

RECORD OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL OF ORANGE COUNTY, INDIANA  
JUNE 18th, 2020 AT 5:00PM

OFFICIALS PRESENT were Council members John Robert (Bob) McDonald, Alan Waynick, Chad Hager, Robin Stackhouse, Jack Hinkle, and Matt Henderson. Also present, Auditor Lonnie Stroud, Sheriff Josh Babcock, and Highway Superintendent Carl Anderson. Not present was Greg Farlow

Lonnie Stroud gave prayer. President Matt Henderson called to order the Council meeting.

Minutes from May 21st meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes as written was made Chad Hager, seconded by Jack Hinkle, and carried 6-0.

Sheriff gave May stats. Reported that there was no sickness in the jail at this point and the UV lights are being used to sanitize along with individual screening each person that enters the jail.

Carl Anderson gave the Highway report. Carl reported on Community Crossing grant work as well. Carl requested to use \$50,000 of an unused Casino appropriation to complete a Community Crossing Grant road outside the grant plan. The appropriation was left over from unused appropriation to fund the match of the Community Crossing Grant. It was agreed that appropriation was applicable for this use as the approved line was designated Highway Projects from the Casino fund. Carl reported that the old county airport road had a small bridge failure and he would need to ask for \$38k to properly replace the structure. It was the consensus of the Council that Carl could move forward with that replacement and the appropriation would be considered in the next meeting after the amount was published for approval. In conclusion Carl reported that the revenue for the Highway was down approximately \$135k from last year the same period. This reflects the low gas prices and the reduced travel. Those funds are gone and will not be recouped. There was discussion on the condition of the county roads and bridges. It would not be prudent for the county to pave more gravel roads until the current blacktopped roads are up to date on maintenance and the County is working on the small structure inspections at this time as well.

Linda Reynolds, County Assessor, requested that retiring Vance Elliot be replaced with Wendy Sprigler on the PTABOA Board. Motion to appoint Wendy as Vance’s replacement was made by Chad Hager, seconded by Bob McDonald, and carried 6-0-1 (later in the meeting Jack Hinkle requested he be able to abstain from this vote).

Zack Brown, Orange County Economic Development, remotely reported on CARES Act activity. Zack reported that the County was working on securing \$250k to help local businesses that were directly affected by the COVID 19 health emergency. Region 15 will be working with the County and the Economic Development to have the letter of intent and the public hearing to make this move forward. Region 15 will also assist with the follow through of this grant.

Auditor Lonnie Stroud reported on the Property and Excise settlement being completed. Due to the extension on the property tax deadline being extended till July 10 the collections were down 30%. Some TIF districts seen much less collection than that. Stroud reported that the County has received 2 of the 5-reimbursement requests for funding that have be submitted for the CARES Act. In conclusion Stroud presented the Council president Matt Henderson with an acknowledgement form to be signed for the Orleans Public Library if they were to be under binding review that it would be the Orange County Council that would be responsible for that.

Transfers were presented and passed with proper motion and vote.

Jack Hinkle stated that he requested to abstain from the vote on the PTABOA appointment due to political affiliations. It was so noted in the minutes to reflect Jack’s request

With no further business to discuss the motion to adjourn was made by Chad Hager, seconded by Jack Hinkle, and carried 6-0.

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Matt Henderson, President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lonnie Stroud, Orange County Auditor