

The Adams County Council met April 12, 2022, 8:30 a.m., in the Adams County Service Complex. Those present were Council Members, Dennis Bluhm, Keith Blythe, Cathy Mitchel, Cory Sprunger, John Summers, Fred Velez, and Yvette Weiland; Adams County Auditor, Tony Mellencamp, County Council Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown; Chief Deputy Auditor, Brianna Brodbeck, and HR Coordinator Shannon Greene. Commissioners, Steve Kuhn, Rex Moore, and Stan Stoppenhagen, were also in attendance.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Yvette Weiland and second by Cathy Mitchel, the March 8, 2022 Adams County Council Minutes were approved. Motion carried.

IN RE: SHERIFF

Sheriff Dan Mawhorr presented a case for switching from Central Square to the Spillman System, a computerized aided dispatch, record system and jail management system. It would upgrade the current system and would interact with all other Northeast Indiana Sheriff and police departments who utilize the same system. This had been discussed at the March meeting.

Upon a motion by Fred Velez and second by Cathy Mitchel to approve the \$697, 047.00, Resolution 2022-11, out of the ARPA revenues for the Spillman System. Motion Carried. The lone nay vote was Cory Sprunger, who said he objection was due to wanting to see all options for the ARPA revenues before choosing any.

IN RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT GRANT

Jessica Ruttschilling, Adams County Health Department, presented a grant agreement. Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger and second by Fred Velez to approve the Health Department applying for a \$1,000 grant from the Indiana State Department of Health. Motion Carried.

IN RE: COUNCIL ATTORNEY

County Attorney, Julie-Marie Brown, stated that two resolutions were necessary in allowing the Auditor to submit the required information to the Department of the Treasury by April 30.

Upon a motion by Yvette Weiland and second by John Summers to approve Resolution 2022-12, providing necessary information to allow the Auditor to submit to the Department of Treasury. Motion Carried.

IN RE: AUDITOR

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

2022 AMENDED SALARY ORDINANCE

**Treasurer (0003)**

Deputy Treasurer (NE4)	Requested	Approved
Kim Macdowell (effective 4-11-22)	\$15.51	\$15.51

**Probation (0273)**

Secretary (NE4)		
Cara Bluhm (retro 3/21/2022)	\$15.51	\$15.51

**Soil & Water (0750)**

Conservation Program Coordinator (NE5)		
Kelly Amstutz (effective 4-25-2022)	\$17.48	\$17.48

Upon a motion by Yvette Weiland and second by John Summers to approve the above salary ordinance. Motion Carried.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

**County General (1000)**

IT (9600)			
1000.38302.000.9600	secondary circuits	\$78,000.00	\$78,000.00
<b>TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL</b>		<b>\$78,000.00</b>	<b>\$78,000.00</b>

**American Rescue Plan Act (8950)**

8950.42702.000.0000	computer software	\$697,047.00	\$697,047.00
<b>Total All Funds</b>		<b>\$775,047.00</b>	<b>\$775,047.00</b>

Upon a motion by John Summers and seconded by Keith Blythe, the above additional appropriation was approved by Council, with the exception of the nay vote involving ARPA funds. Motion Carried.

IN RE: TRANSFERS

<u>FUND #</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>DECREASE</u>	<u>APP.</u>
<b>Jail</b>				
1000.11300.000.0380	Part time	\$12,000.00		\$12,000.00
1000.12902.000.0380	Assistant jailers		\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1000.12201.000.0380	Assistant Cooks		\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
<b>Highway</b>				
1176.11805.000.0530	Highway Engineer	\$36,000.00		\$36,000.00
1176.11111.000.0530	Supervisor		\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00
1176.11309.000.0530	Asst. Supervisor		\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
<b>Commissioners</b>				
1000.12500.000.0068	CDL/physical	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
1000.12501.000.0068	random drug/alc.	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
1000.12803.000.0068	other emp. Insurances		\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00

Upon a motion by Fred Velez and second by Cathy Mitchel to approve the transfers. Motion Carried.

IN RE: OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY PRESENTED

Auditor Mellencamp and Chief Deputy, Brianna Brodbeck, asked for guidance from Council, as is done every year in April, to tell Department heads how to build their budgets as far as pay increases, etc.

Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger and second by Yvette Weiland, as guidance is given, to try not to raise property tax rates this budget cycle. Motion Failed. 2-5. Voting yes were Cory Sprunger and Yvette Weiland. Voting no were Cathy Mitchel, Keith Blythe, John Summers, and Fred Velez. Summers noted he voted no as he felt it was too big a blanket with too many variables that are not known at this time.

There was discussion from council that this is the goal every budget cycle and no vote is necessary. Sprunger noted he just wanted to make the motion that Council do this as it has been his goal for a few years.

Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger and second by John Summers to approve trying to cap the 2023 budget at \$28 million for 2023, or the same as 2022. Motion Carried.

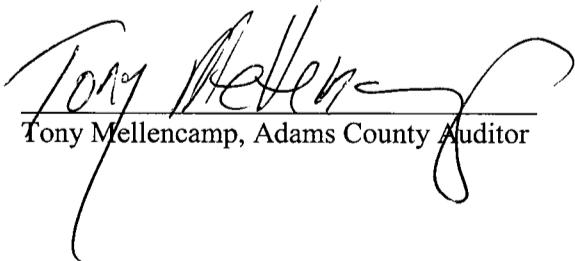
Upon a motion by Cory Sprunger and second by Yvette Weiland to begin the process of ending or reducing the County Wheel Tax. Motion Failed. Voting yes were Cory Sprunger and Yvette Weiland. Voting no were Cathy Mitchel, Keith Blythe, John Summers, and Fred Velez.

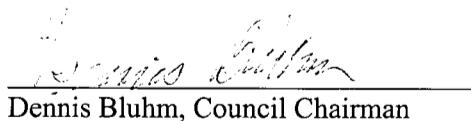
Upon a motion by John Summers and second by Fred Velez to instruct department heads to build into their budgets a \$1 per hour increase for those in the bands and if that does not apply then 75 cents plus the performance pay per hour would be done. Motion Carried. Nay votes were Cory Sprunger and Yvette Weiland. Yay votes were Cathy Mitchel, Keith Blythe, John Summers, and Fred Velez. It was noted the cost of this option would be about \$370,000. Several smaller options were also proposed by Sprunger and Summers but these were not adopted.

Upon a motion by John Summers and second by Cathy Mitchel to build a 3% pay increase to elected officials (excluding Council) into the 2023 budget. Motion Carried.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Yvette Weiland, seconded by John Summers to adjourn. Motion carried.

  
 Tony Mellencamp, Adams County Auditor

  
 Dennis Bluhm, Council Chairman