

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

February 14, 2023

The following Council Members were present:

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

Others present:

Auditor Susan Sleeper
Attorney Donald J Stuckey, arrived at 9:10

Dave Yarde opened the meeting with prayer at 8:36 a.m.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Amy Demske made a motion to approve minutes dated January 10, 2023. Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Rick Collins made a motion to approve the Coroner's additional of \$1,600 into Equipment Account (44430) & \$58,500 into Purchase of Vehicles (44610) within the Cumulative Capital Development Fund (1138). Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve the Change Academy School Funding additional into Fund 4116 for \$82,638.20 and the State Grant Juvenile Community Corrections Fund 9122 for \$46,513.33 in various accounts below. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

Change Academy School Funding (4116)

Part Time (10750): \$13,980.00	Laundry/Janitorial Supplies (22270): \$400.00
Juvenile Education Coordinator (11443): \$7,896.69	Other Operating Supplies (22730): \$150.00
Juvenile Program Coordinator (11492): \$7,115.24	Postage (33220): \$34.55
Program Facilitator Juvenile FT-Change (11630): \$19,252.00	Telecommunications (33240): \$1,448.20
Paid Benefits Back to County General (12400): \$22,127.52	Utilities (33540): \$3,500.00
Office Supplies (22110): \$399.06	Building R & M (33680): \$26.45
Safety Supplies (22160): \$109.44	Testing Services (33900): \$38.44
Incentives (22255): \$960.61	Travel/Training/Education (34295): \$1,000.00
	Contractual Services (34330): \$2,700.00
	Computer Equipment (44420): \$1,000.00
	Equipment: \$500.00

State Grant Juvenile CC (9122)

Juvenile Education Coord. (11443): \$13,365.49	Utilities (33540): \$1,047.68
Juvenile Program Coord. (11442): \$16,038.66	Equipment Rental (33710): \$1,929.85
PERF (12100): \$5,131.65	Lease (34080): \$9,000.00

MATTER OF TRANSFERS

William VanWye made a motion to approve Commissioners transfer of \$22,293 from Legal fees (32820) to Commissioner Attorney (11332) within the County General Fund (1001). David Yarde seconded and all approved.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve Central Communications transfer of \$5,280 from Furniture & Fixtures (44410) to Contractual Services (34340) within the Cumulative Capital Development (1138). Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve Development Services transfer of \$1,000 from programming/software (34120) to equipment (4420) within the GIS Projects Fund (4930) David Yarde seconded and all approved.

William VanWye moved to table the ARPA transfer vote until the end of the meeting. David Yarde seconded and all approved.

Robert Krafft made a motion to approve Commissioners' ARPA Funds (8950) from miscellaneous expenditures (99500) to:

ARPA Covid Nurse Pay, (10806): \$15,000.00	Hwy Project/Constr, (35699)
Other Service Fees, (32780)	Hwy Dept Project : \$1,250,000.00
Sunny Meadows Add'l Funding: \$600,000.00	Hwy Project/Constr, (35699)
Other Service Fees, (32780)	Hwy Dept Constr Contingency : \$462,740.29
DeKalb Co Housing Study: \$26,000.00	Capital Outlay, (44210)
Other Service Fees, (32780)	Solar Install @ Comm Corrections: \$500,000.00
Waterloo Sewer Project: \$200,000.00	Capital Outlay, (44210)
Other Service Fees, (32780)	County Dispatch Tower Upgrades: \$500,000.00
Drain/ Ditch Engineering: \$600,000.00	Equipment, (44430)
Other Service Fees, (32780)	Courthouse Generator: \$250,000.00
Sunny Meadows: \$150,000.00	Network Infrastructure, (44820)
Consultant Fees, (32840)	Spillman Server Upgrade: \$88,000.00
Broadband: \$2,000,000.00	Network Infrastructure, (44820)
Consultant Fees, (32840)	Watchguard Cloud Conversion: \$63,106.00
Baker Tilly Fees: \$50,000.00	Network Infrastructure, (44820)
Volunteer Fire Dept Support, (32925)	Cisco Phone/network switches: \$78,000.00
Volunteer Fire10 @\$75K: \$750,000.00	Network Infrastructure, (44820)
Grant Match Dollars, (34022)	IT Dept. upgrades/cybersecurity: \$200,000.00
Cond Trls Gr Match & Eng Fees: \$172,575.00	Misc Expenditures, (99500)
	State Board Audits: \$400,000.00
	Total \$8,355,421.29

David Yarde seconded the motion, and motioned passed (6,1) with William VanWye voting against.

MATTER OF FINANCIAL REPORT BY FUND

The Council certified that they have received and reviewed the January 2023 Financial Report by Fund.

MATTER OF STEVE HOWELL, CEO OF THE NORTHEASTERN CENTER

Steve Howell was in attendance to discuss the Northeastern Center Fiscal Year 2022 report and what the center really does. Mr. Howell provided a couple handouts that highlighted their financial picture that include:

Center Wide financials:

Total Gross Service Revenue: \$21,188,643

Adjustments (contractual, client asst., bad debt, other): (\$9,245,110)

Total Non-Fee Revenue (FSSA, County, DSH, Outreach, other): \$19,498,113 | this is allocated in the Center's overall operating budget; it is not applied specifically to a county or department.

DeKalb County Financials:

Total Gross Service Revenue (28%): \$6,016,210

Adjustments: (\$2,777,255)

Total Net Revenue: \$3,238,954

Expenses: (\$4,398,083)

Deficit: (\$1,159,129)

DeKalb County Services:

1082 individuals served, 353 of 1673 crisis line calls, 56% of individuals served were a type of Medicaid or Medicare individual.

Mr. Howell also discussed the economic burden of untreated mental illness in Indiana handout with key takeaways below:

~Costs of untreated mental illness in Indiana was equivalent to 1.2% of our state GDP (\$338 billion) and is the equivalent of approximately 100,000 Hoosier jobs.

~Every Hoosier pays a loss equivalent to \$600 annually (\$1600 per family) for untreated mental illness in Indiana.

~Not addressing mental illness in new and innovative ways costs Indiana dearly.

Amy Demske made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the 2022 Fiscal Year Northeastern Center report presented by Steve Howell. Amy Prosser seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF DEKALB COUNTY AIRPORT UPDATE

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

Council and Commissioner Brief 2/14/2023

New Business

- Officer elections were held at our January meeting and all positions remained the same with Jess Myers - President, Jerry Korchyk - Vice President, Randy Fox - Secretary, Russ Couchman - Treasurer.
- Sweet Aviation started their private pilot ground school this month with 6 students.
- Mr. Rick Collins attended our meeting in January and was given a tour of the airport.
- Purchased a self-fueling tank for light aircraft.

Old Business

- The Paving and Lighting phase of the Runway Extension Project is mostly funded with the Certificate of Award and Contract completed with Fleming Construction. Bi-weekly meetings with the contractor will begin on January 13th.
- We continue to work with the Plan Commission on modifications to the Airport Overlay Districts within the UDO.

MATTER OF 2022 RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES AND TOTAL COMPENSATION

Auditor Susan Sleeper presented the 2022 County Receipts and Expenditures and 2022 Total Compensation for County Officers, Deputies, and Employees report that was posted on Gateway, on the courthouse bulletin board, as well as at Eckhart Public Library and Waterloo-Grant Public Library. William VanWye made the motion to approve and receive the 2022 Receipts & Expenditures and Total Compensation Reports. Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF JEFF PETERS BOT DISCUSSION

Jeff Peters began by disclosing all the sources he consulted with in order to put his proposal together that he is presenting. He went over the bond amount needed and the assumptions used to arrive at his recommendation. He went over whether to back the bond with income tax vs. property tax, whether or not bond insurance will be needed, difference between bonding vs. leasing, and the effect to our current bond rating that is AA-.

Todd Sanderson's opinion is to pursue the bond issuance and go for the 3-3.5% bond rates, and also feels the Council should go to the full cap of the Public Safety LIT rate and start saving for the known jail project that is still in the forefront of the projects within the County. Rick Ring agrees with Todd and feels there is time to discuss this and also reminded everyone that with the Highway funds decreasing there will need to be another look at a Wheel Tax to fund the Highway Department. Neither Sanderson nor Ring want to raise taxes, however are looking at the overall picture. Amy Prosser questioned if the ARPA funds could be reallocated to bring down the cost that is needed. Rick Ring feels there were so many people and work involved in making the decision on the ARPA funds that he is not willing to change up the ARPA projects/transfer. Bill Hartman asked if we could use excess cash to get the project started. Jeff explained that should be run through County Counsel thru Bond Counsel as it could be possible and the bond issue most likely cannot be stopped as this is income tax backed not property tax backed.

Lynn Reinhart wanted to say that the Council needs to take thought to Councilwoman Prosser's comment on other sources that may be available to reduce the cost of the amount needed as all funds come back and impact the citizens of DeKalb County.

Larry Williams has a 40 year finance background and stated all of the places he has worked. As a banker, he would not approve the bond today without having a plan, as a finance guy that rubs him the wrong way. He feels BOT financing are usually done with very large projects, such as the Louisville Bridge. Larry wants to know if there is anticipation of the EDIT rate increasing to fund projects. He asked what can the County do to better project the funding needs. He is looking at overall costs of the project. Rick Ring responded that there has been work done over the last 5 years and how the County brought on a Financial Advisor so that the County is better prepared.

Jeff commented on the Fiscal Plan that he updates every year, looks at 3-5 years so the County is aware of funding and able to make financial decisions for instances that is before the Council now.

William VanWye made a motion to approve a Bond Issuance for the BOT Highway Project that is income tax backed, with the option to use property tax backing if the EDIT funds are depleted for a 15-year term with an option of a 10-year payoff with the final determination of 10 or 15 year term to be decided after analysis of hard numbers. Robert Krafft seconded and motion passed (6,1)

Rick Collins: aye

Amy Prosser: nay

Amy Demske: aye

David Yarde: aye

Robert Krafft: aye

William VanWye: aye

Rick Ring: aye

MATTER OF IGDB BIOGAS, LLC TAX ABATMENT

This project was presented to the Tax Abatement Committee, who recommends to the full Council a Tax Abatement over 10 years at 10% with the net property tax amount of \$25,976 and tax abatement savings in the amount of \$38,683. Anton King explained the IGDB Biogas, LLC project that turns cow manure into biogas, the project includes new concrete digester pads costing \$1.5M with infrastructure, but specialized anaerobic digester/natural gas scrubber with combined heat and power boiler equipment costs \$3M to be operational. They plan on 2 digesters with 100 foot diameter on Irish Acres Dairy Farm tax Id# 04-03-27-100-002.

William VanWye made a motion to direct the Council Attorney to prepare an EDA Resolution for the entire 14 acres of Irish Dairy Farm. Rick Collins seconded and motion passed (6,1) with Amy Prosser voting against.

MATTER OF COUNCIL-COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSION

Maintenance Full Time position: Larry currently has a young man that is very interested in the job and Larry has told the Commissioners that he, himself is not getting any younger and Larry feels this young gentleman would be a good person to bring on full time so that he learns the ins and outs of what the job entails. Dotty went on to say that she has been discussing with non-elected department heads about putting together a succession plan for when they retire. Rick asked if by putting the employee on the County payroll if that would decrease the contractual services amount with A-1 Janitorial, and it will not. Rick also asked if by having two employees if it would be possible for them to assist in other County buildings, and Larry agrees as he would then be free to assess the situations that may arise.

PTO Payout:

Auditor Sleeper explained that due to the Sheriff's office being very short staffed there are two deputies that were unable to take a large amount of PTO time. The sheriff went to the Commissioners to request the time be put into repository time, but with the large amount of unused time and the deputies earning additional time at the anniversary date in March 2023 the Commissioners are recommending to the Council to payout the unused PTO time minus the 10 days allowed to be carried over from year to year. Sgt. Olinske has 279 unused hours (159 hours to be paid out) and Deputy Haber has 291 unused hours (171 hours to be paid out)

Amy Prosser made a motion to pay from the Sheriff's budget the unused PTO hours for Sgt. Olinske (159 hours) and Deputy Haber (171 hours). William VanWye seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF PUBLIC DEFENDER 2022 YEAR END REPORT

David Yarde moved to acknowledge receipt of the Public Defender 2022 Year End Report. Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF 2022 ANNUAL JAIL REPORT

Amy Prosser moved to acknowledge receipt of the 2022 Annual Jail Report. Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF 2023 SALARY & HOURLY WAGE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: 2023-OCC-2

Council President Ring read into the minutes Ordinance; 2023-OCC-2: The 2023 Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance Amendment:

David Yarde made a motion to approve The 2023 Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance Amendment: Ordinance 2023-OCC-2 on the FIRST Reading. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

Rick Collins made a motion to suspend the rules to pass The 2023 Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance: 2023-OCC-2 with amendments by title only on the 2nd and 3rd Readings. William VanWye seconded and all approved.

William VanWye made a motion to approve The 2023 Salary & Hourly Wage Ordinance: Ordinance: 2023-OCC-2 with amendments by title only on the SECOND and THIRD Readings. David Yarde seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Adopting Meeting Procedures:

Rick explained the need for adopting meeting procedures and how important it is to know what all is expected in and during a meeting and would also be able to provide to the public.


LIT distribution/receipts:

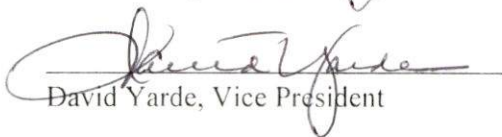
Rick discussed the handout Auditor Sleeper provided so that everyone is aware the rate and amount for the different components of LIT that include: Certified Shares, Public Safety, Economic Development, Correctional Facility, Property Tax Relief and Special Purpose.

MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Rick Collins made a motion to adjourn at 12:50 p.m. Amy Prosser seconded and all approved.

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL:


Richard Ring, President


David Yarde, Vice President

not present for vote
William VanWye

absent
Robert E. Krafft


Amy Denske


Amy Prosser


Rick Collins

ATTEST:


Susan Sleeper
DeKalb County Auditor