

BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

February 8, 2023

The Blackford County Council met at 6:00 p.m. in the first floor meeting room of the Blackford County Courthouse located at 110 W Washington Street, Hartford City, Indiana for the Regular meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2023. 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, Kyle Lechien, Jack Beckley, Patrick Cale, Fred Tobey, and Ryan Goodspeed. Karen Mealy was absent. **Also present** were in person, Tyler Hunt, Warren Brown, John Oxley, Cheri Brown, Laura Coons, John Pluimer, Mike Daniel, Kelly Cale and Jim Heflin. **Attending on Zoom:** Sue Kochanek and Mary Beal.

The minutes of the January 4, 2023, Regular Council meeting were approved as **Presented** on a motion by Patrick Cale and 2nd by Fred Tobey. The vote was 5/0. Borgenheimer was absent 1/4.

The minutes of the January 19, 2023, Joint Executive Session were approved as **Presented** on a motion by Kyle Lechien and 2nd by Ryan Goodspeed. The vote was 5/0. Beckley was absent 1/19.

The minutes of the January 19, 2023, Joint Special Council meeting were approved as **Presented** on a motion by Ryan Goodspeed and 2nd by Fred Tobey. The vote was 5/0. Beckley was absent 1/19.

Committee Reports

Community Corrections – Kyle Lechien – no report

Solid Waste – Dan Borgenheimer – HHWD is scheduled for April 1, 2023 – Hartford City heavy trash day will be April 1, 2023

Economic Development – Ryan Goodspeed – see Warren below.

Blackford Development – Patrick Cale – no report

LEPC – Ryan Goodspeed – no report

Warren Brown (1) The Hartford City Redevelopment Commission has the crews back to work on the Newberry building. **(2)** Just one bid was received for the broadband project. The bid of \$2.8M was declined by the commissioners. The plan will be redesigned in hopes of attracting more bids at a lower cost. **(3)** Brown is looking at another grant opportunity next week.

Highway Superintendent John Pluimer reported Butler Fairman Seufert is assessing the small structures (bridges) in the county. He presented pictures of some of the worst bridges that will be repaired in the next two years.

Commissioners Laura Coons and John Oxley told council the **Purdue Extension** offices will be moving to 120 and 124 N. Jefferson Street in Hartford City. An agreement with SLG, LLC, Mike Guffey, has been signed to rent the property for \$1,500 per month on a year to year basis. The move allows more options for programs. The Commissioners also agreed to pay \$12,000 for repairs to the Arts Place building as agreed upon in lieu of rent. **Ryan Goodspeed made a motion to use up to \$15,000 of the Purdue Extension appropriation in the EDIT fund for remodeling of the SLG building and approve additional appropriations in the Extension budget for rent and utilities. Patrick Cale 2nd and the vote was 6/0.**

Purdue Extensions Cheri Brown (1) will be contacting the JAG program at the high school see what they would like to with programs as part of her senior studies. **(3)** Cheri Brown is working on a Vaping Taskforce to combat the problem in the schools.

Sheriff Jim Heflin (1) the **Sheriff App** will be available soon. The app will push emergency information to public users. Users can submit a tip or apply for employment among other uses. **(2) Rapid SOS** has been added and will give first responders more exact locations on 911 calls. First responders will have instant connectivity even during power outages. Also, iPhone users that have their medical information added to the Apple Health App will have that critical information available to the emergency responders. **(3) LIVE 911** will send 911 calls directly to the officers cars allowing faster response times. This will be available on February 17, 2023.

Judge Brian Bade updated the council on the courthouse security plans. An \$84,000 grant has been approved for the project. The estimated county share of project will be \$2,000 - \$3,000. The Judge was also informed that the county will not need to advertise for bids for the project given the status as a "security system". The steps taken to get the grant work as the requests for bids.

Tyler Hunt, Community Corrections Director, requested permission to fill a recently vacated position. **Jack Beckley moved to approve the request. Patrick Cale 2nd and the vote was 6/0.**

Auditor Hartley reported companies have been contacted to review the **county IT** set up to allow them to bid on our contract which renews in July.

Financial Reports for COUNTY GENERAL


Ending Cash Balance as of January 2023	\$ 1,565,600.28
Total Expenditures for January 2023	\$ 544,126.73
Total Revenue for January 2023	\$ 157,101.03


Additional Appropriations: None


Transfers: None

There being no further comment President Borgenheimer adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m. on a motion by Kyle Lechien and 6/0 vote.

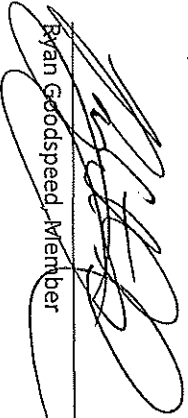
Approved this 8th day of March, 2023.



Dan Borgenheimer, President



Karen Mealy, ~~Vice President~~

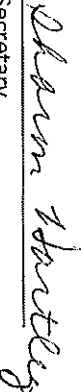

Kyle Lechien, Member


Jack Beckley, Member VP


Ryan Goodspeed, Member


Fred Tobey, Member


Patrick Cale, Member

Attest: 
Dawn Huntley
Auditor/Secretary