

# Vermillion County Council

## Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Courthouse

- I. **Call to Order.** The Council convened in a regular meeting on June 10, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Courtroom.
- II. **Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.**
- III. **Roll Call.** Members present were Vice President Ashley James, William Brent Bush, Robert Spence, Neil Costello, Ronald L. Dunavan Jr., Randy Dreher, Auditor Amy Tolbert, First Deputy Auditor Stephanie Simpson, and Council Attorney Donald Bonomo. John Michael Major was absent.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes.** A motion was made by Bush and seconded by Spence to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2019 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Treasurer's Report.** James acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report.
- VI. **Comp Time Report.** Costello asked if it had been determined whether there was a maximum amount of time an employee could accumulate. Tolbert said that the county handbook states the maximum for courthouse employees is 160 hours, and the maximum for highway employees is 240.
- VII. **Transfer of Funds.**  
Reporting Only. CASA of Vermillion County is requesting to transfer \$75 from Attorney Fees to Dues & Subscriptions.
- 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:

| <b>FUND/DEPT</b>        | <b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b> | <b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Convention & Recreation | \$500                   | \$500                  |

This request is for the Eugene United Methodist Church to restore the belfry at the church. A motion was made by Spence to allow, seconded by Bush. All in favor, except Dreher who voted no.

| <b>FUND/DEPT</b> | <b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b> | <b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b> |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| County General   | \$1,950.00              | \$1,950.00             |

This request is for Auditor Amy Tolbert to travel to the National Association Conference to attend the conference and the luncheon when our county is recognized for the NACO award. A motion was made by Dreher and seconded by Costello to allow. All in favor, motion carried.

| <b>FUND/DEPT</b> | <b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b> | <b>AMOUNT APPROVED</b> |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| County General   | \$1,160.00              | \$1,160.00             |

This request is for Commissioner Tim Yocum to travel to the NACO Conference in Las Vegas to accept the award for the Commissioners' mentoring program. A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Bush to allow. All in favor, motion carried.

| FUND/DEPT      | AMOUNT REQUESTED | AMOUNT APPROVED |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| County General | \$40,920.27      | \$40,920.27     |

This additional request is for upgrades to the recording software in the commissioner’s courtroom. The upgrades include new speakers, microphones, televisions for displaying presentations. A motion was made by Dreher and seconded by Dunavan to allow the additional. All in favor, motion carried.

| FUND/DEPT              | AMOUNT REQUESTED | AMOUNT APPROVED |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Clean Up Donation Fund | \$5,708.00       | \$5,708.00      |

This additional is to appropriate cash to pay bills. This is for trash hauling. A motion was made by Bush and seconded by Costello to approve the additional for \$5,708.00 for the Clean Up Donation Fund. All in favor, motion carried.

| FUND/DEPT       | AMOUNT REQUESTED | AMOUNT APPROVED |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Allocation Fund | \$50,000.00      | \$50,000.00     |

This additional is to cover expenses of White Construction Bond Fund. A motion was made by Bush and seconded by Dunavan to approve the additional. All in favor, motion carried.

**X. Open Issues**

- a. **County Website.** It was stated the Commissioners will open bids at their next meeting. Dunavan stated that he wants to be on the website committee if they choose to have a committee.
- b. **County Handbook.** No updates.

**XI. New Business**

- a. **CASA – Eliza Porter.** CASA Director Eliza Porter told the Council about her position, which is currently part-time. She said that her first month was the only one in which she worked less than full-time hours, and that the duties of the position are appropriate for a full-time position. Judge Jill Wesch stated that Porter is leaving the position, because her husband had accepted a new job and she is relocating. Wesch said the current budget for the program allows for \$20,000 for the director and \$10,000 for attorney fees. Wesch said she would like to combine the positions and hire one person who could serve as both director and attorney, with a combined salary, paid out of both line items. Dunavan asked how many hours Porter worked, and she said she usually worked 40. Wesch stated that with a part-time director, the county can only have 15 CASA volunteers, who are allowed to work two cases each at any given time, so the program can only handle 30 cases. She said currently, the county has 100 cases involving children in need of services, which would require a CASA to be involved, along with 5 termination of parental rights cases, with 4 more expected to be filed in the next few weeks, so a full-time director would allow more volunteers to be brought in to handle more cases. Wesch said she would like to see the combined salary for the new director/attorney fall in the range of \$40,000 to \$45,000. She said she will present an appropriation request for the additional funds at the next meeting.
- b. **Changes to Park Board Appointment.**
- c. **Public Comment.** Emergency Management Director Mark O’Heir told the Council about the process by which fire departments apply for public safety money generated by the county’s Local Income Taxes. He said the last two years the requests have been reviewed by a committee, and then approved by the full Council, without the full Council seeing the details of the requests. O’Heir said

he felt the committee had outlived its usefulness, and that the requests be brought directly to the Council for a decision. He said he would bring this year's requests to them in July.

**XII. Adjourn**

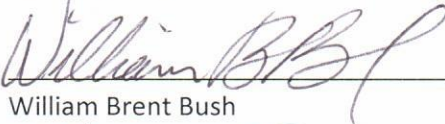
Having no further business to come before the Council, the motion was made to adjourn by Spence, seconded by Bush. All in favor, motion carried.


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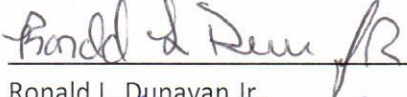
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John Michael Major

  
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Ashley James

  
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William Brent Bush

  
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Randy Dreher

  
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Ronald L. Dunavan Jr.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Neil Costello

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Spence

ATTEST:

  
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Amy Tolbert, Auditor