

## WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION January 4, 2022

The Wells County Council met in regular session Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 7PM in the Wells County Carnegie Annex Building, 223 W Washington St., Bluffton, IN. Physically present at the meeting were: Steve Huggins, Seth Whicker, Todd Mahnensmith, Chuck King, Vicki Andrews, Scott Elzey and Auditor, Lisa McCormick. Council member Jim Oswalt participated in the meeting by electronic means of communication, Zoom, which allowed the public to simultaneously attend and observe the meeting. All votes taken during the meeting were taken by roll call vote.

**Re-organization of Board:** Councilmember Steve Huggins asked for nominations for President of County Council for 2022. Motion was made by Seth Whicker, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to re-appoint Steve Huggins as Council President for 2022. Motion was carried 7-0 by roll call vote. Motion was made by Todd Mahnensmith, seconded by Scott Elzey to re-appoint Seth Whicker as Council Vice-President for 2022. Motion was carried 7-0 by roll call vote.

**Minutes:** Motion was made by Chuck King, seconded by Vicki Andrews to approve the minutes from the December 22, 2021, Regular Session. Motion was carried 7-0 by roll call vote.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Holliday reported 72 inmates, 27 pretrial Superior, 24 pretrial Circuit, 7 F6 DOC and 8 DOC. Sheriff Holliday provided his monthly and annual reports including the report of Officer Activity for December 2021, the Commissary Fund report, the Jail Inspection Report, and the K-9 2021 Activity Statistics Report. The jail reconstruction is on schedule, they are beginning to build interior walls. The new intake should be ready for use in February.

**Health Department:** Health Department Administrator Marlene Hoag requested a staffing description change for the Local Health Maintenance fund. The requested classification change was from part-time nurse to part-time medical assistant and was approved at the December 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Hoag was returning for a discussion on the hourly rate for the medical assistant. Motion was made by Seth Whicker, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to set a range of \$17.00-\$22.00 for the part-time medical assistant wage. Motion was carried 7-0 by roll call vote. The 2022 Salary Ordinance will be amended to update the classification and rate change.

**Library Update:** Sarah MacNeill and Dustin Brown were on hand to present Council with an update on library activity. Dustin stated that the library is now fine free. There is also a decrease in fines for faxing and printing. .76% of the budget was attributed to revenue collected in fines. Sarah MacNeill stated that that amount computes to approximately \$20,000 - \$30,000 annually. Movie and DVD rentals are up 56%. Since the remodel, meeting room usage is up 60% from 2019, for pre-pandemic comparison. They implemented a book a librarian program, which is one on one help with a librarian. This program was used 111 times in 2021. The librarian can help the patron with any tasks that are needed, such as assistance with electronics, resumes, genealogy, as well as other like requests. 1,500 patrons attended the book festival.

**2022 Solid Waste Salary Contract:** Motion was made by Vicki Andrews, seconded by Chuck King to approve the Solid Waste Salary contract for 2022 (Misc. 2022-01). Motion was carried 7-0 by roll call vote.

**Annual Contract Disclosure Policy:** Council members signed the Annual Certification of Elected Officials on Compliance with County Contract Disclosure Policy.

**Encumbrance:** An Encumbrance summary was presented to Council for their acknowledgement. The General fund had \$602,976.69 in unexpended funds for 2021, which was 5.75% of the approved General fund budgets.

**Adjourned:** 7:40 PM Motion was made by Seth Whicker, seconded by Vicki Andrews to adjourn. Motion was carried 7-0 by roll call vote.

WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

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President, Steve Huggins

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Vice President, Seth Whicker

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Attest: Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor