

RECORD OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL OF ORANGE COUNTY, INDIANA
JULY 15, 2021 AT 5:00PM

OFFICIALS PRESENT were Council members Matt Henderson, Alan Waynick, Chad Hager, Robin Stackhouse, Jack Hinkle, and John Robert (Bob) McDonald, Not Present was Zach Brown. Also present, Auditor Lonnie Stroud, Sheriff Josh Babcock, and Judge Steve Owen.

Chad Hager led in the Pledge to the Flag and Josh Babcock gave prayer.

Council President, Chad Hager called the meeting to order.

Minutes from June 17th meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes as written was made Alan Waynick seconded by Jack Hinkle, and carried 5-0-1 with Robin Stackhouse abstaining.

Sheriff Josh Babcock presented June stats.

Judge Steve Owen presented information on the requested additional appropriation for the Volunteer Recognition (\$1,000) that was tabled from the prior meeting. Information about the grant that the County participates in to help fund the CASA program requires the recognition and retention of volunteers. After the grant was presented and the CASA director Robin Brown talked about the program and funding a motion by Matt Henderson was made to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Robin Stackhouse and carried 6-0.

Kim Anderson, Orange County Sanitarian, presented information on a new line-item expense with the County map produced by Snyder GIS. The cost would be an additional \$430 a year. Kim explained the benefits of this added budget expense to be considered in next years budget.

Sheriff Josh Babcock presented that he was in need of adding overtime lines in the Sheriff Department, 911, and Jail. These lines are necessary to keep employees in these three departments on duty during vacations and extreme events. Unlike other departments in the county these positions are 24-7-365 and they can not be vacant when employees take off. In the past comp time was used to try to fill the holes but has become more and more difficult. Many of his employees have maxed out their allowed comp time limit. The county would be required to pay this comp time out in a lump sum if the employee quits as well. Sheriff presented a request from the judges from both courts to have full time security as well, this would add two full time officers to his role. Also, Sheriff Babcock reported that the 911 system is in need of updating. All items will be advertised in his budget for Council to consider for 2022. Auditor Stroud reported that the county departments have been given the budget request forms to be filled out by the department's heads. Stroud reported that the revenue calculation are mostly complete and the financial worksheet in the Indiana Gateway system completed. Stroud reported that he will likely have an excel worksheet for Council to start reviewing mid next week. At the Budget Hearing on August 19th Stroud should have the amount that the county needs to trim from the budget to be under the max levy. Auditor Stroud reported on the American Rescue Plan Fund and that with the estimated growth factor that the County looks to have a loss of 2.8 million dollars for 2020 based on reduced revenue and the growth that did not happen as projected by Peters Municipal Financial Advisers. This will allow the county to spend the rescue money on any government operations that the County usually has to perform. Stroud had advertised for the professional services in regards to the OCJGC building, salary study, ARP revenue loss calculation, and the capital asset reporting audit totaling \$240,000. There will likely be loss in 21, 22, 23, and 24 that will also be identified. Stroud reported that he will publish for the next meeting the bond payment on the County property that will be the future OCJGC. The payment will be from the General Fund and any revenue from the rent will be deposited into the General fund to offset that payment. Stroud presented the Resolution 2021-12 that allows the County to move cash from the MVH to the MVH Restricted fund. The state requires the County to deposit and spend >50% from the MVH Restricted fund. The fund had developed a negative balance based on budgeted amount approved in the regular MVH Fund. Motion to approve the Resolution was made by Matt Henderson, seconded by Jack Hinkle and carried 6-0. Stroud presented the salary study done by Peters Municipal Financial Advisers for the Council to review and stated that he would change any salary request to be at least the average salary for the given position.

Additional appropriations were presented and passed with proper motion and vote.

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

Chad Hager, President

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Orange County Auditor