

BLACKFORD COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF

May 4, 2022

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, May 4, 2022. 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, Ryan Goodspeed, Kyle Lechien, and Fred Tobey. Patrick Cale was absent. Also present were in person, Tyler Hunt, Jeff Sones, John Pluimer, John Oxley, Laura Coons, John Lancaster, Mike Daniel, Paul Schriver, Wayne Bailey, Logan Rance, Mary Beal, Todd Durnil, Tim Diehl, and Nick Weber. Attending on Zoom: Warren Brown, Cheri Brown, Jon Jinks, Jason Semler and Kathy Goodspeed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR BLACKFORD WIND ENERGY, LLC (BWE)

Logan Rance and Nick Weber of BWE spoke about the proposed wind project and requested a Confirmatory Resolution for abatement. Jason Semler from Baker Tilly, CPA firm hired by the county, informed the group the financial reports were being prepared. The public was invited to comment on the abatement request. No one had comment. With no further business, the Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Jack Beckley moved to table the request from Blackford Wind Energy, LLC on the recommendation of Warren Brown, BCEDC Director. Fred Tobey 2nd and the vote was 6/0.

The minutes of the April 6, 2022, Regular Council meeting were approved as Presented on a motion by Ryan Goodspeed and 2nd by Kyle Lechien. The vote was 6/0.

The minutes of the April 5, 2022, Joint Council and Commissioner meeting were approved as Presented on a motion by Ryan Goodspeed and 2nd by Kyle Lechien. The vote was 4/0. (Goodspeed, Lechien, Tobey and Borgenheimer attended the meeting.)

Committee Reports

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

Tyler Hunt, Community Corrections Director presented the 2023 grant application of approval. The grant is for \$283,453.80. Kyle Lechien moved to approve the grant and Ryan Goodspeed 2nd. The vote was 6/0.

Warren Brown BCEDC Director reported the READI Grant is moving along, and the Newberry Building has one business hoping to open in June.

Highway Superintendent John Pluimer (1) building repairs came in at \$13,153 and was lower than expected. (2) Requested the new employees pay be increased to \$21 per hour. After discussion, it was decided all driver operators should make \$21.38 per hour due to Salary Ordinance policy with no 90-day probation period. Kyle Lechien moved to take the new drivers to \$21.38 and Ryan Goodspeed 2nd. The vote was 6/0. Back pay to their hire date will be presented at the next meeting. (3) Request the part time/seasonal help rate be \$14.00 per hour, it is currently \$12.00. Ryan Goodspeed moved to approve the rate of \$14.00 per hour and Fred Tobey 2nd. The vote was 6/0. (4) The cost from International for a single axel truck chassis is \$91,500. Linco sells the truck bed for \$53,000. The cost of a tandem axel truck is \$107,000. Pluimer hopes to budget for one single axel and two tandem axel trucks in the 2023 budget.

Todd Burnell from Pyramid Consulting reviewed the tower project budget overages.

The APR Grant Committee presented four projects for Commissioner consideration:

- 1. \$63,225 Superior Court video/communications system with the Jail. Ryan Goodspeed moved to approve the request and Fred Tobey 2nd. The vote was 5/1 with Jack Beckley opposed.**
- 2. \$150,000 to finish the four tower projects Jack Beckley moved to approve, Ryan Goodspeed 2nd and the vote was 6/0.**
- 3. \$733,000 for engineering of the Storm Water project at the HC Industrial Park. Fred Tobey moved to approve, Jack Beckley 2nd and the vote was 6/0.**
- 4. Withdrawn**

Financial Reports for COUNTY GENERAL

Ending Cash Balance as of 4/30/2022	\$ 869,225.61
Total Expenditures for April 2022	\$ 599,578.47
Total Revenue for April 2022	\$ 115,941.33

Additional Appropriations:

County General – Unappropriated - \$125,000 (tower overage) -- Jack Beckley moved to approve, Ryan Goodspeed 2nd and 6/0 vote.
County General - P&Z - \$2,500 for extra help
Redevelopment Commission - \$150 Insurance/Bonds
Redevelopment Commission - \$775 Custom Hire
County General and Redevelopment Commissioner additional appropriations were approved on a motion by Karen Mealy, 2nd by Kyle Lechien and 6/0 vote.

Transfers:


none

There being no further comment Dan Borgenheimer adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. on a motion by Kyle Lechien, and 6/0 vote.

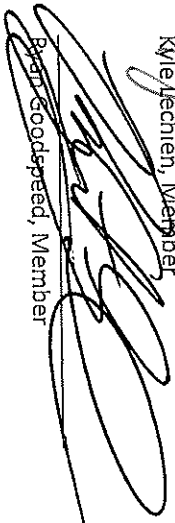
Approved this 8th day of June, 2022.


Dan Borgenheimer, President


Karen Mealy, Vice President



Kyle Lechien, Member

Jack Beckley, Member


Ryan Goodspeed, Member

Fred Tobey, Member


Patrick Cale, Member

Attest: 
Auditor/Secretary