

**WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL SESSION March 25, 2024**

The Wells County Council met in special session Monday, March 25, 2024, at 5:30PM in the Wells County Carnegie Annex, 223 W Washington St., Bluffton, IN. Physically present at the meeting were: Seth Whicker, Todd Mahnensmith, Scott Elzey, Brandon Harnish, Brian Lambert, and County Auditor Lisa McCormick. Council member Steve Huggins participated in the meeting by electronic means of communication, Zoom, which allowed Huggins to simultaneously attend and observe the meeting. All votes taken during the meeting were taken by roll call vote. Vicki Andrews was absent from the meeting.

**Additional Appropriations:** A motion was made by Scott Elzey, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to approve the Additional Appropriations for the Rainy Day fund and the Local Trax Grant 20.205 fund. Motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote.

**Highway Stipend and Assistance Request:** Highway Supervisor Shawn Bonar addressed the County Council regarding a stipend for extra work duties he has assumed since the Highway Engineer has left employment. Also requested was an additional office assistant for his front office to assume some of the added responsibilities and a \$3,000 stipend for the current bookkeeper as an ERC (Employee in Responsible Charge) Assistant. Bonar requested a stipend of \$27,000 annually for his added ERC responsibility.

A motion was made by Brandon Harnish, seconded by Steve Huggins to add an additional bookkeeper to the Highway and to approve the job description as presented effective immediately. Motion carried by roll call vote 6-0.

A motion was made by Scott Elzey, seconded by Brandon Harnish to approve a \$3,000 annualized stipend for an ERC Assistant for the #1 Bookkeeper, effective immediately, which will terminate upon hire of an Engineer. Motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote.

A motion was made by Steve Huggins, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to approve a \$27,000 annualized stipend for ERC responsibility for the Supervisor, effective immediately, which will terminate upon hire of an Engineer who takes on ERC duties. Motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote.

**Adjourned:** 6:50 PM motion was made by Scott Elzey, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to adjourn.

WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

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President, Seth Whicker

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Vice President, Vicki Andrews

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Attest: Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor