

RE: Transfer of Funds
Additional Appropriations
Pipeline/repairs to 700 S
2010 Meeting Schedule
Sheriff 457 Plan
Highway Insurance

Minutes
Vermillion County Council
December 14, , 2009
Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana

President John Cheesewright called the meeting to order at 7:00 and declared a quorum of John Cheesewright, Lavonna Mattick, Randy Dreher, Lary Langely, Mike Costello, and Randy Padish. Mike Carty was absent.

Also present were: Attorney Don Darnell, Auditor Phyllis Orman and First Deputy Amy Tolbert.

Cheesewright led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Minutes from prior meeting-Dreher motion, Padish **second**.

Padish question the additional for the Highway department. They approved this additional out the Highway budget last month and the state did approve it. They now want to de-appropriate that additional and request it out of county general so as to not spend Highway cash. Darnell said, "well now that question has been solved" It was approved in Highway and that is where the council agreed to leave it. The additional of \$33,800 put of the County general was denied.

Transfer of funds.

Prosecutor: 5000 from vehicle expense to law enforcement equipment, 700 from equipment & maintenance and 200 from dues and subscription to office furniture, 500 from transcripts, 350 from travel and 1500 from clerical asst to office supplies. Dreher questioned what she was going to buy and Costello said fire proof filing cabinets. Costello motion, Langely second.

Assessor: 12500 from reassessment to professional services. Richey explained that the state is no longer providing the tech support of the sales disclosure program and she has had to hire IAS to provide this service. She said before property can be transferred a sales disclosure must be completed on-line and filed with the Assessor. She said this money will buy the scanner and computer to complete the work. Costello questioned how much was being spent on reassessment and Richey said 285,000. She said the company is reassessing every property in the county and to keep in mind that the county lost 12

assessors. Richey explained that reassessment is every 5 years but the state is looking at implementing a rolling assessment so they can do bits and pieces every year. She also explained that the company she hired is doing a very good job, they have all the commercial property done and she believes they are almost done with Newport and ready to move north. Someone questioned where the company was from. Richey said they are based in Texas and Ohio but the project manager has rented an apartment in Clinton. Dreher motion to allow, seconded by Mattick.

Surveyor: 250 from printing, 50 from postage and 500 from legal fees to office equipment. Costello said he spoke with Jared earlier and that Jared said he needs a big copier because he used to use the highways but they moved and no longer has access to a printer. Crossley said they a big printer they don't use and they can move it back for him. The council agreed to look into that but went ahead to approve the transfer just in case that did not happen. Costello motion, Padish second.

Park Board: \$6313.07 from several account into Building and Structure. No one was present to discuss but someone said they did this type of transfer every time they were doing a project. And \$720 from board members pay to non-reverting capital improvement. Dreher motion to allow, Costello second.

Commissioners Court: 5800 from misc to salaries to pay overtime owed to Bill Clark. Costello asked that if we don't reappoint him is this money that we will owe him and Crossley said yes, that he is currently using up his comp time and they don't plan on reappointing him on Dec 31. Dreher questioned doing the transfer now, and suggested waiting until after the first of the year and suggested tabling it until January. Costello agreed, asking that if they are continuing to work can they request their overtime. Crossley said he has a posting until Dec 31. Darnell suggested they table it. Crossley said if we don't transfer it now and then encumber it we won't have the money next year to pay him. Langley seconded the motion to table. Hawkins said if they don't act tonight then they cant encumber it and will have to end up doing an additional next year. Darnell asked if he was still working and Crossley said, well he is still employed and that the money they are going to pay him with is the money they borrowed from the clerk. Crossley said it would be simpler to put the money in there and then we could have it. Darnell said to table it. Wilson said you can't table it, you have to do it now or you will lose the transfer. They will have to file an additional. He said what do you want us to do, you wanted us to lay people off and we did what we were told and now we are doing it right by asking for it ahead of time. Darnell said that is part of the problem, asking for it ahead of time. Orman said the additional won't be approved until the state issues a budget order, the soonest would be Feb. 15 but realistically they are looking at March. Dreher rescinded his motion and Langley his second. Langley asked if Clark would then be a county employee, (truck driver) and Wilson said no, he lost his seniority when he took the supervisor job, he will no longer be employed by the county. Dreher motion to allow transfer, seconded by Langley.

Additional Appropriations

Cum Bridge 16000 for bridge 35, part of the money that was not approved at the last meeting. Costello motion to allow, Mattick second.

Commissioners Court Sheriff: 7000 for outstanding invoices in other garage repair. Dreher motion, Costello second.

Someone questioned the repairs the pipeline paid Whites for and 700 S. Crossley said the work is done, they hauled the last batch of gravel today. Someone asked if the county go any money for using county trucks-no one answered. Crossley said Wilson has all the paperwork but the pipeline has settled with Whites and they got a check directly.

Meeting schedule for 2010. It was approved. Dreher suggested that next year they set up a deadline for agendas and packets and anything that does not make it in their packet not be discussed until the next month's meeting. Everyone agreed.

Sheriff 457 plan. Chris from Morgan Stanley was present to ask the council to allow the Sheriff employees decide if they was their 15 county match to go to AUL or the 457 plan. It was explained that it would not be 15 extra dollars the county would pay, It would just be moving the 15 county match to 457 instead of AUL if someone enrolls in the 457 plan. Costello didn't see a problem unless they were under contract with AUL. Hawkins agreed that it was a good idea because the 457 plan is cheaper to the employee than AUL and suggested they open it up that any employee can pick which retirement plan they choose. Orman said that would create more work for the payroll deputy, if you have 10 retirement vendors. Dreher stressed that this was at no cost (extra cost) to the county and Chris confirmed that. Chris also wanted to state that AUL has some surrender charges and that the employees that are switching to the sheriffs 457 plan are aware of it.

Highway Insurance: Hawkins said they were at the point where they were going to have to make some cuts come reappointment time and by eliminating two positions it will allow them to go a little further down the road and pay the truck drivers. It has been discussed several times but never officially put on the agenda and they are here tonight to get a yes or no answer as to whether the council will pay the highways insurance from county general. He said it was never their intent to have anyone lose their job and they are here asking for help. Crossley said what worries him is that they have the financial report that tells them what to expect in the coming years and that covering the insurance, losing two people is all well said and done but what are the plans to absorb another 600,000 if it happens in 2010 like Melissa Ambre suggested. Dreher said state police just laid off 42 or 82 and they we might have dodged a little bullet this year but just saying that is another 600,000 that is going to have to be absorbed. Hawkins said we are talking about fuel tax not property tax money and that he cut one employee where are the decreases in the courthouse. Costello said the auditor and treasurer both lost a person. Someone said that 3 years ago Jerry Hawkins said no re-hires, what happened to that. There have been 5 new people hired on at the highway. Wilson said "Melissa Ambre told you guys you were going to be in trouble". Costello said "no she told you guys". Dreher said the commissioners have to ask for the EDIT tax and that in July you said Spurr was working on it. Costello said we 850,000 to use for insurance, this matter should have

been discussed at budget time, not now. Padish asked about the re-use authority and if they would get any of that money and if it could be used for Highway. Jeff Davis mentioned that there are other taxes they can raise, not just edit. Costello agreed but said some can't be revoked or can't be used for highway. Dreher asked if they paid for the insurance would the money saved go to salaries or earmarked for roads? Crossley said they could use some on roads. Someone said they will request it at budget time next year and Hawkins said this year they submitted the budget by the July 1 deadline, but did not get the budget order until after that, they did not know they were going to be hurting this bad or they would have asked for it. Costello said if we keep taking money out of county general there will be nothing left there. Dreher said he doesn't want to see anyone lose their job but thinks everyone has a right to their opinion. This is a no win situation, it's not going to get any easier. Hawkins suggested they tell everyone not buy anymore office equipment and use that money for insurance. Davis said some people spend on office furniture equals his entire budget. Dreher said the took money for roads and spent it on a truck and spent 147,000 on a new building .He asked if the commissioners spent 500,000 of jail bond money without regards to county employees. Cheesewright said we don't have an answer right now. Dreher said we will have to wait until our budget comes in to see how much we are cut. Costello insurance renewal is in May and it is a mute point until then. Hawkins asked for 80,000 to get them through May and Cheesewright and Costello both said they have enough money to get them to that point.

Langley moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mattick. Motion carried unanimously.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Council on the 11th day of January 2010.

John Cheesewright

Mike Carty

Lavonna Mattick

Randy Dreher

Lary Langley

Mike Costello

Randy Padish

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor