

**JENNINGS COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING****NOVEMBER 14, 2017 7 P.M.**

Josh Yeager absent

Howard Malcomb opened the meeting leading the pledge to the flag.

Mike Kelley made a motion to approve the prior minutes; Tony Eder seconded the motion and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

First on the agenda was Mary Kilgore, County Clerk, who wanted to come to the Council and catch them up to date on her office. Mrs. Kilgore stated she could not attend the last budget meeting and wanted to let the Council know that she appreciated the funding she had received in the past for her file clerk position.

Jack Gay addressed the Council concerning creating a Public Defender Commission department. Mr. Gay feels that creating this department in the county will help resolve the caseload problems and help with the overcrowding at the jail. Mr. Gay stated that some jail inmates have been in jail several months before they ever talk to a public defender. Mr. Gay gave copies of letters from the state Public Defender and Commission and from Judge Michael A. Robbins for Lawrence County to Judge Richard Poynter in Jackson County stating reasons why eventually all counties will be required to have a Public Defender department. The Public Defender Commissioner said an adequately staffed office would have an additional cost of \$91,002 which included 1 Chief Public Defender, 2 Full time Salaried Public Defenders, 1 Part Time Conflict/Overflow Contractor, 1 Non-Reimbursable Contractor, 1 Clerical/Paralegal and 1 Investigator. Mr. Gay stated that to fix the county's problem right now the State is saying the county needs to hire 1 Part Time Chief PD, 8 Part Time Contractors and 1 Non-Reimbursable Contractor at a cost of \$27,463. Mr. Gay stated that with an adequately staffed Public Defender office the county will save money; drug addict cases can be taken out of the criminal justice system and be placed in a treatment program. The drug addicts can be treated for half the costs that they are incarcerated for now.

Dave Woodall asked why Bartholomew County pulled out of the state program. Mr. Gay was unsure and said he would research that for the Council. Mr. Gay said that maybe they thought they could do their own program cheaper. He doesn't believe that will be the case.

Next was Sherri Williams, HR Director, addressing the salary ordinance. Ms. Williams stated that she had just become aware that Angie Miller in the Prosecutor's office was considered a 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy. Ms. Williams requested that she be considered in the category with the Auditor and Assessor's office 1<sup>st</sup> deputies and thus her pay scale would be in line with those deputies.

Mike Kelley made a motion to approve the change of Office Manager to 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy for Angie Miller in the Prosecutor's office. Dave Woodall seconded the motion; motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Next was Jim Reeves, County Highway Superintendent, requesting the Council to reconsider a \$1.00 an hour increase across the board for the highway employees.

Dave Woodall made a motion to approve the \$1.00 an hour increase across the board for the highway; Mike Kelley seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Don Biehle informed the Council that he had applied for a grant for a 2018 Model Brush Truck and a grant for a Foam Nozzle the Homeland Security and Indiana Department of Natural Resources Volunteer Fire Assistance Programs. Total cost for the truck is \$132,564 with the grant paying \$122,858 leaving a balance of \$9,706 that he is requesting LIT money to pay. Total cost of the foam nozzle is \$2,664 with the grant payment \$1,332 leaving a balance for payment of \$1,332 which he is requesting LIT money for payment.

After much discussion it was decided that the Council would help with the truck but not the nozzle.

Tony Eder made a motion to approve \$9,706 for balance of 2018 Brush Truck; Mike Kelley seconded the motion. Motion passed with a vote of 5 to 1.

Next Don Biehle said that he had meetings with the fire chiefs and had come up with a formula to distribute the money in LIT set aside for the fire departments in 2018. Mr. Biehle stated that all fire chiefs were present and all were in favor of this formula.

Mike Kelley made a motion to accept the formula that the Fire Chiefs submitted; Tony Eder seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Next Randy Shepherd talked about the Treasurer's 1<sup>st</sup> deputy pay and reminded the Council that the 1<sup>st</sup> deputies are in charge of the office if the elected official is out of the office.

Next Auditor Vance requested a transfer of funds from her part time pay line to office supplies.

Dave Woodall made a motion to approve the transfer of funds for the Auditor; Tony Eder seconded the motion and motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Sheriff Driver addressed the Council informing them of a single car accident that totaled out one of the deputy cars and was wanting approval of the insurance money be given back to his department line item when received.

Mike Kelley made the motion to return the insurance payment on the sheriff vehicle back to the sheriff's line item when received. Larry Maschino seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Auditor Vance stated that she had received a check from the state from the sale of timber and at least 50% of it was to go to the fire departments or all can be given if the Council agrees. The amount is \$795.00.

Dave Woodall made a motion that the Auditor disburse 100% of the check equally to the fire departments. Mike Kelley seconded the motion; Motion passed with unanimous vote.

**FIRE CHIEFS RECOMMENDATION FOR  
LIT BUDGET DISTRIBUTION TO FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

Funds distributed to fire departments that have fire contracts in Jennings County  
(North Vernon/Center Township Fire Department is excluded because they are funded my the city)

- 1/3 of funds distributed based on number of fire runs
- 1/3 of funds distributed based on land area covered
- 1/3 of funds distributed based on fire department being located in Jennings County

**Funding Formula**

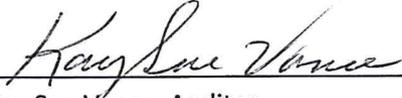
3 year Average Number of Runs per Year (%)	Land Area Covered by Fire Departments (%)	Fire Departments Located in Jennings County (%)	Funding Based on Formula (%)	
9.6	17.2	16.7	14.5	Campbell
40.6	16.5	16.7	24.6	Geneva
4.0	9.0	16.7	9.9	Lovett
8.1	15.6	16.7	13.5	Montgomery
12.6	14.7	16.7	14.7	Spencer
23.0	12.0	16.7	17.2	Vernon
0.5	3.6	0.0	1.4	Dupont
1.6	11.4	0.0	4.3	Westport

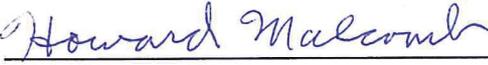
Firefighters approved this formula on 3/8/17 meeting

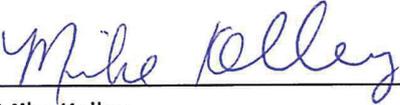
2018	
\$29,000	Campbell
\$49,000	Geneva
\$20,000	Lovett
\$27,000	Montgomery
\$29,000	Spencer
\$34,000	Vernon
\$3,000	Dupont
\$9,000	Westport
\$200,000	Total

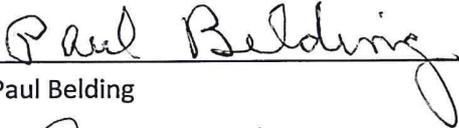
Mike Kelley made a motion to adjourn; Tony Eder seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Attest:

  
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Kay Sue Vance, Auditor

  
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Howard Malcomb, President

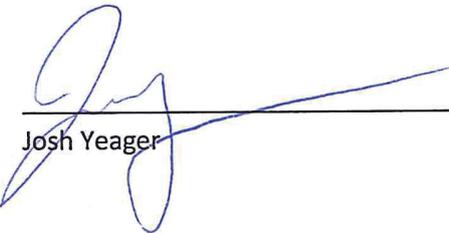
  
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Mike Kelley

  
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Paul Belding

  
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Dave Woodall

  
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Tony Eder

  
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Larry Maschino

  
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Josh Yeager