

FULTON COUNTY COUNCIL  
Tuesday, May 21, 2024

**Meeting Called to Order** at 5:00 p.m. with Pledge to the Flag. Present: Ron Dittman, Phyl Olinger, Steve Fishburn, Lorie Hurst, Randy Gundrum, Chayse Thompson, Pete Karas, and Auditor Representative Casey Jones.

**HIGHWAY – John Geier-** Updates council on activities, started chip sealing last week, almost completed Liberty township. Updated council on detours. SR 25 will be closed sometime around June or July. Informed council on intent to purchase a flail mower which he included in his budget for this year, so won't need any funding. Started mowing first of May, has three mowers going every day. Requests more than two weeks to train replacement for new hire, similar to the auditor's office request. Phyl motions to approve, Steve seconds; Motions carries 7-0.

**EMS LIT Increase-**Ron Dittman reads local ordinance #04162024b increasing the Emergency Medical Services tax from 0% to 0.2%. This ordinance will come into effect Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 2024. Pete Karas says it's a "necessary evil", as we need to have an ambulance service for our community and unfortunately a tax increase is the only way to pay for it. Phyl states that increasing local income tax rather than property taxes shares the load among the largest portion of our community, and the whole community would equally benefit from the ambulance service. Steve asks that if we receive future funding from state or federal sources to help pay for the ambulance service, can we rescind this LIT increase? Ron explained the costs to the county. Motion to approve by Phyl, Lorrie seconds; Motion carries 7-0.

**Salary Amendment-**Read by Ron Dittman, what changed was the Communications full-time dispatchers went from 8 to 9. Phyl motioned to approve, Steve seconds, motion carries 6-0, Pete abstains.

**FEDCO Agreement-**Read by Ron Dittman, only an accounting feature changed. Pete motioned to approve, Randy seconds, motion carries 7-0.

**Auditors Request-** Read by Ron Dittman, Auditor requests to start part-time employee earlier than the allotted two weeks, no new funds needed to support this. Steve motioned to approve, Lori seconds, motion carries 7-0.

**COMMUNICATIONS –** Gail Karas-The Emergency Management Performance Grant, in the amount of \$18,000, is deposited in County General.

**SHERIFF – Travis Heishman**

Jail and detention center population ordinance read by Ron Dittman, it is being reread due to commissioners changing some wording. Phyl asks Travis to clarify the changing in words to include "food, medical supplies and staff" in paragraph three to further clarify what the funds may be spent on. Steve Motions to approve, Randy seconds, motion carries 7-0.

Travis states he has previously mailed out April reports and asked if council if they had questions. Gave inmate updates, 130 inmates is roughly 55% capacity for the county jail. Made roughly \$47,000 last month and Travis projects double that next month. Phyl asked if that means we will be housing double the amount of out of county inmates and Travis replied that it does not this is just the first month of housing



that many out of county inmates. Last few weeks they celebrated law enforcement week, Travis thanked everyone for showing their support. Raised roughly \$1600 with "Ride the Lightning" fundraiser. Travis asking for Chad (Jail Maint.) asking for moving forward with purchasing a maintenance building using the maintenance fund. Pete says the council just needs to word the approval to state that as long as it is "self-funded" through the jail maintenance fund. Steve motions to approve Jail Maintenance building. Steve motions to approve, Randy seconds: motion carries 7-0.

**MINUTES** – Pete motioned to approve minutes of the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, Phyl seconded; carries 7-0.

**TRANSFERS** –

Department	Fund	From Account	To Account	Amount
Prosecutor's Office	Computer Maintenance Software	Computer Maintenance Software	Office Supply	\$1,200.00
Phyl motions to approve, Randy seconds; motion carries 7-0				
Health	Local Public Health Services	Health Dept. Liaison	Machinery & Equipment	\$18,745.00
Phyl motions to approve, Chayse seconds; motion carries 7-0				
Health	Local Public Health Services	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	Contractual Services	\$2,494.00
Pere motions to approve, Lorie seconds; motion carries 7-0				

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS** –

Department	Fund	For	Amount
Communications	Host Fee	Portable Radios	\$135,378.00
Steve motioned to approve, Phyl seconds; motion carries 6-0, Pete abstains			

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

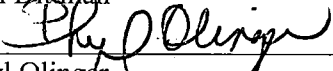
**NEW BUSINESS** – Steve updates council on the completion of getting all the flags up for the Veterans, and thanks the city and county for their generous donations to the VFW to help honor our fallen Veterans. Phyl states the counties portion of the host fee fund for February and March this year is \$70,222.45. Ron has annual report from Logansport Memorial Hospital and a letter stating a called meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024 for all council members in Indianapolis. Interested council members should coordinate with auditor's office.

ADJOURN -- Lori motioned to adjourn at 6:10 p.m., Pete seconds; motion carries 7-0.

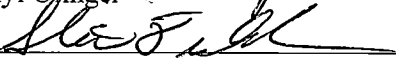
FULTON COUNTY COUNCIL



Ron Dittman

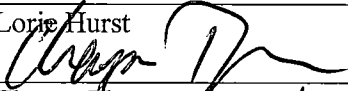


Phyl Olinger



Steve Fishburn

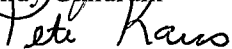
Lorje Hurst



Chayse Thompson



Randy Gundrum



Pete Kaus



Attest: Christina Sriver, County Auditor

I affirm under penalties of perjury, that I have taken reasonable care to redact each social security number in this document, unless required by law: Christina Sriver

Prepared by: Casey Jones