

**FAYETTE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**January 2, 2024**

**BE IT REMEMBERED:**

That the Fayette County Council of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular session on the above date at 6:00 p.m. with the following present: Council members Kay Riker-Peyton, Scott Bevington, Jim Wulff, Tim Patterson, Sharon Cranfill and Mike Wenta along with Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State. Bob Stewart was absent.

Auditor Jane Downard called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Auditor Downard asked for nominations for the position of President for 2024. Councilman Wulff nominated Sharon Cranfill, Councilman Bevington seconded the nomination, final vote was 6-0 and Councilwoman Cranfill assumed the position of President. Councilwoman Cranfill then asked for nominations for the position of Vice President. Councilman Patterson nominated Kay Riker-Peyton, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken with the following results: Wenta No, Patterson Yes, Wulff No, Bevington No, Riker-Peyton Yes, Cranfill No. Motion failed 2-4. Councilman Wulff nominated Bob Stewart, Councilman Bevington seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken with the following results: Wenta Yes, Patterson Yes, Wulff Yes, Bevington Yes, Riker-Peyton No, Cranfill Yes. Motion passed 5-1.

**MINUTES:**

Councilman Wenta moved to approve the minutes from the December 5<sup>th</sup> regular meeting, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 6-0.

**MAIL:**

None

**COUNTY ATTORNEY:**

County Attorney Geoff Wesling did not have anything for council at this time.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

None

**COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVE:**

Commissioner Dale Strong updated council that they had approved three 144s today. The Health Department moved Missy Kavanaugh into the county health nurse position, and Gail Marcum to the school liaison position. Hana Glover was hired to fill a full-time vacancy in the Auditor's Office. They received the coroner's annual report, and made a number of annual board appointments including reappointing all members to the Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS:**

None

**144s:**

Brandon Burgess presented a 144 requesting an increase in his annual salary of \$1,038 per year to bring his annual salary to \$46,000. Councilwoman Riker-Peyton moved to approve the 144 as presented, Councilman Wulff seconded the motion, motion carried 6-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The revised proposed Ordinance 2024-01 Stipend in Lieu of Health Insurance was presented. After some discussion and clarification, Councilman Bevington moved to approve the ordinance as presented, Councilman Wenta seconded the motion, motion carried 6-0.

Thomas Barclay was present regarding the Glenwood Water Project. He said they recently had a meeting that was attended by three of the council members. Councilman Bevington had previously suggested that the council might be willing to loan \$350,000 toward the design costs

of this project assuming a four way split with other entities on contributions. Mr. Barclay requested a commitment from council for the \$350,000. Councilman Bevington had asked Treasurer Lavonda Glover to estimate the loss of interest and said we could potentially lose \$28,000 based on her estimates. County Attorney Geoff Wesling advised the council that the Town of Glenwood would be unable to repay any loan and that the county should view this project as sharing the risk with the other involved entities. Councilman Wenta moved to commit to the interest-free loan of \$350,000 for up to 24 months. Additional discussion was held regarding the risk of selling Connersville water and potentially causing a shortfall for Connersville. Councilman Bevington seconded the motion, motion carried 6-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Encumbrances from the 2023 budgets were presented for approval. Councilman Wenta moved to approve the encumbrances as presented, Councilman Patterson seconded the motion, motion carried 6-0.

The following board appointments were made:

Fayette County Economic Development Board One Appt by Council - 1 Year Term	Scott Bevington	12/31/24
Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission One Appt by Council - 1 Year Term	Tim Patterson	12/31/24
Fayette County Alcoholic Beverage Board One Appt by Council - 1 Year Term	Sam Harvey	12/31/24
Fayette County Extension Board One Appt by Council - 1 Year Term	Kay Riker-Peyton	12/31/24
Fayette County 4-H Council One Appt by Council -1 Year Term	Kay Riker-Peyton	12/31/24
Fayette County E-911 Advisory Board One Appt by Council - 1 Year Term	Sharon Cranfill	12/31/24
Fayette County Tax Abatement Advisory Committee Council President or Designee - 1 Year Term	Mike Wenta	12/31/24

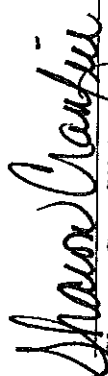
Councilman Wenta moved to approve the appointments as discussed, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 6-0.


**PATRON CONCERNS:**

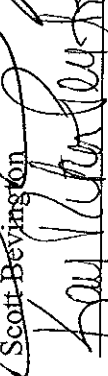
None

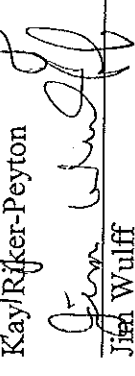
**ADJOURNMENT:**


Councilman Bevington moved to adjourn, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 6-0. Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.


  
Sharon Cranfill, President


  
Scott Bevington

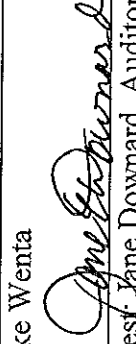
  
Kay Riker-Peyton

  
Jera Wulff

  
Bob Stewart, Vice President

  
Tim Patterson

  
Mike Wenta

  
Attest Jane Downard, Auditor