

Council Meeting
February 19, 2008 – 5:00 pm

The meeting was called to order by President Spaetti, Councilmen Spaetti, Bunner, Ebert, Kroeger, Kress, Cochenour, Winsett, and Attorney Wetherill were present.

Minutes

01/15/08 minutes; Winsett made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Bunner seconded. All in favor. 02/07/08 minutes; Cochenour made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Leadership Spencer County

Alan Jones, President of the Board for Leadership Spencer County, explained that the purpose of Leadership Spencer County is to grow leaders for the community. LSC currently has over 100 alumni and they would like to offer their experience to the council. If the council is ever in need of input or data from the county the LSC alumni are a good cross section of the county.

Additional Appropriations

Rainy Day Fund / Drainage Task Force Plan – The drainage board requested the re-appropriation of the unused portion of the money the council appropriated to the Drainage Task Force Plan last year which rolled back into the Rainy Day Fund at the end of the year. Kroeger made a motion to approve the \$104,535. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Reassessment / Printing and Mailing Form 11's – Assessor Arnold requested \$13,704 out of the reassessment fund to print and mail Form 11's, which is a Notice of Assessment Change. Ebert made a motion to approve. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Kroeger stated that this is another instance of the DLGF making the county jump through hoops on a tight time schedule and adding more costs to local government.

Recorder Part-time Help

Recorder Coy stated that she would like to use her part-time help more and may need to come to ask for an additional. Coy's office is trying to back index all of the records on the computer and it is her part-time person who inputs the data. Kroeger asked about use of the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund. Coy stated she thought it could be used for anything but salary. Kroeger asked Wetherill to check and see if salary can be taken from that account. Coy stated she will check with the State Board of Accounts.

Additional Appropriations Continued

County General / Inmate Housing – Shelton explained that \$10,000 was budgeted, \$5,150 has already been spent, and bills are in for approximately another \$3,000. Sheriff Lindsey stated that they have had an inmate with cancer who needed to be placed in a facility with medical care onsite. Kroeger made a motion to approve \$10,000. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

Courthouse Computer Software – Shelton explained that the state required that Manatron upgrade the software used by the Auditor's office to meet state standards. The cost of the upgrade was \$9,254. Ebert made a motion to approve. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

Surveyor Printer – Surveyor Sublett explained that his last printer is beyond repair. Discussion was had on if the printer could be repaired. Sublett stated that he would like to get a color laser jet printer due to the amount of color copies and pictures he needs to print and it would be the most cost efficient. Jason Althaus of Alpha Laser explained the features of the printer and why it is more cost efficient. Kress made a motion to approve the \$1,600 out of County General. Ebert seconded. The vote was Kress and Ebert for and the rest against. The motion failed. After discussion, the councilmen agreed the printer should come out of the Rainy Day Funds. Kroeger asked Althaus if he would be willing to give Sublett a demo to use until the \$1,600 could be re-advertised under the Rainy Day Fund. Althaus agreed. Sublett will submit a request for next month from the Rainy Day Fund.

Surveyor Road School – Sublett stated he is going to both Road School and to the Stormwater Drainage Seminar. He has only \$200 budgeted for Road School and nothing in travel. Shelton explained that the additional needs to be to Travel and not Road School, but since both are in County General it can be approved now. Kroeger

Council Meeting 02/19/2008 cont.

made a motion to approve \$300 for travel. Ebert seconded. The motion passed with six for and Winsett opposed. Winsett stated that offices need to stay within their budgets.

EMA Equipment Repair – Perdue requested \$1,415 for repairs to the used boat which was purchased for EMA. Winsett asked why he could not use the money budgeted for equipment repair. Perdue stated that he normally uses all of the money in equipment repair each year and this is additional work. Discussion was had on the value of the boat. Shelton stated that there is \$1,652 currently in equipment repair, provided that there are not any bills outstanding. Bunner suggested that \$500 should be taken out of the currently budgeted money. Bunner made a motion to approve \$1,000. Ebert seconded. The motion passed with six for and Winsett opposed.

EMA Grant Match for Equipment – Perdue explained that the county was awarded a reimbursable grant to upgrade the ATV. The requested money will be reimbursed. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Huff Township Trustee Level II Certification – Leonard Wittman, Huff Township Trustee, received his Level II Certification. Ebert made a motion to approve the \$1,000. Kroeger seconded. All in favor.

Soil and Water Funding of Full Time Employee – Mark Lubbehusen at a prior meeting requested the county help fund the upfront cost of making the Soil and Water part-time employee full-time. The costs will be reimbursed by a grant they are receiving. Shelton explained that the full amount of the difference in pay is requested upfront to make it easier for the Auditor's office. Soil and Water will be making quarterly payments to reimburse the county and it will be receipted back into county general. Kroeger stated that the \$3,907 listed for health insurance does not accurately represent the cost to the county since the county is self insured. Discussion was had on potential risk to the county on health insurance and unemployment. The council urged Lubbehusen to put in the budget additional money for health insurance and unemployment. Ebert made a motion to approve the \$11,394. Kress seconded. All in favor. Shelton stated that a salary ordinance amendment needs to be approved changing the position from part-time to full-time. Ebert made a motion to sign the amendment. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

Highway / Major Moves – Commissioner Gogel explained that the current patcher that the county uses needs to be replaced and it is a great asset for the county. The Town of Dale is looking at purchasing the old patcher. The cost of the new Total Patcher is \$54,500. Cochenour made a motion to approve the \$54,500. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Cum Cap / Ambulance Lease – Shelton explained that the council left this payment for the ambulance purchased in 2006 out of the budget so that it could be paid for out of Cum Cap. Winsett made a motion to approve. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

Jail Repair & Maintenance Retrofit Agreement – Shelton explained that the final payment for the retrofit for the jail done by Johnson Control was inadvertently left out of the budget. The amount due is \$57,427. Cochenour made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Moving Repeater Tower and Building – Ed Hadedorn of Harmonic Electronics addressed the council about the repeater antenna which is currently located on the roof of a building at the Abbey which is being remodeled. The Abbey has asked for the antenna to be removed. The requested \$15,135 is for the relocation of the tower to Monte Cassino Hill and the building of a building to house the equipment. This will give the county the same or better range then before, and the county would also not have to worry about moving it again if there was another remodeling project. Kress made a motion to approve the \$15,135. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

County Corrections / Cell Phone Service – Lindsey stated the \$7,000 is used for cell phones for each of the officers, an emergency phone for dispatch, one for the jail commander and one for the radio operator. This is the same amount as last year. Lindsey stated he is talking with the company about a new contract which may be lower, but he may need to purchase new phones. Cochenour made a motion to approve. Kroeger seconded. All in favor.

Council Meeting 02/19/2008 cont.

Balance Needed for 3 Police Vehicles – Lindsey stated that the budgeted amounts for the three police cars was underestimated and this is the balance needed to purchase all three. County Corrections money comes from the state from fees collected. Bunner made a motion to approve the \$9,380. Winsett seconded. All in favor.

COIT Bond / 2008 Bond Payment – \$114,352 is needed for the bond payment for the highway garage construction. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

COIT Special Purposes / Santa Claus Water – Bunner made a motion to approve the \$100,000 COIT payment to Santa Claus Water. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Universal Design – The Commissioners requested payment of \$2,202 to Universal Design for revisions done on the design of the Spencer County Public Safety Building to be submitted with the grant application. Kroeger made a motion to approve the \$2,202. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Indiana 15 – The Commissioners requested payment of \$2,000 to Indiana 15 for the work done on the grant application for the Spencer County Public Safety Building. Kress made a motion to approve the \$2,000. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

Probation User Fee Fund / Spaetti explained that Judge Roell could not attend the meeting, but each year he pays part of the probation officer's salary out of the Probation User Fee Fund to help the county with the mandated salary. Kroeger made a motion to approve the \$28,416. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

Funds The State Board of Accounts requires that the following four funds be advertised and appropriated before they are spent – County User Fees for \$2,500; Clerk Perpetuation for \$5,943; Jury Fees for \$8,000; and LEPC for \$7,000. Cochenour made a motion to approve all four. Winsett seconded. All in favor.

County Drug Free / Kim Litkenhus, representing County Drug Free, addressed the council to have the County Drug Free money appropriated. She explained that they are granting money this year to various school activities and treatment programs. She is requesting \$2,700 be approved for the Coordinator's salary and \$20,895 be approved for the grant money. Kroeger made a motion to approve the \$2,700 for the Coordinator's salary. Cochenour seconded. All in favor. Kroeger made a motion to approve the \$20,895. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Salary Ordinance Amendment

Shelton explained that there was a mistake on the prior salary ordinance amendment approved for Community Corrections. The wage listed for the Assistant Director was incorrect. She submitted a salary ordinance amendment correcting the mistake. Cochenour made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Luce Sewer

The council's Luce Sewer Board appointee, Christian Decker, could not attend the council meeting but he sent a report. He stated that the condemnation suit hearings have been postponed until March 19th, 2008. He further stated that he and some other members were taken on a tour of some of the sewer systems in the county that enabled them to gather useful information. Ebert spoke about the success that the Fulda Sewer System has had. Winsett stated that it is encouraging that they are going to be working with a mediator. Winsett requested that the council have Wetherill prepare an amendment to the Luce Sewer Ordinance enabling the council to delay the first payment due in May. Wetherill stated that he can prepare a couple alternatives to the amendment and bring it to the next meeting for discussion. Winsett stated that he would like to see some teeth in the amendment. Cochenour stated that he has been attending the Luce meetings and he has seen a real change in the attitudes of the board, and he is encouraged with the direction they are going. Kroeger agreed that things look better but at some point they are going to have to demonstrate to the council a reasonable plan for the future for the council to continue funding. A Luce resident, Deanna Gordon, stated that she did not feel that anything has changed at the Luce Sewer meetings as the board is still fragmented.

Legal Fees

Spaetti stated the account for legal fees has a balance of \$300. After a brief discussion it was agreed to advertise \$5,000 for an additional and discuss at the meeting next month.

Council Meeting 02/19/2008 cont.

House Ways and Means Hearing

Kroeger discussed testifying at the House Ways and Means Hearing regarding the proposed circuit breakers and the impact it will have on the county.

Cochenour made a motion to adjourn. Kroeger seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

County Council,

President

Attest:

Cindy Shelton, Auditor

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