

BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

September 8, 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, September 8, 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, Fred Tobey and Kyle Lechien. Ryan Goodspeed attended on Zoom. Patrick Cale was absent. **Also present were:** in person were, Warren Brown, Tyler Hunt, John Pluimer, John Oxley, Cheri Brown and Deb Perry.
Attending on Zoom: Jeff Sones, Sue Kochanek, Mary Beal and Kathy Goodspeed.

The minutes of the August 4, 2021 Regular Council meeting were approved as **Presented** on a motion by Karen Mealy and 2nd by Jack Beckley. The vote was 6/0. Patrick Cale is absent 9/8/21.

The minutes of the August 18, 2021 Public Hearing for the 2022 Budget were approved as **Presented** on a motion by Fred Tobey and 2nd by Jack Beckley. The vote was 5/0 with Mealy absent 8/18 and Cale absent tonight.

President Borgenheimer called the Public Hearing on the 2022 Budget to order.

***This Public Hearing is necessary due to an error being found with the original budget. The Debt Service Fund was inadvertently left out.**

With no discussion, the Public Hearing was closed.

Committee Reports

Community Corrections – see Tyler Hunt below

Solid Waste – Dan Borgenheimer – no information

Economic Development – Ryan Goodspeed see Warren Brown below

Blackford Development – Patrick Cale - absent

Community Corrections Director Tyler Hunt (1) Electronic monitoring has 29 participants, Employment rate is 78%, drug screens had 56% positive. The department has spent 51% of the grant for this year. **(2)** the department is part of a 3-year grant along with IU Health, Purdue, Jay County Drug Coalition, Brianna's Hope, Grant-Blackford Mental Health. The grant for \$1,000,000+ will be administered through Purdue University. **(3)** An employee is resigning and Hunt would like to reinstate the position of House Arrest Officer. **Jack Beckley moved to allow the reinstatement and Fred Tobey 2nd. The vote was 6/0.**

BCEDC Warren Brown: (1) Broadband towers have the boring samples done and pads are being designed for each area. The steel will be able to be delivered to each site soon. They are assessing how to get the fiber in the ground. **(2)** The Lake Trout Solar EDS has been signed. That project is moving along. There are two other solar companies interested in Blackford County.

Highway Dept, John Pluimer: there are 233 small bridges in the county that are not inspected with the large bridges. Recent inspections show the following in immediate need of action **(1)** the bridge north of Gripco in Montpelier must be replaced. **(2)** bridge on 500 E and 100 N will be fixed by the county. **(3)** bridge near 100 E and 450 S will have a 5-ton weight limit set. **(4)** bridge near 500 S and 500 E will have a 10-ton weight limit set. Mr. Forcum will draft an Ordinance listing penalty for ignoring the weight limits.

Purdue Extensions Cheri Brown (1) reported work continues on the READI Grant. **(2)** "Sherlock Gnome" will be the movie in the park on Friday. **(3)** repairs have been made to the toilet in the office for which they are grateful. **(4)** Purdue Extensions Mark Carter flew his drone over the courthouse and used infrared imaging to look at the roof, gutters and windows for problem areas. The video has been sent to the commissioner President.

Financial Reports for COUNTY GENERAL

Ending Cash Balance as of 8/31/2021	\$ 2,946,873.40
Total Expenditures for August 2021	\$ 506,473.04
Total Revenue for August 2021	\$ 116,223.77

Transfers: None

Additional:

E911 Equipment Rental \$6,184.48

Karen Mealy moved to approve the Additional and Ryan Goodspeed 2nd. The vote was 6/0.

The Council wants to see **documentation with future additional appropriations** detailing the need for the action. Department Heads should be present or on Zoom to give information or answer questions.

Auditor Hartley presented the **2022 Tax Cap information and the Maximum Levy** information.

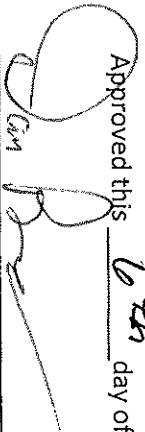
Dan Borgenheimer asked the status of the Blackford County Sewer District. Anne Owen or John Lancaster may have more information on this topic.

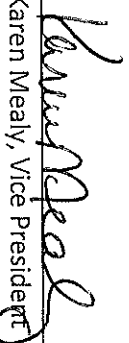
The Commissioners approved Baker Tilly as consultants for the ARP funds.


The Highway Department is looking for an employee with a CDL and received no applicants to a recent posting.


There being no further comment Dan Borgenheimer **adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.** on a motion by Kyle Lechien and 6/0 vote.

Approved this 6th day of October, 2021.



Dan Borgenheimer, President

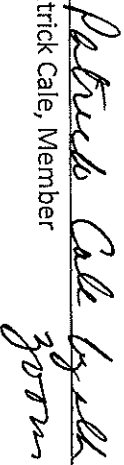

Karen Mealy, Vice President

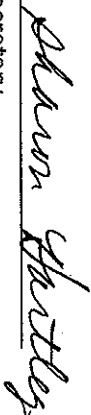

Kyle Lechien, Member


Jack Bekley, Member


Ryan Goodspeed, Member


Fred Tobey, Member


Patrick Cale, Member

Attest: 
Auditor/Secretary