

## **WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, February 17, 2020 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Wabash County Courthouse.

Chairman Kyle Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Six council members were present: Bowman, Barbara Pearson, Philip Dale, Matt Mize, Randy Curless and Lorissa Sweet. Council member Matt Dillon was absent. Sweet led in a word of prayer and Bowman in the Pledge of Allegiance. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by the County Auditor's office.

The first order of business was to review the minutes from the January 20, 2020 Council meeting. Curless made the motion to approve the minutes. Dale seconded the motion and it passed by a 5-0 vote. Matt Mize abstained.

Dale made the motion to appoint Roger Cromer and Mark Guenin to the Redevelopment Commission for one year or until a successor is appointed or qualifies. These appointments are retroactive to January 1, 2020. Pearson seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.

The next order of business was to review the Personnel Administrative Committee report. The PAC committee met with the respective department heads who requested changes within their budgets.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff, presented two requests:

1. Hire a transport officer, who would do the majority of the transfer of prisoners. *PAC Recommendation: Approved transport officer will be dressed in sheriff deputy clothing, but will be paid the same as a jail officer.* Council: Curless made the motion to approve the request. Mize seconded the motion; it passed by 6-0 vote. (Additional appropriation and amendment to the salary ordinance will need to be completed.)
2. Hire a part-time commissary clerk, as outsourcing contract will expire in October of 2020 and would like to bring the commissary in-house. Baker is estimating this will bring in more revenue to the commissary fund. *PAC recommendation: Approved part-time clerk can be hired in July 2020.* Council: Mize made the motion to approve the request. Curless seconded the motion; it passed by a 4-2 vote. Dale and Pearson voting against. (Additional appropriation and an amendment to the salary ordinance will need to be completed.)

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, presented three requests;

1. Call-in pay; requested a policy be written for call-in pay. Call-in pay is 4 hours at time and a half. *PAC recommendation: Approve.* Council: Dale made the motion to approve the request. Sweet seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.
2. Hazmat pay; requested a stipend for employees willing to get a hazmat endorsement. Wyatt estimated four drivers would get the endorsement and be paid a stipend of \$1,000 each year. *PAC recommendation:*

*Approved. Update from Wyatt; Six employees got the endorsement, suggested the stipend was reduced to \$800 each per year to be paid bi-weekly, with a maximum of \$4,800. Council: Approve the six but would like to see it reduced to four in the future as people retire. Dale made the motion to approve the request. Curless seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote. (An amendment to the salary ordinance will need to be completed.)*

- 3. Job Classification Study; highway department would like to discuss the study. *PAC recommendation: Jim Dils and Commissioners will meet with the highway department to discuss. Council: no action*

Sarah Lochner Chief Probation Officer requested to hire two part-time Level II peer recovery coaches. The payroll expenses would be covered through a grant at \$18.00 per hour. *PAC recommendation: Approved. Council: Mize made the motion to approve the request. Sweet seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.*

Cheri Slee, Surveyor, requested a part-time position be paid as a part-time salary deputy, not an hourly employee. The employee was hired in June and received an increase after a probationary period in October. During the budget hearing the pay was increased to a part-time salaried deputy pay (which was higher than the requested 2.5% on the October wage). The wage was approved by Council at budget hearings. Slee was not present to add information to the PAC. *PAC recommendation: based on the information on hand the October amount plus a 2.5% was approved and made retroactive to January 1, 2020.* Slee was present to add additional information to the council. Council: Mize made the motion to approve the 2020 budgeted amount be the new wage and to make the wage retroactive to January 1, 2020. Dale seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.

The next order of business was to address the additional appropriations requests. Present for the request was Dr. David Roe, County Health Department.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**  
**ORDINANCE 2020-01**

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 expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>
Clerical Part-Time	\$10,920.00	\$10,920.00	6	0
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Explanation from Dr. Roe: Due to the extended amount of time that the nurse Lori Foust will be off work, a part-time nurse will be assisting the health department with administrating vaccines.

The next order of business was to address Resolution 2020-85-02. Bowman read the resolution:

**Before the Wabash County Council**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-85-02**  
**A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER UNENCUMBERED FUNDS TO THE RAINY DAY FUND**

**Under the authority granted by Indiana Code 36-1-85-5.1, Wabash County established a Rainy Day Fund under Ordinance No. 85-04-2016.**

**The County Council now wishes to transfer \$250,000.00 of unused and unencumbered monies from the General Fund to the Rainy Day Fund.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that effective this date, the Wabash County Council approves the transfer of \$250,000 of unused and unencumbered monies from the County General Fund to the Rainy Day Fund.**

**Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020.**

Dale made the motion to approve the request. Mize seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.

Commissioner Eppley stated that concerning the County Farm, a plat development was in the process of going before the City Plan Commission and the first plat is in place. The County Farm may be transferred to the County Redevelopment Commission, because the commission has more flexibility to change hands than the county. Some appraisals have been completed; more information will be presented as it develops.

With no other business to come before the Council, Chairman Bowman adjourned the meeting. The next scheduled meeting of the Wabash County Council is Monday, March 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

The following individuals also attended the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting:

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

Chief Deputy Auditor Shelly Baucco, County Commissioners Brian Haupert and Jeff Dawes, County Coordinator Jim Dils, and Attorney representative Mark Frantz.