

## BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

### December 20, 2023 Regular Meeting

The Blackford County Council met at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner/Council Room of the Blackford County Courthouse located at 110 W Washington Street, Hartford City, Indiana for the Regular meeting on Wednesday, December 20, 2023. The meeting was also available on Zoom.

**Vice President Jack Beckley called the Regular Meeting to order**, and Auditor Sharon Hartley called roll. **The members answering roll** were Kyle Lechien, Jack Beckley, Ryan Goodspeed, Karen Mealy, Jim Weiseman, and Fred Tobey. **Also present** in person, Dan Borgenheimer, Tyler Hunt, and John Pluimer, , and. **Attending on Zoom:** Patrick Cale, Sue Kochanek, Dana Turner, and Mary Beal.

Vice President Beckley welcomed Jim Weiseman as a new Council member.

**The minutes of the December 6, 2023, Regular Council meeting** were approved as **Presented on a motion by Kyle Lechien and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fred Tobey. The vote was 5/0.**

**2024 Council Appointments:** Attorney – Aaron Henderson, Solid Waste Board Member - Karen Mealy, ABC – Gary Glancy, PTBOA – Judy Affolder, Community Corrections Advisory Board – Kyle Lechien, Blackford Economic Development – Ryan Goodspeed, Hartford City Library Board – Dave Bowman, BZA – Bill Aspy (if allowed as he is a HC councilman), Area Plan Commission – Kerra Armstrong. **All appointments were approved on a motion by Kyle Lechien, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Mealy and a 7/0 vote.**

**The 2024 Salary Ordinance Amendment revising the Community Corrections salaries** (approved at the December 6 meeting) was approved on a motion by Ryan Goodspeed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Weiseman and 7/0 vote.

#### Committee Reports

Community Corrections – Kyle Lechien – see Tyler Hunt below.

Solid Waste District – Karen Mealy - see Dan Borgenheimer below.

Economic Development – Ryan Goodspeed – work on READI grant continues.

Blackford Development – Patrick Cale – no report

LEPC – Ryan Goodspeed – no report.

**Community Corrections Director Tyler Hunt** reported a \$20,000 planning grant has been awarded to the department. The grant funds a plan for juvenile offender intervention. Hunt is meeting with Prosecutor Freiburger and IJCI this week to work on details for the plan.

The Ordinance revising the surety bonds was tabled until the January 3 meeting.

Commissioner Dan Borgenheimer reported on the **Solid Waste District** meeting which was held on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Mike Daniel found grants that could help with the cost of the Household Hazardous Waste Day funding. He also found a grant for tire recycling. The SWD will be looking into these opportunities. Daniel also brought a brochure from Randolph County listing recycling options. The district plans to hire an Education Director and work on information for Blackford County.

**Auditor Hartley** requested permission to process any fund transfers necessary through year end. Ryan Goodspeed moved to approve the request and Fred Tobey 2<sup>nd</sup>. The vote was 7/0.

**Highway Superintendent John Pluimer (1)** work on CR 100 W and CR 200 N cost \$17,241, a pipe was installed on CR 300 S off of CR 300 E is done, CR 400 E bridge is finished, the bridge at Lake Mohee will be bid in February and construction begin next summer. **(2)** The annual PASER rating of county roads is up to 6.7 from 6.2. This rates the condition of roads.

**Dan Borgenheimer (1)** thanked John Pluimer for the good work on county roads and bridges. He met with leaders from Shamrock Lakes, and they were very happy with the work on CR 300 S. **(2)** reported the project manager for the courthouse renovations will be making monthly reports to the commissioners on the progress. **(3)** The National Guard will be here in January 11<sup>th</sup> to look at the proposed pond at the industrial park. **(4)** Troy Kaufman has been appointed to replace Jon Oswalt as the county Veteran's Affairs Officer. **(5)** a structural engineer will look at the annex roof before any roof work can begin.

**Transfers:**

County General : Auditor - \$1,000 from Transfer Books Scan to Office Supplies  
Sheriff - \$1,540 from Achievement Pay to Emergency Response Team  
Circuit Court - \$3,000 from Courtroom Equipment to Pauper Attorney  
\$2,500 from Juvenile Detention to Office Supplies  
\$500 from Law Research to Office Supplies  
\$1,170 from Petit Jurors to Pauper Attorneys  
Transfer Station - \$1 from Office Supplies to Driver/Equipment Operator  
Pretrial Diversion: \$1,896.05 from Misc Expenses to Operating Supplies  
ARRA Grant: \$43,734 from Admin Fees to Sheriff Vehicle Upfitting

**Jim Weiseman moved to approve all transfers as presented. Patrick Cale 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was 7/0.**

There being no further comment Vice President Beckley adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m. on a motion by Kyle Lechien, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Goodspeed and 7/0 vote.

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

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Jack Beckley, Vice President

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Karen Mealy, Member

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Kyle Lechien, Member

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Patrick Cale, Member

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Ryan Goodspeed, Member

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Fred Tobey, Member

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Jim Weiseman, Member

Attest: Blair Hunterley  
Auditor/Secretary