

WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION April 2, 2019

The Wells County Council met in regular session Tuesday, April 2, 2019, at 7PM in the Wells County Carnegie Annex Building, 223 W Washington St., Bluffton, IN. Present at the meeting were: Todd Mahnensmith, Steve Huggins, Chuck King, Jim Oswalt, Vicki Andrews, Mike Mossburg and Auditor Lisa McCormick. Seth Whicker was absent.

Minutes: Motion made by Chuck King, seconded by Steve Huggins to approve the minutes from March 5, 2019 regular meeting and March 5, 2019 Joint Executive Session. Motion carried 5-0-1. Mike Mossburg was absent for the meetings, he abstained.

Additional Appropriations: Motion made by Mike Mossburg, seconded by Chuck King to approve the Additional Appropriation request in the General Fund – Circuit Court for Guardian Ad Litem; Court Reform Grant Fund and Court Interpreter Grant Fund. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Vicki Andrews, seconded by Jim Oswalt to approve the Additional Appropriation request for the Jury Pay Fund. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Vicki Andrews, seconded by Mike Mossburg to approve the Additional Appropriation request for the 2018 Community Crossing Matching Grant Fund. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion was made by Chuck King, seconded by Steve Huggins to approve the Additional Appropriation for CADA – Drug Free Community. Motion carried 5-0-1. Vicki Andrews abstained

CADA 2018 Grant Request: Molly Hoag presented the 2019 grant request for Citizens Against Drug Abuse (CADA). Funds for the grants are collected through the “Drug Free Community Fund”; a total of \$17,272.50 was collected in 2018 for distribution in 2019. The grants are divided within four categories; Administration, Education/Prevention, Treatment/Intervention, and Judicial. CADA only had \$16,143.57 out of their 2019 budget that was requested in grant funding; they will award the remaining funds through grant applications throughout 2019.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Scott Holliday reported 111 inmates, of those 6 are DOC and 12 are F6 DOC. Monthly reports were also presented. Following a discussion on the increase in inmate numbers Sheriff Holliday stated that he is working with the courts to try to streamline the pretrial process. Wells County is a pretrial jail, which means, after arrest the offender is held at the jail until their case is heard. He also informed Council that due to the increased mental and physical impairments of the current inmate population he felt the need to increase his medical services from 16 hours over three days a week to 24 hours a week over 4 days a week. The Sheriff thought his current budget could absorb the added cost. Sheriff Holliday also informed the board that he is entering into an agreement with a full service vendor for inmate meals. The jail would no longer employ kitchen help. The vendor would use the current kitchen space, their own food and supplies, their own employees as well as jail trustees to prep and serve food. He calculated the savings at approximately \$36,000.00 annually.

North Corridor Study: Nate Rumschlag presented a contract for a North Corridor Study with Butler, Fairman and Seufert that would study several roadways in the northern part of the county. Rumschlag stated that having the study would help with grant funding moving forward. Two proposals were presented; one with trails included and one without the trails. The analysis with the trails has a cost of \$146,000, Rumschlag was asking for approval for the funding to come from the LOIT Special Distribution Fund. Motion made by Mike Mossburg, seconded by Steve Huggins to approve the funding with trails

included for the North Corridor Study with Butler, Fairman and Seufert. Motion carried 4-0-2. Vicki Andrews and Chuck King abstained due to their involvement with the Wells County trails group.

Resolution: County Attorney Roy Johnson presented a Resolution to Approve Property for Purchase. That Resolution designates approximately 20 acres at the southwest corner of 100S and Meridian Road as property Wells County would consider pursuing for the Highway Garage site. The Resolution allows the commissioners to appoint two appraisers to appraise the property to determine a sale price. The appraisers shall return their separate appraisals to the Commissioners within thirty days after the date of their appointment. The Commissioners will then give a copy of both appraisals to Council. The resolution does not commit the county to buying the land. Johnson also presented an Option to Purchase Real Estate agreement which was approved by the Commissioners at their April 1st meeting. Jim Oswalt showed concern with the site environmentally. Oswalt also questioned who should be responsible for the expense of the environmental study, which was included in the option agreement. County Attorney Roy Johnson, who drafted the option agreement, stated negotiating who would pay for the study could be included in the option agreement. The option agreement is signed by the Commissioners; Johnson stated he would talk to the Commissioners about Oswalt's concerns. Motion made by Mike Mossburg, seconded by Chuck King to approve Resolution 2019-04 that Wells County is interested in making a purchase of specified land or a structure. Motion carried 5-1. Jim Oswalt voted against.

Haven Manufacturing: Wells County Economic Development Director Chad Kline and David McDonald, production manager for Haven Manufacturing, presented 4 CF-1's, two issued in 2011, one issued in 2014 and one issued in 2018. Motion made by Chuck King, seconded by Vicki Andrews to approve of 4 CF-1's for Haven Manufacturing. Motion Carried 6-0. Also presented was an SB-1, Statement of Benefits, for new equipment. The machinery cost is \$401,000 and will add 5 new employees to the company. Motion made by Steve Huggins, seconded by Mike Mossburg to approve the SB-1 for Haven Manufacturing. Motion carried 6-0.

Adjourned: 8:20 PM Motion made by Mike Mossburg, seconded by Vicki Andrews to adjourn.

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President, Todd Mahnensmith

Vice President, Mike Mossburg

Attest: Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor

