

MIAMI COUNTY COUNCIL
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, INDIANA 46970
March 19, 2019

Councilman Duckwall – Present
Councilwoman Chittum – Present
Councilman Donaldson – Present
Councilman Wood – Present
Councilman Wiles – Present
Councilman Sailors – Present
Councilman Nutt – Present

Councilman Duckwall called the meeting to order.

Councilman Wiles led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

MINUTES

Councilman Sailors made a motion to approve the February 19, 2019 minutes. Councilwoman Chittum 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION/TRANSFERS

The Council received a request for transfer from the Health Department of \$59.00 from repairs and maintenance to new equipment to cover the shortfall for the purchase of a new computer. Councilwoman Chittum made a motion to approve the transfer request of \$59.00 from repairs and maintenance to new equipment in the Health Department budget. Councilman Sailors 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

2018 to 2019 ENCUMBRANCE RESOLUTION

The Council received the encumbrance resolution from 2018 to 2019. Auditor Brown noted that the total encumbered amount was \$2,060,254.05, which includes all payroll across all funds. Councilwoman Chittum made a motion to approve Resolution 3-19-19 to encumber 2018 funds for the 2019 budget year. Councilman Sailors 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

HIGHWAY GARAGE FINAL INSPECTION

President Duckwall shared that the Council and Board of Commissioners had met prior the Council meeting at the Highway Garage project site to review the progress. During the meeting, there was discussion about bringing someone in to review the blueprints and perform a final inspection prior to RQAW turning the building over to the county. Commissioner Hunt stated that the Board of Commissioners would like to bring someone in to do the final inspection on behalf of the county and recommended Ron Rylands with DT Construction at a cost of \$1,200.00. Councilman Wiles stated that he felt it was too late to hire someone now and unnecessary to spend the money. Councilman Nutt shared that he felt the cost was relatively inexpensive for a final inspection and feels the county should hire the contractor to represent the county. Councilman Nutt noted that DT Construction does these kinds of inspections regularly for churches, community centers, etc. Councilwoman Chittum made a motion to support hiring DT Construction to perform a final inspection prior to the county taking occupancy of the building. Councilman Wood 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE

None

COUNCIL DISCUSSION & COMMITTEE UPDATE

President Duckwall explained the Plan Commission made a final decision on the replacement of the Zoning Administrator at their last meeting. The Plan Commission hired Mary Kay McKinney as the replacement. Ms. McKinney has been in the office a few years now as part-time and knows the daily operations. The Plan Commission will monitor how things progress in the office and may need to add additional help down the road. The Council will update the Salary Ordinance at their April meeting to reflect the change.

The Council received a copy of the 2018 Public Defender Annual Report for review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Wood stated that he would like to have Jim Tidd come in next month and present an update on the status of the shell building. Councilman Wood noted that the county was headed into their 3rd year, will soon be making the full payment and feels that the Council has not heard anything about it and would like to know if there are any prospective tenants. In addition, Councilman Wood would like an update on the Fixed Base Operations. President Duckwall will contact Mr. Tidd to present an update to the Council.

Elaine Anderson provided a copy of a recent new article from The Paper out of Wabash where it reports that local leaders met to discuss recent successes within the county. Ms. Anderson feels that the citizens of the county deserve to hear an update from MCEDEA on what steps they are taking to attract new growth in the county. Ms. Anderson also noted that the county provided a forgivable loan to Logan Stamping 5 years ago and they have just announced they are leaving Miami County. Ms. Anderson expressed frustration because the county provided an incentive and once it expired, the company left. Ms. Anderson also shared that part of the article mentions Wabash County looking at building their own jail. It raises concerns as the county relies on housing of out of county inmates to help with the budgets. President Duckwall explained the county does not rely heavily on the income from housing of the inmates, but it does help to build reserves within the fund. President Duckwall also noted one company who left the county, returned and currently is working on a major expansion; other companies continue to increase operations and workforce, which shows there is economic growth within the community.

Councilwoman Chittum made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Nutt 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Brown
Miami County Auditor