

The Adams County Council met October 12, 2021, 8:30 a.m., in the Adams County Service Complex. Those present were Council Members, Yvette Weiland, Cathy Mitchel, Dennis Bluhm, John Summers, Cory Sprunger, Keith Blythe, and Fred Velez; County Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown; County Auditor, Tony Mellencamp, and Chief Deputy Auditor, Brianna Brodbeck, and HR Coordinator Shannon Greene. Commissioners, Steve Kuhn, and Rex Moore, and Stan Stoppenhagen, were in attendance also.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Fred Velez and second by Cathy Mitchel, the September 14, 2021 Adams County Council Minutes were approved. Motion carried.

IN RE: ORDINANCE 2021-3 ADAMS COUNTY SOLID WASTE

Upon a motion by Fred Velez and second by Keith Blythe to approve the 2022 budget for the Solid Waste District Ordinance 2021-3 as long as it is the same as presented at the September meeting. Motion Carried.

IN RE: ADAMS COUNTY BUDGET 2021-4

Upon a motion by Dennis Bluhm and second by Fred Velez to approve the 2022 Adams County Budget Ordinance 2021-4. Motion Carried. Cory Sprunger voted nay. There was discussion by Cory Sprunger that he could not support the budget for several reasons. Dennis Bluhm disagreed with Cory's points, although he thanked him for his diligence. Auditor Mellencamp stated he would not reply because he and Mr. Sprunger had disagreed on these points for several years and neither would change the other's mind. There was more discussion stemming from some disagreement from Council members and Councilman Sprunger at the end of the meeting.

IN RE: ADAMS COUNTY SALARIES AND WAGES ORDINANCE 2021-5

Upon a motion by Fred Velez and second by John Summers to approve the Salary Ordinance 2021-5 for 2022. Motion Carried. Cory Sprunger was the lone nay vote.

IN RE: ACEDC

Colton Bickel, ACEDC Executive Director, updated the Council on Economic Development and the fact it has done a broadband survey as well as doing many other things that are benefitting and will benefit the county as it moves forward. Council discussed the broadband issue specifically as it can be helped with ARPA revenues. The State of Indiana is also developing a plan for statewide broadband and the county will need to work hand in hand with whatever the State is doing. The M.E.R.I.T. Center continues to grow as well, Bickel noted.

IN RE: HOSPITAL UPDATE

Adams Memorial Hospital Attorney, Adam Miller, and Adams County Commissioners Attorney, Mark Burry, met with the Council to discuss hospital matters. It was discussed that perhaps a county council member could meet with the hospital board at its monthly meeting as a Commissioner currently attends that meeting. Adam Miller will get back to Council about that. Some Council members said they would like to be able to see how the money the county provides is utilized. There was discussion that State statute prevents a county hospital from sharing certain information in order to protect itself from larger hospitals. Much of this began in 2001 when the county as well as all towns and cities in the county worked together and decided it was best to build a new hospital as opposed to remodeling or selling to a larger hospital network.

IN RE: COUNCIL ATTORNEY

Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown explained the need for a resolution to allow adoption of a spending plan for ARPA revenues. They will present the resolution at a Commissioners meeting and return to Council as certain time requirements need to be met for any action on it.

Upon a motion by Fred Velez and second by Cathy Mitchel to approve Resolution 2021-20 to allow the use of ARPA revenues for a generator to mitigate the spread of Covid. Motion Carried.

Upon a motion by Cathy Mitchel and second by Keith Blythe to approve Resolution 2021-21, allowing ARPA revenues to be utilized to pay for time off and overtime as it relates to COVID and following the county policy guidelines. Motion Carried.

Upon a motion by Dennis Bluhm and second by Cathy Mitchel to approve Resolution 2021-22, allowing payment of consulting, engineering and legal services as it relates to ARPA revenues. Motion Carried.

Upon a motion by John Summers and second by Fred Velez to approve Resolution 2021-23, allowing ARPA revenues be utilized to repair or replace HVAC in order to mitigate the spread of COVID in the Adams County Service Complex. Motion Carried. Cory Sprunger voted nay.

It was also noted that the Commissioners had already approved Resolution 2021-18 which would allow payment to county employees for up to 2 weeks per year if a positive COVID test is received.

Auditor Mellencamp submitted the following additional, salary ordinances and transfers:

SALARY ORDINANCE

Requested

Approved

Jail (0380)

Jailer – Billy Elam (retro 9/18/2021) \$1,396.00 \$1,396.00

Assessor (1000.0008) & Reassessment (1224)

Data Entry Deputy (NE3) Melanie Justus (retro 9-7-21) \$558.80 \$558.80
 Melanie Justus (retro 9-7-21 (1244) \$558.80 \$558.80

Golden Meadows (1000.0622)

Administrator (ex4)
 D. Mark Blankenship (retro 9-7-21) \$2031.65 \$2031.65

Public Defender (1000.0271)

Secretary (NE3)
 Lori Hakes (retro 8-30-21) \$1136.80 \$1136.80

Upon a motion by Fred Velez, seconded by Keith Blythe , the above Salary Ordinances were approved by Council. Motion carried.

IN RE:

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

		Amount Requested	Amount Approved
County General (1000)			
Jail (0380)			
1000.33102.000.0380	Utilities	\$26,500.00	\$26,500.00
Total County General		\$26,500.00	\$26,500.00
Community Corrections (1122)			
1122.32501.000.0000	Bowen Center	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
1122.32502.000.0000	Project Sunrise	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00
Cumulative Bridge (1135)			
1135.42601.000.0000	Equipment	\$250.00	\$250.00
LIT Public Safety (1170)			
1170.22000.000.0005	Gas, oil & Lube	\$27,000.00	\$27,000.00
Highway (1176)			
1176.12402.000.0533	PERF	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
1176.24400.000.0533	Uniforms	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1176.31800.000.0530	Telephone	\$100.00	\$100.00
Adult Probation Services (2100)			
2100.12803.000.0000	Other emp. Insurance	\$480.00	\$480.00
American Rescue Plan Act (8950)			
8950.1185.000.0000	Covid time off pay	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
8950.31100.000.0000	Legal fees/services	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
8950.42601.000.0000	equipment	\$600,000.00	\$600,000.00
Total All Funds		\$774,930.00	\$774,930.00

The above additional were approved by Council during the regular meeting upon a motion by Fred Velez and second by John Summers to approve the additional. Motion Carried.

IN RE:

TRANSFERS

<u>FUND #</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>DECREASE</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>
Circuit Court				
1000.31206.000.0232	Psychiatric, Med. service	\$300.00		\$300.00

1000.12804.000.0232	Pauper Counsel		\$300.00	\$300.00
Jail				
1000.11107.000.0380	Chief Jailer	\$3,775.00		\$3,775.00
1000.11604.000.0380	Jailers		\$3,775.00	\$3,775.00
Golden Meadows				
1000.11605.000.0622	Administrative asst.	\$5,500.00		\$5,500.00
1000.11406.000.0622	Administrator	\$5,800.00		\$5,800.00
1000.11500.000.0622	Overtime	\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00
1000.11400.000.0622	CAN full time		\$13,300.00	\$13,300.00
Clerk Perp				
1119.21100.000.0000	Office Supplies	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
1119.31901.000.0000	Scanning and Microfilming		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Sales Disclosures				
1131.42601.000.0000	Equipment	\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00
1131.33600.000.0000	Maintenance Contracts		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
LIT Public Safety				
1170.11201.000.0005	Chief Deputy	\$3,250.00		\$3,250.00
1170.11800.000.0005	Deputies/sergeants		\$3,250.00	\$3,250.00
1170.11307.000.0005	Matron	\$4,000.00		\$4,000.00
1170.11903.000.0005	Special Deputy		\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Park & Rec.				
1219.31100.000.0000	Legal Fees/services	\$1,710.00		\$1,710.00
1219.43100.000.0000	Other Capital Outlays		\$1,710.00	\$1,710.00

Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger and second by Fred Velez to approve the transfers. Motion Carried.

IN RE:

OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY PRESENTED

Shannon Greene, HR Coordinator, brought before Council, the new Administrator of Golden Meadows Home, Mark Blankenship. She discussed a need to increase the CAN position from an NE2 to an NE 4 because the current pay is not close to similar positions elsewhere and they are struggling to find people to fill those roles. She would want the nursing assistant position to go from an NE 1 to an NE 3. Non certified nursing assistants are currently NE 1 while certified are NE 2. Council President, Yvette Weiland, noted she wishes this would have been discussed at budget hearings because they had literally just passed the budget for 2022 and this would now have to be an additional. The HR Coordinator said she understood but that with the change in staff there and this issue being cause recently due to personnel leaving it was not brought up until now. The HR Coordinator informed Council that if the move to NE 4 and NE 3 couldn't happen that she would at least like to see all nursing assistant positions go to an NE 3. This matter will be investigated and taken under advisement.

Upon a motion by Fred Velez and second by Cathy Mitchel to adopt the new wage packet information as presented by the HR Coordinator. Motion Carried.

There was discussion between Council, Commissioners, and Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown regarding representation from Council be placed on a committee with a Commissioner regarding the spending plan for the ARPA funds. The Council Attorney noted so long as there isn't a quorum that would be acceptable.

Barry Scherer, Adams County Regional Sewer District Superintendent, informed the Council that an award was presented to the County and the Sewer District at the recent Association of Indiana Counties conference in Switzerland County. It was the Local Government Cooperation Award. Auditor Mellencamp nominated Adams County and the Sewer District for collaborating on aiding citizens with sewer connections and solving various other issues in those areas. Scherer, Mellencamp, as well as Commissioner Rex Moore and Commissioner Attorney, Mark Burry, worked together to submit information to AIC in hopes of receiving the cooperation award and it resulted in the award being given to the local entities.

IN RE:

ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Fred Velez, seconded by Dennis Bluhm to adjourn. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Brianne P. Buddleck

Yvette Weiland

Tony Mellencamp, Adams County Auditor
Chief Deputy

Yvette Weiland, Council Chairman