

BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

January 3, 2024 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, January 3, 2024. The meeting was also available on Zoom.

Auditor Sharon Hartley called the Regular Meeting to order and called roll. The members answering roll were Kyle Lechien, Ryan Goodspeed, Patrick Cale, Jim Weiseman, and Fred Tobey. **Also present in person,** Dan Borgenheimer, Tyler Hunt, Warren Brown, Jim Heflin, and John Pluimer. **Attending on Zoom:** Cheri Brown, Dana Turner, and Mary Beal.

Election of 2024 Officers: Ryan Goodspeed nominated **Jack Beckley for President** and Kyle Lechien 2nd. Nominations were closed and the vote was 5/0 in favor. Kyle Lechien nominated **Ryan Goodspeed for Vice President** and Fred Tobey 2nd. The nominations were closed, and the vote was 4/0/1 in favor with Goodspeed abstaining.

The minutes of the December 20, 2023, Regular Council meeting were approved as Presented on a motion by Kyle Lechien and 2nd by Jim Weiseman. The vote was 5/0.

P&Z Director Anne Owen is working on Unsafe Building appointments.

Highway Superintendent John Pluimer (1) reported he is applying for the next Community Crossings Grant for work on Cummins Road between CR 500 E and CR 600 E. **(2)** Kristi Banter is the new hire for the Highway Department.

Commissioner Dan Borgenheimer reported **(1)** the masonry work has started on the courthouse. **(2)** Commissioners raised the per diem amount on the County Travel Policy from \$26 per day to the state rate of \$41 per day. **(3)** 2024 Commissioner President is John Lancaster and Vice President is Dan Borgenheimer.

Sheriff Jim Heflin (1) presented Ordinance 2024-02 Concerning the Traffic Safety Education and Enforcement Fund was approved on a motion by Patrick Cale, 2nd by Fred Tobey and 5/0 vote. The ordinance sets the pay rate at twice the officer's normal pay rate. **(2)** The jail has tablets for inmates. They can rent books and movies and get mail on the tablet. **(3)** The jail now has monitors for inmates in the isolation cells in intake. They monitor respiration, movement, and heart rate. They link into the system in the control room. It will help with preventing suicides and overdoses. It is similar to technology being used in nursing home patients. The monitors were negotiated into our contract with CPC.

Committee Reports

Community Corrections – Kyle Lechien – no report
Solid Waste District – Karen Mealy - no report
Economic Development – Ryan Goodspeed – no report
Blackford Development – Patrick Cale – no report
LEPC – Ryan Goodspeed – no report.

Financial Reports for COUNTY GENERAL

Ending Cash Balance as of December 31, 2023	\$ 2,072,234.27
Total Expenditures for December 2023	\$ 525,480.99
Total Revenue for December 2023	\$ 1,662,998.62

Mary Beal asked if the Montpelier Police Department participates in the Traffic Safety Education and Enforcement program. Sheriff Heflin answered "no, they do not". Beal asked what is next for the broadband bids. Warren Brown answered that they are contacting broadband companies and requesting quotes.


Transfers: None

There being no further comment Vice President Goodspeed **adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.** on a motion by Kyle Lechien.

Approved this 7th day of February, 2024.



Jack Beckley, President



Kyle Lechien, Member

Karen Mealy, Member

Jim Weiseman, Member



Ryan Goodspeed, Vice President



Patrick Cale, Member

Fred Tobey, Member

Attest: 

Auditor/Secretary