

POSEY COUNTY COUNCIL TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2021

The Posey County Council met in regular session at the Hovey House on Tuesday, February 11, 2021, at 9:00 am. The following members were present at the said meeting: Heather Allyn, Tom Schneider, Brandon Deig, Aaron Wilson, Dave Pearce, Stefani Miller, Marilyn Brenton, County Attorney Joe Harrison, and Auditor Maegen Greenwell

H. Allyn called the Posey County Council meeting to order at 9:00 am with the Pledge of Allegiance, and Pastor Matt Watson shared a prayer.

MINUTES

D. Pearce made a motion to approve the January 12th meeting minutes; M. Brenton seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0, with S. Miller abstaining.

TREASURER'S REPORT

T. Schneider made a motion to approve the January Treasurer's report; A. Wilson seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Posey County Health Officer, Dr. Kyle Rapp, introduced Kelli Goedde as the new County Health Nurse.

Dr. Rapp gave the following updates regarding COVID-19:

3000 residents vaccinated

900 of those residents vaccinated have been fully vaccinated.

600 vaccines were delivered to Posey County last week.

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Dr. Rapp stated vaccines are being given at the Deaconess Urgent Clinic in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday currently and will soon move to five days per week. Dr. Rapp stated they are giving a limited amount of vaccines in the Poseyville area.

Dr. Rapp stated the County is seeing a decline in COVID cases since the peak in mid-January, with a positivity rate of 10%. Dr. Rapp stated the County will still be in the orange designation. Dr. Rapp stated events can now have up to a 25% capacity, and plans must be submitted through the Health Department for such events.

H. Allyn asked Dr. Rapp if the County should submit a plan for the March Council meeting that will be held at the Community Center now or wait until closer to the date. Dr. Rapp stated to go ahead and do it now, and it could be modified if needed later.

FEE SCHEDULE ORDINANCE

County Attorney, Joe Harrison, stated the current fee schedule ordinance is needing to be updated. Mr. Harrison stated the current ordinance is not in compliance with State Statute on copy fees. Mr. Harrison stated he changed the wording on the election section of the ordinance also, at the Clerk's request.

A. Wilson made a motion to waive the second reading of ordinance 2021-02-09-01; B. Deig seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

B. Deig made a motion to approve ordinance 2021-02-09-01; S. Miller seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

POSEYVILLE LIBRARY

Heather Allyn stated due to inclement weather, this will be on the March meeting agenda.

NIX ABATEMENT DISCUSSION

Matt Nix and Jerrod Baehl addressed the Council regarding an abatement application submitted.

Mr. Nix stated Nix Companies has been doing business in Poseyville since 1902 and has found the need to expand that facility. Mr. Nix stated Nix Companies has two other locations, one in Rockport, Indiana, and one in Princeton, Indiana.

Mr. Nix stated completing this expansion would be significantly more difficult if the requested abatement is not granted.

Mrs. Allyn asked Mr. Nix to explain what this expansion would bring to the Company. Mr. Nix stated Nix is currently operating on Frontage Road in Poseyville and are looking to add on to the west end of the current building, adding a 150 foot by 60-foot building. Mr. Nix stated this would allow them to handle larger projects. Mr. Nix stated this would also allow their coating production to move to the Frontage Road location. Mr. Nix stated eventually, they would like to have their headquarters located at this location.

Mr. Nix stated the project would add 25 jobs, \$1.6 million investment on building renovations, and \$1,030,000.00 in equipment investment.

H. Allyn asked if the start date is 2022 with manufacturing equipment. Mr. Nix stated yes.

H. Allyn stated the Council would score the abatement application today and would have to hold a public meeting that has been noticed to the public. Mrs. Allyn stated that would happen at the March meeting.

M. Brenton asked what kind of positions would the new hires be. Mr. Nix stated a mix of skilled laborers and professionals. Mr. Nix stated the average wage for skilled laborers is \$21.00 per hour and \$30.00 per hour for other support staff.

H. Allyn informed the Council they may take the time to score the abatement application if they have not done that yet, and they may discuss if they would like.

T. Schneider stated looking at the application and the criteria, it adds up to a 5-year abatement on real property and a 4-year personal property.

H. Allyn stated she agrees with Mr. Schneider on a 5-year real property abatement and 4-year personal property.

H. Allyn asked what percentage of Nix employees reside in Posey County. Mr. Nix stated they have 100 total employees, with 70 of those working at the Posey County plant, and of those 37 live in Posey County.

D. Pearce stated he would be comfortable with 7 years for real property abatement and a 5-year personal property abatement. Mr. Pearce stated Nix is the largest employer in the northern part of the County.

S. Miller stated she would like to see a 7-year abatement on real property and 5 years on personal property.

A. Wilson stated he is always in favor of growth and expansion. Mr. Wilson stated he would like to see 7 years on real property and a 5-year abatement on personal property.

B. Dixon stated he favors a 7-year real property abatement and a 5-year abatement for personal property.

M. Brenton stated she is also in favor of a 7-year real property abatement and a 5-year abatement for personal property.

H. Allyn asked what the step down would be on a 7-year abatement as opposed to the typical 10 years that would go from 100% to 0% over those 10 years.

J. Harrison stated he would figure that %.

H. Allyn reminded Council these would be preliminary numbers and would be finalized at the March meeting.

J. Harrison stated preliminary numbers would be:

Real Property:

100%

85%

71%

57%

43%

29%

15%

Personal Property:

100%
80%
60%
40%
20%

D. Pearce made a motion to grant a 7 year Real Property abatement and a 5-year Personal Property abatement to Nix Companies with ordinance 2021-02-09-02 and including this area as an ERA; A. Wilson seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

H. Allyn stated the Council would hear the declaratory resolution at the March 9th meeting.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST

Posey County Health Department is requesting two additional appropriation requests in the amounts of \$8,250.00, with these funds being needed to pay out Martye Fitts, and \$3,000.00 with these funds being needed to pay the part-time health nurse. T. Schneider made a motion to approve these requests; S. Miller seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

Sarah Webber, with the Posey County Prosecutor, is requesting an additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,663.00. Mrs. Webber stated these funds will go into the Drug Task Force and were gained from a drug case. T. Schneider made a motion to approve this request; D. Pearce seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

Maegen Greenwell, Posey County Auditor, is requesting an additional appropriation in the amount of \$35,203.00 to be placed into the Sheriff's retirement line, allowing the County to pay extra into the Sheriff's retirement. B. Deig made a motion to approve this request; T. Schneider seconded. Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, stated that the account is currently 117% funded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

Chris Neaveill, with Posey County EMS, is requesting funds be allocated to his EMS Maintenance fund. Mr. Neaveill stated this is the fund that gets 10% of the report of collection monthly. Mr. Neaveill is asking to move \$40,000.00 into the supply line of this fund to allow for expenditures to be paid out from this fund. M. Brenton made a motion to approve this request; S. Miller seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

H. Allyn asked how his staffing was. Mr. Neaveill stated he has two open spots and re-evaluating the part-time positions.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST

Maegen Greenwell, Posey County Auditor, stated a reimbursement request in the amount of \$264.19 is needed for the law book line for the Superior Court. Mrs. Greenwell stated this was from a double payment that was made. S Miller made a motion to approve this request; D. Pearce seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, gave the following inmate housing report:

15 DOC inmates
28 Vanderburgh County inmates
75 Posey County inmates
118 total
\$38,695.00 brought in last month from Vanderburgh County.

Sheriff Latham stated he is currently taking applications for 2 jailers.

Sheriff Latham stated he has four deputies that will be going to the academy later this year.

Jenna Richardt, with Posey County Economic Development Partnership, gave a brief update on the broadband issue. Mrs. Richardt stated she has met with Mainstream, and they plan to meet with the Commissioners in April with a final plan. Mrs. Richardt stated construction should be in the 3rd quarter of this year. Mrs. Richardt stated Mainstream has a current website for this project.

Posey County resident, Earl Schroeder, stated he is in favor of the Nix Companies abatement.

No further business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned.



Heather Allyn, President



Stefani Miller, Vice President



Brandon Deig



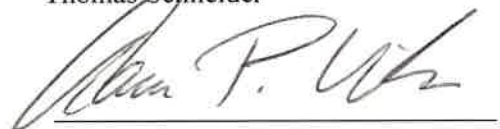
Marilyn Brenton



Dave Pearce



Thomas Schneider



Aaron Wilson

ATTEST:



Posey County Auditor