

**POSEY COUNTY COUNCIL TUESDAY MARCH 10TH, 2020**

The Posey County Council met in regular session at the Hovey House on Tuesday, March 10th, 2020 at 9:00am. The following members were present at said meeting: Heather Allyn, Stefani Miller, Tom Schneider, Marilyn Brenton, Dave Pearce, Aaron Wilson; County Attorney Joe Harrison; and Auditor, Maegen Greenwell. Council member Robert Gentil was absent.

H. Allyn called the Posey County Council meeting to order at 9:00am with the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Naal said an opening prayer.

**MINUTES**

M. Brenton made a motion to approve meeting minutes from the February 2020 meeting with changes to the vote count in several sections; S. Miller seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

D. Pearce made a motion to approve the February Treasurer's report; A. Wilson seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

S. Miller made a motion to approve the January Clerk's report; A. Wilson seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**MEETING DATE CHANGE**

H. Allyn is asking to move the June Council meeting scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup> to Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. Mrs. Allyn stated the plan is to have three abatement compliance reviews for that meeting, and beginning of budget department hearings.

A. Wilson made a motion to approve this date change; T. Schneider seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**JOINT MEETING**

H. Allyn informed the Council of the need to have a Joint Meeting with the Commissioners in April to discuss the 60/40 split with the jail maintenance fund and county general. Mrs. Allyn stated this would take place at either the Council's meeting date in April or after the second Commissioners meeting of April.

**BROADBAND UPDATE**

Jenna Richardt, with the Posey County Economic Development Partnership, addressed the Council regarding the Broadband grant progress. Mrs. Richardt presented the Council with a letter of intent for funding the matching grant for this project. Mrs. Richardt stated this letter will identify what fund the Council intends to use for this match. Mrs. Richardt informed the Council this would not have to be paid out for another several years.

H. Allyn read the following letter:

The Posey County Commissioners and Posey County Council are in support of Mainstream Fiber Networks seeking Next Level Connections Broadband grant funding to reach more of our rural residents in Posey County. Lack of connectivity hurts rural residents on many levels from students not being able to complete homework assignments outside of school hours, to workers not being able to work from home, to lost opportunities for growth in rural businesses.

The project will bring 1 Gig symmetrical service residentially, 10 Gig symmetrical service to our businesses, and 100 Gig capability through the medical corridor that connects into Warrick County. The total cost for the project is as follows.

**With Grant funding secured:**

Total Build: \$6.567 M

Grant \$ (53%) = 3.480 M

Local Match total (47%) = 3.087M

Mainstream (2/3 of local total) = \$2.059M

County match (1/3 of local total) = \$1.028 M

If grant funding is secured, the project will be done within 24 months, and the county's local match of \$1,028,000. They have identified possible TIF and EDIT dollars as the sources of funds. Receiving the Next Level grant funding would allow Posey County and Southwest Indiana to make sure that the most rural and unserved residents do not get left behind and are able to take advantage of all of the benefits that come with stable, reliable, and quality broadband service.

H. Allyn stated this letter is stating the funds could possibly come from TIF and EDIT funds but the Council could use other funds if they see the need. Mrs. Allyn stated the payout would not be fulfilled until the buildout is complete.

T. Schneider asked if this would be a one-time payment. H. Allyn stated yes.

A. Wilson made a motion that the Council move forward with this project and sign the letter of intent; T. Schneider seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

#### **POSEY COUNTY SOLID WASTE REQUEST**

Ron Bennet, Controller for Posey County Solid Waste, addressed the Council regarding the need for a loan for his department.

Mr. Bennet is asking for a \$50,000.00 loan from the County to supplement their current budget. Mr. Bennet stated the department has two leases that are due at the same time each year, and they will not receive settlement money until June. Mr. Bennet stated as in previous years, this loan will be paid back after settlement money is received.

H. Allyn stated in previous years, the loan had been for \$100,000.00 so the department is moving in the correct direction. Mr. Bennet stated the Department of Local Government Finance informed him they are moving in the correct direction, and at the end of 2019 the department had a slight surplus.

T. Schneider asked if the two leases could be renegotiated to allow for payment to be made after settlement. Mr. Bennet stated the two leases are for a box truck and the recycle truck and that he would look into that option.

T. Schneider made a motion to approve this loan request; D. Pearce seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

#### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST**

Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, is requesting an additional appropriation on behalf of the Posey County Prosecutor. Mrs. Greenwell stated this request is for \$52.04 to be appropriated back into the law book line for the prosecutor. Mrs. Greenwell explained this was due to a payment being made to an incorrect vendor.

D. Pearce made a motion to approve this request; A. Wilson seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Posey County Assessor, Nancy Hoehn, is requesting an additional appropriation in the amount of \$194,750.00. Mrs. Hoehn stated these funds would be from her reassessment fund to the program update line. Mrs. Hoehn stated this will help fund a new tax software program for the County. H. Allyn asked if this was allowed within her IC code to use for this purpose. Mrs. Hoehn stated yes, because this software complements the Assessors, it can be used for that purpose.

S. Miller made a motion to approve this request; A. Wilson seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Chief Probation Officer, Michelle Fortune, is requesting an additional appropriation in the amount of \$3,000.00. Mrs. Fortune stated these funds would be from the juvenile informal adjustment fund to the furniture line. Mrs. Fortune stated this will allow her to furnish the new Probation department offices in the Coliseum. T. Schneider asked if they had spoken with the Commissioners regarding furnishing this space, because the Commissioners have a budget for furniture. Mrs. Fortune stated they had not, but she would speak to them. Mrs. Fortune stated she was informed that the Juvenile Informal Adjustment fund would soon be obsolete, as the State would no longer be depositing funds into this fund. Mrs. Fortune stated she is awaiting further information on that; but would like to use the funds for this purpose at this time.

A. Wilson made a motion to approve this request; M. Brenton seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

#### DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Posey County Assessor, Nancy Hoehn, informed the Council that her department will be undergoing a project soon to reassess the town of Springfield. Mrs. Hoehn stated that Springfield was actually platted to be the County seat in 1816, with roads and alleys marked in the plat book. Mrs. Hoehn stated there is no city of Springfield anymore but since it has never been addressed there are issues with residents seeking to sell or buy property that is not platted as theirs. Mrs. Hoehn stated the County would need to hire a surveyor to clean up and replat this entire area. Mrs. Hoehn explained once you replat an area, what was once before is no more. Mrs. Hoehn stated she would have two quotes but the estimate is between \$7,000 and \$10,000 to complete.

H. Allyn asked if Council appropriates the funds, would the Commissioners sign off on the replat. Mr. Harrison suggested they speak with Area Plan on this issue also.

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, informed the Council of the following jail numbers:

Housing:

62 Posey County

48 Vanderburgh County

13 DOC

123 total inmates

Funds:

\$52,640.00 from Vanderburgh

Sheriff Latham stated numbers from Vanderburgh are down, but that is to be expected for this time of the year. Mr. Latham stated they expect to see numbers increase as summer approaches.

H. Allyn informed the Council that Commissioners opened Jail roof bids and will be awarding at the next Commissioners meeting. Mrs. Allyn stated the bid was for roughly \$259,000.00 from Midwest Roofing. Mrs. Allyn stated the Commissioners are looking to take those funds from the jail maintenance fund.

No further business was discussed.

D. Pearce made a motion to adjourn; A. Wilson seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

*Heather Allyn*

Heather Allyn, President

Stefani Miller, Vice President

*Robert A. Gentil*

Robert A. Gentil

*Marilyn Brenton*

Marilyn Brenton

Dave Pearce

*Thomas Schneider*

Thomas Schneider

*Aaron P. Wilson*

Aaron Wilson

ATTEST: *Margen S. Sheenwell*  
Posey County Auditor