

January 13, 2016

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL
December 8, 2015

Name:	Representing:	Title:	Present:
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence	At Large	President	Present
Bill Lentz	At Large	Pro-Tem	Present
Jim Reed	At Large		Present
Chris Ogle	District 1		Present
Laura DeDomenic	District 2		Present
Mark E Gorbett	District 3		Not - Present
Jorge Morales	District 4		Present
Chris Monroe	- -	Attorney	Present
Barb Hackman	Auditor	Secretary	Present

The Bartholomew County Council met on December 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana.

President Pence called the meeting to order.

Jim Reed gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the meeting minutes of November 10, 2015. They had not been sent out so they will be approved at the next meeting.

The next item on the agenda was a Request for Additional Appropriation for the Immunization Program Fund (811) in the amount of eighty-two-thousand seven-hundred-sixty-five dollars (\$82,765.00) as presented by Health Department Administrator Collis Mayfield. This is 2016 Immunization Program as approved by the Board of Health. He has reviewed it again. Most of it is for advertisement as the State is pushing them to do.

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The funding comes from the CDC and they want the word out. They have been getting more clients in because of the increased advertising. This is for all immunizations. **Jim Reed made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation for the Immunization Program Fund (811) in the amount of eighty-two-thousand seven-hundred-sixty-five dollars (\$82,765.00) as requested. Laura DeDomenic seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).**

The next item was a request for an Additional Appropriation from County General (001) Court Services in the amount of ten-thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) as presented by Court Services Director Brad Barnes and Youth Services Director Anita Biehle. This is to account for a position that was moved from one department to another as well as a miscalculation in the amount. **Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation from County General (001) Court Services in the amount of ten-thousand dollars (\$10,000) and a Reduction of Appropriations of ten-thousand dollars (\$10,000) in County General (001) Youth Services as requested. Jim Reed seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).** Director Barnes noted that Director Biehle has remained well under budget for the past few years. They also had a Six Sigma review and have implemented those recommendations regarding their staffing. Chris Ogle asked if there had been negative comments about the Youth Services Center. Director Barnes stated that at the work session, there had been a comment about dropping the Youth Services Center from the exempt departments for hiring staff. That is what he is trying to defend.

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The next item on the agenda was a request for Transfer of Funds in County General (001-41) Information Technology in the amount of five-thousand dollars (\$5,000) as presented by IT Director Jeff Wehmiller. This is due to a miscalculation in former IT Director's vacation time. This will cover the salaries for the remainder of the year. **Chris Ogle made a motion to approve the Transfer of Funds in County General (001-41) Information Technology in the amount of five-thousand dollars (\$5,000) as requested. Laura DeDomenic seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).** IT Director Wehmiller received a letter of resignation from Craig Pekar, their most knowledgeable employee. He is asking for permission to advertise the position. The consensus was to allow the position to be filled. Commissioner Chairman Larry Kleinhenz addressed an e-mail from Judge Worton earlier today. There was an issue with the Courts not being able to connect to the State which lasted for 3 hours. Chairman Kleinhenz met with the Judges and it was determined that it was a State issue and there was nothing more that could have been done on our end. There was a letter earlier in the week from Judge Coriden concerning time off issues with the IT. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that it was the Commissioners who approved the time off and they have learned that they need to watch this in the future. IT is critical and that has been proven several times recently. IT Director Wehmiller stated that they had contacted the State. The State's Engineer was not in at the time. The Engineer finally contacted IT about 25 minutes later and they finally did get it worked through. They may postpone the upgrade for the Courts, but they will meet with the Judges and discuss their options.

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The next item on the agenda was a request for Transfer of Funds in County General (001-05) Sheriff in the amount of thirty-five-thousand dollars (\$35,000) as presented by Sheriff Matt Myers. These are funds that are in the salaries. He had hoped to give this amount back at the end of the year. With the current “Active Shooter” situations in the Country, he was asked by the Commissioners if we were ready to respond to an incident such as this. Sheriff Myers told him that they were. They have a yearly review and they have trained with other departments. They currently do not have the equipment (*vests*) and tactical training to get up close to someone with a high power rifle. It is about twice as much for a vest that will stop the higher power weapons. They have weapons to engage, but not the body armor that they need. One of his goals in the next couple of years was to establish a Tactical Response Team. With what is going on nationally, he would like to have six (6) to eight (8) people trained in Tactical Response so that they can quickly respond to an incident. The longer and more severe the incident, the more help from surrounding departments as well as State and Federal assistance. His team would respond to riots in the Jail as well as high profile items at the Court House. He would like to transfer the thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) to start on this project. Jorge Morales asked if we should be replacing the vests we currently have that have a five (5) year life-span. Sheriff Myers stated no as these are not every day wearable vests as they are quite cumbersome. He would like to use twenty-thousand dollars (\$20,000) for equipment and the rest for training. The training currently would be in State. He would hope later on to be able to send members to train with larger city SWAT teams

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that exist such as in New York. They are currently inventorying the property room. They have a large supply of guns that they have taken in the past years. They can melt them down or they could sell them to a legitimate gun dealer. The question would be whether you want the guns to be back out on the street. He has spoken to the Commissioners and a Judge and all are open to the conversation. Jorge Morales asked if we had accounted for returned money when we came up with the budget. They always look at it, but it is separate from the budget process. The money he is asking to move is money saved in the salaries due to open positions and such. **Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the Transfer of Funds in County General (001-05) Sheriff in the amount of thirty-five-thousand dollars (\$35,000) as requested.** Jim Reed asked about putting the guns back out on the street regarding keeping a copy of a ballistics report. Sheriff Myers stated that he just brought this up but there is much more to the process that he needs to research. Chris Ogle asked what the Sheriff's issue was with putting them back on the street. Sheriff Myers stated that it is a perception issue. Also, some gun dealers sell to other countries. He just wants to make certain that it is done correctly. **Jim Reed seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).** Sheriff Myers stated that he appreciated all that the Council has done this year. He understands that there will come a time when he comes in and they will not be able to give him what he requests. Bill Lentz appreciates that he is working with the City and if the Council can help in any way he will gladly help. Also he believes there shouldn't be a problem selling the guns as he will do it in the correct manner. Sheriff Myers just wants to respect the views.

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The next item on the agenda was the consideration of an Ordinance Regarding Bonding of County Officials as presented by Auditor Barb Hackman. There is a new law that goes into effect January 1, 2016. State Board of Accounts has given direction on this subject. Attorney Monroe has looked over the Ordinance. They feel that they can do a blanket bond, but it does have to be in an Ordinance. She is also asking that they grant a waiver of the Second Reading. Jorge Morales asked if they needed to include the Redevelopment Commission. **Jorge Morales made a motion to waive the Second Reading of the Ordinance Regarding Bonding of County Officials. Bill Lentz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0). Jim Reed made a motion to approve the Ordinance Regarding the Bonding of County Officials as requested. Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** Auditor Hackman stated that she has a Department Head Meeting scheduled January 14, 2016 to discuss this as there are other items that also must be done due to the change in the law. Jorge Morales asked if she could have the Bonds ready for the Redevelopment Commission. Richard Hawes, our insurance agent, will need counts of the number of people from each office to cover the blanket bond.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration of an Amendment to the 2016 Salary Ordinance regarding a change in the Filling of Open Positions and also a change to the Assessor and Deputy Assessor Certification Pay. Bill Lentz stated that in talking with a couple of Department Heads regarding the part-time positions. He is wondering if allowing flexibility with the part-time would help our bottom line. Auditor Hackman

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stated that she has no part-time but if you have to come in for every part-time, it may make a hardship on a department head. Chief Deputy Beatty stated that in the budget session they set an amount not-to-exceed not how many people they hire. Youth Services Center Director Biehle stated that she is concerned about having to come back for each part-time position. Bill Lentz just doesn't want to tie the hands of the department head. Auditor Hackman read the changes so that the public could hear what changes were being made. Jorge Morales stated he would be willing to remove the part-time language. He would suggest that they be allowed to be heard at the Work Session or the Meeting. Bill Lentz stated that each department has a certain amount of money for part-time. Jorge Morales stated that this is a good point. He suggests that they look at this as a budget item that they need to look at the amount of funding. Jim Reed believes the Youth Services Center needs to be included in the exempt status as they are 24/7 and are required to have people there for the children in their care. Bill Lentz stated that we have to be tougher because of the situation we are in. **Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the Amendment to the 2016 Salary Ordinance deleting the "part-time" wording, adding "Council Meetings" and adding "Youth Services Center" to the exempt departments. Jim Reed seconded the motion.** Chris Ogle stated that when he thinks of public safety, he thinks of the safety of the general population. He agrees that they have managed their money well, but he does not believe this is public safety. If he talked with the Judges, they too would require weeks to replace personnel. Jorge Morales agrees with Chris Ogle 100% but there are laws that require a certain number of

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individuals based on the number of male and female residents. Director Barnes stated that public safety as it results to the Sheriff's Department is not the same. But safety is at risk to those in the facility and those working in the facility. This just puts a hurdle in their path. Chris Ogle was discouraged at the way that this was approached. He just shared his heart as Director Barnes had expressed his. Bill Lentz stated that he would encourage department heads and elected officials to try to make it work due to the situation we are in. The Council may tell them to try and make it work for 30 days and then see where they are. **The vote was called for and passed unanimously (6-0).** The Youth Services Center is working on home detention for the less violent offenders. Jorge Morales challenged them as they have funded them as having a full house which they do not always have. Director Biehle stated they are currently doing that. Chris Ogle stated that she had already stated that getting qualified part-time people is very hard to do.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration of an Ordinance Regarding the Pay of Elected Assessors and Deputy Assessors as presented by Auditor Barb Hackman. There is a new law that goes into effect January 1, 2016. The new law has made provisions requiring the current personnel to receive the same amount as far as Certifications and that it be a part of their Salary Ordinance. Auditor Hackman read the changes to the salary ordinance for the Salary Ordinance for the Assessor's Office. **Chris Ogle made a motion to amend the 2016 Salary Ordinance regarding the Assessor as presented. Laura DeDomenic seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).**

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The next item on the agenda was consideration of the 2016 County Council Work Session and Meeting Schedule. **Chris Ogle made a motion to approve the 2016 County Council Work Session and Meeting Schedule as presented.** Jorge Morales seconded the motion. He questioned which copy was the correct copy. **The vote was called for and passed unanimously (6-0).**

The next items on the agenda were updates by the Council members regarding their respective Board and Commission appointments as follows:

Jim Reed:

Liaison to Sheriff's Merit Bd – nothing to report

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission – nothing to report

Mark Gorbett:

County Extension Bd – not present

Emergency Management Bd – not present

Emergency Dispatch Services – not present

Liaison to Work Release Center Bd – not present

Jorge Morales:

County Plan Commission – has had a request to change a parcel of land that lies between 31, 46 and State Street from Ag to Commercial. They did not take action on it at the last meeting but should tomorrow at 8:30 in City Hall.

Liaison to City Plan Commission – nothing to report

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Personnel Admin Committee – nothing to report

Cols Economic Development Bd – nothing to report

Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission – will not meet this year. The first meeting next year will be held on January 3, 2016 to elect officers and take care of the bonds. There is no interest on the ground that was TIF'd.

President Pence:

County Parks & Recreation Bd – they are making progress on the restrooms. Tom Hawes has resigned from the Board. He has been a member for 33 years.

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

Youth Services Center Advisory Committee – they are trying to grade their people that are kept there so that they can send the ones that will not be harmful to themselves or others to home detention or to a guardian. CenterStone is working on a grant.

JDAI – nothing to report

Bill Lentz:

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

Personnel Administrative Committee – nothing to report

Cols Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Bd – nothing to report

He had a list of the County Council Appointments that will need to be done in 2016. Phyllis Apple is a 1 year term for ABC. Gil Palmer is on the

County Zoning Board of Appeals. The Columbus Economic Development Board is Richard Lovelace. Library Board is okay. Park Board has Nancy Hoeltke who is up for a 4 year term. Property Tax Board of Appeals requires a Level II or Level III which is currently held by Chris West and is a 1 year appointment. President Pence stated that any names should be given to Bill Lentz. It was suggested to finalize the appointments at the next work session. Bill Lentz was going through some old notes. He asked where the money for speeding tickets ends up. He found an article that stated with a certain ordinance, most of the money could stay with the County.

Laura DeDomenic:

Computer & Data Processing Bd – they were updated on failover testing. They discussed money reallocation regarding servers. Craig Pekar's resignation was discussed. Also John Rondot is retiring from the Data Board after being a member from 1977 or 1978. They talked a little regarding the turnover in the IT Department. We are basically a training ground for other companies. Jorge Morales stated he has proposed doing a salary study for some key jobs. Laura DeDomenic is extremely concerned that we will be supplying the training for people to leave for better paying jobs. Jorge Morales suggested they look at technical training pay, so the better trained the more money paid.

Columbus Economic Development Bd – nothing to report

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Liaison to Health Bd – looked at next year’s budget especially regarding advertising. They are working on their infectious disease grant.

Chris Ogle:

Solid Waste Management District Bd – recycling in Columbus is doing well. There is a new company coming to town that makes charcoal for fertilizer. They have stated that they will take all our tree limbs and such. Another private individual would like to take over the entire composting project. Card board continues to grow, but they are limited to where they can put additional containers so the City would need to make changes to ordinances to accommodate them.

President Pence stated that she had received a letter from a Kevin Sanders who would like to suggest improvements. They are scheduled to talk with Carl Bright regarding PERF and Retirement. He will be here January 4, 2016 and LuAnn Welmer will also be attending. Open enrollment is finishing up. Paperwork and health screenings were due last Friday. Jorge Morales noted that CRH owns most of the family practitioners in town but you pay \$20 to go to your CRH family doctor or go to WellConnect for free.

Hearing no other business, Chris Ogle made a motion to adjourn. Laura DeDomenic seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____

January 13, 2016

Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, President

By: _____
Bill Lentz, Pro-Tem

By: _____
Chris Ogle, Member

By: _____
Laura DeDomenic, Member

By: _____
Jorge Morales, Member

By: _____
Mark E. Gorbett, Member

By: _____
Jim Reed, Member

ATTEST: _____
Barbara J. Hackman, Auditor
Bartholomew County