

FULTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 6:30 p.m. with Pledge to the Flag. Present: Gary Sriver, Lorie Hurst, Jim Showley, Barry Hazel, Jim Widman, Randy Sutton, Phyl Olinger and Auditor Christina Sriver.

TAX ABATEMENT – Ted Waggoner presented proof of publication to the public and Notice to Taxing Units. He reviewed the resolution presented at the previous meeting and the steps of approval. Rochester Iron & Metal LLC has reduced the number of explosions since the discussion at the previous meeting. Ted requested approval of Resolution 060207, Confirmatory Resolution Application of Lucas Street, LLC d/b/a Rochester Iron & Metal, Inc. for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area and Approval of Tax Abatement. Jim Widman opened the floor for comments. Wallace Dove spoke stated that the money spent on a previous lawsuit could've covered the amount of the tax abatement he requested. He expressed that he didn't realize the noise that would come with the last equipment installed that caused the explosions. He discussed contamination in the soil in the area. He suggested the county pay for a noise reduction wall or to give him tax abatement due to the issues the last equipment installed brought. Mayor Smiley had discussed previously that the number of tractors and large trucks coming through the county may be ruining the roads. He asked if there will be a raise in the taxes to repair the roads due to the trucks going and coming from the business. Chris Brain (defendant's attorney from the previously filed lawsuit) spoke of the objections that were raised in the lawsuit. After nine of litigation the lawsuit was dismissed with prejudice. Randy questioned if Mr. Dove was against the abatement and he replied that he was not but that he is requesting help from the county also. A member of the audience who had raised his hand to speak declined the opportunity. Gary stated that previously the personal property tax abatements had previously been scheduled on 7 years due to the depreciation of the equipment. Jim Widman closed the public comment portion and opened the Resolution discussion to the Council. Jim Widman stated that because the area is already in a TIF district the amount of taxes collected by the county will not be affected and though the equipment is depreciated there will still be a 30% assessment on the equipment. Gary further discussed that he would not like to set a new precedence going from a 7-year schedule to a 10-year schedule on personal property. Gary motioned to vote on a 7-year personal property abatement schedule, seconded by Jim Showley. Ted Waggoner stated that the number of abatements he has presented have not been of this value. After factoring the maximum depreciation it will remain at an assessment of 30% of the value and believes that the county will still see a sizeable investment for the county. A representative from Rochester Iron & Metal stated that this equipment will continue to be used for 10-25 years, as long as possible. Randy questioned if any other abatements had been in a TIF district before and Council recalled that this is the first of this situation. The 7-year abatement for personal property was voted in favor 7-0. Barry motioned to approve as amended, Lorie seconded; passed 7-0.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Dr. Brubaker stated that Dr. Bugno resigned as Health Director effective May 31. The workload has increased tremendously over the last few years. He has gotten no affirmative response from other qualified individuals. He has been working with the state liaison and they suggested promoting an employee from within the office to an Administrator. The Health Board would like to make Shannon Shepard to Environmental Officer/Administrator and make her part-time employee full-time and he is then optimistic that the Board will find a replacement. The Environmental Director and Administrator would need to be salaried and proposes \$47,968 based on research of other like counties (average of 2015). He is also requesting a transfer of \$7,000 to her salary to cover the remainder of 2017. The proposed full-time employee would need to be reviewed by the Job Classification Committee and is recommending that until reviewed, be given the wages for a COMOT I employee (\$14.49). The state liaison has given her blessing to use the Health Maintenance Trust to fund the full-time employee for future years. Randy questioned if that is common and Dr. Brubaker gave affirmation. A Health Officer would still be required but it would cut down the work load. They initiate policies of the board and act as an advisor to the employees. Jim questioned if the Administrator would be an exempt employee according to FLSA rules. Council concluded that the Administrator, though salaried, would be exempt from overtime due

to having supervision of the Health Officer. Dr. Brubaker will still seek a Health Officer while he is acting as interim Officer. Dr. Brubaker stated that the part-time employee going full-time has satisfied the probationary six-month period for their standards and asked that Council grant full pay; Council approved.

EMA – Larry Hoover discussed the NIXLE contract that he would like to upgrade to due to the added features including notifications for emergency weather, medical issues for the Health Department and road closures through the Highway Department. The cost is \$3,500 per year for three years. The first year will be \$3,700 due to set-up costs. The contract will ensure the notification delivery whereas the free service is not reliable. Any cell phone users in the notification area can receive notifications without subscription with the upgraded version. The price is based on population of the county. Gail stated that there may be grants available for the service in the future. Larry suggested payment from LIT Public Safety funds. Council agreed and suggested Larry prepares an Additional Appropriation for the payment. The public can sign up for NIXLE through the county website. JNK will be upgrading the EF Johnson 800 radios to the P25 status. He received notification last week that the county was awarded the multi-hazard mitigation grant for a 75/25 match.

HIGHWAY –The department started mowing May 1st and is almost complete with one mowing. Dust stay was applied June 1st on county roads at intersections and in front of houses. The department paved Olson from approximately 200 W to Old 31. Temporary stripping will be added soon and later will chip seal, add permanent stripping and a shoulder to finish out the project. The department is getting about a ton truck load each week of debris with the leaf pickup in the newly added burn ban area. He is requesting that residents in the area should have pick-ups to the curb by Sunday night as they begin pick-up early Monday mornings. Thursday pick-up will be added during leaf season. The department has borrowed a grinder from Kosciusko County and has been grinding down bumps in the road. John mentioned that he has had 15 after-hour call outs resulting in 26 hours of overtime. These were mostly due to trees down and a couple of washouts and high water. The railroad tracks and ties near the Wilson Grain Elevator will be replaced on June 26th and the road surface work will follow. The subcontracted drainage work could start anytime. Bridge inspection scoring was done June 13th, results will be sent to INDOT and if approved the contractual phase will begin. John is considering Bridge #45 through County Road 600 E over the Braynt-Leininger Ditch for a Community Crossings Grant. Two new dump trucks are now in service, a new mower and new F550. He is still waiting on the paver, it should arrive sometime in July. Community Crossings is having a callout for projects due in July. He would like to apply for bridge work for Bridge #45. Commissioners signed a preliminary estimated agreement with USI for the grant. John has a preliminary list of roads to consider for the use of the wheel tax money. He will prepare an Additional Appropriation for \$333,000 for the match grant.

ADA – John stated that the handicap and no skateboarding signage for the courthouse, annex building and sheriff's building are being installed soon. He is also working on the transition policy updates to include updates to the courthouse and polling sites.

SHERIFF – Chris Sailors discussed the monthly reports for May. Jail capacity reached 95 inmates by 5:00 p.m. today. He requested a joint meeting to present the findings of the jail feasibility study. Josh and Chris will be meeting with the camera company Thursday to discuss the quotes to fix the bugs in the system. He is still working toward the kiosk to accept electronic payments. The final bill for the heat pumps came in under budget. Chris has been working with Ford concerning a police vehicle. He is waiting to hear if the new model will have the same package that was offered on the 2017 model. Gary discussed a conversation he had yesterday with the Sheriff concerning the handicapped and non-violent offenders being housed in the jail. Chris commented that the regional meeting of Sheriff's recently that topic was discussed. Chris elaborated on a John Doe that was housed at the jail for approximately a week-and-a-half as there was not another optional facility until they could identify him and return him to Marion County. Another topic of discussion at the regional meeting was the Level 6 felonies that they hold are serving a sentence for DOC. There is a Senate Summer Committee that will be looking at this.

E-911/COMMUNICATIONS – Gail Karas asked for questions on the May reports; there were none. Last weekend Gail worked on the phone lines that were causing issues. She is meeting next Tuesday to discuss positioning the HALO unit. ERS will be here tomorrow to give a quote to fix a grounding issue with a tower. The radio equipment has been installed and she will be training with surrounding counties soon. She is refusing the last payment for the radios until they are fully installed and operational; she has sent this in writing to the vendor. She would like to meet with the Job Classification Committee. The software that was purchased with Spillman she needs to get the User Agreement signed. The Fulton County Sheriff’s Department will be the main hub and users will sign a contract under the hub. Council suggested the Sheriff sign the user agreements. Rochester City has not come to an agreement with the county. Gail will be out of the office in August due to surgery, her assistant will be filling in. She has an employee leaving August 10th as well. Gail discussed 911 addressing and her role in fixing the issues. She works with the Auditor and Assessor on making the corrections but other departments don’t understand the process. She would like a procedure in place to inform all departments. She would like to schedule a class with the mapping vendor (WTH) to educate all users instead of being sent to her department with questions. Josh stated that only about 20% of users are efficient. These are some of the reasons for meeting with the Job Classification Committee to review her job description. Jim questioned who dictated her job description and Gail responded Waggoner, Irwin and Scheele when they wrote the job descriptions. Discussion ensued. Phyl asked Gail about a previously sent email for FirstNet. Gail explained it as the network system that AT&T contracted with the state for. Emergency personnel will have the lines in case of an emergency the FirstNet (with an updated phone) will get you into the lines without having to use a user number.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET DISCUSSION – Jim Widman opened discussion to the Auditor. It was decided that the employee contributions to health insurance premiums for 2018 will be \$65 per pay and the county will cover the life insurance. The employer contribution for health insurance will be equal no matter what coverage the employee chooses. The longevity pay will continue to come from the Rainy Day Fund. Christina asked if there was a suggested raise amount for department heads to plug into their budgets. Jim suggested a percentage amount.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS – Andrea Steinbeck, as interim Library director, presented an Additional Appropriation to install an electronic sign at the Fulton Town branch.

Department	Fund	Account	Amount
Fulton County Public Library	1138 Rainy Day	Other Services and Charges	\$29,800
Randy motioned for approval, Phyl seconded; passed 7-0. Transfer from Other Services and Charges to Capital Outlay motioned for approval by Randy, Phyl seconded; passed 7-0.			
Auditor	1138 Cum Cap Development	40001 Vehicles	\$46,473
To pay for 2015 Ford payment; was not budgeted to allow for flexibility of payment.			
Auditor	1151 EMS	31500 Contract	\$5,129
To pay amount required to receive Indiana Medicaid Governmental Ambulance Payment Adjustment for Medicaid managed care ambulance services for calendar year 2014. Gary motioned for, seconded by Phyl; passed 7-0.			

OLD BUSINESS – Josh Sriver stated that Midland will be onsite next week for a roof inspection at the courthouse, annex, jail and Sheriff Department. Jay (EMP) is trying to coordinate with Midland to install the HALO unit while they have the boom onsite. Siders Asphalt will be sealcoating at the jail, annex, Sheriff Department and EMA the third week of July. Josh thanked the Highway Department for filling in the hole in the annex parking lot. Commissioner Bryan Lewis, Josh and Mike (maintenance) met with D & T Construction and Viridian. There are still a few issues that need to be addressed that were marked with blue tape. Josh discussed gathering quotes for the circular walkway at the courthouse, the steps and the approaches/concourse area. Also, quotes are pending for the Limestone work to the perimeter of the courthouse sidewalk. A grant will be opening for storm water and wastewater that he will be looking into. Josh discussed carpet being

paid for out of Maintenance rather than the bond. CPC (security camera vendor) is looking at reimbursing the county to have another vendor fix issues. Server room work will start in July. Storage cabinets to replace the Assessor's storage room were delivered today. WTH does webinar and on-site training that Josh will look into scheduling. Josh has presented a quote for cooling for the 911 dispatch center from Fujitsu at a cost of \$17,250. Josh would like to use maintenance funds to pay for this. Jim Widman agreed. Josh stated that the unit would cool and heat. Jim Widman questioned that with the purchase of the digital file cabinet why are we purchasing filing cabinets. Josh explained that the state still requires the paper copy in some cases and the storage was purchased for the binders and paperwork of the Assessor.

NEW BUSINESS – Gary announced that he will be going to the state-called Council meeting on Saturday. Jim Widman received an invitation from Soil and Water Conservation District to attend a meeting at June 27th at 9:00 a.m. at the USDA center and requested a volunteer. Phyl volunteered to attend. Jim has been talking with Umbaugh and Associates concerning refinancing the 4th Street bond for a savings of approximately \$25,000 a year. Council members agree that it would be wise to look into.

ADJOURN – Jim Showley motioned to adjourn at 8:47 p.m., Gary seconded by; passed 7-0.

FULTON COUNTY COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____
Christina Sriver, Fulton County Auditor