

Vermillion County Council

Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2019

5:00 p.m.

Commissioner’s Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. **Call to Order.** The Council reconvened in a meeting that was recessed on September 3, 2019.
- II. **Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.**
- III. **Roll Call.** Members present were President John Michael Major, Ashley James, Neil Costello, Ronald L. Dunavan Jr., William Brent Bush, Robert Spence, Randy Dreher, Auditor Amy Tolbert, First Deputy Auditor Stephanie Simpson, and Council Attorney Scott Craig.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes.** A motion was made by Dunavan and seconded by Bush to approve the minutes from the August 12, 2019 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Treasurer’s Report.** Major acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer’s report.
- VI. **Comp Time Report.** Costello stated that there are still several employees over 200 hours. It was explained that employees have until Oct. 1st to get their hours down to the maximum amount they are allowed and any hours over the maximum at that time would be paid out in order to bring their totals down.
- VII. **Transfer of Funds.**
Reporting only. Sheriff requesting to transfer \$5,000.00 from Software Maintenance to Sheriffs Evidence Tech.
Reporting only. Treasurer requesting to transfer \$2,000.00 from Official Records to Office Supplies.
- VIII. **Additional Appropriations.**
The Council considered additional appropriation requests as published. President John Michael Major reviewed the appropriations from the written requests submitted by Auditor Amy Tolbert. Thus, the following ordinance was adopted: WHEREAS: it has been determined it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget for 2019, BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council of Vermillion County Indiana, for the expenses of said county government, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set out of the funds herein specified, subject to the law governing the same:

IX.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
General Fund	\$10,527.00	\$10,527.00

This additional appropriation request is for the previously approve CASA match funds for the 2019 CASA grant. The funds need to be moved to the CASA budget. A motion was made by James and seconded by Spence to approve the additional for the CASA grant match. All in favor, motion carried.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
General Fund	\$19,201.00	\$19,201.00

In May 2018 the Commissioners agreed to match the recycling grant in the amount of \$21,101.00 pending council approval. On June 11, 2018 the Council approved the request. The grant was not processed by the end of the year so the money was not spent. We have to appropriate the money for 2019 because the 2018

appropriations go away at the end of the year. The amount of the match has reduced as the grant only allowed \$19,201.00 of our request.

A motion was made by Dunavan and seconded by James to approve the additional for the recycling grant match. All in favor, motion carried.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
Highway	\$1,332.00	\$1,332.00

This additional appropriation request is for the money collected for spraying dust oil to be put in the highway fund.

A motion was made by Dreher and seconded by Bush to approve the additional appropriation request for the Highway. All in favor, motion carried.

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
Prosecutor's Stop Grant	\$21,683.00	\$21,683.00

They received a grant increase on their 2019-2020 STOP Grant to hire a part-time investigator. This money comes 100% from the Prosecutor's STOP Grant and uses no county money.

A motion was made by Bush and seconded by Spence to approve the additional for the Stop Grant fund. All in favor, motion carried.

X. Open Issues

- a. **2020 Budget Hearings Continued.** 2020 Budgets were heard from all departments.

The Council discussed raises for the county employees. Dreher stated he was in favor of the Commissioners recommendation of \$1,000.00 raise for county employees. Dunavan asked if any of the council was in favor of a percentage increase. Spence stated that there needs to be a study for the 2021 budget on a percentage salary increase. Dreher asked if departments that did not include pay increases would receive them. It was stated that 911 Director Derrek Williams had stated he did not want a raise. Council Attorney Scott Craig said that the Council is only putting money in the budget to cover raises at this time, and that the actual pay increases will be handled in the salary ordinance later this year. Tolbert said the salary ordinance will be on the October agenda. Dreher added that the Council needs to also look at the percentage of health insurance premiums being paid by the county.

A motion was made by Dreher and seconded by Bush to give the county employees a \$1,000.00 raise for 2020 except for the Council and Commissioners. All in favor, motion carried.

- b. **Review Estimated Property Tax Levy and Circuit Breakers.** Robert Purlee discussed the Estimated Property Tax Levy and Circuit Breakers for 2020. After reviewing said levies and credits, the Council recommends that all taxing units pay close attention to their individual maximum levy and tax cap credits. John Michael Major signed the review.
- c. **Parke Vermillion Humane Society.** Major asked if the Council wanted to increase the funding level for Parke-Vermillion Human Society, and then send a letter to Parke County asking them to increase their funding so that the Humane Society was funded 50-50 by the two counties. Dunavan stated that the Council increased funding for the Humane Shelter from \$27,000.00 to \$35,000.00 for

2020 and that Parke County had funded \$20,000.00 for this year. Bush suggested that Parke County be encouraged to match the current funding levels before they are increased further. Dreher asked if they don't, then what? He said do we charge them to bring in dogs? Major said we could always say it's the Vermillion County Humane Society now. He said it's Parke-Vermillion and it should be 50-50. After some discussion, it was agreed to ask Humane Society Board President Mark Southwick to attend the next Council meeting before a letter be sent to Parke County.

XI. New Business

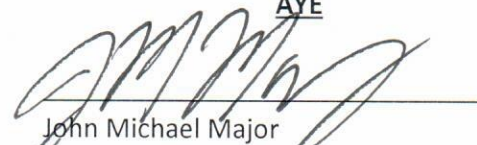
- a. Treasurer's Office – Innkeepers Tax Collection.** The Vermillion County Treasurer, Florinda Pruitt, is requesting to send the county portion of the Innkeepers Tax Collection to the state. The money will be paid to the state and the state will disburse the money. The county will receive its portion of the Innkeepers Tax. A motion was made by James and seconded by Dreher to amend the July 1, 1996 Ordinance Concerning Innkeeper's Tax. All in favor, motion carried.

XII. Adjourn

Having no further business to come before the Council, the motion was made to adjourn by Dreher, seconded by James. All in favor, motion carried.

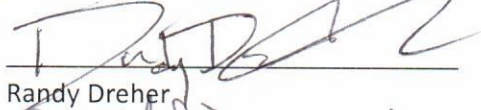
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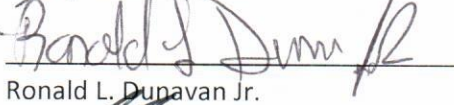
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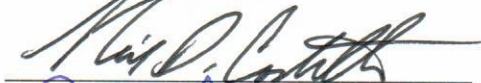

John Michael Major

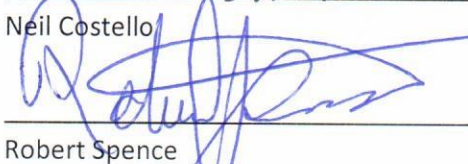

Ashley James

William Brent Bush


Randy Dreher


Ronald L. Dupavan Jr.


Neil Costello


Robert Spence

ATTEST:


Amy Tolbert, Auditor