

JENNINGS COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

April 9, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.

Annex Building

Tina Ellis, Mike Gerth, Dave Woodall, Mandy Creech, and Jerry Lamb. were present. Gene Rudicel arrived at 6:55 pm. Tina opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Tina asked the council members to read the prior meeting minutes. Mike made a motion to approve the minutes, Jerry seconded the motion, Howard abstained. Tina also presented the minutes from the work session with Reedy Financial for approval.

Dan Brookbank met with commissioners in reference to replacing one of the veterans' vehicles. Commissioners approved the request to replace a vehicle. Dan depleted his maintenance budget last year due to the vehicles age and the mileage being high. Dan said that the three veterans' vehicles have been in service for six years and all have over 100,000 miles. He had included purchasing this vehicle in his 2024 budget. He is also going to add a vehicle to his 2025 budget to replace one of the higher mileage vehicles. Dave said that vehicle replacements, in general, need to be included in the GO Bond for 2025. Dave made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2024 Pacifica from Family Chrysler at \$39,088.00 and to take the money out of the Riverboat, Howard seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Dave asked if the price would increase, and Dan replied no, the price is locked in.

Tina Brison reached out to the bank to get information on CD rates for the county. German American has a CD rate for 5.5% for six months, and the money market for 4.5%. Old National has good rates also, but we currently bank with German American, and transfers would be much easier with them. Tina is thinking that we go with a six-month CD and deposit \$1 million into it and deposit \$50,000 into the money market account. Tina to reach out to the bank and ask about maintaining a certain amount per month. Sarah Abel asked about a partnership with German American and to see if they can waive the fees for the employees' HSA accounts. Jerry made a motion to invest \$1 million dollars into a six-month CD at 5.5% interest, Howard seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Dave made a motion to allow Tina to put \$50,000.00 into a money market at German American at 4.5% interest, and to allow Tina to put excess money into the money market at her discretion. Mike seconded this motion, passed unanimously.

Tina also presented a quote for a new counter-top kiosk to replace the card reader in the Treasurers office. The current card reader is not easy for customers and is a very slow process. This kiosk is integrated with LOW (property tax software) for updates yearly. The taxpayer is charged \$4.00 per parcel currently and with this new kiosk, the taxpayer will only be charged a flat fee of \$4.00. This will be a savings for the taxpayer. The cost for this new kiosk is \$5,275.00 up front. There will need to be a contractual service line added to the treasurer's budget in the amount of \$3100.00. This will be the yearly maintenance fee for the new kiosk. Jerry asked if we could negotiate a smaller number for the maintenance agreement. Jerry said he isn't against it; he just thinks they are charging too much. Mike made a motion to pay \$5,275.00 for the new kiosk out of the Riverboat fund; Dave seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Sherri Maschino with the county highway department and Commissioner Shane Boswell came to ask the permission from the council to pursue a land acquisition. The property is next door to the highway department. Sherri said the highway is running out of room and needs more property. Sherri is asking permission to move forward with the appraisals and negotiations. Shane stated that they were not looking for 16 acres, but the landowner does not want to chop up his land. The purchase of 16 acres is the easiest way to do this. Mike asked if they were looking to build another building and Shane responded, yes, eventually. Dave said that he believes that they should get an estimate on stone and fence. The Recycling Center can also grow with the purchase of this property. Jerry made a motion to allow them to move forward with getting the appraisals. Dave seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Randy Shepherd explains to the council that he is running short in the Reassessment Fund and there is not enough money to cover his expenses. The expenses for April, May, June, and July are \$39,292.78. First, Randy would like to concentrate on April. Currently there is \$11,596.94 in this fund and his April expenses (known) are \$12,679.00. Tina asked Randy if he would explain why that fund is running short. Randy said, in short, the percentages of tax dollars that go into the Reassessment fund had dropped drastically. In 2019 the percentage of total tax dollars coming into the Reassessment fund was .007547; 2020 was .007415%, 2021 was .007405%, 2022 was .005350%, and 2023 was .005053%. The drop in the percentages, Randy thinks that the council asked the financial planner to drop the percentage. Tina said that the council told Reedy to increase the rate, but Mike doesn't think that they requested that. Dave said that there was concern a few years back about what the money in the fund could be spent on. Randy said that according to the DLGF (Department of Local Government Finance) they recommend that you have at least 18 months' worth of expenses in the Reassessment fund. In June, tax dollars will be deposited into the Reassessment Fund, but Randy needs to have money before that to pay his expenses. Sarah stated that Randy could take a loan against his tax collection coming in. Randy stated that DLGF recommends that you have 18 months of expenses in the fund. Tina is asking if the council approves an additional appropriation of \$10,000.00, would that work? Randy said that he is requesting \$15,000.00 to be on the safe side. Howard said he is thinking more like \$12,000.00. Jerry said that he thinks \$12,000.00 would be good also. Howard made a motion to approve an additional appropriation of \$12,000.00 to be transferred into the Reassessment Fund, Jerry seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Kelly Rigney with EDC is submitting the Decatur Mold CF-1 compliance forms. They have three active abatements. They have exceeded their estimates from the original SB-1 forms. Mike made a motion to approve all three forms, Dave seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

In old business, a claim voucher was tabled in the last meeting for ET Systems in the amount of \$17,830.00. Dave made a motion to pay the claim and to pay it out of the Rainy-Day Fund; Mike seconded the motion, passing unanimously.

An invoice for \$26, 216.84 to Shoemaker was also tabled in the last meeting. Dave made a motion to pay out of the General Fund, Mike seconded the motion, 5-1 vote, Jerry Lamb opposed. Amy from the Auditor's office asked for a better description of paying the Shoemaker invoice. The council approved this to be paid by the general fund, so we will seek additional appropriations for this.

In new business, the council has some additional appropriations to approve. There was no money budgeted for repairs and maintenance, so therefore we will need additional appropriations to cover the expenditure. Dave stated that jail invoices need to be paid out of The Rainy Day and not the commissioner's budget. Dave made a motion to transfer \$50,000 from The Rainy Day into the Repair & Maintenance account line.

There is \$91,115.00 needed for the year to pay Centerstone. Commissioners discussed using the counties unappropriated opioid money to help fund Centerstone. Mike made a motion to use \$80,000.00 of the unrestricted opioid fund to pay Centerstone, Howard seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Jerry asked what does Centerstone do for us for this amount of money? There will be a balance of \$7,097.30 left owed to Centerstone for 2024. Dave made a motion to pay the remaining \$7,097.30 out of the general fund, Mike seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

There was also \$26,000.00 left off the 2024 budget. Dave made a motion to appropriate \$26000.00 for Indiana Workforce, Mike seconded the motion, passed unanimously. The county attorney gets paid from two different accounts, county attorney, and legal services. The appropriation for legal services was left off the 2024 budget. Dave made a motion to appropriate \$7280.00 for legal services, Gene seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

The sheriff's department submitted an invoice that the sheriff had paid out of his commissary account. He is asking the council to reimburse his commissary for the invoice total of \$1,085.27. Dave said we will not reimburse his commissary so to move on, Jerry agreed.

Council and Reedy discussed creating a Cumulative Capital Development (CCD) fund. Reedy will be sending a new guideline and the council needs to vote on whether they want to move forward with the CCD fund. Gene made a motion to allow Reedy to advertise for a CCD fund, Howard seconded the motion, 5-1 vote, Jerry opposed.

The council agreed to \$3500.00 to help fund a PERF implementation study with Reedy Financial. Tina was under the impression that this included a salary comparison study, and it does not. Tina is telling Reedy to put this study on hold until the funding is secured.

Mike submitted the TIF report to the council and needs them to acknowledge the report. Mike made a motion to adjourn, Gene seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Sarah Abel
Sarah Abel, Auditor

Tina M. Ellis
Tina Ellis, President

Mike Gerth
Mike Gerth, Vice President

Gene Rudicel

Howard Malcomb
Howard Malcomb

Jerry Lamb
Jerry Lamb

Mandy Creech
Mandy Creech

*not present
at meeting*

Dave Woodall

JENNINGS COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

April 18, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.


Annex Building

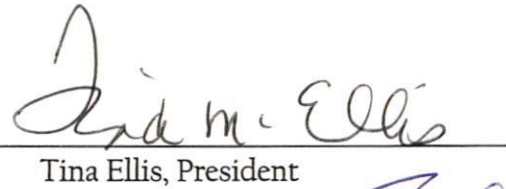
Tina Ellis, Mike Gerth, Dave Woodall, Howard Malcomb, and Jerry Lamb were present.

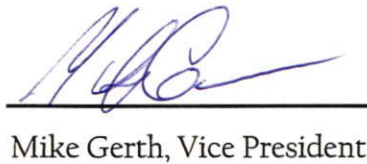
The council met to approve an Inter Fund Loan Resolution.

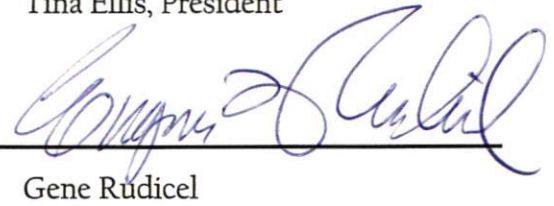
The county will transfer money from the County General Fund to the Reassessment Fund.

The money must be transferred back to the County General Fund by the end of the current year, December 31, 2024.


Sarah Abel, Auditor


Tina Ellis, President

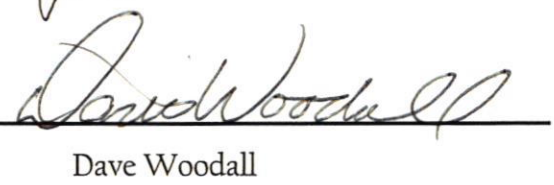

Mike Gerth, Vice President


Gene Rudicel

Howard Malcomb


Jerry Lamb

Mandy Creech


Dave Woodall