

Jennings County Council Meeting
Government Annex Building, Commissioners Meeting Room
October 8, 2019 6:00 pm

The meeting was opened with Howard Malcomb leading the pledge.

Members present: Howard Malcomb, Paul Belding, Charlie Weber, Dave Woodall, Mike Gerth, Mandy Creech, and Bob Ellis.

Charlie Weber made a motion to approve the prior minutes. Bob Ellis seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

The jail tax was first on the agenda. There was some discussion on the new work release program and the decision not to build a new jail. With that being said Mandy Creech made a motion to rescind the jail tax, keep the money raised in the current fund, only use for jail improvements, and no withdrawals can be made without council approval. Dave Woodall seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Jerry Shepherd was next on the agenda about a grant for EMA. EMA applied for a grant along with the other counties for a utility vehicle. EMA was funded for 50% of the project cost. Jerry is asking for permission to transfer \$16,965 from non-reverting fund 1151. He will then file for and be reimbursed the award amount of \$13,769. There is no cost to Jennings County. The vehicle will be available to any local Government agency. Charlie Weber made a motion to allow transfer of funds. Bob Ellis seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Dan Wright gave an update on the Next Level Trails Grant. The application is due November 1, 2019. The Grant requires a monetary match of \$274,000. Some financing has been secured but \$151,000 is still needed. The project is estimated to be a three year project and match money can be split up over that amount of time. Much more support has been gained. INDOT has given a letter of support indicating they would support a pedestrian crossing signal. Dan is requesting a letter of commitment for the Next Level Trails Grant as well as funding assistance. Charlie Weber made a motion of commitment up to \$101,000 (\$50,500 in 2021 and \$50,500 in 2022). Bob Ellis seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Nolan Stanley, Veterans Service Officer, came before the council with an additional appropriation request. With two new vehicles the drivers are making 26-30 trips bi-weekly. The drivers are paid \$40 per trip made. Nolan is asking for an additional \$7,000 to get through the rest of 2019. Dave Woodall made a motion to approve the additional appropriation to come out

of the general fund. Mike Gerth seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Auditor Salsman presented the Council with the additional appropriations that have been approved and advertised. Mike Gerth made a motion to approve the previous appropriations. Charlie Weber seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Some discussion about the budget process went on among the Council members.

Lastly, Brandon Scruggs with BakerTilly, was present for the budget adoption. Mike Gerth made a motion to open the budget adoption. Charlie Weber seconded. No comments were made by the public. Dave Woodall made a motion to adopt the 2020 budget. Paul Belding seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote. The adopted tax rate is 0.7462.

Paul Belding made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Woodall seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.



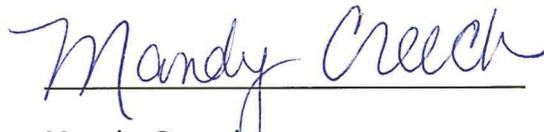
Tessia Salsman, Auditor



Mike Gerth



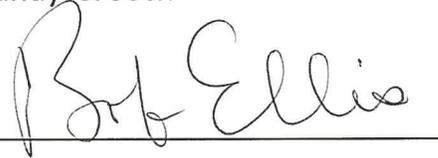
Howard Malcomb, President



Mandy Creech



Dave Woodall, Vice-President



Bob Ellis



Paul Belding



Charlie Weber