

## WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION November 6, 2024

The Wells County Council met in regular session Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 7PM in the Wells County Carnegie Annex Building, 223 W Washington St., Bluffton, IN. In attendance were Seth Whicker, Vicki Andrews, Todd Mahnensmith, Steve Huggins, Scott Elzey, Brandon Harnish, Brian Lambert, and Auditor Lisa McCormick.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Todd Mahnensmith, seconded by Brian Lambert to approve the minutes from October 8, 2024, regular session. Motion carried 7-0.

**Transfers:** A motion was made by Steve Huggins, seconded by Vicki Andrews, to approve the transfer in the General Fund for Election. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Vicki Andrews, seconded by Brian Lambert, to approve the transfer in the Community Corrections Project Income fund. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Steve Huggins, seconded by Brandon Harnish, to approve the transfer in the Local Public Health Services fund. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Scott Elzey, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith, to approve the transfer in the Highway Administration fund. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Brandon Harnish, seconded by Steve Huggins, to approve the transfer in the Highway Maintenance & Repair fund. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Scott Elzey, seconded by Vicki Andrews, to approve the transfer in the Community Corrections Grant II fund. Motion carried 7-0.

**Additional Appropriations:** A motion was made by Brandon Harnish, seconded by Steve Huggins to approve the Additional Appropriation request in the General fund for Circuit Court. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Brandon Harnish, seconded by Todd Mahnensmith to approve the Additional Appropriation request in the General fund for the Jail. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Steve Huggins, seconded by Vicki Andrews to approve the Additional Appropriation request for the CHIRP Grant fund. Motion carried 7-0.

**Matrix Request:** IT Director Roger Richardson addressed the County Council regarding a recent hire for his department who has 13 years of experience in the IT field. His request was for a longevity increase on the matrix due to years of experience. The employee was hired at the base rate. Brandon Harnish and Todd Mahnensmith were not in favor of the increase. Seth Whicker suggested deferring it until the next budgeting cycle.

**Purdue Extension Contracted Employee Agreement:** The annual Extension Contractual Services Agreement between Purdue University and Wells County was presented to Council. The contracted amount of \$127,510, in the agreement, has been approved by Council in the Extension budget for 2025. A motion was made by Vicki Andrews, seconded by Brian Lambert to approve the Extension contractual services agreement between Purdue University and the Government of Wells County, Indiana for 2025. Motion carried 7-0.

**2025 Surveyor Compensation Ordinance:** A motion was made by Scott Elzey, seconded by Vicki Andrews to approve Ordinance No. 2024-19 fixing the compensation of the County Surveyor for 2025. Motion carried 7-0. The beginning salary for the surveyor for 2025 is that of a non-registered surveyor.

**2025 Sheriff's Salary Contract:** A motion was made by Steve Huggins, seconded by Brandon Harnish to approve the 2025 Sheriff's Salary Contract (Misc. 2024-04). Motion carried 7-0.

**2025 Salary Ordinance:** A motion was made by Todd Mahnensmith, seconded by Vicki Andrews to approve the 2025 Wells County Salary Ordinance 2024-20. Motion carried 7-0.

**Adjourned:** A 7:28PM motion was made by Scott Elzey, seconded by Brian Lambert to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0.

**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