Andrew Provines provided a handout for the Council to review later. Andrew does not want people to think that he is against abatements because they are needed, and he had talked with Richard Ring in length about abatements. Andrew has taken the Ball State Economic Development Training and said it is completely eye opening and learned that all counties do it differently around the State. Andrew gave a few key points that he would like the Council to consider when an abatement request is before them.

MATTER OF JOB DESCRIPTION APPROVAL

Richard Ring made a motion to accept and approve the Sunny Meadows Bookkeeper Job Description, along with the elimination of the Matron position, that was created and reviewed by WIS. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF 2024 SALARY & HOURLY WAGE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: 2024-OCC-9

William VanWye made a motion to approve the 2024 Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance Amendment: 2024-OCC-9 by title only on the FIRST Reading. Richard Ring seconded and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to suspend the rules to pass the 2024 Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance Amendment: 2024-OCC-9 on the 2nd and 3rd Readings. Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the 2024 Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance Amendment: 2024-OCC-9 by title only on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. Richard Ring seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF CLASSIFICATION PAT-B VS PAT-C HOURLY RATE

President Yarde explained the Council proposed 4% raises for PAT-B and PAT-C, and a few positions are outside of the maximum level and the Council needs to decide how they will handle the situation, as well as get the PAT-C hourly rate higher than the PAT-B as the study was intended.

A few options:

- ~4% increase for category and no raise for positions over high end of category
- ~amend the prior motion to clarify that it was only for the Environmentalist, not the entire category
- ~different % increases or any combination to help close the gap between the levels

Richard Ring made a motion to rescind the motion made on November 15, 2023, and return PAT-B to its standard level, as the increase was for the Environmentalists not the entire category. Robert Krafft seconded, and motion passed.

The council would like HR and the Job classification to discuss the second in command positions in PAT-C or other categories

Stipend:

Richard Ring understands why the Commissioners are asking for a stipend and that Ben put in a lot of work, but also feels it is part of his job as a salaried position. Jody Wiedenhoft explained that she believes the Commissioners acknowledged that Ben had disassembled desks and reassembled them in the new facility to save the County money along with a multitude of other tasks that would typically be completed by the Construction Company who is contracted to do the remodel. Rick Collins feels that a stipend is going to be an issue as there are others that 'want a piece of the pie'. Robert Krafft does know Ben did a lot of other things to try to save money for the County, but a lot of other salaried employees, Department Heads and Elected Officials also do the same thing.

William VanWye suggests tabling the Stipend decision and re-address at the October 9th meeting. The rest of the Council agrees.

The 2025 Airport Budget Adoption was advertised @ 10:00.

MATTER OF THE 2025 AIRPORT BUDGET ORDINANCE 2024-OCC-6

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the 2025 Airport Budget Ordinance 2024-OCC-6 by title only on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing was opened at 10:05 as advertised for the Fairfield Township Budget.

President Yarde asked if there was anyone in attendance that wanted to speak to the Fairfield Township Budget either for or against. No Public was in attendance.

Public Hearing closed at 10:06.

MATTER OF FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP 2025 BUDGET ORDINANCE 2024-OCC-8

Richard Ring made a motion to approve the 2025 Fairfield Township Budget Ordinance 2024-OCC-8 by title only on FIRST Reading. Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

Richard Ring made a motion to suspend the rules to pass the 2025 Fairfield Township Budget Ordinance 2024-OCC-8 by title only on 2nd and 3rd Readings. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

Rick Collins made a motion to approve the 2025 Fairfield Township Budget Ordinance 2024-OCC-8 by title only on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

The 2025 County Budget Adoption was advertised @ 10:15.

MATTER OF THE 2025 COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE 2024-OCC-7

Richard Ring made a motion to approve the 2025 County Budget Ordinance 2024-OCC-7 by title only on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

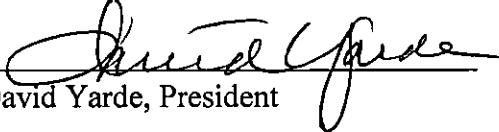
MATTER OF ORDINANCE 2024-OCC-5 | RECORDERS PERPETUATION

Richard Ring made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-OCC-5 | The Ordinance granting the Recorder's request to use monies from the Recorder's Records Perpetuation Fund to supplement the Recorder's 2025 Budget title only on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

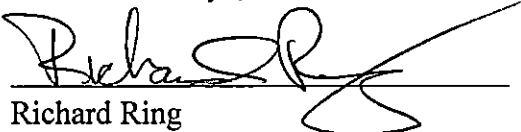
MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Rick Collins made a motion to adjourn at 11:02 a.m. Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL:

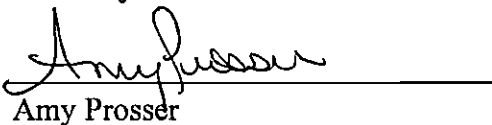

David Yarde, President

William VanWye, Vice President


Richard Ring


Robert E. Krafft


Amy Demske


Amy Prosser


Rick Collins

ATTEST:


Susan Sleeper
DeKalb County Auditor