

MINUTES
ELKHART COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
117 N. 2nd St. Room 104, Goshen, IN 46526
March 16th2023

The meeting of the Elkhart County Council was called to order by Sheriff Jeff Siegel at 4:00 p.m., in Room 104 of the County Administrative Building, Goshen, Indiana. Members present were Council President Thomas W. Stump, Council Vice President David L. Hess, Darryl J. Riegsecker, Douglas S. Graham, Adam M. Bujalski and Steven E. Clark. Council member Randy L. Yohn was absent. Also present were Patricia A. Pickens County Auditor, Tiara Jackson First Deputy Auditor, and Craig Buche, County Attorney.

** This meeting commenced pursuant to public notice under the Indiana open door law. This meeting was made available for the public and press to attend in-person and virtually in remote real-time observation via Web-Ex.

MINUTES: Approval of CC Meeting Minutes: February 16th, 2023

On motion made to approve February 16th, 2023 minutes by Bujalski and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved the minutes as presented with a vote of 6 to 0.
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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Brad Rogers invited the public to the dedication of “Walorski Parkway” (New CR 4 between CR19 and CR17) April 5th, 2023 @ 10:00am
Rain Date: April 6th, 2023 @ 10:00am.

Commissioner Rogers announced the 2023 Summit on May 3rd, 2023 at 8:30am tentatively at the Blue Teal in Wakarusa, In.

COUNCIL: Council Member Doug Graham discussed the EDC meeting on Tax Phase-In’s and the Scoring System.

Council Member Adam Bujalski on EMA Meeting

Council Member Hess says goodbye to Chris Godlewski as he is preparing to leave the County and go on to a new endeavor. Stated he appreciated the work Chris has done over the years and wished him well.

AUDITOR: Patricia A. Pickens gave the financial report.

SHERIFF: None

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Craig Buche:

- (a) Consideration and Approval of CC-2023-06 An Ordinance Amending the 2023 Elkhart County Salary Ordinance. Approval of Rate Increase for ICJI Officer OT Rate for Sheriff’s Department.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried with a vote of 6 to 0 and approved the request.

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ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION EXPLANATIONS:

A. GENERAL FUND (#1000)

- 1. Concord Assessor (114) requested \$24,128.00 due to an error. Account 41205 was cut during the budget process. This appropriation is to set up monies in the account.

Chris Dickinson presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Clark and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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B. GENERAL FUND (#1000)

- 1. Commissioners (130) requested \$253,025.00 for funds to be paid to the Humane Society on behalf of the communities who will reimburse the county in 2 installments. Communities are responsible for the following reimbursement amounts Elkhart: \$139,150.00, Goshen-\$85,400.00, Middlebury-\$5,940.00, Wakarusa, \$6,600.00, Bristol-\$4,400.00 and Nappanee-\$11,535.00.

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Riegsecker and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 6 to 0 vote.

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C. EDIT (#1112)

- 1. Highway (980) requested \$250,000.00 fund for Right of Way acquisition and associated costs for the replacement bridge 145 carrying CR 26 over Baugo Creek, just west of SR 19. This is a federally funded project and will be reimbursed up to 80% as dollars are spent.

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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D. SALES DISCLOSURE (#1131)

1. Concord Assessor (114) requested \$3,736.00 funds are needed for copy machine rent and sales disclosure validation & retention. There has been an increase of \$200.00 due to increased fees over prior years. Also, will be used for MLS to maintain access accuracy of sales disclosures and assessments.

Chris Dickerson presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Bujalski and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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E. CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT (#1138)

1. Commissioners (130) requested \$160,000.00 for Hudson Street Clinic roof replacement.

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Hess and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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F. CUMULATIVE DRAINAGE (#1141)

1. Surveyor (980) requested \$12,021.00 for maintenance and/or replacement projects on County Regulated Drains.

Phil Barker presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Riegsecker and seconded by Hess, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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G. GIS (#1150)

1. Planning & Development (980) requested 47,000.00 for the following services:
 1. \$19,000.00 for additional funds to cover contracted services from a former GIS Coordinator Marc Watson.
 2. \$23,000.00 funds to cover contracted services from Abonmarche Consultants related to GIS.
 3. \$5,000.00 for potential GIS intern.

Monica Davis presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Hess, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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H. MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY (#1176)

1. Highway (204) requested \$30,000.00 for funds on behalf of the Highway Department, due to incorrect calculations of requested Encumbered funds for 2022. This would complete the original request.

The Auditor's Office presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Hess, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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I. PARK & RECREATION (#1178)

1. Park & Recreation (980) requested \$60,000.00 to be appropriated for park projects and repairs on shelters, boardwalks, parking lots and facilities.

Ronda DeCaire presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Clark and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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J. PARK & RECREATION (#1178)

1. Park & Recreation (980) requested \$40,000.00 to be appropriated for Museum repairs (window replacement in exhibit room, /brick work on exterior of building and air conditioning repairs in annex.

Ronda DeCaire presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Clark and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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K. PARK & RECREATION (#1178)

1. Park & Recreation (980) requested \$210,000.00 be appropriated for the Corson Riverwood project. (construction of park/shelter/playground and other amenities).

Ronda DeCaire presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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L. MS4 GIS (#1197)

1. Planning & Development (177) requested \$15,000.00 for funds to cover contracted services from Abonmarche Consultants related to GIS for MS4.

Monica Davis presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Riegsecker and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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M. SHERIFF DONATION FUND (#4101)

1. Sheriff Department (105) requested \$25,320.00 to appropriate the cash balance in the Donation Fund for 2023.

Sheriff Jeff Siegel presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve made by Bujalski and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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N. STOP GRANT (#8108)

1. Prosecuting Attorney (980) requested \$20,000.00 to appropriate the annual STOP Grant of \$20,000.00. This funds a portion of DPA payroll.

Shelly Murphy presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Clark and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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O. TOGETHER WE WILL GRANT (#8189)

1. Health Department (980) requested \$55,850.00 to set the budget for “Together We Will” Community Health Program for 03/03/2023-5/30/2024.

Melanie Sizemore presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Riegsecker and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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P. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (#8951)

1. Commissioners (980) requested \$7,129,375.00 be appropriated for project #222540 Foraker-Southwest -Tecumseh

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 6 to 0 vote.

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Q. STAR GRANT (#9119)

1. Sheriff (105) requested \$53,885.00 to appropriate awarded grant funds for AOD Interdiction STAR Grant awarded by the Drug Free Partnership for calendar year 2023.

Sheriff Jeff Siegel presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Riegsecker and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved his request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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R. 2023 COURT REFORM GRANT (#9155)

1. Elkhart County Judiciary (981) requested \$75,000.00 for a new grant that will cover a portion of the necessary court technology in the new courthouse.

Ross Maxwell presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Clark and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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Total Appropriations: \$8,464,345.00

REDUCTIONS:

S. MAJOR BRIDGE (#1171)

1. Highway (980) requested a reduction in the amount of -\$318,821.10 to reduce the remaining budget on the Johnson Street Bridge Overlay. The project is complete.

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T. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (#8951)

1. Commissioners (980) requested a reduction in the amount of -\$1,729,375.00 to shift funds to the Foraker/Southwest/Tecumseh project.

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Total Reductions: -\$2,048,196.10

On motion to approve both S. Major Bridge (#1171) and T. American Rescue Plan (#8951) together made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved both reductions with a vote of 6 to 0.

On motion made to approve by Clark and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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- (c) Interlocal Agreement between Elkhart County, Indiana, and the Town of Middlebury, Indiana for Animal Control Services.

On motion made to approve by Bujalski and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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- (d) Interlocal Agreement between Elkhart County, Indiana, and the Town of Wakarusa, Indiana for Animal Control Services.

On motion made to approve by Bujalski and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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Jeff Taylor received City of Goshen's Interlocal after the agenda was made. Taylor requested that we add the following Interlocal to the meeting:

- (e) Interlocal Agreement between Elkhart County, Indiana, and the City of Goshen, Indiana for Animal Control Services.

On motion made to approve by Clark and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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Craig Buche:

- (a) Consideration and Approval of Interlocal Funding Agreement for Solid Waste Disposal Fee Funds from the Elkhart County Landfill and the City of Goshen, Indiana.

County Attorney Craig Buche explained that the Elkhart County Landfill is interested in partnering with Goshen to provide a portion of the funding for a public drop-off recycling site.

On motion made to approve by Riegsecker and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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- (b) Consideration and Approval of Amending the Ordinance Establishing the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Grant Fund. No. CO-2021-16B with a revised spending plan.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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(c) Consideration and Approval for Declaratory Resolution CC-2023-07 for a possible Tax Phase-In of Truck Accessory Group, LLC.

President of EDC Chris Stager introduced Stephanie Kabel to present the Declaratory Resolution for a possible tax phase-in for Truck Accessories Group, LLC.

On motion made to approve by Hess and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 6 to 0.

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AUDIENCE ITEMS:

Taxpayer Glenn Null gave “kudos” to the Council for the job they are doing.

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Council Member Riegsecker asked County Assessor Cathy Searcy a question concerning the Elevate program. Searcy responded.

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ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, on motion to adjourn made by Graham seconded by Clark the Council unanimously carried and approved the adjournment of the meeting at 5:15pm.

Cindy Chadwell
Recording Secretary

A complete recording of this meeting is available in the Auditor’s Office. The recording of this meeting will be available for one year and then erased.