

September 23, 2014

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL
August 12, 2014

The Bartholomew County Council met on August 12, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Members present were: Chris Ogle, Rob Kittle, Pro-Tem Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, President Ryan Lauer, Bill Lentz, Jorge Morales and Jim Reed. Also in attendance were Auditor Barbara J Hackman and Council Attorney Chris Monroe.

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

The first item on the agenda was the approval of meeting minutes of July 15, 2014. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence made a motion to approve the minutes with minor changes on page 2 & page 3. Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was an Additional Appropriation request for the Prosecutor's Office (03-80) in the amount of five-thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars. Brenda Mijares, Office Administrator for the Prosecutor's Office presented the request. She would like to reduce this to three-thousand (\$3,000) dollars. They have several jury trials coming up that they were going to have to pay out expert witness fees. They have determined they will not need to pay out as much as they had originally calculated. Rob Kittle made a motion to approve the original request amount of five-thousand (\$5,000) dollars. Jim Reed seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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The next item on the agenda was an Additional Appropriation request for the Prosecutor's Office for Adult Protective Services (524) in the amount of two-thousand four-hundred (\$2,400.00) dollars. Brenda Mijares, Office Administrator for the Prosecutor's Office presented the request. She explained that this was the money that we are reimbursed by Brown County on an annual basis. Jorge Morales asked if the other counties within our region had contributed any funding. Brenda Mijares stated that they had not. Our Adult Services Office serves five (5) counties. President Lauer wanted to thank Brown County for their continued support. Bill Lentz made a motion to approve the request as presented. Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was an Additional Appropriation request for the Health Department (007) in the amount of five-thousand eight-hundred (\$5,800.00) dollars. Carla Wolff, Assistant Director of Nursing presented the request. She explained that this was reimbursement of funds and she is asking that it be appropriated for the purchase of more vaccines. This fund includes all vaccine purchases. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked how many people would be served by these funds. Carla Wolff explained that it depended on the type of vaccine that she ordered as the costs vary depending on the specific vaccine. She orders based on what she does not have in the cooler at the time of the order. Shelf life is usually a year to a year and a half on most vaccines. Chris Ogle made a motion to approve the request as presented. Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked how the prescription cards were doing. Chief Deputy Auditor Beatty stated that we had

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received a check for ninety-six (\$96) dollars. Jorge Morales asked if we were getting our money back based on the cost of our yearly membership. Chief Deputy Auditor Beatty stated that the amount of the check was actually for eighty-four (\$84) dollars but was only for the fourth quarter of 2013. Auditor Hackman will follow up on this.

The next item on the agenda was an Additional Appropriation request for the Election Fund (008) in the amount of one-hundred-forty-two-thousand four-hundred-ninety-nine (\$142,499.00) dollars. Tami Hines, Clerk, presented the request. She explained that this was for the upgrade to the MicroVote machines which will give us a ten (10) year life span. It will also increase the size of the memory card. The requested amount will also purchase fourteen (14) E-vote tablets. They have changed vendors from their original thoughts and that will result in a cost savings. These devices will be I-Pads with only this software loaded. The amount will only cover the equipment necessary for the upcoming City election. She has budgeted for the remaining equipment in the 2015 budget to accomplish the County wide election in 2016. This request will also help purchase three (3) high speed printers. She is short approximately one-thousand (\$1,000) dollars in funds to purchase these printers, which are specifically for election night. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked what would be done with the old printers. Clerk Hines stated they would see if they could resell them. Anyone using MicroVote and not doing Vote Centers could utilize our current printers. Jim Reed asked if this was all the printers she would need. Clerk Hines stated that she has the funds to purchase twenty (20) printers. Rob Kittle asked if these funds would finish the project. Clerk Hines stated that

she is fairly confident that they are purchasing what they need to do the City election next year. President Lauer asked if we were upgrading our current voting machines. Clerk Hines stated they had already upgraded the screens in the current machines. President Lauer asked what the cost would be if we had to replace all the current voting machines. Clerk Hines does not have that number but will get one together in time for the budget hearings next week. She further stated that while this fund is quite healthy, they still fund all the elections through this fund. If the Federal Government comes out with a new requirement, the funding would come from this fund. Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the request as presented. Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Rob Kittle asked that they suspend the agenda for a moment as he had noticed several Boy Scouts in the audience. The group introduced themselves as being from Troop 552. This attendance is part of a Community Badge and a Citizenship Badge. The Scout Master and four (4) members were present.

The next item on the agenda was an Additional Appropriation request for the Reassessment Fund (684) in the amount of twenty-two-thousand five-hundred (\$22,500.00) dollars. Lew Wilson, Assessor, presented the request. He explained that this was for an additional full-time person for the remainder of the year so that they can get the reassessment work done. He has requested the position permanently by adding it to his 2015 budget. The position would be mainly a field position, but would perform other duties within the office as well. Chris Ogle asked what the twenty-two-thousand

five-hundred (\$22,500) dollars would cover. Assessor Wilson stated it would cover the pay and benefits for the remainder of the year. President Lauer asked what the ramifications would be if this were not approved. Assessor Wilson stated that he would not be able to complete Reassessment. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence suggested waiting until the Budget Hearings next week. Jorge Morales asked if this work could be done using a vendor. He stated his current vendor works on three-hundred (\$300) dollars per day. Chris Ogle questioned if we hire a person, then it would cost us about forty-five (\$45,000) dollars a year but a vendor is going to cost us fifteen hundred (\$1,500) dollars a week for the vendor. He asked how we would regulate how much work was being completed a day by a vendor to see that we would be getting our three-hundred (\$300) per day in services. Assessor Wilson stated that it would be a matter of quantification. He is currently tracking what work is being accomplished using the Pictometry by the two (2) individuals that are employed in his office. Chris Ogle asked if this position would be a ten (10) year position. Assessor Wilson said it would be for at least for the current four (4) year Reassessment. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked how long they had been using the Pictometry. Assessor Wilson stated just the last two (2) weeks as they had just received the training for it three (3) weeks ago. Rob Kittle asked how important the timing was on this. Assessor Wilson stated that he is currently behind. Rob Kittle stated that he agrees with Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence's comment about waiting until next week and making the determination of the full-time position before proceeding with this request. Assessor Wilson stated he would need to know about the position for next year

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to hire a trained individual. Rob Kittle asked if there were other options to get us to the end of the year other than contractual employees. Assessor Wilson stated no. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if there were currently positions in his office that are not needed. Assessor Wilson stated that he expects a lot from his employees. President Lauer asked if Overtime was an option. Assessor Wilson stated that Overtime is Compensatory Time that creates yet another problem from the time off. Jorge Morales clarified that President Lauer meant giving the money for the Overtime funding. Chris Ogle asked if there was anyone in the office that could do this job if given Overtime. Assessor Wilson stated he does not have any one in the office capable of doing this work. Jim Reed stated that there are several that physically cannot do the job and several that are older than him. Assessor Wilson stated that he only has one employee that if that person left or died, he would be up a creek. Chris Ogle is concerned with the state of the Assessor's Office. Jorge Morales stated that he was in favor of consulting the work for the remainder of the year and then deal with the full-time position for next year. Bill Lentz asked if he would advertise the position and that he believes hiring a qualified person would save the County funds. President Lauer asked if he had considered replacing someone in the office with this position. Assessor Wilson stated no, he did not see that as an option. Rob Kittle wanted to clear up that without approval of the full-time position for 2015, the funding of this position for the remainder of 2014 would be useless. Assessor Wilson emphatically agreed. Jorge Morales made a motion to table

this request until the 2015 Budget process that will occur next week. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was an Amendment to the 2014 Salary Ordinance for the Reassessment Fund which was tabled due to the result of the previous motion.

The next item on the agenda was an Additional Appropriation request for the Reassessment Fund (684) in the amount of sixty-thousand (\$60,000.00) dollars. Lew Wilson, Assessor, presented the request. He explained that this was due to the cost of appeals. This would help him catch up on the pending appeals. Chris Ogle clarified that this would be contract labor, not in house. Assessor Wilson stated that was correct. President Lauer asked Assessor Wilson to explain the increase in activity. Assessor Wilson stated that due to changes in the law, it has made it more difficult on the Assessor's Offices. He stated that new construction had gone up seventy-five percent (75%). Sales have increased to almost twice as much as they were in 2009. Bill Lentz asked if the sixty-thousand (\$60,000) dollars was just an estimate. Assessor Wilson stated yes. He questioned the length of the contract. Assessor Wilson stated that the Reassessment Contract is for four (4) years. Appeals are outside the scope of the Reassessment Contract. Assessor Wilson did have one of the current vendor's employees handle the recent Residential Appeals. Jim Reed clarified that this would be for Professional Services. Assessor Wilson stated that yes it was and he had the money in the Reassessment Fund. He stated that you settle any appeals that you can; that is the cheapest way for the County. Bill Lentz stated that he sees his need, but with the

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upcoming budget session there will be many offices that will have actual needs. Jorge Morales stated that at some point and time we will have to bite the bullet and give the Assessor the proper people he needs to accomplish his jobs. Assessor Wilson stated that he has one person in the office that if something happened to her he would not have anyone capable of replacing the position. Rob Kittle stated that the office has a lot of responsibilities. Rob Kittle made a motion to approve the request as presented. Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Jorge Morales stated that he has had the opportunity to review the budget books that were handed out to them last week. He wanted to recognize the work done by Sandy Beatty and Chris West. Auditor Hackman stated that each department had also received e-mailed copies of their respective budgets.

The next item on the agenda was any miscellaneous items. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if we had received any pass-through of the TIF from the City. Auditor Hackman stated that the letter she received stated we would receive zero (0) assessed value pass-through for 2015. The Redevelopment Commission had initially granted some, but the City Council saw needs and denied the pass-through. The Menard's property itself was supposed to always be a pass-through, but that was a gentleman's agreement and that pass-through had stopped being allowed two (2) years ago.

Auditor Hackman gave an update on the Certified Net Assessed Values (CNAV). Will Norris (*of the Auditor's Office*) has balanced the roll down from the Assessor's

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Office. Chris West will be sending the data to Cender & Company to process the TIF Neutralization that is required.

Auditor Hackman stated that Dan Eggermann will be here at the start of budget deliberations on Thursday next week.

The next items on the agenda were updates by the Council members regarding Boards and Commissions as follows:

Jim Reed – Had nothing to report.

Jorge Morales – Had not been able to attend the Plan Commission & CAMPO is meeting next week.

Bill Lentz – Had nothing to report.

President Lauer – Had nothing to report.

Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence – Attended the Youth Services and Park Board meetings. The Parks Department will be asking for a full-time person next year. The Parks brought in over five million (\$5,000,000) dollars in revenue as determined by the Visitors Center. Jorge Morales stated the Visitors Center should provide funds to the County and the City Parks Department based on the revenue they bring in. She stated that the Park Board is hoping to get some help fixing the driveway at Heflin Park and they are still working on the restroom issue at County Stadium.

Rob Kittle – Had nothing to report as LEPC will meet tomorrow.

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Chris Ogle – The Director of SWMD had retired and now the Secretary has retired. They are replacing a lot of knowledge as they these two individuals had ran the facility for about twenty-one (21) years.

President Lauer thanked the Boy Scouts for attending.

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

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Ryan Lauer, President

By: _____
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Pro-Tem

By: _____
Chris Ogle, Member

By: _____
Rob Kittle, Member

By: _____
Jorge Morales, Member

By: _____
Bill Lentz, Member

By: _____
Jim Reed, Member

ATTEST: _____
Barbara J. Hackman, Auditor
Bartholomew County