

COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
DECEMBER 20, 2022
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

David Fuhrman, President
Stephanie Campbell, Vice President
Phillip Gick
Danny Wallace
Larry Parker
Jay Alcorn
Keith Berry

ATTORNEY:

Trudy Selvia

AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

Evelyn Williams

AUDIENCE:

27 Individuals

The Putnam County Council met in Regular Session on December 20, 2022, at the Putnam County Courthouse at 6:30 p.m. Dave Fuhrman opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

E-911 TRANSFER

Larry Parker made the motion to add the transfer for E911 to the agenda. Keith Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

\$1,500 from training to senior dispatcher

\$500 from professional contract to senior dispatcher

Larry Parker made the motion to approve. Stephanie Campbell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Brian Williams – additional for insurance health life \$15,000

Phil Gick made a motion to approve. Jay Alcorn seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Brian stated the Health Department nurse submitted her resignation. They would like to reorganize the office and take two part-time positions to make one full-time. These positions are funded through grants and will continue to be. Brian stated they will have the employee sign an agreement that once the grant is gone, the position is gone.

Governors Public Health Commission – formed August of 2021 to examine public health system in Indiana. Submitted 128-page document to Governor with issues. One of which being how public health is funded. Brian presented a presentation with state findings. Funding for health services is available when the county agrees to provide improved health services. All this is only possible with the approvement in the legislative session. January 26th, Public Health Day, would like to close the office to speak with legislatures and seek support.

HIGHWAY TRANSFERS

Jim Peck, Highway Engineer presented:

\$60,000 - road preservation into fuel/oil

Larry made a motion to approve. Keith seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

\$8,000 - from radio to equipment rental

Jay Alcorn made a motion to approve. Larry Parker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

\$8,000 - from road preservation to tires

Keith Berry made a motion to approve. Danny Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

EMS

Kelly Russ – EMS LIT Rate – see handout. The rate can range from 0.01 up to 0.2. With an EMS LIT rate, anyone that lives in Putnam County and uses EMS services will not receive a bill. Discussion was made. Larry Parker stated his concern was that the rate would change/increase but it's not the case as presented. Kelly stated her department is the only fully staffed EMS in the state. Baker Tilly stated the numbers presented are correct. If adopted by August 2023 it could be collected November 2023. Income revenue could be over \$800,000. Discussion was made.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Mayor Bill Dory thanked the Health Department for providing vaccinations at an event held at the Fairgrounds.

Stated the commission has not been active for many years. They are interested in starting the commission again. State statute requires the county council to appoint a city resident. He asked the County Council to nominate Ken Eitel. Phillip Gick made the motion to approve. Larry Parker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

SOLAR FARM

Bill Sevel – concerned citizen against the solar farm. As a volunteer firefighter his concern is the chance of serious fire incident, high heat, hazardous

materials, etc. Stated advanced training and equipment would be required to take care of such a fire.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - APPOINTMENTS

2023 Appointments – ABC Board was tabled
County Council president and vice president was tabled

ADULT PROBATION ADDITIONAL

\$4,3634.25 Additional to Health/Life Insurance
Stephanie Campbell made a motion to approve. Jay Alcorn seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

SOLAR RESOLUTION

Kristin Clary – wants to work on the tax abatement for the solar farm. A public meeting had been held. Brought in outside consultants for legal concerns with the resolution. Kristin stated Phil Gick addressed his concerns for road usage, property rates, economic development, etc. Discussion was made. Abatement sought is 10 years at 75%. The project would not start construction until 2026. Unless the Economic Development Agreement is passed then the abatement can't take place.

Dave Fuhrman read the resolution out loud. Jay Alcorn stated that the advisors, the Council and Kristin Clary had put a lot of work into this project. He felt some things are more important than money. He did not agree with taking good farmland. Larry Parker stated he agreed. It is not the right use for the land.

Dave Fuhrman stated they will vote by name. Dave Fuhrman made a motion to approve. Phil Gick seconded. The vote for motion is Fuhrman – yes, Gick - yes, Campbell - yes, Parker - no, Berry - yes, Alcorn - no, Wallace – yes. The motion carried.

MINUTES

November 15, 2022 – Danny Wallace made the motion to approve. Phil Gick seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

December 7, 2022 – Stephanie Campbell made the motion to approve. Larry Parker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Dave Fuhrman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Danny Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

David Fuhrman, President

Stephanie Campbell, V. President

Jay Alcorn

Larry Parker

Keith Berry

Danny Wallace

Phillip Gick

**Attest: Auditor's Office
Evelyn Williams**