

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

November 2, 2020

The following Council Members were present:

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

Others present: Auditor Jan Bauman
Attorney Donald J Stuckey

Richard Ring opened the meeting with prayer at 8:38 a.m.

MATTER OF MINUTES

David Yarde made a motion to approve regular meeting minutes dated September 28, 2020. Eldonna King seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING REFINANCE OF 2011 G.O. BONDS

Eldonna King motioned to read Ordinance No. 2020-OCC-16 by title only. Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved. William VanWye made a motion to approve on second and third readings Ordinance No. 2020-OCC-16, An Ordinance of the County Council of DeKalb County, Indiana, Authorizing Issuance of Bonds for the Purpose of Providing Funds to Refinance the County's General Obligation Bonds of 2011, and Incidental Expenses in Connection Therewith and on Account of the Issuance of the Bonds. Second by Martha Grimm, and all approved. This is for the Central Communications General Obligation Bond for the building.

MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

The State changed the reimbursement process a few weeks ago and basically told us that we should cease submitting our reimbursement requests as we had been. We were only submit a reimbursement request for payroll incurred by "1st line" employees for the remainder of our allocated funds. We submitted this request and have received the lump-sum reimbursement. Our particular payroll request was for non-administrative employees in the Sheriff's Department. The reimbursement is now in County General. We have to appropriate these monies in order to spend them on the COVID projects/items we were originally going to pay from the CARES fund. Eldonna King made a motion to approve the Auditor's additional appropriation request of \$244,991.29 to Public Health Expend-COVID-19 #2 (50192) and the appropriation request of \$1,072,419 to Compliance Actions-COVID-19 #4 (50194) within the County General Fund (1001). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved. First Deputy Susan Sleeper added that many counties outsourced the work to submit reimbursements to the IFA, but the Auditor's Office did it in-house which allowed the County to receive 100% reimbursement for expenditures rather than pay a fee to a vendor.

The State had a separate Cares funding grant for \$100,000 specifically toward assisting the Health Department in funding the set-up of a COVID-19 testing site in DeKalb County. This grant is paying for a contractor to run the testing site, and it is for free COVID-19 testing. Eldonna King made a motion to approve the Health Department's \$100,000 additional appropriation request to Other Service Fees (32780) within the CARES Testing Site Grant Fund 8902. Second by Amy Demske, and all approved.

MATTER OF TRANSFERS

Martha Grimm made a motion to approve the Treasurer's request to transfer \$1,000 from Star Bank Payment Program (34335) to Office Supplies (22110) within County General (1001) and to transfer \$1,650 from Star Bank Payment Program (34335) to Equipment (44430) within County General (1001). William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the following requests by the Surveyor within County General (1001): \$200 from Garage & Motor Supplies (22230) to Vehicle Maintenance/Repair (33610); \$800 from Tires (22330) to Computer Equipment (44420); \$50 from Drafting Supplies (22170) to Computer Equipment (44420); \$2,500 from Administrative Assistant (11501) to Surveying Technician (11275); \$500 from Contractual Services (34330) to Surveying Technician (11275); \$800 from Field Inspector (11251) to Surveying Technician (11275); \$800 from 2nd Deputy (11203) to Surveying Technician (11275); and \$1,200 from Petroleum Products & Supplies (22210) to Surveying Technician (11275). Second by Eldonna King, and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve Development Service's request to transfer \$50 from Manuals (22740) to Travel/Training/Education (34295) within County General Fund (1001). William VanWye seconded, and all approved. William VanWye made a motion to approve Development Service's request to transfer \$400 from Office Supplies (22110) to Legal Fees (32820) within County General Fund (1001). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

There was discussion about the Public Defender's need for postage as well as the stand-up desks. Some departments have been denied the stand-up desks because they have not taken advantage of trying for the safety grant to pay for them. Is it possible that he could use his Supplemental Defender fund to pay for the desks? Eldonna King made a motion to approve the following transfer requests by the Public Defender within County General (1001), and excluding \$1,000 for the FlexiSpot Height Adjustable Standing Desk Risers: \$3,809 from Part Time (10750) to Deputy Public Defender 1 (11425) - \$3.00; to Deputy Public Defender 2 (11426) - \$3.00; to Deputy Public Def (Juv/Fel/CHINS -11496) - \$3.00; to Office Supplies (22110) - \$200; to Furniture & Fixtures (44410) - \$700; and to Postage (33220) - \$2,000. Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

There was discussion about Community Corrections' overtime request and how the PTO policy is going to impact overtime. Auditor Bauman explained that we really will not know how overtime will be impacted until we have a full year behind us and can look at what actually caused a person to incur overtime. And when Ms. Knauer had budgeted overtime for 2020, it was an estimate since the program was new, and it was prior to the work week change and PTO policy being implemented. Eldonna King made a motion to approve Community Corrections' request to transfer \$50,000 from Part Time (10750) to Overtime (11050) within Project Income Fund (1122). Martha Grimm seconded, and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve the Sheriff's request to transfer \$3,075 from Equipment (44430) to Operating Supplies (22130) within the Handgun Application Fund (1156). William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve Central Communications' request to transfer \$2,000 from Communications (11353) to Communications (11347) within the LIT Public Safety Fund (1170). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF FINANCIAL REPORT BY FUND

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

MATTER OF APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR REFINANCING 2011 G.O. BONDS

At 9:00 a.m., President Ring opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to comment on the appropriation ordinance for refinancing the 2011 general obligation bonds for the Central Communications building. Hearing none, he called for a motion. Eldonna King made a motion to read by title only Ordinance No. 2020-OCC-17. Second by Robert Krafft, and all approved. William VanWye made a motion to approve on second and third readings Ordinance No. 2020-OCC-17, An Ordinance of the County Council of DeKalb County, Indiana, Appropriating the Proceeds of the DeKalb County, Indiana, General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020. Second by Robert Krafft, and all approved. The public hearing was closed at 9:02.

MATTER OF DEKALB COUNTY AIRPORT UPDATE

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

A pre-construction meeting was held on October 30, 2020 for County Road 62. Construction will begin the second week of November.

The Airport will be starting the appraisal process on the final property needed on County Road 31 in the coming weeks. Up to this point, the Airport has been denied access to the property.

Mr. Fox explained how important it is to protect the approach from birds by adding restrictions to the County's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) regarding open water in specific zones. Chris Gaumer and Andrew Kruse are updating the UDO to address this.

MATTER OF COUNCIL-COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION

208 East 7th Street: The Commissioners finally learned that there is a purchase agreement and earnest money that the title company (Near North) is holding. The Commissioners had not been notified of this and had been waiting. An issue that has arisen is that the Commissioners require access to the west side of the 220 East 7th Street building. It needs to be solidified with an agreement before the contractor begins the building process at 208 East 7th Street. The plans that William Hartman has seen is that the new building would encapsulate our building. The Auburn Plan Commission may not have granted a setback. Another issue is the snow load is going to be impacted. The plans seem to address snow load.

Selling County Road 61 property: The County owns property that is north of County Road 40 in the 3800 or 3900 block. The County owns two parcels there. An open County ditch runs right through the middle of the property. That means there would be 150 feet in non-usable land due to the 75 foot easement on either side of the ditch. The Commissioners would like to sell the property to area farmers to get it back on the tax rolls. Due to the location, it would not be appropriate for the Highway Department.

Another possible property to relocate Highway Department: Donald Grogg said the Commissioners are going to look at another location for the Highway Department, but the Commissioners need to get more information on it before sharing the location. Commissioners' President Hartman, who was attending by phone, explained that it is the Henderson Construction site east of Waterloo which has a large building that holds offices as well as a heated shop. Some additions would need to be made, such as a 6,000 square foot building for salt storage. The selling price is \$2,025,000-\$2,255,000. Mr. Hartman added that the cost would be approximately \$2,100,000 by the time you run utilities to the north end of the property. The access is very good out onto State Road 6. It is 16 acres. Mr. Hartman suggested the County sell 3 properties and apply the proceeds toward purchasing the property. The 3 properties would be: the CR 61 property, a County Road 36A landlocked property, and the current Highway Department which has a potential buyer. Councilman VanWye said that he thinks the next time we're looking at a property, we should have some discretion. It gives them a reason to raise the price. Mr. Hartman said it wouldn't affect the price because we are bound by the appraisals. President Ring wanted confirmation that the County Road 34 the Commissioners mentioned as a potential building site is now off the table. Mr. Hartman confirmed. President Ring said he thinks this Henderson property is a more appropriate property. He agreed that discretion needs to be followed. Council all agreed that the Commissioners can move forward with obtaining appraisals.

Spencerville Covered Bridge: Commissioners' President Hartman said this grant has been a nightmare. Construction costs have gone through the ceiling due to COVID and the delay in construction. There will probably be an increase in cost by the engineers due to the delay and because of the work they have done to help with the paperwork. He believes it is going to be dollar neutral when it is all finished. Donald Grogg added that the engineer's estimate was \$273,823.50. The bridge bids ranged from \$269,000 to \$830,000. The Commissioners have already purchased the floor boards. William Hartman would like to see the Friends of the Covered bridge to contribute about \$34,000 toward bridge costs. There was discussion about the company that turned in the lowest bid and how it is familiar with working with wood bridges as well as historic covered bridges.

MATTER OF SALARY & HOURLY WAGE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE 2020-OCC-18

This is for Central Communications, Community Corrections and Surveyor positions. The first reading for Ordinance No. 2020-OCC-18 was passed on September 28, 2020.

David Yarde made a motion to suspend the rules to pass the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-18 and read by title only on the 2nd and 3rd Readings. Eldonna King seconded, and all approved.

Eldonna King made a motion to approve the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-18 on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF SALARY & HOURLY WAGE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE 2020-OCC-19

This is for the Central Communications employee who has reached 10 years of service and will receive a 5.5% tiered increase.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-19 on the FIRST Reading. David Yarde seconded, and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to suspend the rules to pass the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-19 and read by title only on the 2nd and 3rd Readings. Eldonna King seconded, and all approved.

David Yarde made a motion to approve the 2020 Salary and Hourly Wage Amendment Ordinance 2020-OCC-19 on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. William VanWye seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF APPOINTMENT TO NEW TOURISM COMMISSION BOARD

Robert Krafft made a motion to appoint Brad McDaniel to the DeKalb County Tourism Commission Board of Directors with a term expiring December 31, 2021. Second by Martha Grimm, and all approved.

MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Amy Demske made a motion to adjourn at 10:38 a.m. Second by David Yarde, and all approved.

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL:

Richard Ring, President

William VanWye, Vice President

Eldonna King

Robert E. Krafft

Martha Grimm

David Yarde

Amy Demske

ATTEST:

Jan Bauman
DeKalb County Auditor