

Council Meeting

November 17, 2009 – 5:07 pm

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

Minutes

10/20/2009 minutes; Bunner made a motion to approve the minutes. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Additional Appropriations

County General

VSO/Salary – Shelton explained that a calculation error was made and an additional \$35 is needed for the VSO salary. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Prosecutor/Computer for Bad Check Program – Prosecutor Wilkinson requested \$2,000 for a new computer for the Bad Check Program. Wilkinson reported that since the beginning of 2009 the program has brought in \$2,100. Ebert made a motion to approve. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Prosecutor/Child Support Computers – Wilkinson requested \$5,000 for new computer for the child support office. He stated that 66% of the funds will be reimbursed by the state. Currently the office is using two loaner computers from the state. Kroeger made a motion approve. Waninger seconded. All in favor.

Commissioners/Phase II Certification – Shelton explained the county is directed by the DLGF to perform a Phase II Certification on the software and hardware used by the Assessor, Treasurer, and Auditor. Shelton received quotes from three different providers and selected the cheapest quote for \$5,000. Kroeger made a motion to approve the additional for \$5,000. Waninger seconded. All in favor.

Surveyor/Truck – Surveyor Herron requested \$18,070 to pay the Highway Department for the truck that was transferred from the Highway to the Surveyor. Herron explained that the truck was purchased for a leadman position that was not filled when the last person left. The truck has 4-wheel drive and meets the needs of the surveyor's office. Highway Superintendent arrived at the \$18,070 amount by using Kelly Blue Book plus the cost of an added tool box and trailer hitch. Kress made a motion to approve the \$18,070. Winsett seconded. The motion was defeated with a vote of three to four with Bunner, Kroeger, Spaetti and Waninger opposing. Herron stated that the vehicle was in excellent condition and had 11,000 miles. Discussion was had on what the vehicle is worth. Herron stated that the Highway also received the old red surveyor's truck. Kroeger made a motion to approve \$15,000. Bunner seconded. The motion passed with a vote of five to two with Kress and Ebert opposed.

Circuit Court/Pauper Attorney – Judge Dartt made a request at the last meeting for an additional \$13,371 for Pauper Attorney. Bunner made a motion to approve. Waninger seconded. All in favor.

Rainy Day

Sheriff/CAD System – Sheriff Lindsey discussed the CAD System that was proposed at the prior council meeting. Todd Daming, representing the Fire Chiefs' Association, spoke in favor of the system. He said it will keep the fire fighters safer and the system will aid in getting grants. Kroeger stated that if the funding is approved he would like assurance that the other entities that will benefit from the system will contribute to the maintenance of the system. Lindsey stated that the Prosecutor and the Judge have both already agreed to contribute. Ebert made a motion to approve \$106,500 for the WTH CAD System. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Transfers

Pre-Trial Diversion

Wilkinson requested a decrease in Cleaning Supplies and an increase in Office Cleaning in the amount of \$260. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Jail

Sheriff Lindsey requested several transfers in the Jail budget to correct payroll changes made throughout the year:

Decrease Part Time Dispatcher and increase Dispatcher Overtime \$100.

Decrease Part Time Dispatcher and increase Part Time Cook \$650.

Decrease Senior Jailer and increase Jailer \$15,100.

Decrease Dispatcher and increase Senior Dispatcher \$17,000.

Decrease Overtime and increase Chief Jailer \$225.

Kroeger made a motion to approve the above transfers. Winsett seconded. All in favor.

Sheriff

Sheriff Lindsey requested several transfers in the Sheriff budget to correct payroll changes made throughout the year:

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Decrease Probationary Officer and increase Deputy \$8,900.

Decrease Probationary Officer and increase Part Time Officer \$1,200.

Decrease Merit Board and increase Emergency Deputy \$490.

Waninger made a motion to approve the above transfers. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Recorder

Recorder Dugas requested a decrease in Printing and an increase in Office Supplies for \$300. Ebert made a motion to approve. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Courthouse

Shelton requested a decrease in Lawn Maintenance and an increase in Janitor Supplies for \$500. Bunner made a motion to approve. Winsett seconded. All in favor.

Law Enforcement

Shelton requested a decrease in Social Security and an increase in Overtime to correct an accounting error. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Luce Township Sewer

Matt Steinkamp gave a quick report of the LTRSD activities since last month. He said they are working with Indiana 15 to apply for an Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) Grant to replace the Rural Development funds. Indiana 15 will be conducting an income survey. Steinkamp also discussed the work to obtain easements.

Winsett discussed the inconsistencies with the information provided by the sewer board, such as information regarding Rural Development, easements, and the use of the \$75,000 COIT payment from the county. He further stated that the board has not addressed the main concerns the residents have with the current plan.

Kroeger stated that the topic should not have even been put on the agenda because the agreement made when the council approved the last payment to the district stated that no more COIT funding would be provided without a written plan of action being presented to the council.

Kroeger made a motion that the council not consider any funding tonight or in the future, until the district presents a doable plan to the council and the district has obtained an appropriate number of easements. Winsett seconded. Ebert stated that this is an important time and the sewer is a "no-brainer", but he will continue to vote no to funding until the district has a plan. Kroeger agreed with Ebert that the sewer is important and will enhance the value of the property and the county's assessed value, but the council is not willing to throw money out the window. Spaetti asked for a vote on the motion. All in favor.

Alan Stevenson discussed some easements that may not be valid. He further discussed the expense of filling in a septic system and installing a grinder pump.

Kroeger stated that the council should be looked at as grant-givers, stating that a case needs to be made as to why the money should be given.

Joe Young discussed the increased estimated cost of the project. He also stated that 100% of the easements are still needed for the OCRA grant.

27 Pays in 2010

Shelton discussed the documentation given to the councilmen regarding the 27 pays in 2010. Once every 10 years or so payroll days fall in such a way as to have 27 paydays in a year instead of 26 (since there are 52 weeks and one day each year). 2010 is the year in which this happens to Spencer County. But due to this phenomenon, the council has a decision to make.

Option 1 is to divide the budgeted salary amount by 27, instead of 26. Dividing by 27 instead of 26 will affect everyone's paychecks. The paychecks will go down despite the pay raise.

Option 2 is to fund the additional pay using the pay rate they would get if the salary was divided by 26. The salary ordinance would need to be re-done stating the pay rate as either an hourly rate or a bi-weekly rate for salary. An additional in the amount of approximately \$165,000 will be needed. Shelton discussed this with the State Board of Accounts and they are leaving it up to the council. Other counties were asked how they are handling and both responses were received, but most are adding the additional pay.

A third option briefly discussed was to extend five pay periods by one day as being done in Warrick County.

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Kroeger asked how it was done last time. Shelton stated that the county divided by 27 last time.

Shelton stated that the hourly workers listed on the salary ordinance will not be affected. She stated that most of the county employees should be considered hourly but they have always been treated as salary.

Kroeger stated that the employees will be getting the same amount of money whether they receive 26 pay checks or 27 pay checks; the total will be the same.

Kroeger made a motion to divide by 27. Winsett seconded. All in favor.

Ebert made a motion to adjourn. Bunner seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

County Council,

President

Attest:

Cindy Shelton, Auditor
