

BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

June 9, 2021

The Blackford County Council met at 6:00 p.m. on the first floor of the Blackford County Courthouse located at 110 W Washington Street, Hartford City, Indiana for the regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 9, 2021. The meeting was also available on Zoom.

President Dan Borgenheimer called the regular meeting to order and Auditor Sharon Hartley called roll. **Those members answering roll** were Jack Beckley, Karen Mealy, Ryan Goodspeed, Dan Borgenheimer, Fred Tobey, Patrick Cale and Kyle Lechien. **Also present were:** in person were John Oxley, John Pluimer, Jeff Sones and Kelly Cale. **Attending on Zoom:** Kathy Goodspeed and Warren Brown.

The minutes of the May 5, 2021 Regular Council meeting were approved as **Presented** on a motion by Karen Mealy and 2nd by Patrick Cale. The vote was 7/0.

Committee Reports

Community Corrections – Kyle Lechien see Kelly Cale below

Solid Waste – Dan Borgenheimer HHWD is 6/19/21 - Transfer Station open 2nd Saturday every month

Economic Development – Ryan Goodspeed see Warren Brown below

Blackford Development – Patrick Cale –no report

Kelly Cale, Community Corrections Deputy Director, reported the department has 74 participants and 85% are employed. The next grant application is being prepared for submission in July.

BCEDC Director Warren Brown reported on the (1) Commissioners approved (pending approval by their Attorney) **Resolution 2021-R16 Identifying a Region for the Creation of a Regional Development Plan (RDP) and Participation in the Indiana Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI)**. The grant will award \$50M to a group of seven counties that includes Blackford County to promote strategic investments for economic growth. **(2) An agreement** between Blackford County and a solar company is in the works. **Council needs to hold a Special Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16th** to receive information on the project. Council agreed to the Special Meeting pending approval at a Commissioner Executive Session on Tuesday, June 15. **(3) Commissioners** have created a Blackford County Redevelopment Commission. A committee is to be appointed including two county council members. Jack Beckley and Patrick Cale volunteered. **Ryan Goodspeed made a motion to appoint Jack Beckley and Patrick Cale to the BCRDC. Fred Tobey 2nd and the vote was 7/0.**

Commissioner John Oxley informed the Council that Pat Hornbaker, Assistant Custodian, has been doing extra duties during the illness of Head Custodial Tim Stanley. The Commissioners are asking for a \$1.50 per hour raise for Hornbaker for the duration of Stanley's absence. **Ryan Goodspeed moved to approve a \$1.50 per hour raise for Hornbaker until Stanley's return. Patrick Cale 2nd. And the vote was 7/0. The raise is not retroactive to the beginning of Stanley's absence.**

Sheriff Jeff Sones needs to hire a Dispatcher. He has a candidate that is fully trained on the systems Blackford County uses and has years of experience. He wants the beginning pay rate to be set at \$15.00 per hour, which is the rate for trained employees, instead of the \$13.00 beginning rate. **Jack Beckley made a motion to waive the beginning rate and start the trained person at \$15.00 per hour. Karen Mealy 2nd and the vote was 7/0.**

Highway Foreman John Pluimer reported all county side ditches have been mowed and they will begin paving soon. Chip and seal of roads will start in late July.

Council was presented with a resolution to continue holding electronic meetings. **Jack Beckley moved to adopt Resolution 2021-R17 Establishing the Policy by Which Members of the County Council May Participate by Electronic Means of Communication as written. Fred Tobey 2nd and the vote was 7/0.**

Financial Reports for COUNTY GENERAL

Ending Cash Balance as of 5/31/2021	\$ 1,893,872.86
Total Expenditures for May 2021	\$ 378,817.22
Total Revenue for May 2021	\$ 184,614.89

Transfers:

County General Prosecutor - \$500 from Telephone to Operating Supplies
\$600 from Custom Hire to Operating Supplies
8121 Health Preparedness Grant - \$1,220.73 from Freezer to Personal Health Supplies

Karen Mealy moved to approve all transfers and Patrick Cale 2nd. The vote was 7/0.


Auditor Hartley informed the Council that all steps have been completed for the county to receive the American Rescue Plan money from the Federal Government. The county will receive \$1,141,927 in the next few weeks. The other half will be received in May 2022.

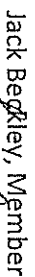
There being no further comment Dan Borgenheimer adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m. on a motion by Kyle Lechien.

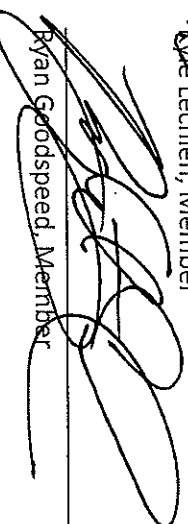
Approved this 7th day of July, 2021.


Dan Borgenheimer, President

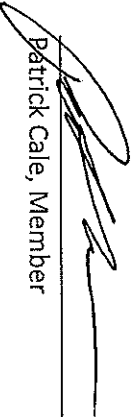

Karen Mealy, Vice President


Kyle Lechien, Member


Jack Beqley, Member


Ryan Goodspeed, Member


Fred Tobey, Member


Patrick Cale, Member

Attest: 
Auditor/Secretary