

Vermillion County Council Meeting Agenda/Minutes

Monday October 7, 2013

6:30 pm

Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana

- I. Call to order. President Mike Carty called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.
- II. Roll call. Present were Mike Carty, Jim McLain, Brent Bush, Milisa Carty, Randy Dreher, Mike Costello, Attorney Don Darnell, Auditor Phyllis Orman, and First Deputy Amy Tolbert. Jill Wesch was absent.
- III. Budget hearings reconvened. Judge Bruce Stengel spoke to the council about the letter send from the State Public Defender Commission. The letter states there are changes to the minimum contract amounts for public defenders. Starting January 1, 2014 a part-time contracted public defender is to be paid no less than \$30,175.00. The Judge also explained the county receives 40% reimbursement on a quarterly basis for these public defenders and that money goes back into county general where the public defenders are paid from. The council discussed their options and agreed to change the 2014 request to \$150,875.00. \$30,175 per public defender. The county employees 5 public defenders.

The council discussed the 2014 salary requests. Mike Carty explained that giving a raise will cause them to go in to the cash balance. He said it's not a bad thing but it is not something that can be done every year. He said they would be about even without giving any raises. Clerk Florinda Pruitt said she would like the Council to think about that fact that some positions are harder and require more work than others. Carty said he appreciates her comments but that is a different issue that will not be solved at this meeting. He said they are meeting to discuss raises and that her issue is really something that needs to be discussed with the Commissioners. He said they have started the process by requiring job descriptions but there are several more steps that need to be done to resolve that issue. Dreher said it is the same with the various boards. They have one board that gets paid considerably more than other board and said that is also something that needs to be looked at. Costello asked what was worked up for raises, 1%, 2%, 3%. Tolbert explained the figures were for a flat \$300 raise for full time only. Mike Carty said he spoke with Jill Wesch and she said a cost of living raise would equal about \$600 rather than \$300. After some discussion Costello made a motion to allow a \$400 raise for all full-time employees, elected officials, Council and Commissioner Attorneys. McLain seconded the motion. All were in favor. There was also some discussion about the part-time hourly rate. Dreher made a motion to increase the rate from \$9.10 per hour to \$9.25 per hour. Costello seconded the motion; all were in favor except Milisa Carty who abstained from the vote.

- IV. Adjournment. Dreher made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Costello.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Council on the 16th day of October, 2013.

Michael Carty

Jim McLain

Randy Dreher

Michael Costello

William Brent Bush

Jill Wesch

Milisa Carty

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor