

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, June 15, 2020. Chairman Kyle Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with five council members present: Bowman, Lorissa Sweet, Phil Dale, Matt Mize and Randy Curless. Matt Dillon was running late and Barbara Pearson was absent. 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 May 18, 2020 Council meeting. Mize made the motion to approve the minutes. Dale seconded the motion; motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Circuit Court Judge McCallen requested an additional person in his office. He was originally going to ask for this position for 2021. Since COVID-19 has hit the Judge anticipates they will have to catch up on cases, since the courts were on limited hours. Judge McCallen had went through the Personnel Administrative Committee and received a favorable recommendation from the committee. Mize made the motion to approve the request. Curless seconded the motion; it passed by a 5-0 vote.

Sheriff Ryan Baker requested hazard pay for all of the Sheriff department employees, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sheriff Baker stated that the employees were still working during the pandemic, and a lot of other sheriff's around the state are requesting the hazard pay. Sheriff Baker requested 15%-20% of their pay, or 30 - 40,000 additional dollars for the stipend. Curless stated that the council needed to bare in mind that the COVID pandemic will play a huge role in the upcoming budgets for several years to come. Revenues will more than likely be significantly lower and the council needs to realize this now and plan for the future. The request failed due to a lack in a motion to approve.

Commissioner Eppley stated during the Commissioners meeting earlier in the day the Commissioners approved a letter to the USDA for financing of a jail. Curless made the motion for approval to proceed with the USDA financing for the jail. Dale seconded the motion; it passed by a 5-0 vote.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriations requests.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS **ORDINANCE 2020-05**

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:

HIGHWAY - #1176

	Requested	Appropriated	Aye	Nay
Other Services & Charges	\$33,200.00	\$33,200.00	5	0
Professional Services 1176-30000-000-0039				

Explanation from Superintendent Cole Wyatt: In 2019 the pavement paser rating was contracted to be completed during the 2020 year. The amount was not placed in the 2020 budget for the project.

Mize made the motion to approve the request. Dale seconded the motion; it passed by a 5-0 vote.

COVERED BRIDGE - #1134

	Requested	Appropriated	Aye	Nay
Other Services & Charges	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	5	0

Explanation from Superintendent Cole Wyatt: The cost of a new sprinkler system was more than originally planned.

Mize made the motion to approve the request. Curless seconded the motion; it passed by a 5-0 vote.

GENERAL FUND – PURDUE EXTENSION - #1000

	Requested	Appropriated	Aye	Nay
Personal Services	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	5	0
High school intern #1000-11809-000-0020				

Explanation from Josh Winrotte, Interim CED: Anonymous 4-H volunteer donated to the county extension for this position to offer high school 4-H youth the opportunity to gain experience working in extension.

Dale made the motion to approve the personal services as requested. Dillon seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.

Winrotte introduced Geoff Schortgen as the new County Extension Director. During the next 90 day both Geoff and Josh will work together to transition Geoff into the position. Council congratulated Geoff on the new position.

The following Compliance Forms (CF1) forms for abatements were approved by the council.

MPS Egg Farms (Midwest Poultry)
Vision Properties LLP

Advanced Ag Resources
Hipsher Tool & Die
Midwest Eye Consultants (Lens Source)
MPS Egg Farms (Midwest Poultry)

Mize made the motion to approve all the CF1's for the 2020 pay 2021 year.
Dale seconded the motion; it passed by a 6-0 vote.

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, July 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

The following individuals also attended the May 18th meeting:

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

In Person: First Deputy Auditor Shelly Bauccho, Commissioners Brian Haupert, Jeff Dawes, and Barry Eppley, Highway Superintendent Cole Wyatt, Judge Robert McCallen, Wabash Plain Dealer Editor Rob Burgess, and Wabash County Coordinator Jim Dils.

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