

Special Council Meeting

February 27, 2012

Meeting called to order by President Bill Spaetti at 5 p.m. CST. Parties present are as follows: Spaetti, Waninger, Knepper, Kress, Kroeger, Bunner, Winsett, Attorney John Wetherill and First Deputy Auditor Jane Lynam.

Note: President Bill Spaetti came to the Auditors office on February 23, 2012 and presented a letter to Auditor Donna J. Lynam requesting \$25,074.00 to be put on hold until the March Council meeting as follows:

Auditor Lynam:

After much discussion with all council members regarding the February 21, 2012 salary adjustment to the Prosecutors office we request your office withhold any pay increase until councilmen can obtain more information. This issue will be on the agenda for the March meeting. Signed by President Bill Spaetti and filed stamped in Auditors office on February 23, 2012.

On February 23, 2012 Auditor Lynam, Attorney John Wetherill and President Bill Spaetti spoke and decided to hold a Special Council Meeting to address this matter prior to the March 2012 council meeting. Auditor Lynam prepared agenda, notified newspapers and properly posted to the public for February 27, 2012 meeting. Auditor Donna J. Lynam was unable to attend meeting due to house fire. First Deputy Auditor Jane Lynam assisted Auditor in taking minutes for this meeting. Minutes prepared by Auditor Donna J. Lynam and reviewed by First Deputy.

Additional Appropriation

Pre-Trial Diversion (Fund 277)

Meeting opened with discussion concerning the council approval February 21, 2012 of \$25,074.00 for Salary Increases for 3 Paralegals, 1 Victim Advocate, and 3 Child Support Case Managers (This amount includes Perf and Social Security costs). Present in this meeting was several department heads with concerns regarding employee salary increases that Prosecutor received approval for and complaints from their employees wanting increases as well. Also, some councilmen had received comments concerning out of county employee residents working in prosecutors office. Prosecutor presented a list with addresses of her employee residency as follows: Tammie Roth – Richland Indiana – Spencer County Resident, Lisa Wheeler – Rockport Indiana – Spencer County Resident, Carrie Robinson – Rockport Indiana – Spencer County Resident Jody Graves – Ferdinand, Indiana – Spencer County Resident, Amanda Walters – Chrisney, Indiana - Spencer County and Owensboro Kentucky , Renee Seib – Evansville, Indiana – Vanderburgh County Resident and Doreen Augspurger – Newburgh, Indiana – Warrick County Resident. Spaetti stated that council normally handles salary increases or bonuses (whatever you what to call it) at budget time and this is not how it was handled February 21, 2012. Spaetti stated as everyone here knows a few years ago the judge mandated salary increases for his employees and that was really hard on the council. Spaetti stated that the council has always tried to keep everyone's wages as close to the same as possible. Council appreciates everyone's work that they do for the county. Kelly Come, Prosecuting Attorney was asked to take the floor. Come provided data for everyone to review as she spoke to the group. Come discussed her reasoning for the increases for her staff, acknowledging that every department head, if possible with their possible revenues, would raise their employee's salaries. Come fully explained she understands all departments employees work at a lower salary than they are worth and could be paid, if there was the opportunity in Spencer County. However, with the present economy that is not possible. Come discussed procedures of her office. Blake and Winsett discussed the fact they understood it as a one time bonus and not a salary increase. Winsett felt the council had done an injustice to other county employees. Several councilmen openly apologized to all present. Come stated at the end of the meeting that her request was never intended to offend or hurt any other county office or employee. Winsett made a motion to rescind the \$25,074 motion that was made on February 21, 2012. Winsett stated that still leaves (\$3,000) - \$1,000 for Transcription and \$2,000 Trial Expenses as was approved 02/21/12. Spaetti asked does everyone understand the motion Winsett has made. There were no questions. Kroeger seconded. All were in favor.

Adjourned

Waninger made a motion to adjourn meeting. Kress seconded. All were in favor.

Board of Council meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m. cst

President

Attest:

Donna J. Lynam, Auditor
