

MINUTES
ELKHART COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
117 N. 2nd St. Room 104, Goshen, IN 46526
October 19th, 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.

MINUTES: Approval of CC Meeting Minutes: September 21st,2023

On motion made to approve September 21st,2023 minutes by Bujalski and seconded by Riegsecker, the Council unanimously carried and approved the minutes as presented with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 405)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMISSIONERS: None

COUNCIL: Graham encouraged everyone to give blood as there is a shortage of O positive blood in Elkhart County. Yohn talked about the RV show. Hess thanked everyone for the cards, thoughts and prayers while he was recuperating. Hess also encouraged everyone to read an article in the Elkhart County Parks Compass Guide the Museum Staff wrote.

AUDITOR: Patricia A. Pickens gave the financial report.

SHERIFF: None

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION EXPLANATIONS:

A. GENERAL FUND (#1000)

1. Clerk (101) \$ 825,000.00 to cover the remaining balance of the Election Board loan to the Landfill. The appropriation is being submitted at the request of the County Council. Council has agreed to pay the remaining loan balance for the Election Board.

Auditor Patty Pickens submitted the appropriation per County Council's recommendation.

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

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B. GENERAL FUND (#1000)

1. Planning & Development (131) requested \$100,000.00 for unsafe structures to be demolished.

Mae Kratzer 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 7 to 0.

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C. LIT SPECIAL PURPOSE JAIL CAGIT (#1114)

1. Building & Grounds (140) requested 270,000.00 to purchase washer & dryers for the jail.

Jeff Taylor presented this request to the Council. He explained that they are purchasing 6 washers and 8 dryers.

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

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D. CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT (#1138)

1. Health Department (980) requested \$250,000.00 for funds needed to pave, seal and stripe parking lots.

Jeff Taylor explained that they submitted the appropriation based on estimates and they are requesting the amount be lowered to \$150,000.00.

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

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E. ~~PRISONER REIMBURSEMENT PROJECT INCOME (#1140)~~ (Withdrawn by CC)

1. ~~Community Corrections (614) requested \$16,730.00 to cover expenses for the remainder of FY 2023.~~

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F. CUMULATIVE DRAINAGE (#1141)

1. Surveyor requested \$145,000.00 for maintenance and /or reconstruction projects on County Regulated Drains.

Phil Barker presented this request to the Council.

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

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G. HEALTH FUND (#1159)

1. Health (340) requested \$12,447.00 to pay medical liability insurance covering Dr. John Stewart, Dr. Greg Robbins, Dr. Richard Hostetler and Dr, Allyson Caselberry. Per Jeff Taylor, with the additional funds that the Health Department will receive from the State, this is a cost that the Health Department can now absorb.

Melanie Sizemore presented this request to the Council.

Taxpayer Glenn Null expressed concern that the Commissioners are not covering costs, they should be covering.

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.

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H. ~~CR 6 & CR 17 NE TIF (#4511)~~ (Withdrawn by Planning & Development)

1. ~~Planning & Development (980) requested \$1,600,000.00 for PCR Water Utility Project, primarily to focus on Phase 3A Berry St. & open water access to 30+ homes along route.~~

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I. CR 6 & CR 17 NE TIF (#4511)

1. Planning & Development (980) requested \$1,500,000.00 for Reliance Road to back the associated Major Moves Loan.

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.

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J. CARES EPIDEMIOLOGY (#8904)

1. Health (981) requested \$3,804.00 to pay Mullets Fencing & Supplies.

Melanie Sizemore presented this to the Council.

Taxpayer Glenn Null expressed that the costs incurred belong to the Commissioner not the Health Department. Null stated that it is the Commissioners' responsibility to take care of the building maintenance costs.

On motion made to approve 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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Total Appropriations: \$3,106,251.00

REDUCTIONS:

K. PARK & RECREATION DONATIONS (#4909)

1. Park & Recreation (981) requested a reduction in the amount of -\$10,000.00 to reduce the project by \$10,000.00 and moved into the payroll wage account for the DeFries Gardens maintenance.

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

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Total Reductions: -\$10,000.00

TRANSFER REQUESTS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION:

A.	GENERAL FUND (#1000)		
	Sheriff (105)		
	From: 41130 Protective Service	3,161.00	
	To: 45100 Transfer Between Funds	3,161.00	
B.	PRISONER REIMBURSEMENT GRANTS (#1130)		
	Community Corrections (980)		
	From: 42090 Office Supplies	17,370.07	
	To: 43090 Prof. Svcs.	17,370.07	
C.	WIC (#8101)		
	Health Department (612)		
	From: 41310 Group Insurance	2,254.00	
	To: 42195 Otr. Oper. Supplies	947.00	
	44510 Otr. Equipment	1,307.00	
		<u>1,307.00</u>	
	Total	2,254.00	
D.	DENTAL PROGRAM INCOME (#8178)		
	Health Department (614)		
	From: 42180 Medical Supplies	4,000.00	
	43090 Otr. Prof. Services	4,000.00	
E.	2023 HMEP (LEPC) EXERCISE (#8188)		
	Emergency Management (980)		
	From: 42380 Capitol Supply Items	185.00	
	43835 Training	185.00	
	Total		
	Transfers	26,970.07	

On motion made by Graham to approve transfers above together and seconded by Yohn, 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 of CC-2023-31 Ordinance of the Elkhart County Council Establishing the 21.027 READI Corson Riverwoods Grant Fund (#8191) for the Elkhart County Park & Recreation Department.

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

On motion to approve made by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved Ordinance CC-2023-31 with a vote of 7 to 0.

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AUDIENCE ITEMS:

Tom Stump referred Ms. Haijcek to the County Attorney's previous response to her about public comment.

Cindi Haijcek expressed her concerns over the content of books in the Public Libraries and wanted the Council's acknowledgement of it.

Graham expressed his concern and shared that the book content is the responsibility of the Library Board. He went on to state that the Council is changing its policy on the Council's Library Appointments.

Glenn Null expressed points of interest and of disinterest.

2024 2nd BUDGET READING & ADOPTION:

Second Reading and Adoption of the Elkhart County 2024 Budget:

1. First Deputy Auditor Tiara Jackson presented the second reading of the 2024 Budget Form 3. Jackson read the approved individual budget totals and reductions previously made by the Council

2024 Net Tax Levy and Tax Rates:

1. Auditor Patricia A. Pickens read the net amounts of the tax levies and tax rates by funds, using the estimated valuations shown on the bottom of the 17-line statement for Elkhart County.

2024 CCPC Requests:

1. Council President asks for a motion/second for approval of CCPC request A-6 from August 8, 2023 CCPC meeting (Reclassification of one Legal Assistance to one court Referee).

On motion made to approve request by Graham and seconded by Yohn. President Stump asks for a roll call vote. The Council votes are as follows: Bujalski-Aye, Clark-Nay, Graham-Aye, Hess-Aye, Riegsecker-Nay, Stump-Aye and Yohn-Aye. With a vote of 5-2 the request was approved. (pg. 420)

2. Council President Stump asks for a motion /second to approve CCPC request A-7 from August 8, 2023 CCPC meeting. (Reclassification of one Law Clerk to one Court Referee).

On motion made to approve request by Yohn and seconded by Riegsecker. President Stump asks for a roll call vote. The Council votes are as follows: Bujalski-Aye, Clark-Nay, Graham-Aye, Hess-Aye, Riegsecker-Nay, Stump-Aye and Yohn-Aye. With a vote of 5-2 the request was approved. (pg. 421)

3. Council President Stump asks for a motion/second to deny CCPC request G-4 from August 8th, 2023 CCPC meeting (Move Director of Community Corrections and Case Manager Team Lead funding to General Fund).

On motion made to deny request by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council carried and unanimously approved this request with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 403)

4. Council President Stump asks for a motion/second to approve all other CCPC requests as recommended by the CCPC members on the CCPC reports and minutes from August 8, 2023 and September 6, 2023

On motion made to approve all other CCPC requests as recommended by the CCPC members by Yohn and seconded by Graham, the Council carried and unanimously approved the request with a 7 to 0 vote. (pg. 403)

2024 Salary Ordinance:

1. 2024 Salary Ordinance CC-2023-32 was read by title into the record by Craig Buche County Attorney. Buche asks the Council for a motion and second to approve the 2024 Salary Ordinance CC-2023-32.

On motion made to approve the 2024 Salary Ordinance CC-2023-32 by Graham and seconded by Bujalski, the Council unanimously carried and approved the request with a vote of 7 to 0. (pg. 423)

2024 Recorders Perpetuation Ordinance:

1. 2024 Recorders Perpetuation Ordinance CC-2023-30 was read by title into the record by Craig Buche County Attorney. Buche asks the Council for a motion and second to approve the 2024 Recorders Perpetuation Ordinance CC-2023-30.

On motion made to approve the Recorder’s Perpetuation Fund Ordinance CC-2023-33 as presented by Riegsecker and seconded by Bujalski, the Council carried and unanimously approved Ordinance CC-2023-30 with a 7 to 0 vote.

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2024 Elkhart County Budget Ordinance:

1. President Stump ask for a motion/second to approve the 2024 Elkhart County Budget Ordinance CC-2023-34 as presented.

On motion made to approve made by Riegsecker and seconded by Clark, the Council carried and unanimously approved Ordinance CC-2023-34 with a vote of 7 to 0.

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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.