

BE IT REMEMBERED THE HENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF HENRY COUNTY, INDIANA, met in a Special Session at the Henry County Courthouse Circuit Courtroom, in the City of New Castle, Indiana on October 12, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. with the following members present: Kenon Gray, Susan Huhn, Harold Griffin, Shannon Thom and County Auditor Debbie Walker.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge and a Prayer led by Susan Huhn.

The main topic of the meeting was to discuss the 2024 budgets. Shannon Thom discussed job classifications, wages and how some job classifications wages are increasing faster than others. With the approval of council he would like to ask Stephanie Whitehead to reach out to WIS to get summary price on what it would cost for them to review every job description and to identify jobs that might have a special task in them that shouldn't be a part of the job description. They would like to have this estimate by the next meeting and have the work start as soon as possible.

Kenon Gray went over the Actual and Projected Cash Flows for 2020-2026 that were prepared by Baker Tilly. According to the report there is enough monies to increase longevity from \$200 to \$300 and max out at \$1,500 after 15 years, the cost of this increase for 2024 is \$41,000.00. In lieu of giving road deputies larger raises in 2024 than all others it has been suggested we do to give between a \$2,000 to a \$2,500 matrix. Overall there is enough monies to give a 5% raise for all full time employees excluding Probation Officers and Council Members. With the large build up in the LIT funds council needs to work with Baker Tilly in 2024 as to best how to tweak those. Shannon Thom explained that the document given to council with the Public Safety LIT does have a balance that is growing but with the changes they have made with the budget it is going to shrink quickly. Kenon Gray stated with the raises they will be only tapping into a small portion of the reserves and every other year they have had a balanced budget.

Susan Huhn asked for clarification on the Sheriff Matrix and longevity. It was clarified that they are asking for \$2,500 every five years, starting after completing 5 full years and it will max at \$15,000.00 what is suggested and longevity goes to \$300 maxing at \$1,500.00. Kenon Gray stated that with all the proposed raises it will cost about \$100,000.00

Susan Huhn asked if part time had been discussed at all. Kenon Gray stated that they current rates are all over the place. They are proposing a .50 per hour raise with the lowest being \$13.00 per hour.

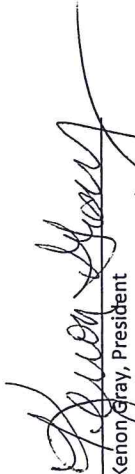
A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Shannon Thom to raise part time pay by .50 per hour. Motion carried unanimously.

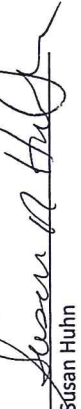
A motion was made by Shannon Thom to increase sheriff matrix pay for merit officers to \$2,500 every five (5) years and to increase longevity to \$300. The matrix pay will top out at \$15,000.00 after 30 years, and the longevity pay would top out at \$1,500 after 15 years. Motion was seconded by Susan Huhn. Motion carried unanimously.

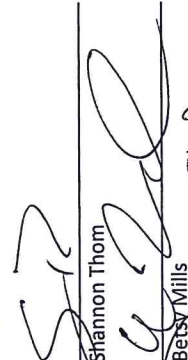
A motion was made by Shannon Thom and seconded by Harold Griffin to provide a 5% raise for all county employees excluding council and probation officers. Susan Huhn asked on behalf of the Sheriff to give a 5.8% salary. His reasoning for this is because it would raise the starting deputy pay at \$50,000 and it would be easier to hire. Sheriff Sproles explained that he is asking for this for all county employees. Kenon Gray explained that we do not have the extra money for the extra .8%. Motion carried unanimously.


Kenon Gray explained there will be a lot of additional appropriations in the next couple months.


A motion was made by Shannon Thom and seconded by Susan Huhn to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.


Kenon Gray, President


Susan Huhn


Shannon Thom


Betsy Mills


Debra G. Walker

Attested by: Debra G. Walker, Auditor


Harold Griffin


Michael Regner


Kyle Allen