

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
Sunshine Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

Pledge of Allegiance

President Aaron Loudermilk called the meeting to order at 5:00. Before reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, he asked for a moment of silence.

Calling of the roll

Travis Norris - present, Marie Theisz - present, Don Morris – no response, Vicki Weger - present, David Thompson - present, and Aaron Loudermilk - present. It was noted with great sadness that this is the final calling of the roll for Councilman Don Morris due to the untimely death of he and his wife. Councilman Morris served the County Council from January 1, 2021 to May 27, 2021, and before that also served as a City Councilman and public servant for many, many years. Council members then took the opportunity to share remembrances of Don Morris. He will be greatly missed.

First reading by summary reference of proposed ordinances and resolutions

- i. ROC 2021-028, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-18: Vigo County Prosecutor – appropriation into Return of Fugitives line item
- ii. ROC 2021-029, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-19: Seized Asset Fund – appropriations into Operating Expenses and Confidential Funds line items
- iii. ROC 2021-030, Salary Ordinance 2021-14, Amend salary for Deputy Clerks, Assistant Supervisor and Supervisor
- iv. ROC 2021-031, Annual tax abatement compliance review
Steel Dynamics Heartland, LLC (Personal Property)
ADVICS Manufacturing Indiana, LLC (Personal Property)
Verdeco Recycling Midwest, Inc. (Personal Property)
Casey's Marketing Company (Personal Property)
Casey's Marketing Company (Real Property)
Futurex Industries, Inc. (Real Property)
Verdeco Recycling Midwest, Inc. (Personal Property)

There were four additions after the Agenda was put together so the paperwork for them is separate. They are:

- Futurex Industries, Inc. (Personal Property)
- Select Genetics, LLC (Personal Property)
- Thyssenkrupp Presta North America, LLC (Personal Property)
- Taghleef Industries, Inc. (Personal Property)

It is the duty of the Council to review these filings within 45 days and determine that each is substantially complying with their Statement of Benefits (number of employees,

salaries, investment in their property that was promised in order to receive the abatement). If found not to be in substantial compliance, then the Council may notify the entity and move forward accordingly. No action needs to be taken tonight but discussion can be had if desired. Councilman Thompson asked how many entities were not in compliance with their paperwork (which was due May 17). It was determined that nine companies were not in compliance, those being: Danisco USA, Inc. (personal property); Saturn Petcare, Inc. (real and personal property); Meridian Brick, LLC (formerly Boral Brick) (personal property); D&D Automation, Inc. (personal property); Midwest Investments (real property); Thyssenkrupp Presta (real property); Select Genetics LLC (real property); and Taghleef Industries, Inc. (real property). After a brief discussion, it was decided that Council Administrator Kyliisa Miller would contact the nine entities who are delinquent in filing and maybe obtain the documentation so that it could be provided at next week's meeting for review and/or discussion. Ms. Miller also asked if the Council would like to have her contact Thyssenkrupp Presta for clarification of the salary information submitted on the personal property CF-1 since the numbers are confusing. It was decided that Ms. Miller should also obtain clarification from Thyssenkrupp Presta.

Public Comments

There were none.

Communications from elected officials, other officials or agencies of the County

Rob Roberts, Vigo County Prosecutor's Office, wanted to give advance notice of a request that his office will be submitting soon concerning their Annual Trial and Investigations budget. Expert witness fees are expensive and their line item for that will be depleted before the end of the year due to the number of trials that have been scheduled and taking place since the Courts are now open again.

Reports from committees

There were none.

Ordinances relating to appropriations.

i. ROC 2021-28 Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-18: Vigo County Prosecutor

Rob Roberts, Vigo County Prosecutor's Office, explained that these are funds used to bring back fugitives from other states. The majority are handled by ground transport by our Sheriff's Department, but occasionally some are too far away for that to happen. Those have to be contracted out and they try to do it as economically as possible travel-wise. They typically only do this for higher level felons. Generally their budget is sufficient to handle these costs but they have had quite a few this year as far away as California which have increased the costs dramatically.

**ii. ROC 2021-029, Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2021-19:
Seized Asset Fund**

Rob Roberts, Vigo County Prosecutor's Office, explained that seized assets are essentially income derived through, typically, drug seizure money. Initially the money goes through a court process and once completed, is deposited into a county account that was set up by Ordinance by this Council years ago. Usually, budget-wise, they try to be conservative in their income estimates. However, for some reason, an unusual amount of cases have been closed out this year and the fund now contains a large amount of money. The Drug Task Force has requested more funds for operating expenses and investigatory expenses to be appropriated out of this income that they have generated. There was a short discussion regarding what these funds would be used for, mainly overtime, confidential informant fees, etc.




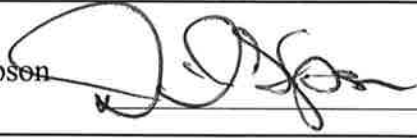
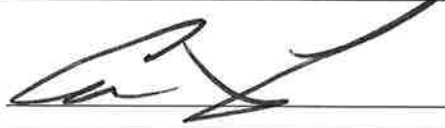
iii. ROC 2021-030, Salary Ordinance 2021-14: Clerk

Leanna Moore, Chief Deputy Clerk; Joyce Raley; LaDonna Ingram; and Bob Lieb were present from the Clerk's Office for this request. Leanna Moore stated that they had been diligently trying to have their salaries for their employees increased for the last four years stating that the numbers for the Clerk's Office were completely obsolete. Their research has determined that their office performs some of the same duties as the Prosecutor's Office and the Courts but are paid substantially less. Documentation was presented to show the amount of money saved/generated for the County's general fund. They will soon be adding \$20,000 from the sale to another county of some of their old election equipment. The various duties and training required was discussed. New job descriptions have been created for each position. There was a lengthy discussion about the various roles that each employee must be able to fill at any point in time. It was also pointed out that they lose people quickly to other County positions due to better pay rates available in other county offices. They have lost 26 people in four years to better paying county jobs. Competitive pay rates would allow them to retain employees rather than be a stepping stone to better paying county offices. Councilwoman Brenda Wilson commented that she thought a reevaluation of all salaries for the County would be appropriate since so much had changed in the six and a half years since the study had been done. Councilwoman Theisz asked how to go about getting the process started or if it was a budget-type matter and how it all gets accomplished. HR Director Kara Wright was present and stated that she had talked with the Commissioners and they were on board with getting this accomplished. She had been in touch with WIS regarding this matter. There was some additional discussion on this subject.

Travis Norris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 6-0, the motion was unanimously approved.

MINUTES OF THE VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
SUNSHINE MEETING
June 8, 2021

Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as written this 10th day of August, 2021.

Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		R. Todd Thacker	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Travis Norris	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Marie Theisz	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Vicki Weger	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Brenda Wilson	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		David Thompson	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>		Aaron Loudermilk, President	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>			

Attest:



James W. Bramble
Vigo Auditor