

PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES –January 5, 2022

The Perry County Council met on the above date at 5:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. County Council members in attendance were: Vice President David Etienne, Danny Bolin, Paul Malone, Randy Cole, Charlie Baumeister, Lynn Fulkerson and Earla Williams. Council Attorney S. Rod Acchiardo and Sheriff Alan Malone were also present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

There was one item to add to the agenda:

1. Assessor Office – Amend Salary Ordinance Form #144

Paul made the motion to approve the agenda with the amendment, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 7-0.

REORGANIZATION

The County Council needs to reorganize for President and Vice President for 2022. Charlie made the motion to nominate David for President, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 7-0. Paul made the motion to nominate Earla for Vice President, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 7-0.

President – David Etienne

Vice President – Earla Williams

MEETING SCHEDULE

Charlie said the meetings need to stay at 5:00 p.m. for the public. The meetings are livestreamed. Paul said we don't need to go any earlier. Charlie made the motion for the meetings to be on the 4th Thursday of the month with exceptions at 5:00 p.m., seconded by Earla. Motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Carter came before the Council with an actual proposed plan to open a shelter and get an animal control officer for the county. He has given this plan to the City Mayors, Police Chiefs, Police departments, Sheriff department, and Animal Control Board. He is hoping Harrison County will submit a plan also. He said the biggest problem is there is a major cat problem in Tell City and in Cannelton. Nobody has a way to curtail the breeding of any feral cats. There is no procedure in place. The Humane Society gave out one 9 years ago. To control the cats is the knowledge of how many there are. The only way to do that is to have the ability to license. He said the only way to license cats and dogs is with the county option dog tax. Jim said that is the main reason he is here and he wants the Council to consider it. He said he will come back in the next two or three months with this and explain why it is needed. In the past when the dog tax was promoted, they were talking about the cost. He said he has done the figures several times and it is very reasonable and not as much as people think.

Jim said it is time to look at controlling the cats. Once we license, we can go to the homeowner and ask if these are your cats and that they are required to license their cats. This way you figure out which cats not to catch. It is at this point we need to do something serious. Mayor Terry of Cannelton is frustrated over the cats and dogs running around. He said with his plan he can count the cats. Charlie asked when the animal ordinance was written, there was a thing about a dog tax and the Council decided not to put an amount in there, during the discussion, were cats ever brought up. He said the only way to license is, you have to have a county option dog tax. Charlie said he never heard cats included in that, it has always been dogs. Jim said in the licensing system, section two was put in reserve which was done by mistake, because there are two parts. The one is licensed and the second part is permit. We could have still provided permits but doesn't see any need for that. We can go back to licensing and it explains the exact amount, including cats. The state says in order to license:

1. Pass a county option dog tax (no cats involved in this)
2. Then go back to Commissioners and have Section 2 of the Animal Control Ordinance reevaluated and come up with a plan and go to the Animal Control Board (this is why he wants on the Animal Control Board because he knows a lot about this)

Randy asked if this tax is for revenue or is it for registration of the animals and secondly, what kind of revenue is expected to gain. Jim said he did a study on this township by township, we would get less than \$4,000. Randy then asked if the Council would come forward with \$4,000, then you wouldn't be required to collect from the individuals. He said there also could be limits put on what we are willing to subsidize two cats one dog or whatever so you don't have the burden of trying to collect \$5.00 from different individuals for the cat or whatever. Randy commented that you are trying to register these animals so you know what animals to pick up because there are too many running around. Jim said correct. Randy said he is just thinking the burden of trying to manage all these funds collected, we could sidestep that somehow for a nominal amount. Jim said there are procedures to do that. He told the Council he did a lot of work with his study in Tell City and he never charged anyone for it. Danny asked Jim, if the County would come up with the \$4,000, that doesn't give you an accurate count on dogs or cats, plus it doesn't hold anyone accountable. Randy said we are trying to bypass collecting from the people.

RESOLUTION - DECORUM

The Council had before them a resolution establishing policies and procedures to protect decorum and foster the effective administration of public meetings. David said the policy is the same as last year except for the expiration date. It will expire on December 31, 2022. Charlie made the motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 7-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Perry County Auditor submitted an additional appropriation for the Auditor Salary in the amount of \$500.00 from the County General fund. This is for the additional in salary that was approved at the Council meeting in December for the extra meetings. The salary of an elected official can only be changed in the prior year. Danny made the motion to approve the additional, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 7-0.

The Perry County Redevelopment Commission requested an additional for Topographical Survey in the amount of \$5,000.00 and for Site Survey in the amount of \$5,000.00 from TIF #1 – TIF Allocation fund. Charlie said he asked Jon Scheer before the meeting, if this has been done before from the TIF funds. Jon said this is something new that the RDC board found out that you can use these funds for surveys. Jon said this is according to Jason Semler of BakerTilly that helps with all of our bonds. This is an appropriate measure to continue the redevelopment within the community. Jon said this is a new direction we are heading trying to solve some of the housing issues. Paul asked if money comes from another source for this, will the money for this additional revert back. David said yes it will. Jon said once this is approved, we will be pursuing this quickly. There was talk of another survey on this area and Jon said he has been trying to find it. Charlie made a motion to approve the request pending the outcome of finding the other survey. Lynn seconded the motion. Randy said he had a couple questions. First, he said there were round numbers asked for, in looking back at old minutes and things of that nature, this is what is done. Without knowing for sure what the survey will cost, he asks for an amount that will cover it, we would be lucky if it half of that. Randy asked if we can take this money and put it in a queue, reserved, and if the survey is less and it reverts back to the fund, so we don't have a lot left over in each account line. He said to do this in case if someone else in county needs the funds and we have already allocated them out. The point is we want to support him and his actions with the surveys, but we don't want to over support him. Auditor Pam Goffinet explained how the fund accounts and account line items work. She explained this is not cash you are appropriating; it is the amount that can be spent from a certain line item. So, if the price comes in lower, then there will be left over appropriation in the line items. If it is not spent at the end of the year, it keeps our cash balance higher. During the year, if you want to put the appropriation back in the fund, then we could do reduction of appropriations. There was a lot discussion about how the process works. It was finally decided to create a spreadsheet of additional appropriations on what was appropriated to what was spent to know what can be reduced at some point for other departments to use if need to. Motion carried 5-0 with Paul and David abstaining.

Sheriff Alan Malone had an additional appropriation in the amount of \$35,000.00 for Jailers Supplemental Wage, \$3,000.00 for Social Security, and \$4,000.00 for Retirement from the Inmate Housing fund. It was said this was approved as an intent at the last meeting. Paul made the motion to approve this additional, seconded by Charlie.

Randy asked if this money comes from housing Vanderburgh County inmates. Auditor Goffinet said yes. Randy also said there was a question one time on what our actual cost to house those inmates, such as food, utility and etc....are. He said at some point we need to determine what our actual cost is to house these inmates to make sure it is worthwhile to the county to sponsor these inmates and we are not subsidizing Vanderburgh County. Sheriff Malone said for the last four and half years housing these inmates, he has brought in over \$400,000.00. It only cost the county \$1.00 to \$3.00 per meal for each inmate. He said we are making money. David said it is not costing additional wages. Alan said Vanderburgh brings 8 to 12 inmates at \$35.00 per day for each one. He said whether they are here or not, the electric and water are already on. It costs no extra for medical, Vanderburgh County takes care of this for their inmates. We are only housing and feeding them. Charlie asked about the clothing. Alan said we do supply that because we want them to look like ours. Randy said that answered a lot of questions. Motion carried from before 7-0.

The Commissioners submitted an additional appropriation from the ARP (American Rescue Plan) funds for \$6,000.00 for Applications Administration and \$355,000.00 for LOW Software – Tax & Financials (Auditor & Treasurer). David said the application administration is through the Community Foundation. Auditor Goffinet explained the software to the Council. She explained that this \$355,000.00 is short a little over \$800.00 from the total amount contracted. It will be paid out of Computer Maintenance in Cumulative Capital Development fund. She said the software that is currently being used is from 1989. There is no room for growth with what we have. This will also help minimize our time and make things more efficient. Hopefully better able to move forward with the times in timekeeping and email direct deposits. Randy asked if we have a vendor and assumes they have been around for some time. Auditor Goffinet said yes. He also said he assumes they will transfer all the historical data into the new system. She said yes. He also said they are providing training and support. Pam said yes again and that they will be onsite for as much as we need them now and in the future. Pam explained the only thing we will pay in the future is maintenance and it is lower than what we are paying now. Danny made the motion to approve the additional, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 6-0 with Charlie abstaining.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 22-CC-01

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO APPROPRIATE MORE MONEY THAN WAS APPROPRIATED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PERRY COUNTY, PERRY COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE TAXING UNIT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL SUMS OF MONEY ARE HEREBY APPROPRIATED OUT OF THE FUNDS NAMED AND FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED, SUBJECT TO LAWS GOVERNING THE SAME:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND	AMOUNT REQUESTED	APPROPRIATED	AYE	NAY
PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR				
#1000-002-1000.11 AUDITOR SALARY	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	7	0
COUNTY GENERAL FUND TOTAL:	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		

TIF #1 TIF ALLOCATION FUND

PERRY COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION				
#4401-702-3000.10 TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	5	0
#4401-702-3000.11 SIGHT SURVEY	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	5	0

**PERRY CO REDEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION**

FUND TOTAL: \$ 10,000.00 \$ 10,000.00

INMATE HOUSING FUND

PERRY COUNTY JAIL

#4929-380-1000.11	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	7	0
JAILERS SUPPLEMENTAL WAGE				
#4929-380-1000.21	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	7	0
SOCIAL SECURITY				
#4929-380-1000.22	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	7	0
RETIREMENT				

INMATE HOUSING

FUND TOTAL: \$ 42,000.00 \$ 42,000.00

ARP-2021 CORONAVIRUS

LOCAL FISCAL FUND

PERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

#8950-068-3000.10	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	6	0
APPLICATIONS ADMINISTRATION				
#8950-068-3000.90	\$ 355,000.00	\$ 355,000.00	6	0
LOW SOFTWARE-TAX & FINANCIALS, AUDITOR & TREASURER				

ARP-2021 CORONAVIRUS LOCAL

FISCAL FUND TOTAL: \$ 361,000.00 \$ 361,000.00

ADOPTED THIS 5th DAY OF JANUARY, 2021.

NAY

AYE

DAVID A ETIENNE /S/
DANNY BOLIN /S/
EARLA WILLIAMS /S/
PAUL MALONE /S/
CHARLES BAUMEISTER /S/
RANDY COLE /S/
LYNN FULKERSON /S/

ATTEST:

PAMELA L GOFFINET /S/
PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR

2022 CONTRACT – COUNCIL ATTORNEY

Attorney S. Rod Acchiardo presented a contract to the County Council for legal services in 2022. The contract is for \$5,200.00 annually with 433.33 per month. This is the amount that was budgeted. Danny made the motion to approve the contract, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 7-0.

AMEND SALARY ORDINANCE -FORM 144'S – SHERIFF & ASSESSOR

The Council had before them Forms #144 for salary ordinance amendment for the Sheriff office and the Assessor office. They were:

Assessor office – change level III and level II one time pay to biweekly. This payment method was changed by the state.

Level III – Assessor	\$92.59 biweekly
Level II – Deputy	\$18.51 biweekly
Level II – Deputy	\$18.51 biweekly

Sheriff office - Jail department – increase from \$12.00 per hour
Part time Jailers \$14.00 per hour

Sheriff office – Sheriff department – increase from \$20.00 per hour
Part time Deputies \$25.00 per hour

Sheriff office – Jailers – Inmate Housing fund
Jailers – Supplemental wage \$1.09 per hour extra

Randy made the motion to approve the forms, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 7-0.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Alcohol Beverage Board:** 1 appt. – 1 year term. There was one letter of interest: Randall L. McBrayer (current) Danny made the motion to reappoint Randy McBrayer, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 6-0 with Earla abstaining.
- **Public Library Board:** 1 appt. – 4-year term. There were two letters of interest: Karen Herwig (current) and Deirdre Mundy Charlie made the motion to appoint Karen, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 7-0. David said that Deirdre would make a good candidate also later.
- **Redevelopment Commission:** 2 appts – 1 year term. 9 letters of interest. The letters were from: Jon Scheer (current), Bill Dickerson (current), Stefan McConnell, Balaji Kashyab, Kelli Harding, Cindy Taylor, Sherri Flynn, J.R. Flynn, and Randy Cole. Charlie made the motion to reappoint Jon Scheer and Bill Dickerson, seconded by Randy. Motion carried 6-0 with Paul abstaining.

INTERNAL APPOINTMENTS

- **American Rescue Plan Advisory Committee:** 1 appt- term ends 2024. Charlie is already a member. Lynn made the motion to appoint Randy, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Perry County Development Corporation – Delegate:** Council appt. – 1 year term. Charlie said he would do this. Lynn made the motion to appoint Charlie, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0 with Charlie abstaining.
- **Personnel Policy Committee:** 2 Council appts. – 1 year term. Danny made the motion to reappoint David and Lynn, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Plan Commission:** 1 appt. – Charlie said he would do this. Lynn made the motion to appoint Charlie, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0 with Charlie abstaining.
- **In 15 Regional Planning Commission:** 1 appt. – Council member. Danny made the motion to reappoint David, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Solid Waste Management District Board:** Council appt – 1 year term. Currently it is Charlie and he is resigning. Danny made the motion to appoint Paul, seconded by Charlie. Motion carried 7-0.

David also mentioned the positions that are currently being held and the term is not up yet. They are:

1. **Community Corrections Advisory Board & Local Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council** – term ends 12/31/23 currently Danny Bolin
2. **EMA Advisory Council** – term ends 12/31/22 currently David Etienne
3. **Perry County Development Corporation (Board of Directors)** – term ends 12/31/22 currently Earla Williams

Kelli Harding asked about the PTABOA board for the Assessor’s office. David said that appointment will be done in February. The Council said they will accept letters of interest.

Danny commented that there should be a Council appointment to the Lifesprings Board for mental health according to the amount of money we give them. Danny said Luke and him discussed this. Charlie made the motion to appoint Danny, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 7-0.

There was discussion about the timing of letters of interest to be turned in for appointments. Charlie made the motion to accept letters of interest by 4:00 p.m. the business day before the meeting going forward. It was said the appointment needs to be publicized with the deadline on it. This way we can get them processed and ready for the meeting. The second was made by Paul. Motion carried 7-0.

Administrator Teresa Kanneberg asked the Council when they want to do the Board of Appeals appointment. They said they would do this in February. She read off some of the qualifications. Randy asked if only so many can be from one political party, what about if you are not affiliated with one. Teresa said there is no clarification in the Indiana code. Randy said once the qualifications get refined, then share them with the Council.

With no other business before the Council, Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Danny seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0, with adjournment at 6:15 p.m.

Minutes approved this 24th day of February, 2022.

President, Perry County Council

*Minutes prepared by:
Pamela L Goffinet, Perry County Auditor*