

WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION July 7, 2020

The Wells County Council met in regular session Tuesday, July 7, 2020, at 7PM in the Wells County Carnegie Annex Building, 223 W Washington St., Bluffton, IN. Present at the meeting were: Mike Mossburg, Todd Mahnensmith, Steve Huggins (via phone), Chuck King, Jim Oswalt, Vicki Andrews, Mike Mossburg and Auditor Lisa McCormick. Seth Whicker was absent.

Minutes: Motion made by Jim Oswalt, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to approve the minutes from June 2, 2020 meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Transfers: Motion made by Todd Mahnensmith, seconded by Chuck King to approve the transfer requests in the General fund for Council and Commissioners. Motion carried 6-0.

Additional Appropriations: Motion made by Chuck King, seconded by Vicki Andrews to approve the Additional Appropriation requests in the General Fund for the County Extension, Surveyor and EMA and for the Rainy Day and Supp Adult Probation Service funds. Motion carried 6-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Holliday was not in attendance.

Bi-County Services: Tim Ramsey informed the Council Members that the Board of Commissioners approved his request of \$39,312.00 for the 2021 Budget year at their July 6th, 2020 meeting. Tim stated that Bi-County's biggest challenge is staffing. Finding qualified staff is a difficulty that they are constantly working to overcome. Financials are showing an increase in expenses over revenue in the first ten months of this fiscal year. COVID-19 caused a closure for the Day services programs which resulted in a loss of revenue. The program has since been partially reopened with a cautious expansion plan. Their focus currently is on maximizing program revenue, controlling operating expenses and improving staffing levels. Adams County has the same contribution amount.

Ordinance 2020-12: County Attorney Roy Johnson presented an Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of Real Estate for Additional Right of Way - Bridge 99. Bridge 99 is located at Hoosier Highway and Ash Road. The Ordinance allows the County to purchase additional right of way from the property owner to advance with the project. The Commissioners, as the County Executive, make orders concerning the sale and acquisition of county property; however, a conveyance or purchase by a county of land having a value of one thousand dollars or more must be authorized by an ordinance of the county fiscal body. Motion made by Vicki Andrews, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to approve Ordinance 2020-13 authorizing the purchase of real estate and fix the terms for the additional right of way. Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution 2020-07: Attorney Roy Johnson presented a Resolution to the effect that Wells County is interested in making a purchase of specified land or a structure. The Resolution states that Wells County Council is interested in purchasing from Michael K Mossburg and Shelley A Mossburg 40.77 acres, more or less. A condition is included for property to be traded in or exchanged as part of the purchase and in reduction of the purchase price. Wells County Commissioners have appointed two appraisers to appraise the fair market value of the land or structure. The purchase price may not be for a price greater than the average of the two appraisals received. Motion made by Chuck King, seconded

by Vicki Andrews to approve Resolution 2020-07 to the effect that Wells County is interested in making a purchase of land or structure. Motion carried 6-0.

Library Fiscal Body: A Declaration of Fiscal Body was presented to Council for their acknowledgement and declaration of Wells County Council being the fiscal body for the Wells County Library. Motion made by Todd Mahnensmith, seconded by Jim Oswalt to allow the President, Mike Mossburg to sign the Declaration of Fiscal Body Acknowledgement. Motion carried 6-0.

Adjourned: 7:37 PM Motion made by Todd Mahnensmith, seconded by Chuck King to adjourn.

WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

President, Mike Mossburg

Vice President, Steve Huggins

Attest: Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor