

MINUTES
ELKHART COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
117 N. 2nd St. Room 104, Goshen, IN 46526
September 21st, 2023

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, Randall D. Yohn, Douglas S. Graham, Steven E. Clark Adam M. Bujalski. 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.

COUNCIL:

Craig Buche:

1. CC-2023-29 Resolution of the Elkhart County Council Establishing an Electronic Meeting Policy.

(No action was taken at this time).

MINUTES: Approval of CC Meeting Minutes: August 17th,2023

On motion made to approve August 17th,2023 minutes by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved the minutes as presented with a vote of 7 to 0.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMISSIONERS: None

COUNCIL: Graham thanked everyone for participating in the Budget Hearings. Yohn welcomed Hess back along with Riegsecker, Graham, and Stump. Hess expressed he was thankful that he was able to participate in the budget hearings via web ex even though he experienced a few difficulties but was able to talk to Auditor & Deputy Auditor and that was helpful.

AUDITOR: Patricia A. Pickens gave the financial report.

SHERIFF: None

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Craig Buche:

1. CC-2023-28 Ordinance of the Elkhart County Government Personnel Policy and Standard Procedures Manual.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved the request with a 7 to 0 vote. (pg. 372)

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS:

Elkhart County Council:

1. Approval of Appointment of Kevin Bullard to the Alcoholic Beverage Board Commission One (1) year term. Expires 8/31/2024.

On motion made to appoint Kevin Bullard made by Bujalski and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and Appointed Kevin Bullard to the Alcoholic Beverage Board Commission with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 373)

EDC MATTERS: None

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION EXPLANATIONS:

A. GENERAL FUND (#1000)

1. Commissioners (130) requested \$ 3,700,000.00 be appropriated for the following:

1. \$2,200,000.00 for the new Courthouse furniture & fixtures for each office and throughout the building.
2. \$1,500,000.0 for the Audio/Visual needs for each courtroom.

Jeff Taylor explained to the Council the source of funding for this request are the interest earnings on the ARP funds and the bond funds for the Courthouse.

Graham stated he had the understanding the new total amount for the courthouse Project was not to exceed \$112,000,000.00 He stated with this appropriation the total would be \$35,000.00 over the \$112,000,000.00. Clark joined in the discussion.

On motion made by Graham to reduce the line item for furniture and fixtures from \$ 2,200,000.00 to \$1,165,000.00 thus reducing the original amount of \$3,700,000.00 to \$3,665,000.00 to approve and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this motion with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 374)

B. JAIL CAGIT (#1114)

1. Building and Grounds (140) requested \$100,000.00 for building/plumbing/electrical and HVAC repairs to the jail.

Jeff Taylor and Commissioner Bob Barnes 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 vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 375)

C. CUMULATIVE BRIDGE (#1135)

1. Highway (980) requested \$140,000.00 for funds to remove and replace the concrete deck on Bridge 310 -CR 21 over Swoveland Ditch, located just north of CR 142.

Charlie McKenzie explained to the Council the deck has failed and requires frequent patching, which leads to further deterioration of the beams. Replacing the deck now will preserve the beams and maximize the life of the bridge.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote. (pg. 376)

D. LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES (#1161)

1. Health Department (980) requested \$2,460,921.00 to set up proposed Local Public Health Services for 2024.

Melanie Sizemore presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this motion with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 377)

E. MAJOR MOVES (#1172)

1. Commissioners (980) requested \$2,900,000.00 for Road Improvement Project for the Courthouse Construction in cooperation with the City of Goshen. (Reliance Road, CR 28 & CR 17).

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Riegsecker and seconded by Bujalski, Council member Graham asks for a roll call vote. The council member votes are as follows: Stump-Aye, Hess-Aye, Clark-Aye, Graham-Nay, Yohn-Aye, Riegsecker-Aye and Bujalski-Aye. With a vote of 6 to 1, the Council carried and approved this request. (pg. 378,379)

F. MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY (#1176)

1. Highway (980) requested \$15,000.00 for funds to replace two overhead garage doors at CR 7 facility that houses Highway, Sheriff's office, Weights & Measures and the Emergency Management Department.

Kyle Wagner 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 7 to 0. (pg. 380)

G. WESTERN GATEWAY TIF (#4506)

1. Planning & Development (980) requested \$6,341.47 for payment on loan to the Western Gateway TIF District being fund 4605 pursuant to resolution of the Elkhart County Redevelopment Commission with a pledge of 95% of the TIF revenues for 2022 pay 2023 Spring installment.

Mae Kratzer presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Riegsecker and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 381)

H. NORTH BAUGO TIF (#4512)

1. Planning & Development (980) requested \$3,731.05 for payment on loan to the North Baugo TIF District being fund 4512 pursuant to resolution of the Elkhart County redevelopment Commissioner with a pledge of 80% of the TIF revenues for the 2022 pay 2023 spring installment.

Mae Kratzer presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Riegsecker and seconded by Yohn, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 382)

I. LOVE'S ALLOCATION FUND (#4515)

1. Planning & Development (980) requested \$89,337.74 for Love's payment at 80% of TIF revenues for the 2022 pay 2023 spring installment for the Love's Allocation area pursuant to the Bond Purchase Agreement dated September 5, 2017.

Mae Kratzer presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Riegsecker and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 383)

K. SOLID WASTE CAPITAL RESERVE (#4915)

1. Landfill (980) requested \$750,000.00 for the required gas well work.

John Bowers presented this to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 384)

L. CHILDREN'S SUMMIT PROGRAM FUND (#4930)

1. Elkhart County Judiciary (980) requested \$4,546.88 be appropriated to be able To cover expenses for the annual Children's Summit.

Ross Maxwell presented this request to the Council.

On motion made by Graham to approve both items L. Children's Summit Program Fund (#4930) for \$4,546.88 and Item M. Court Improvement Grant (#8122) for \$4,546.88 together since they are transferring funds out of one fund to put in the other fund and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this this motion with a vote of 7 to 0.

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M. COURT IMPROVEMENT GRANT (#8122)

1. Elkhart County Judiciary (980) requested \$4,546.88 be appropriated in order to move these funds to the newly established Children's Summit Program Fund (#8122).

Ross Maxwell presented this request to the Council.

See action and vote above (pg. 386)

N. WIC (#8101)

1. Health Department (312) requested \$1,280,675.00 to set-up WIC Grant Budget (October 1,2023 through September 30,2024).

Melanie Sizemore presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve made by Bujalski and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a vote of 7 to 0.

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O. WIC BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELOR (#8102)

1. Health Department (980) requested \$147,683.00 to appropriate funds for the 2024 Breastfeeding Peer Counselor (October 1,2023 through September 30,2024). appropriate received grant funds

Melanie Sizemore presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Bujalski and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote. (pg. 388)

P. CAER COVID TEST SITE GRANT (#8184)

1. Health Department (980) requested \$50,000.00 to purchase a vehicle and license plate.

Melanie Sizemore 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 vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 389)

Q. PROBLEM SOLVING COURT GRANT (#9135)

1. Elkhart County Judiciary (980) requested \$41.64 for funds that were from a previous grant year that needed to be appropriated. Apparently, a check was voided as it was never cashed, and the funds were returned to the grant fund. The Indiana Office of Court Services had approved the funds being used during the current grant cycle.

Ross Maxwell presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve made by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved this a request with a 7 to 0 vote. (pg. 390)

R. COURT INTERPRETER GRANT (#9142)

1. Elkhart County Judiciary (981) requested \$7,500.00 to fund an emergency grant funds that were awarded on 8/9/2023 to assist in paying for interpreters for the remainder of the year.

Ross Maxwell presented this request to the Council.

On motion made to approve by Bujalski and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this request with a 7 to 0 vote. (pg. 391)

Total Appropriations: \$11,625,324.66

REDUCTIONS:

Auditor Patty Pickens presented both Reductions items S. & item T. to the Council.

S. MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY (#1176)

1. Highway Department (980) requested a reduction in the amount of -\$16,080.00 the garage roof replacement project is complete. The request is to reduce the remaining appropriated funds for the project.

On motion made to approve both reductions item S. Motor Vehicle Highway (#1176) for - \$16,080.00 and item T. Love's Allocation Fund TIF (#4515) for -\$4763.37 made by Graham and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved this motion with a 7 to 0 vote. (pg. 392)

T. LOVE'S ALLOCATION FUNDS (#4515)

1. Planning & Development (980) requested a reduction in the amount of -\$4,763.37 due to monies was appropriated into the wrong account. (pg. 393)

See action and Vote above

Total Reductions: -\$20,843.37

TRANSFER REQUESTS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION:

A.	GENERAL FUND (#1000)		
	Veterans Services (134)		
	From: 43925 Burial of Soldiers	2,000.00	
	To: 42195 Other Oper. Supplies	2,000.00	
B.	HEALTH (#1159)		
	Health Department (340)		
	From: 44540 Data Proc. Software	500.00	
	44535 Data Proc. Hardware	485.00	
	To: 43110 Sustenance	500.00	
	42110 Gasoline	485.00	
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	Total	985.00	
C.	CARES EPIDEMIOLOGY AND LAB (#8904)		
	Health(981)		
	From: 43090 Otr. Prof. Services	4,694.00	
	To: 42195 Oper. Supplies	24.00	
	42380 Capital Supplies	170.00	
	44510 Otr. Equip.	4,500.00	
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	Total	4,694.00	
D.	JDAI GRANT (#9160)		
	Elkhart County Judiciary (980)		
	From: 43090 Otr. Prof. Services	2,500.00	
	To: 42350 Program Supplies	2,500.00	
	Total		
	Transfers	10,179.00	

On motion made by Riegsecker to approve transfers above together and seconded by Clark, the Council unanimously carried and approved the transfers with a vote of 7 to 0.

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TRANSFER REQUESTS NOT REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION:

(Available in the Auditor's office)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Craig Buche:

1. Consideration and Approval: Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Goshen and County of Elkhart County for East College Avenue/CR 36 reconstruction from Fairgrounds to CR 31.

Craig Buche explained the details of this Interlocal to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved the Interlocal with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 396)

2. Consideration and Approval: CC-2023-30 Resolution Approving the Updates for the Inclusion in the 2024 Elkhart County Salary Ordinance. (Health Department).

Craig Buche presented this Resolution to the Council.

On motion to approve made by Hess and seconded by Graham, the Council unanimously carried and approved Resolution CC-2023-30 with a 7 to 0 vote. (pg. 397)

AUDIENCE ITEMS:

President Stump reminds everyone to stick to items that are pertinent to the Council.

Glenn Null talks about Property Taxes that go to the schools and reminded the Council that a lot of citizens in Elkhart County are on a fixed income and wants the Council to remember that.

Cindi Haijcek talked on library board appointments, book contents and the responsibility of the Council.

Stump thanked Cindi Haijcek for bringing the issues to the Council. He also discussed Library Appointments and the changes the Council is making in their appointment policies.

Graham talks about the policy and that it is a process they are working on.

ADJOURN

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

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.