

Tipton County Council Meeting

4-20-2021

Present: Jim Ashley, Mike Terry, Kirk Retherford, Brad Nichols, Jan Smith, Jim Purvis

Absent: Butch Harpel

Other Present: Ray Sheppard, Chuck Bell, Dennis Henderson

Jim Ashley opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Election Board – Moved to May Agenda

Resolution CC2021-12

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION CC2021-12

Whereas, It has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; now, therefore:

Sec. 1. Be it resolved by the County Council of Tipton County, Tipton, Indiana; that for the expenses of the taxing units listed below; the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to laws governing the same:

Fund Name:	Requested Amount	Approved Amount
1000 General – 068 Commissioners		
31100 Outside Professional Services	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	
30000 Services and Charges	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	
Total for Fund	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	

Adopted and dated this 20th day of April, 2021

TIPTON COUNTY COUNCIL

James D. Ashley

Jim Purvis

Janice L. Smith

Michael Terry

Butch Harpel

Kirk Retherford

Attest:

Brad Nichols

Gregg A. Townsend, Secretary and County Auditor

Prepared by: Mark R. Regnier

Tipton County Attorney;

MARK R. REGNIER, ATTORNEY AT LAW.

120 S. West Street

Tipton, Indiana 46072

Auditor Townsend explained that the request was advertised to cover the cost to cure for items that needed to be relocated from the west right of way for an INDOT State Road 19 project in front of the Tipton Park, ball diamonds, and Tipton Hospital. He had since learned that the hospital had been reimbursed by INDOT and would not be an expense to the county. The bill for moving the items in the right of way in front of the park and ball diamonds had already been paid out of the Commissioner's "Outside Professional Services" budget line. Commissioner Henderson was not able to indicate any known upcoming expenditures from the original appropriation for 2021, thus being able to cover the

\$3,000 bill and not requiring the \$25, 000 additional funding to be appropriated. No action was taken on Resolution CC2021-12.

Resolution CC2021-13 - Fund 1148 Drug Free Community – Additional Appropriation

Motion by Jim Purvis to table the resolution. Second by Jan Smith. Motion carries.

TEV SOLAR (IMPA) Storm Damage

Auditor Townsend informed the Council that the solar farm just west of CR300W along SR28 had sustained storm damage to approximately \$240,000 in equipment. The equipment had to be immediately replaced. Upon consultation with the Assessor and the Department of Local Government Finance, it is proposed to set the undamaged equipment on one schedule and the replacement equipment on a second schedule. The first schedule would run for 10 years starting with 2020 pay 2021 and the second schedule would start with 2021 pay 2022 and run for only 9 years, both abatement ending simultaneously.

Minutes for February 23, 2021 and March 16, 2021

Motion by Jim Purvis to approve the minutes for February 23, 2021. Second by Kirk Retherford. Motion carries.

Motion by Kirk Retherford to approve the minutes for March 16, 2021. Second by Brad Nichols. Motion carries.

Council Comment

Jim Ashley addressed the question of the 3 to 2 vote at the last meeting with regard to jailer salaries. He stated that the motion did not receive the four votes necessary to move the motion forward, but Brad Nichols had raised the question whether the motion had failed, having not gotten four votes in the negative. County Attorney Mark Regnier stated that there were not 4 votes in favor, and there were not 4 votes against, so it could be considered unfinished business. Jim Ashley stated that they would treat it as tabled. Jim Purvis stated that since it did not get four votes, it didn't pass; motion dead; simple. Jim Ashley stated that they would leave it tabled.

Brad Nichols reported that the personnel committee had met, for the second time. They met with Doug Heath to discuss employee health insurance and to compare coverage with the City of Tipton's coverage. Jim Purvis stated that they looked at insurance, and had sent spreadsheets to department heads for information in order to compare contiguous counties and those of similar size. Mike Terry stated that they are looking at deferred compensation, retirement and PERF (Public Employees Retirement Fund). He stated that he had given the Sheriff a commitment to move along quickly. Brad Nichols stated that he still feels that the jailers should be funded at the proposed level, since we were receiving funding by housing out of county inmates, and that we had not sent inmates back. Sheriff Frawley stated that they had not returned inmates and had made offers to other counties to house inmates. He stated that the County had received \$410,640 since May, 2020 for housing out of county inmates. He stated that his attorney had stated that since the council did not have specific rules, the motion did not fail, having not received four votes against. Jim Purvis stated that they are looking at the whole picture systematically for all employees. Jan Smith thanked the personnel committee for their time and moving forward

Auditor Townsend stated that the county would be receiving approximately \$1.25 million from the federal government from the American Relief Plan. The Commissioners will sign an ordinance establishing the fund and will have to prepare a plan for the use of the money. The Council will appropriate the money. The U.S. Treasury will be issuing guidance soon. Jim Ashley suggested that we

keep our eyes open to other sources of funding that may be available from other organizations that will also be receiving money from the American Relief Plan, in order to stretch our resources farther. Jim Purvis encouraged the public to attend the Foundation's Community Conversation meetings that will be held on Thursday, April 22 at Sharpsville and April 29 at the Foundation.

Public Comment

The Council entertained comments from the public.

Motion by Jan Smith to adjourn the meeting. Second by Kirk Retherford. Motion carries.

Approved on 18th day of May, 2021

TIPTON COUNTY COUNCIL

James D. Ashley

Jim Purvis

Janice L. Smith

Michael Terry

Butch Harpel

Kirk Retherford

Attest:

Brad Nichols

Gregg A. Townsend, Secretary and County Auditor