

The Adams County Council met May 12, 2020, 8:30 a.m., in the Adams County Service Complex. Those present on the premises were Council Members, Dennis Bluhm, Stan Stoppenhagen, Yvette Weiland,; County Council Attorney, Julie Marie Brown; County Attorney, Mark Burry; and County Auditor, Mary Beery. Commissioners, Doug Bauman and Kim Fruechte were in attendance as their meeting begins at 11:00 a.m.

Council Members, Tony Mellencamp, Cory Sprunger, and Steve Bailey, were present via Microsoft Teams. The Auditor will type or write their signatures in and add an s after to represent signing. John Schultz was not in attendance.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Steve Bailey, seconded by Tony Mellencamp, the March 10, 2020 Adams County Council Minutes were approved. Motion carried.

For the record, the Adams County Council did not meet on April 14, 2020 due to the Coronavirus COVID-19. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Dennis Bluhm, seconded by Tony Mellencamp, for approval of the minutes of the special emergency meeting of the Adams County Board of Commissioners' and Adams County Council Minutes on May 4, 2020. Motion carried.

IN RE: EXTENSION

Extension Director, Amy Rumschlag, discussed the wages for the summer help. In a normal year the summer help is working at this time but due to the virus they are not. Mrs. Rumschlag asked that the wages remain as a range between \$9 to \$11.19 instead of keeping the wage at \$11.19. She anticipates using summer help beginning June 1<sup>st</sup> and ending the end of July.

Council discussed the request as the discussion had already been held that they would be categorized as a NE1. Council agreed that the salary guidelines are set. Summer help will remain classified as NE1 at the rate of \$11.19 per hour.

Mrs. Rumschlag asked the board to be mindful that she will be back for an additional appropriation if necessary.

IN RE: REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

Council Attorney, Julie Marie Brown, presented a resolution and promissory note approving the Regional Sewer District to borrow an amount not to exceed \$500,000 from the Adams County Rainy Day Fund. The Adams County Regional Sewer District (District) is pursuing grant and loan funding to develop and extend sewer facilities to areas located in Adams County that have been identified with failed septic systems and in need of septic elimination projects by the Adams County Health Department. The geographic areas include Preble, Peterson, Linn Grove, Barrington Woods, Clem's Lake and certain areas adjacent to a portion of county road 900 north in Adams County, Indiana. The district shall sign a promissory note which will be a receipt for repayment. The district will be asking for a little at a time at an interest rate of 1%. The promissory note is currently asking for \$250,000 at this time. Council will not need to reconvene every time additional monies are needed. The Regional Sewer District will handle the paperwork to be disbursed at their request. All of the terms are spelled out in the promissory note. County Treasurer, Tom Krueckeberg, will be the point person for the term of the loan and will calculate the interest at the time of repayment. Each request for funds shall be in the form of a promissory note signed by the district.

Barry Scherer, Regional Sewer District Director, stated this will allow enough money to complete the engineering and design. If it deems more than that, the engineering firms know that we have a cap. The district will not be coming back for more money as Commonwealth has said they will not need more. The monies are governed by the State of Indiana. The district has bond reserves, payment funds earmarked to the USDA, and set aside funds that they cannot touch.

Mr. Scherer noted that the engineer says there is some COVID engineering grant money out there. The odds are very good at getting most or all of the grant money.

The district anticipates the project to be closing late fall or the end of the year. The loan will be repaid after closing. The total amount of all three projects to be awarded is \$10 to \$12 million. The engineering firm would rather do one project instead of coming back. After all projects are up and running, we will go from 230 to 700 accounts. Mr. Scherer reported there are a lot of areas that people are asking when they are coming to add them to the system. He noted this eliminates all of these systems from a fail septic system.

Sewer District Member, Steve Bailey, reported the district just completed a SBOA audit and came through with flying colors. The current funding is grant money so it will not have to be repaid. Our district is in pretty good shape.

County Attorney, Mark Burry, stated the resolution says Adams County will let the district borrow this money and the promissory note is a promise that the district will repay the county. Mr. Burry explained that the loan will be handled the same as when someone builds a house you have a construction loan to build, then a mortgage after it has been built. The district paid \$40,000 to \$50,000 in the beginning to borrow money. The district does not want to draw sooner than needed because each note means the district will begin paying interest on the draw. The interest will be put into County General in the amount of 1% per annum.

Mr. Scherer asked if the board wanted him to give a monthly report in a form of a statement. Steve Bailey will bring the information regarding expenditures for engineering work to Council. An accounting firm maintains these figures.

Miller Land Surveying has completed all of the surveys.

Council asked if the money does not come back to the County, does the county rewrite the note or extend the note? Mr. Burry responded the district does not have sufficient funds, the note goes out two years. If it does not get paid back within the two years, the district has defaulted. The district has the legal ability given by the State Revolving Fund who oversees the money.

Mr. Burry reported you have to be ready to go on a project when the government is ready to give out money. Bobo can only be done if they give us all of the grant money and they did. The project is being completed with 100% of grant monies.

Motion by Tony Mellencamp, to pass Resolution 2020-13, seconded by Steve Bailey. Motion carried.

IN RE: AUDITOR REPORT

**2021 Budgets**

Auditor, Mary Beery, asked the board to decide the percentage, if any, for guidelines when figuring the 2021 budgets. Council was not prepared to make recommendations.

Stan Stoppenhagen advised that the board meet if they are going to do adjustments on wages. Council also needs to look at the PTO policy and create a response which will affect budgets. The IT Committee is developing a policy that would affectively allocate each department to budget their IT expenses.

Council decided to hold a work session with the entire Council on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 9 a.m. at the Service Complex. Council also decided to keep doing Microsoft Teams in case a board member felt more comfortable. The meetings of the board will continue to be streamed in the future.

IN RE: TREASURER

Treasurer, Tom Krueckeberg, reported the county has 51.8% of the property tax collections. This does not include all of the banks and the mail that has been received.

IN RE: SALARY ORDINANCE

**REQUESTED BI-WEEKLY    APPROVED**

Jail (0380)  
Jailer

Aaron Stroncsek (retro 4/4/2020)	\$1,459.48	\$1,459.48
Grace Goodman (retro 4/1/2020)	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Nicholas Yoder (retro 4/27/2020)	\$1,541.32	\$1,541.32

Soil & Water (0750)

Assistant Conservationist (NE3)		
Josey Kahn (retro 3/30/2020)	\$1,106.40	\$1,106.40

Highway (1176)

Assistant Supervisor (NE7)	\$1,684.80	\$1,684.80
Jaron Brodbeck (retro 4/15/2020)		

Extension (0011)

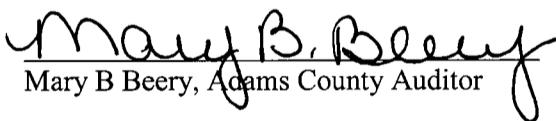
Summer Program Assistant (NE1)	\$9.00-\$11.00/hr	\$11.19/hr
--------------------------------	-------------------	------------

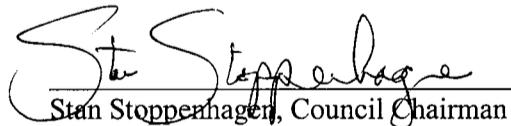
Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Dennis Bluhm, the above Salary Ordinances for 2020 were approved by Council as presented. Motion carried.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Steve Bailey, for adjournment of the May 12, 2020 meeting of the Adams County Council. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

  
Mary B Beery, Adams County Auditor

  
Stan Stoppenhagen, Council Chairman