

BLACKFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND COUNCIL JOINT

SPECIAL MEETING April 19, 2023

The Blackford County Commissioners and Council met in a Joint Special session at 6:00 p.m. on April 19, 2023, in the Board meeting room on the first floor of the Blackford County Courthouse, Hartford City IN.

**President John Lancaster called the Commissioner's meeting to order**, and Auditor Sharon Hartley called roll with Commissioners John Lancaster, John Oxley and Laura Coons present.

**President Dan Borgenheimer called the Council meeting to order**, and Auditor Sharon Hartley called roll with Council members Dan Borgenheimer, Fred Tobey, Karen Mealy, Jack Beckley, Patrick Cale, Fred Tobey, and Kyle Lechien present.

Others in attendance were Eric Ratts, Greg Martz, Shelby Evans, Tyler Hunt, Ron Dudleston, Anne Owen, Jim Weiseman, Warren Brown, Dana Whatley, Dan Eckstein, Chazz Shrader, Kevin Love, Aubrey Crist, Pat Redmond, and Jim Heflin.

Attending on Zoom were Mary Beal, Sue Kochanek, Jon Jinks, Jason Semler, Kevin Basey, and Cheri Brown.

The special meeting was called to discuss courthouse and annex repairs and renovations and 108 E. Washington Street, Hartford City.

John Lancaster and Dan Borgenheimer spoke to both judges and the feeling is to prioritize the repairs to the courthouse.

After much discussion, it was agreed to do the four primary projects: 1. A new roof for the courthouse. Copper and steel will be compared. 2. All windows in the courthouse replaced. 3. Courthouse masonry will be tuckpoint, patched and sealed. 4. Clock tower will be repaired, preserved and made safe to enter.

Other projects to be considered include: additional exit in Superior Courtroom; the cost to move the Veteran's Affairs, Surveyor and Planning & Zoning to the annex; move Prosecutor/Child Support to courthouse; possibly move Community Corrections to courthouse; elevator in annex.

**Jack Beckley made a motion to have Jason Semler (Baker Tilly) work on a \$7M bond for the repairs and renovations. Ryan Goodspeed 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 7/0.**

With the bond necessary to repair the courthouse and annex, the county and Hartford City officials discussed the Newberry building funding. With \$600,000 needed to complete the sprinkler system and restaurant, it was decided to split the cost. **Karen Mealy made a motion to pay half of the \$300,000 from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund and half from the EDIT fund. Patrick Cale 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 6/1 with Jack Beckley voting nay.**

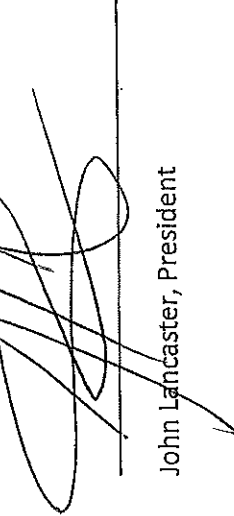
With 110 E. Washington Street being demolished, 108 E. Washington was examined and found to have structural issues and needs to be demolished. JA Shroyer Group LLC gave a quote of \$92,000 to remove the building. Hartford City agreed to pay \$30,000. **Karen Mealy moved to pay \$62,000 for the demolition of 108 E Washington St HC from Rainy Day Funds. Patrick Cale 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 6/1 with Jack Beckley voting nay.**

With the Council business concluded Kyle Lechien moved to adjourn the council meeting at 7:46 p.m.

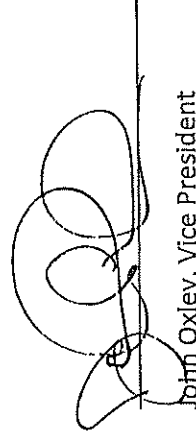
With the Commissioner business concluded Laura Coons moved to adjourn at 7:46 p.m.

Approved this 1st day of May, 2023.

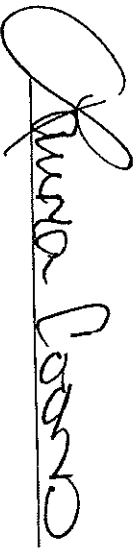
The Blackford County Board of Commissioners




John Lancaster, President



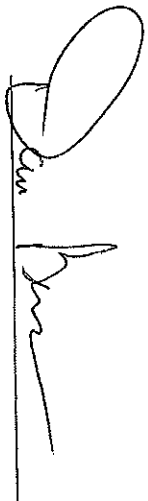
John Oxley, Vice President

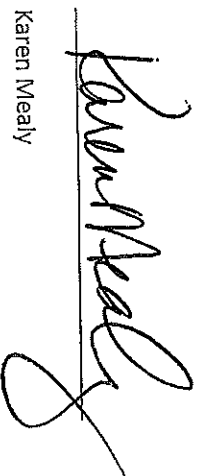
  
Laura Coons, Member

Attest:   
Auditor Sharon Hartley

The Blackford County Council

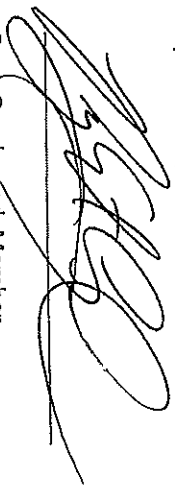
Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2023.

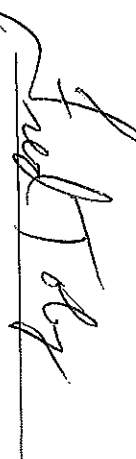
  
Dan Borgenheimer, President

  
Karen Mealy

  
Kyle Lechien, Member

  
Jack Beckley, Vice President

  
Ryan Goodspeed, Member

  
Fred Tobey, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Cale, Member

Attest:   
Auditor/Secretary