

BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

December 22, 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, December 22, 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 Dan Borgenheimer, Jack Beckley, Karen Mealy and Kyle Lechien. Fred Tobey was absent. Also present were: in person, Laura Coons, Jim Heflin, Tyler Hunt, John Oxley, Warren Brown and Cheri Brown. **Attending on Zoom:** Ryan Goodspeed, Patrick Cale, Mary Beal, Sue Kochanek and Jon Jinks.

The minutes of the December 8, 2021 Regular Council meeting were approved as Presented on a motion by Jack Beckley and 2nd by Karen Mealy. The vote was 6/0.

Committee Reports

- Community Corrections – Kyle Lechien – no report
- Solid Waste – Dan Borgenheimer –see below
- Economic Development – Ryan Goodspeed - no report
- Blackford Development – Patrick Cale – no report
- LEPC – Ryan Goodspeed – no report

The Solid Waste District Board met on December 20, 2021 to finalize the year. 2022 officers were elected. Laura Coons, President and John Oxley, Vice President. The next meeting will be next summer for budgets.

Commissioner Laura Coons ask for the Assistant Custodian position to be reinstated at \$13 per hour in 2022. Pat Hornbaker retires December 31. She also asked for an Extra Help position to work “as needed” at \$12 per hour. **Jack Beckley made a motion to reinstate the Assistant Custodian position at \$13 in 2022 and add an Extra Help position at \$12 per hour contingent on available funds in the budget. Karen Mealy 2nd and the vote was 6/0.**

Jack Beckley would like to review the hiring freeze Resolution 2020-R5 that was extended and expires on December 31, 2021. This will be reviewed at the January 5, 2022 meeting.

2022 Council Appointments: Aaron Henderson, Council Attorney; Dan Borgenheimer, Solid Waste District Board; Ian Foreman, ABC; Judy Affolder, PTABOA; Connie Bales, Montpelier-Harrison Public Library Board; Kyle Lechien, Community Corrections Board. **Appointments were approved on a motion by Karen Mealy and 2nd by Ryan Goodspeed and 6/0 vote.**

The 2022 Employee Policies Handbook was discussed. There will be meetings for department heads and employees to review the new material.

BCEDC Warren Brown; The broadband tower bases are being set and some steel has been delivered. He is putting out a Request for Quotes for fiber to the towers. American Relief Funds of \$500,000 will be used to finish the project.

2022 Salary Ordinance amendment for the Deputy Treasurer was reviewed and a correction approved.

Financial Reports for COUNTY GENERAL

Ending Cash Balance as of 12/21/2021	\$3,251,160.78
Total Expenditures for 12/21/2021	\$ 400,779.95
Total Revenue for 12/21/2021	\$ 1,575,842.06

Transfers: see the attached list with signatures

Motion to approve all transfers by Karen Mealy and 2nd by Patrick Cale with a 6/0 vote.

The Auditor asked for permission to make any necessary budget transfers through the end of the year and present them in January. The board approved.

Encumbrance:

County General – Jail - \$19,800 Building Repairs

Motion to approve Encumbrance by Jack Beckley and 2nd by Karen Mealy with a 6/0 vote.

Cheri Brown announced the 2020 Merry Covid Christmas Parade is now an annual event. December 23, 2021 will see decorated vehicles meeting at the 4H grounds and wind through town to the Weiler Park for festivities, food and fun.

There being no further comment Dan Borgenheimer adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m. on a motion by Kyle Lechien, 2nd by Ryan Goodspeed and 6/0 vote.

Approved this 5th day of January, 2022.

Dan Borgenheimer, President

Karen Mealy, Vice President

Kyle Lechien, Member

Jack Beckley, Member

Ryan Goodspeed, Member

Fred Tobey, Member

Patrick Cale, Member

Attest: Blair Thistles
Auditor/Secretary