

Decatur County Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 20, 2022, Room 106

Present: Danny Peters, Bill Metz, Melanie Nobbe, Ashley Hungate, Deanna Burkart, Ernie Gauck and Kenny Hooten

President Peters opened the Decatur County Council's December 20th - last meeting of 2022; he asked Mark Mohr to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(Meeting minutes and agendas are emailed to Council members the Friday before their Tuesday meeting)

Mr Metz made the motion to approve the November 15th meeting minutes and Mrs Burkart seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Sean Durbin, Health Department Director, ask Council for approval to move a grant-funded-part-time position to a full-time position within the Health Department's budget, giving the Department 7 position. Mr Hooten moved to approve Mr Durbin's request and Mrs Hungate seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Deputy Prosecutor Doug Brown asked for 'supplemental pay of \$2,000, each ' for Prosecutor's Child Support Attorney Chad Smith, Child Support Office Administrator Shelley Warfield, Deputy Administrator Julie Herbert and ISETS Manager Nancy Mirick. The Prosecutor's office is now 'down 4 employees' so everyone has to had to take on additional responsibilities. This is a one-time supplemental pay and would be paid out of the Prosecutor's Incentive Funds. Mr Hooten moved to approve paying the one-time supplemental pay to the Child Support employees. Mrs Burkart seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0. Mr Brown's 2nd request is for Prosecutor's Office Administrator Sara Volk, Deputy Administrators Cindy Stevens and Karen Higginbotham to also receive the one-time supplemental pay of \$2,000, out of the Prosecutor's County General Budget. He tried not replacing a 4th Deputy Administrator, but it's isn't working so they will be hiring a 4th Deputy Administrator. Mr Metz moved to allow the \$2,000 supplemental pay and Mr Hooten seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Deputy Treasurer Danielle Holcomb gave a Treasurer's report: \$3 million of the Special Purpose Jail's fund is now invested for 18 months at 4.85% and the County received \$103,452.72 for interest in November.

Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins asked Council to postpone acting on **Nipro's** request for abatements for real estate and personal property until their January meeting since the State has not acted on some incentives for Nipro.

Mrs Hungate moved to approve the **transfers requested** by several departments. Mrs Nobbe seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Mrs Burkart moved to approve the **\$2,000 additional for Fund 1217 – Official Training Fund** and Mr Gauck seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Mr Metz moved to approve the **\$3,435.19 additional for the County General Jail budget** and Mrs Nobbe seconded the motion. The Commissary Fund is reimbursing County General for a REC program.

Mr Hooten moved to approve the **\$8,600 additional for the Animal Control's utilities- \$2,600 and adoption costs-\$6,000** . Mrs Burkart seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Mrs Hungate moved to approve the **\$200,000 additional in Cumulative Bridge** and Mr Gauck seconded the motion. **Highway Superintendent Todd Houk** asked Council members to consider raising the Cumulative Bridge rate since many of the County's bridges that were built in the 1950's are needing

repairs and/or replaced. Mr Houk will also be asking for a 'bridge clean-up crew' tax levy if awarded an **INDOT "Preventative Maintenance Grant"**.

Mr Hooten moved to approve the **Health Department's request for an additional totaling \$9,974** and Mr Metz seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0. The appropriations for vaccines, telephone, travel, service agreements and official records were in the negative.

Mr Gauck moved to approve **\$25,000 additional for the utilities in the Special Purpose Jail fund** and Mrs Burkart seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Council discussed the **\$1,557,287 additional for American Recovery Plan Act: 911 Radios- \$39,187, \$1,485,000 for READI match for the aquatic center and \$33,100 for fencing at the Detention Center.** The ARPA Committee had budgeted for the aquatic center as a public health outside activity. Mr Metz moved to approve the requested additional and Mrs Hungate seconded the motion. Motion passes, 5 – 1.

Mr Hooten moved to appoint **Zane Paulsen to replace Stephanie Hoeing** on the Visitors, Recreation and Tourism Board and Mr Metz seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Alcoholic Beverage Commission- Rheadawn Metz agreed to continue serving in 2023

Attorney for Council- Chris Tebbe agreed to continue serving in 2023

Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA)- Jennifer Johnson agreed to continue serving in 2023

Redevelopment Commission (County TIF)- Matt Miller and Danny Peters agreed to continue serving in 2023.

Mr Peters and Mr Metz would like for Council to discuss reducing the Special Purpose Jail Tax after the first of next year.

Mr Metz thanked Mark Mohr for his 27 years of service as our Highway Superintendent and also thanked Shelley Warfield for doing a good job in making our Child Support Office as the Top 1 in the State.

Mr Gauck moved to approve/confirm the **Prosecuting Attorney for the 69th Judicial Circuit** as a full-time position; Mrs Burkart seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

The next Council meeting is January 17th, at 9:00 am- immediately following the Commissioners' meeting.

With nothing else to come before the Council, Mr Hooten to adjourn and Mr Gauck seconded the motion. Council's regular meeting is adjourned. Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Danny Peters, President

Attest: _____
Date: _____

