

HARRISON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2025

Minutes of the Harrison County Council meeting held on Monday, June 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. local time, in the Commissioners' and Council Room of the Harrison County Government Center located in Corydon, Indiana.

Present:	Jake Blackman, Council Member	Mike Summers, Council Attorney
	Richard Gerdon, Council Member	Sara Burdick, County Auditor
	Donnie Hussung, Council Member	Chad Shireman, County Administrator
	Joe Kellum, Council Member	

Chairman Hussung led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chairman Hussung called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with four members of the Harrison County Council and Council Attorney Mike Summers present. Councilwoman Brown, councilwoman Castetter, and councilman Nix were absent.

Tom Fields was in attendance to provide an update on Harrison County Lifelong Learning. He said the center is still working to improve upon its main focuses of adult education, vocational training, and job connectivity. Mr. Fields spoke of their various partners, including Workone River Valley Resources and Vocational Rehab, which provide services for individuals with disabilities. He noted funding cuts to Indiana's Work Ready program and how that has impacted certification classes, but said financial support from the county did allow the center to hire a new part-time instructor. The new instructor will help create new programs and classes, including micro-certification training using Amatrol trainers.

Mr. Fields continued, providing economic impact numbers, including the number of individuals tested for high school equivalency and the average wage gain from vocational training. The center currently offers numerous certifications including welding, CDL truck driver, and medical assistant training. A digital literacy program was recently created for individuals with limited technological access as well. Mr. Fields closed out by speaking of the jobs board at the Lifelong Learning Center, which averages 70 job postings daily and has received over 5,400 views.

County sheriff Nick Smith came before the council with an additional appropriation request in the amount of \$25,119.92 out of the county share of riverboat fund for new laptops used in police vehicles. Sheriff Smith said this would be for eight new laptops, replacing existing machines that were either broken or incompatible with Windows 10. He noted that the amount needed would likely be lower, as the advertised request included both a 3 and 5-year warranty when only one of those will ultimately be needed. He would provide a more accurate dollar figure at the council's next meeting when they vote on the request.

Commissioner president Nelson Stepro came before the council with two additional appropriation requests. The first was in the amount of \$25,000.00 for background checks and random drug testing of employees. Mr. Stepro said the third-party vendor charges on a per use basis, with a higher upfront cost to get a background check for all existing employees. A smaller dollar figure will be budgeted moving forward to address newly hired employees and periodic drug testing, as required by the county's insurance carrier.

The second request was in the amount of \$9,394.31 and was also a result of the insurance carrier's requirements. This would fund multifactor authorization (MFA) features on all county machines. Mr. Stepro noted that the county had already implemented MFA for county email access, but this would handle all other applications used by county employees. Both funding requests were being made out of the commissioners' budget in the county general fund.

NOW THEREFORE: Sec. 1 Be it ordained by the County Council of Harrison County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums are hereby appropriated out of the funds named for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND</u>		
1000-39307-000-0001 Contractual Services-Other	\$ 11,979.35	\$ 0.00
TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL FUND	\$ 11,979.35	\$ 0.00
<u>COUNTY SHARE OF RIVERBOAT FUND</u>		
1191-36000-000-0068 Asset Repair-Commissioners	\$ 11,568.65	\$ 11,568.65
1191-44200-000-0068 Equipment-Commissioners	\$ 75,790.00	\$ 75,790.00
1191-44200-000-0270 Equipment-Highway Dept	\$ 930,241.74	\$ 770,559.54
1191-42100-000-0803 Capital Outlays-Parks Dept	\$ 17,900.00	\$ 17,900.00
1191-42100-000-0803 Capital Outlays-Parks Dept	\$ 76,871.00	\$ 67,756.00
TOTAL COUNTY SHARE OF RIVERBOAT FUND	\$ 1,112,371.39	\$ 943,574.19
<u>PARK & RECREATION FUND</u>		
1219-22501-000-0803 Concession Supplies	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
TOTAL PARK & RECREATION FUND	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00

ADOPTED THIS 23rd DAY OF JUNE, 2025

Chairman Hussung said the next order of business would be transfer of funds for the council's consideration. Councilman Blackman made a motion to approve a transfer request in the amount of \$175.25 from grave markers to animal feed in the commissioner budget in the county general fund. Councilman Gerdon seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

TRANSFERS PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 54

WHEREAS, certain extraordinary emergencies have developed since the adoption of the existing annual budget, so that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the Annual Budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, to meet such extraordinary emergencies:

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the County Council of Harrison County, Indiana, that for the expenses of said Municipal Corporation the following items are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same.

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND</u>		
1000-22101-000-0068 Animal Feed-Animal Control	\$ 175.25	\$ 175.25
TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL FUND	\$ 175.25	\$ 175.25

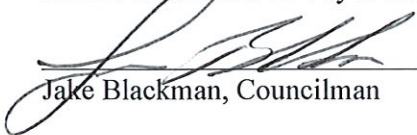
Sec. 2. **WHEREAS**, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have un-obligated balances which will not be needed for the purpose for which appropriated, it is further resolved that the following existing appropriations be reduced the following amounts:

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
1000-39300-000-0068 Grave Markers- Commissioners	\$ 175.25	\$ 175.25
TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL FUND	\$ 175.25	\$ 175.25

ADOPTED THIS 23rd DAY OF JUNE, 2025

The last action item was the May 12, 2025 council meeting minutes that had been tabled at the previous meeting. Councilman Blackman made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Councilman Gerdon seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

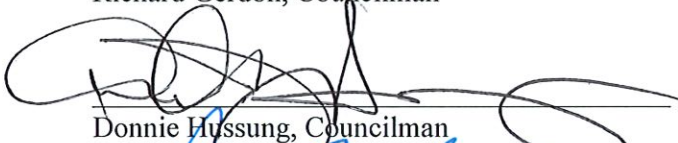
Councilman Blackman made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Councilman Kellum seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

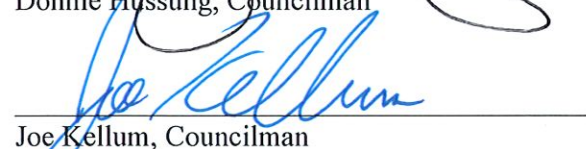

 Jake Blackman, Councilman

abstained
 Shery Brown, Councilwoman

abstained
 Holli Castetter, Councilwoman


 Richard Gerdon, Councilman


 Donnie Hussung, Councilman


 Joe Kellum, Councilman


 Kyle Nix, Councilman

ATTEST: 
 Sara Burdick, County Auditor