

April 9, 2014

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL
March 11, 2014

The Bartholomew County Council met on March 11, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Members present were: Chris Ogle, Rob Kittle, Pro-Tem Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, President Ryan Lauer, Bill Lentz, Jorge Morales and Jim Reed. Also in attendance were Auditor Barbara J Hackman and Council Attorney Chris Monroe.

Pastor Doug Bauman of St. Paul Lutheran Church - Clifty gave the invocation. President Lauer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the meeting minutes of February, 11, 2014. Bill Lentz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a request for an Additional Appropriation for the Circuit Court as presented by Office Manager Tammy Johannesen. The request was for nine-thousand one-hundred-ninety-six dollars and ninety-six cents (\$9,196.96). It is money paid by criminal defendants into this fund and then used for pauper defendants. Rob Kittle asked if the attorneys are paid hourly. Manager Johannesen stated the two current murder trials are being paid hourly. President Lauer asked if the claims were being turned in regularly. Manager Johannesen stated they had been. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if this would be enough. Manager Johannesen stated that this

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money is already spent. Rob Kittle made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation for nine-thousand one-hundred-ninety-six dollars and ninety-six cents (\$9,196.96). Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a request for an Additional Appropriation for the Reassessment as presented by County Assessor Lew Wilson. This is for eighteen-thousand dollars (\$18,000) and is for the purchase of a vehicle. This vehicle was originally approved in the 2012 Budget Hearings for 2013, but Assessor Wilson has yet to purchase it so it must be appropriated again. Assessor Wilson stated it is for less money as he is looking for a smaller car with front wheel drive. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if there was any resale value of the truck that is being replaced. Assessor Wilson stated one vehicle is on the road daily, the second vehicle is occasionally on the road. Bill Lentz clarified that the reassessment company would provide their own vehicles. Bill Lentz made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of eighteen-thousand dollars (\$18,000) as requested. Jim Reed seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a Request for Additional Appropriations for the County Highway Department as presented by Office Manager Karen Stoner. The amounts were two-hundred sixty-thousand dollars (\$260,000) in the Highway Fund, five-hundred-thousand dollars (\$500,000) in the Local Roads & Streets Fund and four-hundred fifty-thousand dollars in the Cumulative Bridge Fund. The Highway Fund amount is due to all the salt that was used. They maxed out the contract and had to find

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another supplier. She will also be putting back about \$8,000 into the overtime line item due to the winter weather. Jorge Morales asked if the County used a different mixture of sand and salt. It was stated that the City uses salt only. Rob Kittle asked if the overtime could be paid out of this item. Auditor Hackman stated that yes, it could. President Lauer asked about the ten-thousand dollars for road signs. Office Manager Stoner stated that some had been taken out by snow plows. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked the status of the Mill Race covered bridge. Office Manager Stoner stated that Engineer Hollander is working on this and awaiting further information before re-bidding the project. Rob Kittle made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation for the Highway. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next line item for Highway was the Local Roads and Streets for five-hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000). This will be primarily for overlay. Bill Lentz made a motion to approve the Local Road and Street line item. Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next line item for Highway was the Cumulative Bridge Fund. Office Manager Stoner stated that it would go towards Bridge #16 on 730 East. Jim Reed made a motion to approve the Cumulative Bridge Fund line item. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a Request for an Additional Appropriation for the LEPC (*Local Emergency Plan Committee*) as presented by Office of Emergency Preparedness Director Dennis Moats. The request is for twenty-four-thousand two-

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hundred twelve dollars and sixteen cents (\$24,212.16) This is for the purchase of several gas meters for the HazMat team. They are looking at 3 four gas meters for the HazMat team. They also are looking at 9 four gas meters that will be distributed to the 9 Volunteer Fire Departments and they will be trained on them at the time. They are the same brand that Vectren Energy utilizes and are hoping to partner with them for calibration and training. Rob Kittle asked where the funds come from. Director Moats stated that these are funds paid by industries that store hazardous chemicals. President Lauer asked what kind of time frame would be involved. Director Moats stated probably about two months. Jorge Morales motioned to approve the Additional Appropriation. Rob Kittle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the presentation of the Annual Report of the Bartholomew County Health Department as presented by County Health Director Collis Mayfield. Director Mayfield stated that the County Health Department has twenty-nine (29) employees and a Board of Health of seven people as well as a Public Health Officer. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked about the rest rooms at Dunn Stadium. Director Mayfield stated they have talked with them, but the Park Board must present something to them. Jim Reed asked about some of the restaurants that were supposed to be coming to town. Director Mayfield stated that Jack in the Box and Big Boy's have not had any updates. President Lauer asked if this report could be placed on the website. Director Mayfield will get with the IT Department. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence noted that animal bites were up. Jim Reed noted that we had more births than deaths. Director Mayfield

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stated that is not unusual. He noted that some of the deaths are not Bartholomew County people but they died here and the same with births that may not be Bartholomew County residents. Bill Lentz asked about the ideal placement of the Nursing Health Division. Director Mayfield stated that the Health Department has various duties that have various clients. Rob Kittle asked for clarification if Mr. Lentz was asking geographically speaking or with the Health Department. Mr. Lentz stated he was sort of asking both. Chris Ogle asked if the WIC clientele were the same clientele as the Health Department. Director Mayfield stated no.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation regarding comparisons of recent Tax Rates throughout Bartholomew County. Chris West, Real Estate and Tax Billing Administrator for the Auditor's Office had prepared a PowerPoint presentation showing the recent trends in tax rates throughout the County. He provided a handout to the Council Members and members of the audience.

The next item on the agenda was updates by the Council members as follows:

Jim Reed – had nothing to report.

Jorge Morales – Plan Commission has not met. CAMPO only meets every quarter. The Economic Development Committee had met, but with the confidentiality factor he has nothing he can report. The EOC was part of the LEPC Fund that was approved tonight. Auditor Hackman stated that EOC wants to increase the EverBridge Contract. It currently only covers Tornado Warnings and they want to increase the storm warning coverage. Jorge Morales also noted that they are adding the ability to “text” 911

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but it is not in place yet. Also the Dispatch Center is in need of updating the 911 Consoles. The amounts for this update will be in the 2014 Budget process for 2015 expenditures.

Bill Lentz – tomorrow night is an Extension Board meeting.

President Lauer –The Data Board stated they are working to connect each jail facility in the State. They are also looking to separate the IT budget from the Commissioner’s budget for 2015. They are also looking at the makeup of the Board. He also attended the Sheriff’s Merit Board but with nothing to report.

Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence – The Park Board is looking to fix up Dunn Stadium as they have a lot of groups wanting to use it this year.

Rob Kittle – LEPC was heard earlier regarding the gas meters.

Chris Ogle – Solid Waste has purchased a new truck for cardboard recycling.

Chris Ogle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Reed seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Ryan Lauer, President

By: _____
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Pro-Tem

By: _____
Chris Ogle, Member

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By: _____
Rob Kittle, Member

By: _____
Jorge Morales, Member

By: _____
Bill Lentz, Member

By: _____
Jim Reed, Member

ATTEST: _____
Barbara J. Hackman, Auditor
Bartholomew County