

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, February 15, 2021 via zoom due to the weather. Chairman Kyle Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All Council members were present: Bowman, Matthew Mize, Sam Hann, Matt Dillon, Lorissa Sweet, Barbara Pearson and Phil Dale. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by the County Auditor Marcie Shepherd.

The first order of business was the review of the minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting. Dillon made the motion to approve the minutes. Hann seconded the motion; roll call votes were taken, it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Shepherd stated the receipts and expenditures for 2020.

Total receipts were \$84,641,533.81

Total expenditures were \$80,621,254.90

\$6,945,655.89 was expended in salaries. Shepherd stated the salaries have been posted at the courthouse and three other places throughout the county and advertised in the local newspapers.

The next order of business was the review additional appropriation request.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS **ORDINANCE 2021-01**

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:

	Commissary - #4949			
	Requested	Appropriated	Aye	Nay
Personal Services	\$18,000.00	-0-		
Transport Officer #4949-11315-000-0000				

Explanation from Sheriff Ryan Baker: He had previously gone before the personnel administrative committee and received a favorable recommendation. The commissary is being done in house now and during the PAC meeting he asked for the commissary clerk to be paid from the county general to make sure the commissary would be able to sustain the clerk's wages, before they are pulled from the commissary. The PAC committee agreed to this. During the budgets for 2021, the clerk's pay was omitted. Shepherd stated the advertisement for the additional was for the 4949 fund not the county general, and we would need to advertise the additional for next month. Since the wrong advertisement was done the request died due to a lack of a motion to approve the request.

Juvenile User Fee - #2150

	Requested	Appropriated	Aye	Nay
Personal Services	\$19,512.00	\$19,512.00	5	2
Chief Probation Officer \$7,000.00				
Asst. Chief Probation Officer \$7,000.00				
Office Manager \$2,000.00				
PERF \$2,288.00				
FICA \$1,224.00				

Explanation from Chief Probation Officer Sarah Lochner and Judge Robert McCallen: Requesting the amount to continue with the JDAI program. Currently there is enough funds in the Juvenile budget to cover this cost for the next two years. With this program they are able to reduce the amount for the wards of courts, which these funds can be re-allocated for other uses within the county. With the JDAI program the kids are not being incarcerated, it has been two years since a kid has been sent to the Department of Corrections. When JDAI began we were detaining 10 youths now we are down to five. Councilman Mize had questions as to the amount of probation personnel, and requested more information as to compare the amount of probation officers and community corrections that are consolidated to other counties. Lochner and McCallen stated they would get these questions answered.

Dale made the motion to approve the request. Hann seconded the motion; it passed by a 5-2 vote. Mize and Pearson voted against. Mize will submit a summary of the information that the council is requesting that they would like to see from the department.

Discussions of the Jail project were discussed. Eppley stated the RFP will be advertised this week and the due date to return the proposals in March. Discussions on how the project was moving forward, and the delivery process of building the jail, the amount of the project is really what is going to determine the delivery process. Once an architect is hired, we will have a more solid pricing and will be able to determine the delivery process. Hauptert stated it may be time to have a financial advisor to come on board.

Discussions on the format of the public meeting on the jail.

A public meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 18 at 6:00 p.m. at the REMC building for the public to ask questions concerning the jail project.

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 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

The following individuals also attended the County Council meeting:

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

County Commissioners Jeff Dawes, Brian Hauptert and Barry Eppley, Steve Downs, Trisha Hanes, Rob Burgess, Josh Goodman, Carrie Colvin and Tyler Guenin.

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL

/s/ Kyle Bowman

/s/ Matthew Mize

/s/ Philip Dale

/s/ Matt Dillon

/s/ Barbara Pearson

/s/ Lorissa Sweet

/s/ Sam Hann

Attest

/s/ Marcie Shepherd