WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION August 3, 2021

The Wells County Council met in regular session Tuesday, August 3, 2021, at 7PM in the Wells County Carnegie Annex Building, 223 W Washington St., Bluffton, IN. Present at the meeting were: Steve Huggins, Seth Whicker, Chuck King, Jim Oswalt, Vicki Andrews, Todd Mahnensmith, Scott Elzey and County Auditor, Lisa McCormick.

<u>Minutes:</u> Motion made by Seth Whicker, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to approve the minutes from the July 6, 2021, Regular session and July 21, 2021, Joint Executive session. Motion carried 7-0.

<u>Transfers:</u> Motion made by Todd Mahnensmith, seconded by Jim Oswalt to approve the transfers in the General Fund for Sheriff, Prosecutor and Area Plan, the Health Fund, and the Highway Administration fund. Motion carried 7-0.

<u>Additional Appropriations:</u> Motion made by Seth Whicker, seconded by Chuck King to approve the additional appropriations in the General Fund for the County Extension, Community Corrections Project Income fund, the Jury Pay fund, and the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery fund. Motion carried 7-0.

<u>Wells County Sheriff</u>: Sheriff Holliday reported 71 inmates; of those 28 are pretrial Superior, 17 are pretrial Circuit, 12 F6 DOC and 10 DOC. Monthly reports were also presented. Due to an oversight, the Sheriff emailed the Commissary report on July 7, 2021, to all members of Council.

Redistricting and Precinct Changes: County Clerk Beth Davis informed County Council of possible upcoming redistricting and precinct changes. Every 10 years, after the Census, the County is required to review precinct and district lines. Updated district lines will come from the state in the fall. Redistricting changes can be made but cannot cross precinct boundary lines and should not cross township lines; however, there are exceptions to crossing township lines. Clerk Davis will come before County Council in the fall after updated district lines come from the state. Council requested township populations be added to the district map when Clerk Davis returns in the fall.

Review of 2022 Estimated Property Tax Levy Limits and Circuit Breakers: Per IC 6-1.1-17-3.6 the County Council at the first meeting in August of each year shall review the estimated property tax levy limits and the estimated reductions due to circuit breakers for each taxing unit in the county. Recommendations made by the council shall be distributed to all taxing units. Council members reviewed the reports that were provided by the Department of Local Government finance and did not see any significate changes in the levy limits; the reports were only showing increases from the growth quotient of 4.3%. Wells County property taxes are still low enough that we are not seeing much of an impact due to the circuit breakers. The largest percentage of the circuit breaker loss in Wells County is due to the over 65 deductions. Motion made by Todd Mahnensmith, seconded by Vicki Andrews to notify all taxing units within the county that no recommendation is being made on the estimated 2022 property tax levy limits or the 2022 estimated reductions due to circuit breakers. Motion carried 7-0.

<u>Library Board Appointment:</u> Motion made by Chuck King, seconded by Seth Whicker to re-appoint Dustin Brown to the Wells County Public Library Board. The term dates are August 15, 2021, through August 15, 2025. Motion carried 7-0.

<u>Adjourned</u> : 7:44PM Motion made by Jim Oswalt,	seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to adjourn.
WELLS CO	UNTY COUNCIL
President, Steve Huggins	Vice President, Seth Whicker
Attest: Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor	