

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL AND TELL CITY COMMON COUNCIL
JOINT MEETING MINUTES
September 5, 2024**

The Perry County Council met at 6:00 p.m. as was duly advertised. County Council President David Etienne (DE), Stan Goffinet (SG), Keith Huck (KH), Paul Malone (PM), and Gale Garner (GG) were in attendance. Also in attendance were Mayor Chris Cail, Tell City Common Council Members Larry Kleeman (LK), Gerald Yackle (GY), Brian Steen (BS), Mike Finley (MF), and Phillip Simpson (PS). Auditor Kristinia Hammack and Clerk-Treasurer Connie Berger were also present.

The meeting opened with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Chris Cail handed out a budget for PSAP, one being for 2024 current, and the other is the proposed 2025. The current is as of July 31st, and shows where PSAP is as far as salaries, drug screenings, travel, utilities, etc. DE stated it appears to be approximately 50% after seven months. DE asked if Cail anticipates to have approximately \$10,000 left at the end of the year, and Cail responded it could be. Cail stated it depends if there is overtime, which would lower the amount left, or a piece of equipment could go down before the end of the year.

DE asked what happened with the Dispatch Coordinator that is 100% left, and Clerk-Treasurer Connie Berger stated this is half of what Assistant Chief Flamion is getting paid. The first six months the City paid him out of City General budget, and the last six months will be out of PSAP.

DE stated the PSAP Committee consists of Tracy Young, Roger Smith, Phillip Flamion, Micah Jackson, Lee Hall, Jason Linne, and by default Steve Hauser.

Clerk-Treasurer Berger stated that on the budget estimate for 2025, it shows the regular salaries for dispatch, and a 5% increase for dispatchers' salaries was added. All the positions stayed the same, except for adding \$3,000 for the payroll deputy that processes the payroll for dispatch. Dispatch has most of the employees that the City pays. Also included are the amounts for FCIA, Medicare, health insurance, and the coordinator, Officer Flamion, towards his police pension. KH stated that it was agreed upon at last year's PSAP meeting that Officer Flamion was going to become a 100% law enforcement officer in 2025. KH asked is this not going to happen now? Flamion responded if this was to happen, the County would need to hire a 911 Director. KH stated the County can not hire an employee to oversee City employees. KH stated he wanted to fulfill the County's obligations. KH further stated if the City is will to leave it as is, that he does not see it as a bad thing. LK stated he assumes the City is okay with this as long as Officer Flamion is okay with it.

Clerk-Treasurer Berger stated that all the other budget requests stayed the same as in 2024, except an administrative fee of 2% of the budget was added for a total of \$19,500. This brings the total budget request for Dispatch Services for 2025 at \$978,275. DE asked how much the budget is up as he is seeing approximately \$79,000, and Berger responded in the 2024 budget it was \$899,136.

Cail stated that the PSAP Committee has suggested that the County can be invoiced monthly, with Berger putting together a spreadsheet that has a detailed history of all the expenses that occurred that month. Cail further stated that a copy of a receipt or all the receipts could be provided with the invoice. DE asked if the City would be providing an invoice on actual cost, and Berger confirmed this. Berger stated that method would be more accurate of what is actually being spent if a monthly invoice would be sent. KH asked if the County would have the power to deny a claim? Berger stated that the City would have already paid the claim, and if the County states the claim does not look like a dispatch claim, then that would be a problem that would have to be worked out. Cail stated that with the way it is being done currently, the County would not know anyway. The new way would be more transparent. Cail is confident that Berger and Dispatch would not submit any invoices that could not be justified. However, Cail confirmed that the County probably could deny a claim.

Auditor Hammack asked what is the amount that the County would be paying out of the budget, as it does not pay 100%? She stated that the County budgets \$340,000 out of PSAP, and what is the increase looking at 2024 dollars to 2025 dollars? Berger stated that the current budget approved for 2024 was \$899,136, and for 2025 they are proposing \$978,275, approximately a \$79,000 increase. Berger further stated that there is 5% for raises.

KH asked with the way the City has put together this budget, Tell City and the other cities are not going to pay anything? Cail confirmed this. KH asked if this includes the utilities? Berger stated the utilities are figured where dispatch pays 75% of the utilities, and the City pays 25% of the building where dispatch is housed. Berger stated the City received \$9,500 from Tell City Electric, and \$2,000 each from Waste Water and Water. DE asked if the City is still planning on getting this amount, and Cail stated with Water and Waste Water yes, so the County could anticipate \$4,000 which is \$2,000 from each. Cail stated that Tell City Electric is looking at the possibility of having one of their employees on call, rather than those numbers rolling to dispatch.

DE stated that in 2024, the County dispersed \$668,343 as follows:

• LIT dedicated to PSAP	\$340,000
• Statewide 911	\$191,843
• LIT Public Safety	\$ 86,000
• County General for 911 Ambulance	\$ 35,000
• Perry County for City of Cannelton	\$ 13,500
• Perry County for Town of Troy	\$ 3,000

TOTAL	\$668,343

Hammack asked if the full \$79,000 will be increased on the County? DE stated that it appears it is going to be an increase of \$344,000, which is a substantial amount. KH asked why the Statewide 911 dropped from \$191,843 in 2024 to \$173,060 in 2025, ad Berger responded this number comes from the State of Indiana.

PM asked how the City came up with a 5% raise for the employees as the County will be addressing this in their budget session, and received no response.

Hammack stated that the County currently has budgeted \$668,343 in 2024, and asked what the County’s number will be in 2025? DE pointed out that the County is going to have to make up the difference in 2025 that Tell City and Tell City other was paying in 2024. Hammack stated that the County will go from \$634,060 plus \$344,215.

KH made a motion to take this under advisement to review, seconded by PM. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m. CST.

LK made a motion on the City’s behalf to adjourn, seconded by GY. Motioned carried 6-0.

PM made a motion on the County’s behalf to adjourn, seconded by SG. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes approved this 19th day of September, 2024.

President, Perry County Council

Minutes reviewed by:
Kristinia L. Hammack, Perry County Auditor
Minutes prepared by:
Leisa Ecker, Deputy Auditor