

The Adams County Council met September 8, 9, & 10, 2020, 8:00 a.m., in the Adams County Service Complex. Those present were Council Members, Dennis Bluhm, Stan Stoppenhagen, Yvette Weiland, Tony Mellencamp, Cory Sprunger, and Steve Bailey; County Council Attorney, Julie Marie Brown; County Auditor, Mary Beery; and Claims Deputy, Brianna Brodbeck. Commissioners, Doug Bauman, Kim Fruechte, and Rex Moore were in attendance as their meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Yvette Weiland, the August 11, 2020 Adams County Council Minutes were approved. Motion carried.

IN RE: SOLID WASTE PUBLIC HEARING ON 2020 BUDGET

Adams County Council President, Stan Stoppenhagen, opened the floor to hear budget inquires for the 2021 Adams County Solid Waste District. Adams County Solid Waste District Director, Jeff McIntosh, and Solid Waste Attorney, Tim Baker, were in attendance and taxpayers present made no comment.

Upon by Tony Mellencamp, to approve the budget as presented, seconded by Yvette Weiland. Motion carried.

Resignation of John Schultz

Stan Stoppenhagen expressed appreciation to John Schultz for his service to the public and County Council.

IN RE: CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING OF SOLID WASTE

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Cory Sprunger, to close the public hearing on the 2021 budget of the Adams County Solid Waste District. Motion carried.

IN RE: ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC HEARING ON 2021 BUDGET

Adams County Council President, Stan Stoppenhagen, opened the floor to hear budget inquires for the 2021 Adams County Budget. Adams County taxpayers that were present made no comment.

IN RE: PUBLIC DEFENDER

Managing Public Defender, Brad Weber, requested approval to move the current part-time position to a full-time position. Juvenile's automatically get assigned a public defender. His department has one full-time and one part-time person. The prosecutor currently has four full-time positions. Mr. Weber would like the full-time position to begin January 1, 2021 unless Council would want to fund in 2020. The part-time position is paid \$10.56 on an hourly basis.

Motion by Cory Sprunger, to approve as a full-time position at a NE3 level (Gayla Reinhart) at a bi-weekly rate of \$1,106.40, seconded by Steve Bailey. Motion carried.

Mr. Weber asked for the current full-time position be changed to an office manager. The employee manages the office while the Public Defenders are out of the office. Mr. Weber informed the board that he would choose experience over a bachelor's degree. The board needs to decide if the duties are the same as the two courts and the Prosecutor.

Motion by Steve Bailey, to make the current full-time position (Sildain Atienzo) be classified as a NE6 at a bi-weekly rate of \$1,516.80, seconded by Dennis Bluhm. Motion carried.

Mr. Weber discussed the salaries of the Public Defenders. We are not in compliance with the regulation of the State of Indiana. The Managing Public Defender should be paid the same wage as the judges and prosecutor but he is not asking for that wage. Mr. Weber requests to be paid the same as the full-time Chief Deputy Prosecutor at a salary of \$117,094 or \$4,503.62 bi-weekly. Mr. Weber proposed that John Cowan and Mitch Hicks receive a 3% increase. John Cowan would receive a salary of \$80,946.57 or \$3,113.33 bi-weekly. Mitch Hicks would receive a salary of \$64,104.89 or \$2,465.57 bi-weekly.

Upon a motion by Dennis Bluhm, to adopt the wages as presented, seconded by Yvette Weiland. Motion carried.

IN RE: SAVE ON ENERGY COSTS

Eric Heshner & Doug Ahlfeld, from Renewable Energy Systems, made a presentation on their energy savings project. They do the engineering, procurement & construction of the systems. Adams County would receive a 96% of the usage to be replaced by solar. Net metering will only last for 1 to 1 ½ years. The Highway garage will pay a higher rate than the jail. The life expectancy is 30 plus years but there are parts that will last a lesser number of years. The panels will still work but at a lesser rate. Over the course of 30 years, we will save approximately \$2,375,400. On cloudy days will get a lesser percent of power but there will be no interruption of power. There is not a storage integration in the plan but could be if needed. Solar panels do not ruin the ground once installed and there will still be growth underneath the panels. The cost to install the panels is \$1,667,000. Solar renewable energy credits accumulate certificates and the county can use them as wanted.

Commissioner Bauman stated if the county is going solar, the Commissioners would like to go with Renewable Energy Systems.

Rick Anderson of Johnson Melloh Solutions, was present to share his energy savings project. Mr. Anderson quickly gave out handouts and exited because of the Commissioners stating they would like to go with Renewable Energy Systems.

IN RE: GRANT APPLICATION

Preparedness Coordinator, Karla Marbach, addressed the board to seek approval of a grant application. The grant is the CARES Act Corona Virus Relief Fund and Epidemiology and laboratory Capacity grant. The grant agency is the Indiana State Department of Health. The grant covers manning the position and renting space for a testing site for the Adams Memorial Hospital. The Health Department does not have the staff to run a testing site. She was under the understanding that the hospital would sign the grant. The hospital cannot be the fiscal officer of the grant. The grant amount is \$100,000 with \$50,000 up front and will run from September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Motion by Yvette Weiland, to approve the grant application request, seconded by Dennis Bluhm. Motion carried.

IN RE: CLERK

Clerk, Jim Voglewede, met to discuss the implementation of the Odyssey System. Additional staffing and training might be needed if Superior Court continues to refuse to input the courts information. Superior Court have told the Clerk they must do the work. The Clerk does not have access to the information. Attorney Brown asked if Odyssey has been going well overall besides this, Mr. Voglewede said yes they are gradually learning and can call the help desk for help on issues. Circuit Court has figured out how to complete the work and Superior Court should be able to do it as well. If Superior Court doesn't do the work, the Clerk's Office will have to figure out how to complete it. It was mentioned that Superior Court is one of the departments that came asking to get Odyssey.

IN RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT - CARES

Health Department Attorney, Adam Miller, informed the board there is an IT grant from CARES for \$101,651.43 for the Health Department to purchase computers and monitors. What they don't spend goes back in and divided among other counties. There is a deadline of September 17, 2020.

Motion by Cory Sprunger, to approve the grant, seconded by Yvette Weiland. Motion carried.

IN RE: REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

Steve Bailey, board member of the Regional Sewer District, reported the sewer district received approval of an \$8 million grant. They are still a little short on funding but they are looking for more options. They are hopeful to be completed in 2021.

IN RE: CARES

Stan Stoppenhagen reported the county is looking for using the CARES grant more for IT and the Sheriff's Department. The Commissioners approved \$438,000 to cover fiber expansion and secondary communication, radios and phones. It will give them a battery back up to run off of if we go down. Brianna will bring a current update next month to Council

IN RE: AUDITOR REPORT

Auditor, Mary Beery, asked the board if they wanted to participate in the payroll tax deferral. The notice allows employers to defer withholding on affected employees' compensation during the last four months of 2020 and then withhold those deferred amounts during the first four months of 2021. By consensus, Council decided to not participate (opt out) of the payroll tax deferral.

Mary Beery asked for guidance on paying the Veteran Service Officer for time that he is off due to medical reasons. She reminded the board that the position is part-time and does not fill out a time card due to Council's decision in 2019. Part-time employees do not receive benefits including sick and vacation.

Motion by Tony Mellencamp, to correct the intent of paying Ron Bollenbacher as a part-time worker and he will not be paid when he is not working, he is not to exceed 28 hours per week, and must fill out a time card, seconded by Yvette Weiland. Motion carried.

Plat Book Technician, Mike Werling, requested a pay increase for 2021.

Motion by Cory Sprunger, to pay Mike Werling at a rate of \$25 per hour, seconded by Dennis Bluhm. Motion carried.

IN RE: SALARY ORDINANCE

FUND #/DEPT.	REQUESTED BI-WEEKLY	APPROVED
Treasurer (0003) Part Time Deputy (NE2)	\$12.43/hr	\$12.43/hr
Jail (0380) Jailer Brandon Williamson (retro 8/22/2020)	\$1,355.00	\$1,355.00
Probation (0273) Assistant Chief Probation Officer Matt Lose (retro 8/22/2020)	\$1,968.75	\$1,968.75

Motion by Yvette Weiland, to approve the above Salary Ordinance, seconded by Tony Mellencamp. Motion carried.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Cory Sprunger, for adjournment of the September 8, 2020 meeting of the Adams County Council. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Mary B Beery, Adams County Auditor

Stan Stoppenhagen, Council Chairman

Budget hearings of the Adams County Council began Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Prosecutor's Investigator, no decision will be made until a job description is created.

Budget hearings resumed Wednesday, September 9, 2020

Those present were Council Members, Steve Bailey, Tony Mellencamp, Stan Stoppenhagen, Dennis Bluhm, Yvette Weiland, and Cory Sprunger; County Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown; County Auditor, Mary Beery; and Claims Deputy, Brianna Brodbeck.

Budget hearings resumed Thursday, September 10, 2020

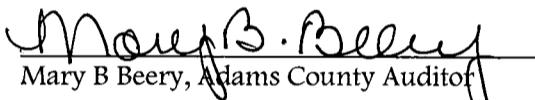
Those present were Council Members, Steve Bailey, Tony Mellencamp, Stan Stoppenhagen, Dennis Bluhm, Yvette Weiland, and Cory Sprunger; County Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown; County Auditor, Mary Beery; and Claims Deputy, Brianna Brodbeck.

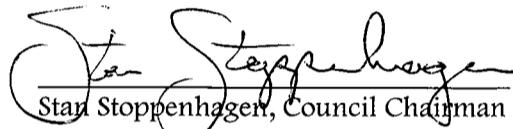
IN RE:

ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger, seconded by Steve Bailey, for adjournment of the September 8, 9, & 10, 2020 budget hearings of the Adams County Council. Motion carried.

ATTEST:


Mary B Beery, Adams County Auditor


Stan Stoppenhagen, Council Chairman