

RECORD OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL OF ORANGE COUNTY, INDIANA
SEPTEMBER 19th, 2019 AT 5:00PM

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

President Matt Henderson called to order the regular council meeting, and John Noblitt opened with prayer.

In the regular Council meeting the council was presented with a copy of all Non-Binding Units max levies and circuit breakers. Matt Henderson read the statement:

Orange County Council Recommendation are as follows:

While not having sufficient information to fully evaluate your 2020 budgets and levies, the Orange County Council recommends the following:

On your Budget Form 4-B's funded by property taxes, in order to preserve your cash balance, we recommend the budget estimate line 1 be set at an amount no more than a total of miscellaneous revenue on line 8 b. plus the maximum levy allowed by DLGF for your unit.

In addition, we recommend that all levies be adopted at a level equal to or less than the growth quotient being utilized by DLGF. President Matt Henderson instructed Auditor Stroud to send a copy of the minutes to all the non-binding units.

Matt Henderson opened the public hearing for the binding units Orange County Government, Orange County Solid Waste, Orange County Fire Protection, French Lick Public Library, and Spring Valley Conservancy. Matt Henderson asked if the Council had an opportunity to review the form 3's and supporting forms for these units and if there were any questions from the council or the public. With a short pause and no questions or comments Matt Henderson said he would entertain a motion to close the public hearing. Motion to close the public hearing meeting was made by Alan Waynick, seconded by Chad Hager, and carried 7-0. Matt Henderson then entertained a motion to acknowledge and approve the form 3's from the aforementioned units. Motion to acknowledge and approve the form 3's was made by Robin Stackhouse, seconded by Bob McDonald, and carried 7-0.

Minutes from August 15th meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Alan Waynick, seconded by Jack Hinkle, and carried 7-0

Sheriff gave stats for the month of August. Sheriff reported that after a short period, the number of female inmates is down to manageable numbers and he will not need to do transfers to other counties at this time, as was discussed in the Commissioners meeting.

Carl Anderson, Orange County Highway Superintendent, gave the report on the Highway Department. Carl reported that 100 percent of the Community Crossing Grant work is complete. The County has been doing the hot mix paving and the chip and seal started on September 10th. Carl reported on the mowing that may prevent deer from coming from roadside brush undetected. Carl requested 5 percent raises for the County Highway workers. Carl reported there will be a small pool to draw from at the current rate of pay. Carl will provide comparable salaries from counties of similar size or nearby, for the Council committee to review before they do the salary adjustments.

Abby Heidenreich, Purdue Extension Director, introduced Karina Moore as the new Health and Science Educator.

Auditor Lonnie Stroud presented the Council with the contract amount (\$79,897) for the Community Center HVAC replacement. Stroud was given a verbal approval to appropriate from the Cumulative Capital Development. Richard Dixon discussed the improvements that have been made and the need for the parking lot to be addressed next. Stroud presented information from the County Recorder Sandy Hill on having records back to 1955 scanned. The cost will be \$41,000 and will be paid from the Records Perpetuation fund that does not require Council approval. Stroud then presented the Council with a request from the Coroner Aaron Kemple to add an additional deputy. Motion to approve the same salary as the First Deputy of \$1,050 for the Second Deputy position was made by Robin Stackhouse, second by Jack Hinkle, and carried 7-0. Stroud will provide a salary ordinance at the next meeting for signature. Stroud presented the council with the approved levy worksheet for the 2019 budget and the 2020 levy worksheet for their review and comparison.

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

Matt Henderson asked if there was any comment on the 2020 budget, Stroud presented the Council with a worksheet that has the previous 3 years of spending and the requested amounts prior to the meeting start. Stroud will meet with the non-appointed Council Budget Committee in the next few weeks to work on reducing items and getting the budget ready for the adoption meeting on October 4th at 5:00pm. Stroud will also meet with the Highway Superintendent and the Sheriff to see where cuts can be made in those funds prior to meeting with the committee.

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

Matt Henderson, President

Attest: _____
Lonnie Stroud, Orange County Auditor