

DEARBORN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, June 27, 2017
6:30 p.m., Commissioners Room
County Administration Building
215 B West High Street, Lawrenceburg, Indiana

CALL TO ORDER:

Present: Liz Morris, Charlie Keyes, Allen Goodman, Ryan Brandt, Dennis Kraus Sr., Dan Lansing

10 Minutes Late: Bill Ullrich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Liz Morris read the Title IV nondiscrimination policy/statement.

Ryan Brandt wanted to take a few minutes to recognize Paul Filter for winning the 2017 Golden Hoosier Award.

Andy Baudendistel - As County Attorney he spoke about the State Statute that directs sharing of the Admission Tax. He had a phone call with Susan Gordon from the State Board of Accounts office. She stated that it is their audit position that a County Promotion Fund could be established as a statutory fund of the County, based on the language of IC 4-33-12-6(b)(3). The sources and uses are not defined in the statute, so the County Commissioners will need to pass an ordinance defining the sources and uses of the County Promotion Fund. They will not take audit exception to the transfer from the Riverboat Fund of an amount equal to or less than the Admissions Tax distribution. Grant agreements with local units of government should be in writing and specify that the monies are to be spent for purposes that promote the county, consistent with the uses of the County Promotion Fund as defined by the County Commissioners. The foregoing is not to be construed as a legal opinion, but does represent the audit position they will take during an audit of Dearborn County. That being said, they could not find any way for the County to continue to give money to the parochial schools.

Liz Morris noted the county's expenses continue to rise to provide services for all Dearborn County residents. With declining revenues, it seems irresponsible to continue to share revenues that that the County simply doesn't have, especially fully one-fourth of our admissions tax revenue. In order to provide the current level of services, Dearborn County Government operations is funded with \$4.5 - \$5 million of gaming receipts. Council will need to find an additional \$1 million for INDOT's 2018 Community Crossing grant and additional funds for sewer in the unincorporated areas. Because our employees were not able to receive a raise in 2017 (while the county shared 25% of gaming admissions revenue), it is important that Council have funds for that purpose as well. Also, the sheriff has 2 additional jail officers, raising base payroll by over \$100,000. It is estimated that utilities for the annex may be \$100,00 a year.

Allen Goodman made a motion to table any action on the Ordinance from 1997 to give the County Attorney time to review the situation and options. He would like to have a plan in place. Dan Lansing seconded. Allen Goodman – Yes, Bill Ullrich - Yes, Ryan Brandt – Yes, Dennis Kraus – Yes, Dan Lansing – Yes. Charlie Keyes – No. Motion passed.

All of the Cities and Towns and their attorneys were in attendance and spoke in favor of revenue sharing.

Child Advocacy Center – Sarah Brichto went over her yearly report.

Sheriff – The Sheriff requested two new jail officers.

Ryan Brandt made a motion for two new jail officers to be funded from Riverboat Contingency. The prorated amount for the rest of 2017 is \$46,790.00 for salary and benefits for both. Seconded by Bill Ullrich. Dan Lansing voted No because it is out of the ordinary to award new positions mid-year. Motion passed.

Highway – Tim Greive updated Council of the situation on Pribble Rd. The road slip is very bad and they may have to possibly close one lane until fixed. He will need additional funds for three slips. \$313,836.86.

Dennis made a motion to approve \$313,836.86 from River Boat Contingency. Dan Lansing seconded. Motion Passed.

Juvenile – They would like to ask Council to create a line item for random drug testing. For now they will transfer already budgeted dollars to this newly created line item. No additional funds needed at this time.

Ryan Brandt made a motion to create a line item for drug testing. Allen Goodman seconded. Motion passed.

Auditor - Gayle Pennington asked for approval of the amended May 30th meeting minutes.

Bill Ullrich made a motion to approve as amended. Dennis Kraus seconded. Motion passed.

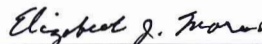
Budget schedule – Council has decided that a budget schedule should be made so that the department heads and office holders will be in their office at that time in case there are questions.

With no further business before the Board Bill Ullrich made a motion to adjourn and Dennis Kraus seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next meeting – Scheduled for July 25th at 6:30.

ATTEST:


Gayle L. Pennington, Auditor


Elizabeth J. Morris, County Council President