County Council Meeting

June 11, 2019

Meeting was opened at 6:00 pm with the pledge to the flag led by Howard Malcomb.

Prior minutes were approved with an amendment to the minutes about PERF on the second paragraph to change the wording to research instead of implement. Charlie Weber made a motion to approve the prior minutes with the amendment. Paul Belding seconded the motion. Unanimous

First on the Agenda was Kent Stroud with The Potter's House. They launched a men's transitional housing in Jennings County last October. They are getting good results from this and Kent wanted to share some of the results. Five Church's came together and launched a house with the help of a local factory that funded it. They do ministry inside the house, but also monitor their sobriety and get them employed. Two people currently housed there are serving jail time, but working with the court system they live at the Potter House. They have room for eight men and have eight men there currently. Four of them have over one hundred days sobriety and one over two hundred days. He stated that they had Probation in to see it and they were very pleased with what they are doing. They are non profit. Five churches help feed and do things with the guys. A certified Drug and Alcohol specialist is on site four or more days a week. The men living there pay $100 dollars to stay there. It helps take the burden off of the community. The guys who come there have to test negative to live there. Local factories help them with jobs to become productive citizens again. Kent just wanted to update the Council on the progress of the program.

Greg Martin was on the agenda next to request money from the parks non reverting fund of $1017.20 for replacement of dual electric box that was run over by a camper and also $4000.00 for a 200 amp service that was blown out over Memorial weekend. The electrician stated the whole box needs to be replaced and per code. Also Kelly Shepherd put in her resignation on the park board and suggested Daniel Young , as her replacement . Mike Gerth made a motion to approve the funds for the electrical work and to appoint Daniel Young to replace Kelly Shepherd. Mandy Creech seconded the motion. Unanimous. Question was asked how much does the park make from the T3 and Greg stated 20%.

Tessia Salsman Auditor had Darrin from Data Pit Stop show a presentation on how his company can run all of our tax numbers and put them into a data base and people can see the tax rate and other information about taxes on there. It is State Board Approved. Different offices can use this website and cost is $4,000.00 per year. He also has an excise program with a onetime fee of $6,000.00 every department would be able to log in their capital assets into the program. It would also have an application to pay for report of collections.

Next Tessia Salsman Auditor asked about hiring WTH for the GIS County Mapping. They would draw off survey's that come in and take care of lines on the map. They would charge $4,500.00 for the rest of this year and $9,000.00 for the year 2020. She also asked that she be allowed to move up an employee in pay because their pay was the lowest in the office and they are taking on more responsibility in the office since she has one less employee in her office. She would then use the extra money from the pay line to cover the Data Pit Stop and WTH. A motion was made by Charlie Weber to accept the proposals from Data Pit Stop and WTH through 2020. Mike Gerth seconded the motion. 6 Votes yes and 1 Vote no.

They did not vote on moving the employee up in pay until Auditor Salsman get it approved from the Commissioners.

Marie Shepherd Area Plan came requesting a new full time clerk's position in her office for this year. She has already got it approved by the Commissioners on June 6th. She would not need any money for this year, but would need this budgeted for next year. CSL had donated $12,000.00 to her budget, she would use that money and she would transfer money in her miscellaneous personal Line item for this position for this year. We have an ordinance review committee that has been looking at the need in our office and the hold ups. It comes back to resource, and the amount of work load in her office and not enough staff. They have 754 complaints that they are working on. She has 70 Court Cases active in the system right now. Marie has been taking 18 to 20 show causes to her board and their meetings have been lasting 2 to 3 hours. If someone is off for a week they get behind a month. Everything they do is on a timeline. People are coming in for permits constantly. Area Plan really needs an extra person in that office. Marie's goal is to be able to go out and help Matt. The annual salary would be $29,217.00. Dave Woodall made a motion to use funds available to make transfer to new payroll line for this year. Charlie Weber seconded the motion. Unanimous

Dave Gerth EMS Director came before the Council to ask permission to spend an extra $3500.00 from his non-reverting fund paramedic fund to pay for two of his full time paid employees to go to parmedic class. Tuition is $5,500.00 a piece, and they pay half. The student signs a contract that if they fail, quit or don't pass they pay back the money EMS has paid. If they do get a license they work for EMS for three years. If they quit within those three years then they have to pay a percentage back, it depends on when they quit. They also get bumped up in pay on the next budget year. He has $8,000.00 in that budget line now. The money comes from EMT & CPR Classes that his employees teach. Bob made a motion to transfer $3,500.00 to EMS Appropriated Non Reverting Fund. Dave seconded the motion. Unanimous

Tessia Salsman Auditor brought before the Council that they had not approved the election workers pay that the Commissioners had approved. Mike Gerth made a motion to pay the election workers $15.00 an hour instead of $14.00 an hour. Mandy Creech seconded the motion. Unanimous

County Council signed additional appropriations for things that they had already approved. Rueben made up the resolution for $15,500.00 for the Veterans Vehicle, $ 64,433.00 from CEDIT for the ADA work. Also an appropriation change resolution for the Jail and Sheriff to separate out their training fund so they each had $5,000.00.

Judge Webster sent information and IC Codes about the 5% raise for the probation department employees when they get their master degree. One employee has gotten their Masters Degree in the last month. Mike Gerth made a motion for the 5% increase for the Masters Degree. Mandy Creech Seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Next was the TIF Management Annual Report that needed to be signed. The Report shows TIF values as a whole. They will get more information on this at a later time. The Council signed the report.

Jennings County Fair Event Action Plan was in their packets to read.

Howard was going to attend a meeting in Shelbyville, Indiana about new laws that have passed and the jail. Tessia stated there was no money left in their budget to cover the cost for this meeting. Dave Woodall made a motion to take the money from County General funds. Mike Gerth seconded the motion. Unanimous

Howard brought up the jail and wanting to set directions for the commissioners to let them know what the council supports and doesn't support. Howard thinks they could make improvements on the jail with the money they have collected from the jail tax. At the end of the year they can adjust the tax rate down if they see they need to so they have enough to maintain the jail. Greg Wilds Maintenance and the Sheriff need to look at the needs and budget for them. Dave Woodall stated the Commissioners are looking at this now, and several options are available.

Tessia told the Council they have scheduled a special meeting on June 26th at 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm to talk about the jail and budget process. Tessia will talk to Reuben and make sure they have the information they need for this meeting.

Charlie Weber stated that he, Tessia Salsman, Dave Woodall, Mike Gerth and Matt Sporleder were going to meet with Baker Tilley about financial advice and help on June 28, 2019

Dave Woodall made a motion to adjourn. Charlie Weber seconded the motion. Unanimous

Attest:

Tessia Salsman

Tessia Salsman, Auditor

Howard Malcomb

Howard Malcomb, President

David Woodall

David Woodall,Vice President

Paul Belding

Paul Belding

Charlie Weber

Charlie Weber

Mike Gerth

Mike Gerth

Mandy Creech

Mandy Creech

Bob Ellis

Bob Ellis