

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
Minutes
Tuesday March 17, 2015 at 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

Pledge of Allegiance

Bernie Burns, Vigo County Sheriff Dept. called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Calling of the roll

Present: Bill Thomas, Ed Ping, Kathy Miller, Mark Bird, Mike Morris, Tim P. Curley.

Absent/Excused: Rick Burger.

Corrections to the journal of the preceding meeting, if needed

- February 10, 2015

Motion: To approve the minutes as published, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Bill Thomas, **Seconded by** Ed Ping.

Motion passed unanimously.

Public comment

There was none.

Communications from elected officials of the County

- Commissioners – Report of improvements and maintenance in the transportation system and other facilities.

The Commissioners were not available and will attend the April meeting.

Communications from other officials or agencies

- Paul Southwick, Director, Alcohol and Drug – Status update on Alcohol & Drug/Drug Court

Mr. Southwick reported the following issues:

1. As an effort to cut back on expenses, an employee was laid off in December of 2014. She has now found a job, but it is anticipated that she will receive approximately \$5,000 in Unemployment from the Drug Court.
2. The Drug Court received a \$20,000 grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. \$10,000 of that amount is to be used for part-time wages and the other \$10,000 for drug screen services. Mr. Southwick will be submitted approximately \$3,000 in wages to be reimbursed for the first quarter of 2015.
3. A grant was received from the Terre Haute Police Dept. in the amount of \$3,500 to support the Alcohol and Drug Dept.
4. The Local Coordinating Council has been a longtime supporter of the Drug Court. The grant money has been used to support personnel expenditures. With the personnel cutbacks, the Drug Court would

only be eligible to receive \$1,000 and given the amount of work involved, Mr. Southwick opted not to apply for this grant.

5. A grant was just announced by the Indiana State Court Administration and Vigo County could be eligible for up to \$10,000 in grant funding. These grants do not fund personnel expenses but rather program expansions. We do not want to expand at this time when we are trying to cut back. Mr. Southwick is going to apply for this grant for drug screen services and staff training.
 6. Drug testing revenues last year include approximately \$36,000 from Probation and \$61,000 from self-pay.
 7. Judge Rader requested looking into the feasibility of joining the Drug Court and Alcohol and Drug with Adult Probation Dept. The Judges met for a discussion on this matter and Mr. Southwick is continuing to look into the option and what is being done in other counties.
 8. Another revenue plan is to be more aggressive over bond money. The Judge started implementing mandatory bond, especially on first time offenders of \$150.
 9. Starting in January of 2015, the first Friday of each month has been designated to follow up on client fees.
- Overall, Mr. Southwick feels the outlook is good and the Drug Court and Alcohol and Drug funds will be in the black at the end of the first quarter and will not need any of the money appropriated in the County General fund at this point. However, some may be needed at the end of the second quarter, but still feels things are moving in the right direction.

Councilman Bill Thomas complimented Mr. Southwick for the good job he is doing and feels things are looking better on the financial situation.

Reports from standing committees

There were none.

Reports from select committees

There were none.

Ordinances relating to appropriations

Special Projects Committee

Resolution – Vigo County Public Library Bond

The Vigo County Public Library requested approval of a \$2 million bond. Kristi Howe, Director, Vigo County Public Library explained the projects planned include the purchase and renovation of a facility in West Terre Haute next to the Community Center, updates to the main branch, as well as refunding of an existing loan currently being paid from the operating balance for an energy savings project since interest rates are now lower.

Motion: To approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ed Ping, **Seconded by** Tim P. Curley.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2015-01 – EDIT Bond

This ordinance is a bond ordinance for the refinancing of the Vigo County, Indiana Economic Development Income Tax Revenue Bonds of 2009. The payment shall remain the same, however the bond will be paid off a year earlier saving approximately \$200,000.

Motion: To approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kathy Miller, **Seconded by** Ed Ping.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2015-02 – Appropriation Ordinance/EDIT Bond

This ordinance is an appropriation ordinance for the refinancing of the Vigo County, Indiana Economic Development Income Tax Revenue Bonds of 2009.

Motion: To approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Tim P. Curley, **Seconded by** Kathy Miller.

Motion passed unanimously.

Additional Appropriation 2015-14

EMA requested approval from the Commissioners to serve as the Fiscal Agent for Homeland Security District 7. The county fulfilling the duties of Fiscal Agent will receive a reimbursable grant and will receive an administrative fee of 3% of the total grant. Since the grant is reimbursable, appropriations would be needed to use initially. For that reason, EMA requested an additional appropriation of \$100,000 as a loan from the County General Fund.

Motion: To approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mike Morris, **Seconded by** Tim P. Curley.

Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Adjustment Committee

Sheriff 2015 Salary Ordinance

Due to employee changes in the Sheriff Dept., the overtime rate for the Merit Deputies needs to be adjusted to \$37.26 per hour.

Motion: To approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Tim P. Curley, **Seconded by** Ed Ping.

Motion passed unanimously.

Salary Ordinance 2015-03

The Local Health Dept. Trust fund was approved for appropriations in Payroll on Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2015-12 dated February 10, 2015. A Salary Ordinance is needed to set a part-time help rate at \$10 per hour.

Motion: To approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kathy Miller, **Seconded by** Tim P. Curley.

Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Committee

Additional Appropriation 2015-15

Withdrawn

Honorary resolutions

There were none.

Resolutions relating to fiscal policies of the Council

There were none.

First reading by summary reference of proposed ordinances and resolutions

President Pro-Tempore Mark Bird assigned the Requests of Council to committee for further review.

Appointments

There were none.

President Pro Tempore Mark Bird announced the May meeting has been moved to May 12, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment

President Pro Tempore Mark Bird adjourned the meeting.