

RECORD OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL OF ORANGE COUNTY, INDIANA
FEBRUARY 21, 2019 AT 5:00PM

OFFICIALS PRESENT were Council members John Robert (Bob) McDonald, Chad Hager, Alan Waynick, Robin Stackhouse, Greg Farlow, Jack Hinkle, and Matt Henderson. Also present, Sheriff Josh Babcock and Auditor Lonnie Stroud.

President Matt Henderson started the meeting, and Bob McDonald opened with prayer.

Minutes from the January 17th meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept minute as written was made by Robin Stackhouse, seconded by Chad Hager, and carried 7-0.

Cathy Carnes, Probation Chief, presented a casino request for \$1,500.00 to purchase a small bus from Spring Valley School to be used to move correction community service people. Motion to approve the casino request was made by Robin Stackhouse, seconded by Alan Waynick, and carried 7-0.

Sheriff gave January stats. Sheriff reported that 90 were held in the Orange County Jail at the time of the meeting.

Judge Steve Owen, Orange County Circuit Court, presented information on the county CASA program. There are currently 12 volunteers and one part time director. The program could use up to 20 volunteers. Judge request permission to look into the feasibility of making the part time director Robin Brown full time. It was reported that the county would not need to increase the portion that is contributed to the program above the current match money that is budgeted. Motion to allow Judge to move forward in looking at the cost of the full-time position was made by Chad Hager, seconded by Alan Waynick, and carried 7-0. There will need to be an approved salary ordinance with the proposed amount of the salary to create the position. Judge continued with a report on the case load in Circuit Court. It was reported that trends are going down in most areas.

Richard Drake, Orange County Rural Fire District, request the Council to consider appropriating some of the County Share of the LIT Public Safety to the rural fire districts to be able to create 12-15 full time positions. They are having trouble getting volunteers to fill the increasing calls for service. Matt Henderson suggested getting the rural fire board to put some numbers together.

Carl Anderson, Orange County Highway, gave report from the Highway Department. Carl requested permission to fill two budgeted full-time positions. Motion to allow the filling of the two positions was made by Jack Hinkle, seconded by Chad Hager, and carried 7-0. Auditor Stroud requested that the hiring freeze on full time budgeted positions be eliminated. Motion to revoke the requirement for departments to request permission to replace a full-time position that is budgeted was made by Bob McDonald, seconded by, Jack Hinkle, and carried 7-0. Carl requested the casino request of the \$333,333.00 that was appropriated last year for the Community Crossing Grant but was not awarded. Motion to approve the Casino request was made by Alan Waynick, seconded by Robin Stackhouse, and carried 7-0.

Additional appropriations and transfers were reviewed, and approved, as shown on the attached ordinance.

Auditor Stroud presented the Council with a salary ordinance allowing the Sheriff to pay a stipend to the Bookkeeper and Jail Commander of \$1,000 each from the Commissary fund. Motion to approve the salary ordinance allowing the stipend was made by Robin Stackhouse, seconded by Bob McDonald, and carried 7-0. Stroud presented the Council with a part time salary ordinance to allow the payment of the Recorder part time person to be paid from the Recorders Perpetuation fund. Motion to allow the regular part time rate to be paid from the Recorders fund was made by Alan Waynick, seconded by Robin Stackhouse, and carried 7-0. Stroud presented the Council with a part time salary ordinance to allow the payment of the Clerk part time person to be paid from the Clerks Perpetuation fund. Motion to allow the regular part time rate to be paid from the Clerks fund was made by Chad Hager, seconded by Jack Hinkle, and carried 7-0. Stroud concluded by reporting that the 2018 annual financial report was submitted to the Indiana Gateway on time.

Bob McDonald requested information on the Rails to Trails project. The discussion was that there was little interest by the county residents of allowing the property to be tuned over and used in this way.

Matt Henderson brought to the Council attention that there will need to be an appropriation made to fund the county ambulance service this year. The \$68,220 that the county must pay will be appropriated partly from the LIT Public Safety fund. There will be a legal notice for the appropriation to be considered at the next meeting.

With no further business to discuss the motion to adjourn was made by Chad Hager, seconded by Greg Farlow, and carried 7-0.

Matt Henderson, President

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Orange County Auditor