

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES – December 17, 2020**

The Perry County Council met on the above date at 5:00 p.m. via zoom. Council members in attendance were: President David A Etienne, Luke Thomas, Charles Baumeister, Danny Bolin, Lynn Fulkerson and Earla Williams. Steve Goodson was absent. Chief Deputy Eric Dickenson was present along with Attorney S. Rod Acchiardo. A *Perry County News Representative* was also in attendance.

MINUTES

The minutes from the meetings of October 5, 2020, October 13, 2020 and October 22, 2020 have been mailed to the Council for review. Danny made the motion to approve the October 5th minutes as written, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 5-0. Lynn was not in attendance at this meeting. Charlie made the motion to approve the October 13th minutes as written, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 5-0. Luke was not in attendance at this meeting. Lynn made the motion to approve the October 22nd minutes as written, seconded by Luke. Motion carried 4-0. Neither David or Earla was at this meeting.

TRANSFERS

Treasurer Amanda Lasher requested a transfer of \$16.24 from Treasurer's Association Dues, \$40.50 from Official Records, and \$53.26 from Travel to Postage for a total of \$110.00. This is for postage for mailing out surplus and end of year and beginning year items.

Treasurer Lasher also requested \$794.36 from Travel and \$978.30 from Equipment Repair to Office Supplies with a total of \$1,772.66. This is needed to purchase three computer monitors and three chairs along with any miscellaneous supplies.

Amanda Lasher, Treasurer, had another transfer request of \$108.80 from Tax Mailing Contract, \$98.45 from Lockbox Expense, and \$11.00 from Cashbook Software Maintenance to Telephone in the amount of \$218.25. This is to cover the telephone bill.

All these transfers are within County General fund. Luke made the motion to approve the requests from the Treasurer, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 5-1 with Charlie abstaining.

Veterans Officer Kevin Herp requested a transfer of \$56.00 from Travel to Part time Veterans Service Officer within the County General fund. This is to cover extra hours worked. Danny made the motion to approve the request, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried 6-0.

Sheriff Alan Malone requested a transfer of \$553.00 from Jail Officer Salary to Jail Officer Holiday Pay within the County General fund. Danny made the motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Luke. Motion carried 6-0.

Perry County Commissioners requested \$1,200.00 from Retirement to Furniture and Equipment within the County General fund. This is for a larger drop off box for in front of Courthouse for documents that won't fit in the payment slot of the other box. It will be secured to the sidewalk to allow curbside drop off. Veterans Officer Kevin Herp was looking on Amazon and found the same courier box for only \$763.15. This will also have free shipping compared to the other. So, this additional can be dropped to \$764.00. Danny made the motion to allow \$764.00 for this transfer, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

Prosecutor Jason Hoch requested a transfer of \$52.00 from Travel to Victim Advocate Salary and transfer \$1,000.00 from Law Enforcement Donations to Office Supplies within the Pretrial Diversion fund. Earla made the motion to allow the transfers, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0.

TRANSFER APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE CC-20-12

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO
TRANSFER MONEY FROM ONE MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATION TO

ANOTHER MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATION IN THE FOLLOWING NAMED BUDGET; NOW THEREFORE:

SEC. 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PERRY COUNTY, PERRY COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT THE FOLLOWING TRANSFERS BE MADE IN THE FOLLOWING MADE BUDGET:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND

TRANSFER \$ 110.00
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-003-3000.11 \$ 16.24
TREASURER’S ASSOCIATION DUES
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-003-2000.21 \$ 40.50
OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-003.3000.22 \$ 53.26
TRAVEL EXPENSES
TO: ACCOUNT #1000-003-3000.21 \$ 110.00
POSTAGE

TRANSFER: \$ 218.25
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-003-3000.12 \$ 108.80
TAX MAILING CONTRACT
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-003-3000.16 \$ 98.45
LOCKBOX EXPENSE
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-003-3000.65 \$ 11.00
CASHBOOK SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE
TO: ACCOUNT #1000-003-3000.23 \$ 218.25
TELEPHONE

TRANSFER: \$ 1,772.66
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-003-3000.22 \$ 794.36
TRAVEL EXPENSES
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-003-3000.62 \$ 978.30
EQUIPMENT REPAIR
TO: ACCOUNT #1000-003-2000.11 \$ 1,772.66
OFFICE SUPPLIES
WITHIN: PERRY COUNTY TREASURER’S BUDGET

TRANSFER \$ 56.00
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-012-3000.22 \$ 56.00
TRAVEL
TO: ACCOUNT #1000-012-1000.12
PART TIME VETERAN’S SERVICE OFFICER SALARY
WITHIN: PERRY COUNTY VETERAN’S SERVICE BUDGET

TRANSFER \$ 1,200.00
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-068-1000.22 \$ 1,200.00
RETIREMENT
TO: ACCOUNT #1000-068-4000.41
FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT
WITHIN: PERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONER’S BUDGET

TRANSFER \$ 553.00
FROM: ACCOUNT #1000-380-1000.15 \$ 553.00
JAIL OFFICER SALARY
TO: ACCOUNT #1000-380-1000.25
JAIL OFFICER’S HOLIDAY PAY
WITHIN: PERRY COUNTY JAIL BUDGET

TRANSFER	\$ 1,052.00	
FROM:	ACCOUNT #2502-009-3000.21	\$ 52.00
	TRAVEL	
FROM:	ACCOUNT #2502-009-3000.91	\$ 1,000.00
	LAW ENFORCEMENT DONATIONS	
TO:	ACCOUNT #2502-009-1000.11	\$ 52.00
	VICTIM ADVOCATE SALARY	
TO:	ACCOUNT #2502-009-2000.11	\$ 1,000.00
	OFFICE SUPPLIES	
WITHIN:	PERRY COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S BUDGET	

NAY

DAVID A ETIENNE /S/
LUKE THOMAS /S/
EARLA WILLIAMS /S/
DANNY BOLIN /S/
LYNN FULKERSON /S/
CHARLES BAUMEISTER /S/

PAMELA L. GOFFINET /S/
PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR

Judge Lucy Goffinet came before the Council requesting to rehire a Drug Testing Technician. Ed Lawalin has retired from this position. She said this position pays for itself from the revenue that comes in each month through the Clerk's office. Charlie made the motion to allow the rehire, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0.

Jane James, Recorder, informed the Council that she sent them an email regarding this position. She said this would not be a permanent position, just temporary. It would be for several years though. Jane said she has devised a job description already and this position can be evaluated at budget sessions each year. She said this position would be indexing old records onto the system. Right now, we have remote users that title search all records. Some can't get all the records needed so the office does it for them. We get lots of calls for this. Jane said we have 62 to 100 accessed users a month. They can't get all the records in our County. These back records are essential to title work. The money they pay goes to the Recorder Perpetuation fund. She said we just want to be able to take care of customers and provide services. Charlie said this is at no cost to the County. It only brings revenue into the County. Danny asked that once you get caught up will you stay that way. Jane said that once they get 50 years one, yes, they will. Luke said for how long. Jane is hoping 5 to 8 years. She said this part time person is only for this project of indexing back records. Jane also said that they will still have indexing to do all the time, she just wants to get to 50 years back. Our records are very valuable. Deputy Mary Lee Smith spoke up and said we just want all the records electronically, Charlie said other counties are using the Recorder Perpetuation fund for the same thing. Some counties are using CARES ACT money for this also. Council asked about the revenue for how long. Jane said as long as there is real estate, it will keep coming. Jane said with the Courthouse closed it was harder for the public to come in and do their searches. She said they also want to do Enhanced Access for other users. The system they use is FIDLAR and they have half of Indiana customers. Charlie made the motion to allow hiring temporary part time and to review at budget time and next December, seconded by Earla. Motion carried 6-0.

AGREEMENT – 2021 COUNCIL ATTORNEY

Council Attorney, S. Rod Acchiardo, presented the Council with a new agreement for services in 2021. He said the agreement is the same as this year except for the amount. The new amount is for \$5,000 being \$51.00 more than this year. An additional appropriation will have to be done for the \$51.00 to fulfill the contract since the budgeted amount is for \$4,949.00. Charlie made the motion to accept the agreement, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0.

2021 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The 2021 organizational meeting is set for January 4, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. via zoom.

MISCELLANEOUS

Danny asked for a report on the Fall settlement of property taxes. Auditor Goffinet explained that she only has 51 days from tax deadline to settle the fall taxes and that date is December 31, 2020. As of now, she is waiting on the Treasurer to balance up to that date so she can provide the 49TC that is needed to start the process. If I don't get the taxes settled, then the County will have to pay interest to each of the taxing units. She said she will do everything she can to make sure it goes out on time

Charlie commented on the personnel policy about employees retiring right after the first of the year and we have to pay out the vacation time they earned for that year. This hurts the offices on hiring someone soon. This is an issue that needs to be looked at. Maybe consider, if retiring, they would have to work at least 90 days to be paid out the newly earned time. Attorney Acchiardo will look into the situation of timing of earning vacation and retiring.

RESIGNATION - PUBLIC LIBRARY APPOINTMENT

Auditor Pam Goffinet informed the Council that the current appointee to the Public Library Board is resigning for medical reasons. Her term ends on December 31, 2023. We need to add this appointment to the board of appointments for 2021 and needs to be advertised.

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR END OF 2020

Auditor Goffinet explained to the Council about the left appropriation in the Health Insurance line items that we generally write a check for the remainder funds and deposit it into the Health Insurance account. She said she wanted the Council to decide on it this year because of the way the funding will be next year and that we do have a balance in the Health Insurance account which we never had before. Luke commented that he thinks we should do 50/50 split of all funds except for the grants. There was discussion on this. Charlie made the motion to do the split, seconded by Danny. Motion carried 6-0.

David recognized Steve Goodson for his 26 plus years of service on the Council. This also would have been his last meeting. David said he talked to Steve and he was going to ride out in the sunset.

Luke met with Sheriff Alan Malone and Chief Deputy Eric Dickenson about the Jail Officers pay. He said we need to meet and discuss this and give them an answer if we can do something about it.

Luke also brought up the bond on the Detention Center that once it is paid off, right now the left funds would go to the Highway Department. The law makers are in session now but it is too late to introduce a bill but they could tack something onto another bill. This is something that needs to be done for the money left to help operate the Detention Center in the future. Need to discuss the language to put in the bill. Once done, have Rod to review it. Luke said we need to pay for Jail maintenance, if pay off the bond in 1-1-23, there will be 2 million in the fund. This needs to be on the agenda for January 4, 2021.

There is a Hospital meeting with them, Council and the Commissioners the second week of January at 5:30 p.m.

There being no further business, Luke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Charlie seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0, with adjournment at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes approved this 28th day of January, 2021.

President, Perry County Council

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