

FAYETTE COUNTY COUNCIL
July 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 Sharon Cranfill, Bob Stewart, Scott Bevington, Jim Wulff, Tim Patterson, Kay Riker-Peyton, and Mike Wenta along with Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

President Cranfill called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY TAX PUBLIC HEARING:

Chad Ripberger, 8051 N CR 550 W, Connersville, IN 47331, spoke on behalf of the county's three Volunteer Fire Departments and asked that council consider giving them a part of the county's portion of the Public Safety Tax. Chad talked about the new OSHA requirements that are coming out, and he shared his concern that they will lose their insurance coverage. He read some of the new rules including requiring two sets of uniforms, ladder testing, pump testing, more training hours, physicals, and so on. He requested 10% of the county's share of public safety tax for Bentonville Volunteer Fire Department, and 10% for each of the other two volunteer fire departments. He talked about how involved the fire departments are in the community, and Bentonville just did this past weekend.

Wade Walling spoke and asked if council members were familiar with the taxpayer savings report done regarding volunteer fire departments. He supports the volunteer fire departments.

Zac Jones spoke and said he supports the volunteer fire departments, and he suggested the county get with the city and strongly encourage the city to also donate to the volunteer fire departments.

Kelly VanMeter spoke regarding the need for raises for 911 dispatchers. She said she has lost three people to Rush County because they are paid \$10,000 higher. Kelly said she has asked for \$10,000 raises for the five full-time dispatchers, an hourly increase for part-time dispatchers, and a higher amount for herself.

Others that spoke in favor of the tax included Chad Groning with Everton Volunteer Fire Department, Lisa Sembach with Glenwood Volunteer Fire Department, Scott Jones with the Connersville Fire Department, Clint Brown with the Connersville Police Department, and Ron Stevens the Fayette County Veterans Service Officer.

Councilman Wenta moved to close the public hearing portion of the meeting, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded

MINUTES:

Councilman Wulff moved to approve the minutes from the June 4th regular meeting, Councilman Stewart seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

MAIL/EMAIL:

None

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Bevington would like to have a budget and finance committee meeting on July 9th at 4:30 p.m. Auditor Downard will advertise the meeting.

COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVE:

Commissioners Dale Strong and Dale Munson were present. Commissioner Strong said due to the length of the meeting already he would forego giving a commissioner update.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS:

An Additional Appropriation to County General Fund 1000 Coroner Department to Account 10103 Director in the amount of \$10,000 was presented. Councilman Wenta moved to approve the additional as presented, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

An Additional Appropriation to Local Roads and Street Fund 1169 to Account 30860 Grant Match in the amount of \$357,000 was presented. Councilman Wenta moved to approve the additional as presented, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

An Additional Appropriation to Motor Vehicle Highway Restricted Fund 1173 to Account 30860 Grant Match in the amount of \$169,000 was presented. Councilman Wenta moved to approve the additional as presented, Councilman Stewart seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

144s:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed Ordinance 2024-05 Modifying Local Income Tax rates was presented for approval. This ordinance would impose an additional .25% tax for public safety. Councilman Wenta moved to approve the ordinance as presented, Councilman Patterson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Wenta Yes, Riker-Peyton Yes, Patterson Yes, Wulff Yes, Bevington No, Stewart Yes, Cranfill Yes. Motion carried 6-1

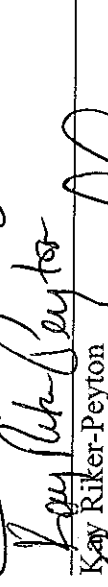
PATRON CONCERNS:

ADJOURNMENT:

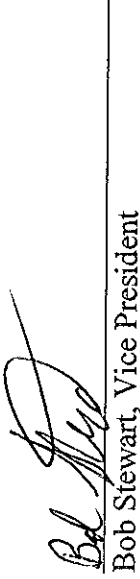
Councilman Bevington moved to adjourn, Councilman Stewart seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.


Sharon Cranfill, President


Scott Bevington


Kay Riker-Peyton


Jim Wulff


Bob Stewart, Vice President


Tim Patterson


Mike Wenta


Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor