

Vermillion County Council Meeting Agenda/Minutes

Monday January 9, 2012

7:00 pm

Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana

Type of Meeting: Monthly Meeting

Invitees: Public Meeting

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll call  **Roll Call. Present:** President Mike Carty, Vice-President Randy Padish, Brent Bush, Lavonna Mattick, Randy Dreher, Jim McLain, Mike Costello, Attorney Don Darnell, First Deputy Auditor Amy Tolbert, Becky Julian, Payroll Deputy. **Absent/Excused:** Auditor Phyllis Orman.
- III. Approval of minutes from last meeting **Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mike Costello, **Seconded by** Lavonna Mattick. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Transfer of funds

Health Dept. 9.58 from Group Insurance to Unemployment. **Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mike Costello, **Seconded by** Vice-President Randy Padish. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners Court. 473.15 from Social Security to Unemployment. **Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Randy Dreher, **Seconded by** Jim McLain. Motion passed unanimously.

Prosecutor. \$49.16 from Social Security to Unemployment. **Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mike Costello, **Seconded by** Lavonna Mattick. Motion passed unanimously.
- V. Additional Appropriations

\$22,000 in the Highway fund for repair of a Grader transmission in District 2. Costello asked if they had a written estimate on the costs to repair the transmission and Crossley said yes and it includes a 3 year warranty. Craig said the estimate is around \$16,000.00 and they have added a buffer to this request. He also stated that they did receive multiple bids and this one was the best proposal. Dreher asked what happens to the extra \$6,000 if not used and it was explained that the appropriation and cash remain in the fund. Costello asked if the request was out of county general or highway and it was explained it was the highway fund. **Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Randy Dreher, **Seconded by** Mike Costello. Motion passed unanimously.

\$90,000 in Cumulative Capital Development Fund. This request was tabled from last month. The Council requested that Spence ask for the money from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. Dreher asked how much the original bid was and Spence said around \$85,700.00. Dreher suggested they only approved the amount of the bid. He then made a motion to allow \$86,000.00. **Motion: Action: Approve, Moved by Randy Dreher, Seconded by Jim McLain.** Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Additional Appropriation & Amended Salary Ordinance

\$16,412.00 in the Victims Assistance Fund. This is grant money and the appropriation is needed to pay the Victims Assistance Coordinator for 2012. The request includes salary, social security, medicare, and unemployment. **Motion: Action: Approve, Moved by Mike Costello, Seconded by Lavonna Mattick.** Motion passed unanimously. An amended salary ordinance was also presented in the amount of \$14,850.00 to pay the Victims Assistance Coordinator. **Motion: Action: Approve, Moved by Mike Costello, Seconded by Randy Dreher.** Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Open issues

- a) ~~Health Preparedness Coordinator.~~ Tabled will return with an additional appropriation request.
- b) ~~LCC~~ Issues have been resolved, item removed.
- c) Economic Development Council Financial Representatives. The council tabled this appointment. They agreed they would ask around for a financial appointment. Carty suggested Thom Frantz of First Financial Bank, who is very active with the Chamber of Commerce. He also stated that all the local banks should be considered.
- d) Economic Development Council Appointments. Costello suggested they appoint Mike Carty. **Motion: Action: Approve, Moved by Mike Costello, Seconded by Lavonna Mattick.** Motion passed unanimously.

Darnell explained that the authority to spend EDIT money had originally belonged to the 3 member Economic Development Commission but the Commissioners passed that authority to the Economic Development Council, which has 12 members. Carty said because of the potential shortage of highway funds and the fact that EDIT taxes can be used to fund the highway department; he wanted to make sure everyone understood who had the authority to spend that money in case the EDIT tax was ever increased. He said they were not discussing it now but stated that the county roads were in very bad shape. He also stated the Reuse authority also complicates things and makes it more confusing. He said the Economic Development Council administers the economic development plan but where does the Reuse authority fit into the plan. Costello asked if there was money controlled by the Reuse authority that could be directed to the highway and someone said no.
- e) West Central Regional Commission Appointment. Costello said he would like to continue to serve on this board. **Motion: Action: Approve, Moved by Randy Dreher, Seconded by Lavonna Mattick.** Motion passed unanimously.

- f) Highway Equipment. Commissioners Wilson, Crossley and Craig were present along with a representative from MacAllister CAT. They presented the Council information for a 3 year lease of three in-loaders and a 5 year lease on two side mount mowers with annual payments of over \$15,000 for each piece of equipment. Crossley said that 25 percent of the payment could be made from the EDIT funds that have been directed to the highway department. Craig said these items were at the top of their prioritized list and if the Council would agree to fund the highway insurance 100% for the next 5 years they could make a significant dent in that list. Costello said that would be roughly 1.5 million. Crossley said the highway insurance is currently \$240,000.00 per year. Craig said even if they would agree to pay \$200,000.00 or \$175,000.00 it would help. Costello suggested they continue to cover the first \$100,000.00 as they have done in the past. Crossley said they would have to agree to cover that first \$100,000.00 for the next 5 years or they would have to scrap the whole deal. Costello said he would rather they put it in the budget for equipment yearly. Carty said he was not opposed to leasing the equipment but that in 2011 there was \$660,000.00 budgeted that was not used and remains in the fund as cash. He said he was confident that an appropriation request to purchase the equipment outright would go through the DLGF. Crossley said the total would be over \$500,000.00 to buy them. Costello said the savings of buying opposed to leasing was roughly 3%. Crossley said the equipment is under warranty during the entire lease and only 1 year if purchasing. Costello said he would rather spend the money on 3 new trucks. McLain said he felt leasing was the way to go. Dreher agreed. Carty thanked the commissioners for doing their due diligence. He said he said they all support the leasing of the equipment but could not commit to funding \$100,000.00 for insurance for 5 years. They advised the Commissioners to submit additional appropriation requests as needed to pay for the lease. He also suggested that the commissioners pay 2 years with the 2011 and 2012 EDIT money they have and will receive this year.
- g) Sheriff's Fees. Costello asked Spence to report next month how much was generated by the \$13 fee that the department receives for serving court papers.
- h) other

VIII. New business

- i) Pretrial Diversion Program fee. Prosecutor Bruce Aukerman asked that the pre-trial diversion fee's that are submitted from the Clerk into the User Fee fund be transferred into the Pre-trial Diversion fund. Prior to 2010 the money went straight into the Pre-trial Diversion fund. After 2010 the money was required by the State to go into the User fee fund. The money could then be appropriated from the User fee fund or transferred into Pre-trial. Tolbert stated she would transfer 2010 and 2011 monies after a claim was submitted and then would transfer with appropriate claim monthly.
- j) other

IX. Adjournment. **Motion: Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Brent Bush, **Seconded by** Lavonna Mattick.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Council on the 13th day of February 2012.

Michael Carty

Randy Padish

Randy Dreher

Michael Costello

Lavonna Mattick

William Brent Bush

Jim McLain

Attest: _____

Phyllis Orman, Auditor