

**WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, May 20, 2024 in the Commissioner’s meeting room of the Wabash County Courthouse. Vice-Chairman Matt Mize called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Council members present: Mize, Sam Hann, Philip Dale, Gary Ridenour, Matt Dillon and Nick Kopkey. Kyle Bowman was absent. Mize opened with a word of prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by County Auditor Marcie Shepherd.

Vice-Chairman Mize requested that those present silence their cell phones and stated that all public comments regarding agenda and non-agenda items are permitted and encouraged.

First order of business was a review and approval of the minutes from the April 15, 2024 meeting. Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Kopkey seconded the motion; it passed by a 4-0-1 vote. Dale was not present at the time of the vote, Hann abstained due to not being present in April.

Dave Mrowzinski, Vice President of TD LaFontaine Biogas, LLC via zoom requested approval of Resolution 2024-85-06 confirming the personal property tax abatement (approved 4-17-2024). TD LaFontaine Biogas, LLC are requesting a personal property tax abatement (10-years) in order to install a concrete specialized anaerobic digester/natural gas scrubber. The estimated cost of the project is \$7,000,000 and would create one new job with a salary of \$75,000 plus benefits. Dillon made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-85-06. Ridenour seconded the motion; it passed by a 5-0 vote.

Changes at the Indiana State Library has made a need to change the term dates for Tim Brauch who is on the North Manchester Library board. Dillon made the motion to approve the appoint of Tim Brauch with a term date of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2026. Hann seconded the motion; it passed by a 5-0 vote.

Follow up discussion of the request for funding 8 radios for the Converse Fire Department that was requested (April 17, 2024). The Converse Fire Department serves the Town of Somerset. They are requesting \$35,745.60. Dillon made the motion to approve the request of (\$35,746.00) to come out of Public Safety. (an additional appropriation will need to be made for next month). Hann seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**  
**ORDINANCE #2024-85-03**

**WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; NOW, THEREFORE:**

**SEC. 1 Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expense of said county government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2024 the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:**

**LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE #1168**

	Requested	Appropriated	AYE	NAY
1168.11117.000.0000	\$ 1,244.00	\$ 1,244.00	6	0
1168.11102.000.0000	\$ 42,223.00	\$ 42,223.00	6	0
1168.11302.000.0000	\$ 2,602.00	\$ 2,602.00	6	0
1168.11506.000.0000	\$ 3,387.00	\$ 3,387.00	6	0
1168.11126.000.0000	\$ 35,186.00	\$ 35,186.00	6	0
1168.17100.000.0000	\$ 6,475.00	\$ 6,475.00	6	0
1168.17200.000.0000	\$ 12,019.00	\$ 12,019.00	6	0

**LOCAL HEALTH TRUST #1206**

1206.11127.000.0000	\$ 33,303.00	\$ 33,303.00	6	0
1206.12700.000.0000	\$ 1,408.00	\$ 1,408.00	6	0
1206.11806.000.0000	\$ 3,387.00	\$ 3,387.00	6	0
1206.12106.000.0000	\$ 2,602.00	\$ 2,602.00	6	0

1206.11611.000.0000	\$ 3,028.00	\$ 3,028.00	6	0
1206.17100.000.0000	\$ 3,346.00	\$ 3,346.00	6	0
1206.17200.000.0000	\$ 6,210.00	\$ 6,210.00	6	0

**COUNTY HEALTH #1159**

1159.11707.000.0000	\$ 2,324.00	\$ 2,324.00	6	0
1159.17100.000.0000	\$ 178.00	\$ 178.00	6	0
1159.17200.000.0000	\$ 330.00	\$ 330.00	6	0

Shepherd stated the amounts in the Local Health Maintenance, Local Health Trust and County Health are all salary increases the County agreed to during the March 18, 2024 meeting. Dale made a motion to approve all the appropriation request in the health funds. Dillon seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) # 8961**

	Requested	Appropriated	AYE	NAY
<b>Learn More Center</b>				
8961.34002.000.0000	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	6	0
<b>Contractual Services</b>				
8961.30650.000.0000	\$600,000.00	\$600,000.00	6	0
<b>Capital Outlay – Converse Fire Department</b>				
8961.40440.000.0000	\$ 35,746.00	\$ 0.00	Removed	

Shepherd stated the Learn More Center requested funding March 18, and Council approved \$50,000. For the Adult Education Building fund. Contractual services to finish paying vendors for the jail. Capital outlay was tabled because it was discussed previously. Hann made a motion to approve the appropriation request. Ridenour seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION  
#2024-85-03**

Whereas, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1 Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expense of said county government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2024, the following sums of money are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

**HEALTH FIRST INDIANA #1161**

INCREASE		Amount Requested	Amount Approved	AYE	NAY
Photo Supplies	1161.22001.000.0000	\$ 1,488.48	\$ 1,488.48	6	0
Supplies Equip	1161.21102.000.0000	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	6	0
Operating Supplies	1161.20000.000.0000	\$ 3,000.00	\$3,000.00	6	0
Enviro Supplies	1161.22700.000.0000	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	6	0

SEC. 2 WHEREAS, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have unobligated balances which will not be needed for the purposes for which appropriated, it is further resolved that the following existing appropriations be reduced in the following amounts.

DECREASE		Amount Requested	Amount Approved	AYE	NAY
Computer /Fax	1161.40421.000.0000	\$11,253.60	\$11,253.60	6	0
Public Clinic	1161.30603.000.0000	\$25,234.88	\$25,234.88	6	0

Shepherd stated when the Health Department submitted their budget to the State it was approved differently and the transfers were need to get the amounts into the correct accounts. Dillon made a motion to approve the transfer. Ridenour seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote

Mize asked if the Health Department is getting items up and running concerning the new funding and requirements with Health First Indiana. Rich Mofield stated they are working through it. Mofield questioned if they had any information concerning the relocation of the Health Department. Hauptert stated they are still working on it, an architect from Warsaw has looked at 808 Manchester Ave. and they have not heard back from him. Mize stated the Health Department did look at the building at the old Thermafiber location. Mize stated he is a part owner in the building and wanted to make sure that

was disclosed and above board and full transparency will take place if this location is selected.

Dave Terflinger, Alex Downard, Dave Hawkins, Stan Bagley, Samantha Fox, and Kristy Bone requested \$50,000 for the zoning department from ARPA \$25,000 for this year and \$25,000 for 2025, in order to stop the declining population. Terflinger stated the county needs to be cleaned up. Everyone spoke on the need for more zoning enforcement. The planning department is a two people office, and can't possible do it all themselves. The planning department and the health department overlap a lot of times, looking at the same house with issues on both sides. Mize stated these issues should be addressed during the budget review process.

Brian Hauptert stated there is an upcoming Opioid meeting to discuss the use of funding the County and City are receiving.

With no other business to come before the Council, Vice-Chairman Mize adjourned the meeting. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Wabash County Council is June 17, 2024 @ 6:00pm.

Items for Review: Auditor & Treasurer Financial Reports for April 2024  
Solid Waste Management District Income Statements for March 2024  
Wabash County Soil & Water Conservation April 2024

**The following individuals also attended the County Council meeting:**

*\*If any names are spelled incorrectly, we apologize.*

Shelly Bauccho, Diane Engel, Jason Bowland, Jim Dixon, Tenille Zartman, Cheryl Ross, and Nicky Burnsworth.

**WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Kyle Bowman, Chairman

  
Matthew Mize, Vice-Chairman


  
Sam Hann

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Matt Dillon

  
Nick Kopkey

  
Philip Dale

  
Gary Ridenour

Attest:   
Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor