

**Vermillion County Council
Meeting Minutes**

September 12, 2023

4:00 P.M.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag
- III. Roll Call
 - All Present except Bose & Mr. Brown
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - Summerville makes a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Weir seconds the motion to approve the minutes from August. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. Monthly Treasurer Report / Interest
 - Council acknowledges the Treasurer's monthly report and interest for August.
- VI. Additional Appropriations 8.14.23 (Voting Only)
 - James explains that the 8.14.23 additional were sent to the paper however they didn't get advertised. She also opens the floor for any questions on the additional. The General Fund total was \$56,736.00, Drainage Maintenance was \$40,000.00, Allocation Fund #2 was \$72,000.00, the PHER Grant for the Health Department was \$25,000.00 and the Vaccine Grant for the Health Department was \$18,754.26. These only needed to be voted on again. Weir makes a motion to approve the 8.14.23 additional appropriations. Costello seconds the motion to approve the 8.14.23 additional appropriations. All in favor, motion carried.

VII. Transfer of Funds

TRANSFERRING FROM FUND/ACCOUNT:	TRANSFERRING TO FUND/ACCOUNT:	AMOUNT TRANSFERED
1000/12400	1000/33000	\$5,800.00
1000/35202	1000/3240	\$500.00
1000/33500	1000/32200	\$3,100.00

- James explains that the Commissioner's are needing to transfer money from Workman's Compensation to Building & Structure Liability to pay the remaining insurance for the year they have moved from the Builder Risk policy to an actual policy for the jail. Summerville makes the motion to approve the transfer from Workman's Compensation to Building & Structure Liability. Ms. Brown seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The Probation department also moved \$500.00 from Criminal Record Checks to travel. The Clerk's Office moved \$3,100.00 from Equipment & Maintenance to postage.

VIII. Additional Appropriations

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED	1 ST /2 ND
1000/General	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	Weir/Summerville
1149 Economic Development	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00	Weir/Summerville

- James explains that the Commissioners are wanting an additional \$125,000.00 to finish the Courthouse Annex from the General Fund. Weir makes the motion to approve the Commissioners additional. Summerville seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried. James explains that Economic Development is requesting a \$400,000.00 appropriation to give to St. Bernice Water as a short-term loan for their water project until they receive the money back from the State Revolving Fund. St. Bernice did receive \$800,000.00 from the State Revolving Fund and \$1,000,000.00 from a low interest loan. Weir makes the motion to approve Economic Development additional. Summerville seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

IX. Old Business

a. Oriden Solar Tax Abatement

i. Public Hearing

- o James opens the floor for the public hearing for the application for determination of an economic revitalization area by Vermillion Rise Solar LLC. The purpose is to give them a 10-year tax abatement. Aukerman asks how much the abatement would total over the 10 years. Mr. Semler is with Bakertilly, he states that it would roughly be \$20.9 Million, over the 10 years, but that number is both the Rise & the County. 40% of the project is going to be outside the Rise and 60% is going to be inside the Rise. Semler explains that if the solar company were to pay \$2 million a year in taxes, the county wouldn't necessarily see more revenue coming into the county, it would just lower taxpayers' taxes. James also explains that an economic development agreement is being worked through to compensate the county and the Rise in exchange so it won't be a complete loss of revenue. It will be recouped through the economic development agreement. Aukerman also asked other questions, however the recording wasn't able to pick up what was asked due to not speaking in the microphone. Ali Turnzo from Oriden Power states they are anticipating construction to start in mid-2025 and then the facility would be online and operational in 2026. Aukerman asks if the construction was going to be on farmland, Turnzo explains that the project is going to be anchored within the Rise on mixed uses of land and also an old Brownfield site where TNT use to be manufactured which is where a significant amount of the project will be located. A portion will also be located outside the Rise on private land which is agricultural. He also asks if the company has bought the land, Turnzo states that they have not, they have lease agreements with the landowners including the Rise, they will receive an annual rent payment. Once the project has been decommissioned, the facilities would be removed. Summerville ask when the participating land owners were made aware of this project. She states that they were made aware back in 2019/2020. They also received a special permit from APC/BZA back in late 2021 and it went through a public notice process as part of that

too. Another lady from the audience asks if she could have a map of where this project is going to be placed. James concludes the public hearing.

ii. Resolution 2023-12

- o Summerville makes the motion to approve the Resolution 2023-12 titled, Confirmatory Resolution for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area on Application of Vermillion Rise Solar, LLC. Weir seconds the motion to approve. All in favor, motion carried.

b. Commonwealth Engineers, INC: St. Bernice Water Project – Maureen Hayden

- NONE

c. Park Board Appointment

- Weir makes the motion to appoint Kory Zumwalt to the park board. Summerville seconds the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

X. New Business

a. 2024 Budget

- James explains that the last two days they have been doing budget hearings. They don't have anything to report yet.

XI. Public Comment

- NONE

XII. Adjourn

- Weir makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Summerville makes the motion to approve. All in favor, motion carried.

AYE:

NAY:

Ashley James
Ashley James

Rick Weir
Rick Weir

Neil Costello
Neil Costello

Kelly Summerville
Kelly Summerville

Tammie Brown
Tammie Brown

Jeff Bose
Jeff Bose

Martin Brown
Martin Brown

ATTEST:

Brenda J. Furry
Brenda J. Furry, Auditor

10/11/2023
Date