

POSEY COUNTY COUNCIL TUESDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2021

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

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

MINUTES

D. Pearce made a motion to approve the October Council minutes as presented; S. Miller seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

CLERK'S REPORT

S. Miller made a motion to approve the September Clerk's report; M. Brenton seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

T. Schneider made a motion to approve the October Treasurer's report; A. Wilson seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

2022 SALARY ORDINANCE

H. Allyn informed the Council there would be no increase for the County on health insurance for 2022. T. Schneider made a motion to increase the proposed \$500.00 raise to \$1,000.00; S. Miller seconded. A. Wilson stated the County must remain competitive in salaries. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

H. Allyn stated Council needs to consider the new hire wording in the 2022 Salary Ordinance, as discussed previously. M. Brenton stated several Council members met to discuss the new hire salary deduction. Mrs. Brenton stated the committee looked at several different ways to achieve the goal of separating new hire salary from tenured employees. Mrs. Brenton stated ultimately, the committee is suggesting a 1.5% decrease for new hires that will replace the \$1,000.00 cut and the previous year's salary wording that has been used for the last several years. Mrs. Brenton stated the committee is also suggesting making this policy exempt for the chief deputy spot.

The Council discussed the need to keep the new hire decrease or the ramification of removing that decrease. A. Wilson made a motion to approve the 2022 salary ordinance, removing the wording for deduction on new hires or transfers; D. Pearce seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

POSEYVILLE LIBRARY LETTER OF SUPPORT

Heather Morlan and Linda Reisinger, with the Poseyville Library, addressed the Council regarding the ongoing discussion with Robinson Township tax dollars being allocated to Alexandrian Public Library, which does not align with the Posey County School District lines.

H. Allyn stated it was discovered that in order to change this, each library board would have to sign a resolution in favor of this move. Mrs. Morlan stated she attended the last Alexandrian Public Library Board meeting and was informed that if she obtained a letter of support from the North Posey School District, The Posey County Commissioners, and The Posey County Council, the Alexandrian Public Library would entertain the requested resolution. Mrs. Morlan stated she is before the Council today to request a letter of support. A. Wilson made a motion to approve this request; M. Brenton seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

2022 SCHEDULES

H. Allyn stated for Council meeting dates in 2022, the Council will need to adjust their October, November, and December meeting dates due to holidays and Election Day. Mrs. Allyn stated the Council would be moving the 2021 December Council meeting to December 21, 2021. S. Miller made a motion to move the October date to Wednesday, October 9, 2022; the November meeting to Wednesday, November 9, 2022; and the December meeting to December 22, 2022; and move the 2021 December Council meeting to December 21, 2021; M. Brenton seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

EMS DISCUSSION

Posey County EMS Director, Chris Neaveill, addressed the Council regarding several issues in his department. Mr. Neaveill stated he is currently two paramedic positions down. Mr. Neaveill stated the main reason he believes he is having staffing issues is due to the starting salary. Mr. Neaveill stated he would like to discuss vacation time policies with the Commissioners also, allowing the County to buy back unused vacation time. Mr. Neaveill stated he would like to also look at paying a 24-hour pay scale when working overtime. Mr. Neaveill stated currently, if he has an employee working overtime, they fall under the same sleep time work schedule as they would normally. Mr. Neaveill stated he is also looking into increasing the current billing structure. Mr. Neaveill stated the last time rates were increased was in 2014, and those were not increased to what was recommended by the billing company. Mr. Neaveill stated the Commissioners are currently working on this issue, and he is hopeful to have those new rates in place in 2022.

Mr. Neaveill stated he would be replacing medic 2 in 2022 as the typical rotation, and he expects to have \$18,000.00 left in that line at the end of 2021. Mr. Neaveill stated he would be back to Council to ask for that remainder to be rolled into 2022 as an additional appropriation.

T. Schneider asked where the starting salary for paramedics in Posey County compared to other Counties. Mr. Neaveill stated Posey County is slightly higher than Gibson. Mr. Neaveill stated Warrick and Vanderburgh are both privately-owned ambulance companies and are able to offer competitive compensation. Mr. Schneider asked if those privately-owned companies run a 12-hour shift or 24 hours shift. Mr. Neaveill stated both are 24 hours.

BLANKET BOND ORDINANCE

H. Allyn stated the Council needs to consider an ordinance that would allow certain individuals to be covered under a blanket bond rather than paying for individual bonds. Mrs. Greenwell stated one example would be the Redevelopment Board; instead of bonding each member separately, this would allow for the entire board to be bonded as a board. H. Allyn stated this ordinance is written to allow for the waving of the final reading. A. Wilson made a motion to waive the final reading; S. Miller seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0. S. Miller made a motion to approve the ordinance; M. Brenton seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST

Posey County Circuit Court Judge, Craig Goedde, is requesting an additional appropriation for the pauper attorney fee account in the amount of \$100,000.00. Judge Goedde stated this would get the Court through the end of the year. Judge Goedde is requesting an additional appropriation for the Circuit Court supply line in the amount of \$500.00. Judge Goedde stated this would be needed for a folding paper machine. A. Wilson made a motion to approve both requests; T. Schneider seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Sarah Webber, with the Posey County Prosecutors office, is requesting an additional appropriation for the IV-D fund in the supply line in the amount of \$500.00. Mrs. Webber stated this would cover supply expenses through the end of the year. T. Schneider made a motion to approve this request; D. Pearce seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, is requesting an additional appropriation for the County General Fund in the solar consulting line in the amount of \$15,000.00. Mrs. Greenwell stated this will cover the required studies and will be reimbursed from Tanaska. T. Schneider made a motion to approve this request; M. Brenton seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, is requesting the following additional appropriation for the American Rescue Plan fund:

1,000,000.00 for Regional Sewer District line

\$9,000.00 for Consulting line

\$350,000.00 for Broadband line

\$17,670.00 for Consulting line

M. Brenton made a motion to approve the above request; D. Pearce seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. S. Miller was out of the room.

H. Allyn stated the Commissioners and herself met with Morley several weeks ago for a progress update on the broadband project. Mrs. Allyn stated progress is moving along with CenterPoint and the necessary permits are being filed.

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, is requesting an additional appropriation for the Sheriff's equipment line in County General in the amount of \$600.00 that was restitution for using stop sticks during a traffic stop and also \$200,000.00 for body cameras. Mrs. Allyn stated the \$200,000 is part of funds that were leftover from COVID grant funds last year that were rolled into County General at the end of 2020.

S. Miller made a motion to approve these requests; D. Pearce seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

TRANSFER REQUEST

Posey County Highway Department is requesting the following two transfers:

\$30,000.00 from other services to group insurance

\$15,000.00 from diesel fuel to group insurance

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

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, discussed financing options for the body scanner that will be installed at the Posey County Jail.

H. Allyn stated she has spoken with the Sheriff regarding this and should like to see the Sheriff use jail maintenance funds as opposed to the financing option, with the understanding that while that balance is being rebuilt, should the jail have a large expense, Council would help with funds if needed.

Sheriff stated he would have to come to Council in December to appropriate funds to the equipment line of the jail maintenance fund.

Posey County Sheriff gave the following inmate housing update:

20 DOC Inmates

37 Vanderburgh County Inmates

86 Posey County Inmates

143 Total

\$44,625.00 was taken in from Vanderburgh County in October.

Sheriff Latham stated the jail is down two jailers currently.

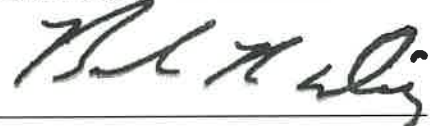
No further business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned.



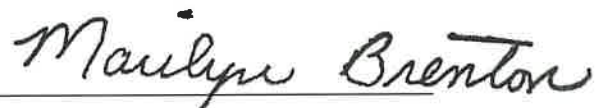
Heather Allyn, President



Stefani Miller, Vice President



Brandon Deig



Marilyn Brenton

Dave Pearce

Dave Pearce

Thomas Schneider

Thomas Schneider

Aaron P. Wilson

Aaron Wilson

ATTEST:

Maegen L. Sheenwell

Posey County Auditor