

**RECORD OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL OF ORANGE COUNTY, INDIANA  
JUNE 20, 2019 AT 5:00 P.M.**

OFFICIALS PRESENT were Council members Matt Henderson, Greg Farlow, John Robert (Bob) McDonald, Alan Waynick, Robin Stackhouse and Jack Hinkle. Absent was Council member Chad Hager. Also present were Sheriff Josh Babcock and County Prosecutor Holly Hudelson. Auditor Lonnie Stroud was not able to attend. The record of the meeting was kept by County Attorney James C. Tucker, who was in attendance.

President Matt Henderson opened the meeting and invited anyone in the meeting room to give an opening prayer. No one offered to give the prayer. President Henderson asked Bob McDonald to give the prayer. Mr. McDonald gave the prayer.

The first order of business was a public hearing on the resolution for appropriations for a land purchase by Melton Public Library. Mr. Tucker gave a brief summary of the notice of the additional appropriations and the request. Melton Public Library Director Trista Rue made a presentation concerning the library expansion and land purchase. Public comment was requested, however, there was none. The public hearing was closed upon motion by Robin Stackhouse, second by Jack Hinkle and a vote of 6-0.

The Council then considered Resolution No. 2019-6, A Resolution of the Council for Orange County, Indiana, Approving the Appropriation of Money in the Operating Fund, the Library Improvement Reserve Fund and the Rainy Day Fund of the Melton Public Library, Orange County, Indiana, for the Purchase of Adjacent Property. Upon motion made by Alan Waynick, second by Bob McDonald and passed 6-0, Resolution No. 2019-6 was adopted.

The Council considered the minutes of the regular meeting of May 16, 2019. Upon motion by Alan Waynick, second by Jack Hinkle, the minutes of the May 16, 2019 were unanimously approved.

Sheriff Josh Babcock gave his report for May, 2019. 145 court papers were served. 25,768 miles were driven. The top three crimes were Petition to Revoke, Failure to Appear and Operating While Intoxicated. The total prisoner transport was 128.

The total money billed to other agencies for holding out of county and Department of Correction inmates was \$4,830.00. 8,593 meals were served at an average cost per meal of \$1.11.

April Lynd of the Sheriff's Department explained to the Council the difficulty getting and keeping new employees due to the waiting period on the pay increase during the probationary period. After a discussion, upon motion made by Bob McDonald, second by Jack Hinkle, and carried 6-0, the waiting period on the pay increase for all employees during the probationary period was waived. The Council will consider making the suspension of the waiting period permanent in 2020, with advice from the County Auditor.

Prosecutor Holly Hudelson explained the need for additional appropriation for law books and depositions within the Pretrial Diversion Fund.

The judges' request for a full-time CASA director was considered. At this time, the Council is considering the salary. As recommended by Matt Henderson, the salary should be the same as an employee in similar circumstances. That amount is \$30,205.00. An ordinance will be prepared for the next meeting. Upon motion made by Robin Stackhouse, second by Alan Waynick and carried 6-0, the annual salary for the CASA director was set at \$30,205.00.

Abby Heidenreich of Purdue Extension made a presentation concerning a request for a third full-time educator position. Ms. Heidenreich was seeking the guidance of the Council in planning for the budget for the Extension Office. Under present circumstances, it is difficult to attract educators. The Council had an affirmative reaction to adding a third full-time educator, if the Auditor determines that funds are available.

From the audience, a suggestion that a review of the entire salary structure of County employees be made. The suggestion is timely as Marshall Noble, Commissioner, is looking at the very subject. This is a long term prospect.

Under the Auditor items, the first consideration was a mandatory increase in transfer fees for deeds for real property endorsements to \$10.00. The Ordinance No. 2019-2 of the Commissioners had previously been approved by the Commissioners and was now considered by the Council. Upon motion made by Robin Stackhouse, second by Bob McDonald and passed 6-0, Ordinance No. 2019-2, Orange County, Indiana Ordinance Increasing Deed Transfer Fee was adopted.

Verbal authorization was given for the Courthouse bonds payoff being made July 1, 2019, with available funds.

4-H requested from the Casino Fund \$35,000.00 for parking lot improvements at the Fairgrounds. Upon motion made by Alan Waynick, second by Jack Hinkle and passed 6-0, the Casino Fund request of \$35,000.00 was approved.

A verbal Casino request from 4-H was also made concerning paving at the 4-H Fairgrounds from the south side of the Commercial Building around to the track. The request was for \$25,000.00. The Council emphasized that any such work at the Fairgrounds needs proper drainage. The verbal request was approved unanimously, subject to formal written confirmation at the next Council meeting.

The Council considered the request for additional appropriations. The additional appropriations requested as reflected on the attached record on page 459 of the Council records was approved 6-0 upon motion by Jack Hinkle and second by Alan Waynick. The request for additional appropriations as reflected on page 460 of the record was approved upon motion by Robin Stackhouse and second by Bob McDonald by a vote of 6-0.

Upon motion made by Robin Stackhouse, second by Jack Hinkle and vote of 6-0, the meeting was adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Henderson, President

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

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
James C. Tucker, County Attorney