

# Randolph County Council

January 5, 2021

The Randolph County Council met for its regular meeting at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners and Council Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Council President Gary Friend, Rick Brown, Tom Kerns, Max Holaday, David Lenkensdofer, Missy Williams and Beverly Fields. Also present was County Auditor Laura J Martin.

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Council President Gary Friend presided.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Selection of officers**

Max made a motion to nominate Gary Friend as President of the County Council. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Rick made a motion to nominate Dave Lenkensdofer as President Pro-tem. Bev seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

### **Robin Vickery – Budget shortage**

Gary said Robin send an email out regarding her budget shortage and with communications between myself, her and Angela it has been corrected and cleared up.

### **Other Business:**

#### **Report from Commissioners**

Tom Chalfant said I don't have anything to report unless you have questions for me.

Dave said where do we stand on this phase of the windfarm?

Tom said there are probably going to be ten turbines that won't have blades because of a recall on blades, they are going ahead and putting all the trunks up, but they are not putting blades up right now. They are waiting on the manufacturer to tell them what is going to happen.

Dave said those roads out there, was it 1100 W?

Tom said the roads are a problem and I don't know how the delay is going to affect that. We have been working with them and Scott Fisher has been taking care of maintenance down there and done a pretty good job. The roads are going to need a lot of work, I am just guessing that we we're probably going to have some disagreement on how much they owe to fix the roads but when we get a bid to fix the road, that is what it is.

Dave said if I remember right, you negotiated \$2,000,000.00.

Tom said that is just a down payment, we didn't sign that agreement for a set amount of money because with the cost of road construction, we didn't want to get locked into something. They are probably upside down on this project, so it will be interesting to see where it ends.

**Minutes of August 24 and August 25**

Max made a motion to accept the minutes of August 24 and 25, 2020. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Resolution 2021-01**

Gary said Resolution 2021-01.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01**

RESOLUTION TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE RANDOLPH COUNTY RAINY DAY FUND TO THE RANDOLPH COUNTY REASSESSMENT FUND AND PUBLIC SAFETY LIT FUND TO BE REPAYED BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2021

**WHEREAS:** it is necessary to borrow monies from the Rainy Day Fund and to the Reassessment Fund and the Public Safety LIT Fund to be repaid on or before December 31, 2021.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:

**BE IT RESOLVED:** by the Council of Randolph County, Indiana, that the County Council authorizes the Randolph County Reassessment Fund and Public Safety LIT Fund to borrow the needed monies from the Rainy Day Fund.

All said sums are to be repaid to the Rainy Day Fund on or before December 31, 2021.

Gary said this is what did to bridge funding.

Tom made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-01 as presented. Dave seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Council Appointments**

Gary said we have a set slate of appointments, anybody like to make some changes to it. Dave you mentioned the possibility of taking over Soil and Water.

Dave said Solid Waste. I would like to come off of the Economic Development Board.

Tom said I would like to come off of Community Corrections because it is almost impossible for me to make those meetings.

Gary said does anybody else have any changes? As we discussed Bev, would you like to take Tom's spot-on Community Corrections.

Bev said I would be happy to do that.

Gary said then Dave will take Ted's spot-on Solid Waste. I have no problem being on Economic Development, would anybody else like to be involved with Economic Development on the Council. Gary said I can take Economic Development, Tom you had talked about it, is that still something your interest in.

Tom said what I would like to do is come to some of the meetings this year with you and get involved a little bit from the outside and get educated on what you do before both you guys go off.

Gary said that sounds good. So, I will take Economic Development. Any other changes on here?

Laura said Bev is taking the rest of Ted's.

Gary said is that correct Bev?

Bev said yes.

Gary said any questions for the Council on these appointments? Hearing none, would somebody like to make a motion.

Max made a motion to change the schedule of appointments as discussed. Dave seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Dave said one thing on the liaison, I noticed liaison for Solid Waste, I will take that also.

#### **Farmland Public Library Fiscal Body**

Gary said this is the same as what we did for Winchester and Ridgeville, correct?

Laura said yes.

Dave made a motion to approve the Randolph County Council as the fiscal body of the Farmland Public Library. Rick seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

#### **APC Appointment**

Laura said it is currently Tom, here is the paperwork you need to sign.

Gary said is that okay with you Tom?

Tom said yes, I am okay with it.

#### **BZA Attendance 4<sup>th</sup> quarter**

Gary said BZA attendance for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

### **Landfill Erosion and Sedimentation Review**

Gary said we have the Landfill Erosion and Sedimentation review.

### **Discussion Part time wage increase**

Gary said discussion of part-time wages. What are they currently Paula?

Paula said \$11.06 for many.

Gary said I think we need to make that a little healthier, so we are in the market for part-time people, it is a lot less expensive on the county to use part-time and less full-time. Does anyone want to discuss a number, I think \$15.00 an hour would be a fair start on a number. What does that do to some full-time people?

Paula said it puts them below, some.

Gary said a large amount?

Paula said at \$15.00?

Gary said yes, although full-time has all the benefit package and part-time does not.

Paula said you have full-time EMT's that are only making \$13.46 an hour. The Veteran's secretary is making \$11.57 an hour. That would be the major impact on the full-time employees.

Dave said Gary what if we went to \$14.00 an hour, and we should bump, nobody should be making less than that. That would bump some full-time employees up and that way it would give some of these departments a good chance of getting some help.

Gary said we're saying \$14.00 an hour for part-time employees but no full-time below \$14.00.

Dave said I know they get benefits, but it's not fair.

Max said I agree.

Tom said I like it.

Rick said I don't disagree with it, everybody needs better pay but my questions is why are we discussing it, we can't do anything until budget time right?

Gary said no, we can do it now, we can make an amendment to the salary ordinance.

Rick said okay.

Gary said it will be next month at our Council meeting, we need to get it prepared.

Tom said we are having so much trouble keeping part-time people interested in jobs at \$11.00 an hour.

Rick said what spurred this conversation?

Gary said we had a discussion with probation at the last meeting regarding part-time.

Bev said I agree that it should be \$15.00, I would hope that any full-time people would also receive that bump.

Gary said the discussion coming around is \$14.00. You can say no to \$14.00.

Rick said was there already discussion on where the funds would come from.

Gary said they would come from county general, which by the way is pretty solid right now. We just passed a new LIT tax that begins yesterday.

Paula said not all these employees are in county general.

Gary said county general funds the EMS and county general also funds the Veteran's program. Do you mean as far as part-time? We would have to make it up into their budgets.

Rick said when we gave the raises this year, we talked about going forward making sure that we would be solid. Believe me, I am not against helping everybody with their pay raise. I think everybody deserves a decent wage and deserves more money.

Gary said we are solid. The impact to the overall budget to make this change is minimal. Actually, Dave has ran some numbers on the LIT that have been confirmed, we could see \$900,000.00 in new money coming in. Why we got a reverse on the LIT, I don't know but at least \$550,000.00 is because of the LIT we passed to start this year.

Dave said we still have to be prudent with the money. I don't know how the state figures it, I will be honest.

Gary said nobody does.

Bev said \$14.00 is a fair start.

Rick said and then everybody else that is full-time would get bumped up?

Gary said what we are saying is there will be no wages in Randolph County less than \$14.00 an hour.

Paula said except for high schooler's and such?

Gary said yes.

Dave said I will make a motion to raise part-time pay to \$14.00 an hour and bump all full-time employee's

that make less than that up to \$14.00 an hour. Max seconded. 5 aye votes. Tom abstained.

Paula said what is the effective date?

Meeks said when the Ordinance is passed.

Ed Thornburg asked are you anticipating doing the three readings of this ordinance over three months.

Gary said no.

Ed said the reason I asked is because I am interviewing now.

Gary said I am anticipating having at least six members next month and that we do all three if that is the will of the Council. It can do that but I don't anticipate it at this time. Does anybody here anticipate it going to three months?

Dave said no not as long as we have the majority here.

Gary said if we don't have a large enough majority then it will go longer.

**Additional Appropriations:**

Gary said as Laura explained these have all been approved in the budget but the advertising didn't catch up to it, is that correct?

Laura said yes, because we made changes during the budget hearings, she did not get those advertised for these amounts so she had to make Gary said as Laura explained these have all been approved adjustments.

Gary said every one of these additional appropriations are part of the approved budget?

Laura said that was my understanding, yes. Except for the new funds obviously.

Gary said and that is coming out of the Cares Act money in county general.

Laura said yes.

**General**

New phones – Taylored Systems	\$103,685.11
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**EDIT**

Lifestream	\$650.00
Covid-19 Expenses	\$210,000.00
Economic Development	-\$48,000.00
YMCA – Camp Slingshot	\$30,000.00
Achieva	\$5,000.00
RC Expenses	\$66,506.00

Eastern Indiana Planning	-\$2,577.20
<b>E-911</b>	
Telecommunicator	\$32,076.00
Group Insurance	\$13,950.00
<b>Co Sales Disclosure</b>	
Training/Schooling	\$5,000.00
<b>Pub Safety – LIT</b>	
Sheriff Retirement	\$143,500.00
<b>1176 / 1173– Highway</b>	
New Emulsion Tank	\$25,000.00
New Emulsion Tank	\$25,000.00
<b>Supplemental Adult Probation</b>	
Adult/Juv Prob Officer	\$1336.00
Secretary	\$667.00
Chief Juv/Prob Officer	\$1436.00
Adult Prob Officer	\$1336.00
Social Security	\$296.00
Perf	\$535.00
Medicare	\$69.00
<b>Windfarm</b>	
Winchester Housing Project	\$150,000.00
Hand Holds for conduit	\$21,000.00

Tom made a motion to approve all of the additional appropriations as presented. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

**Dave Lenkensdofer**

Dave said on health insurance, Laura you sent this email out to us, it probably came from Paula. I noticed you have the premiums included, is there anyway to separate those to just show the premiums.

Paula said on that report, no.

Dave said \$80,000.00 monthly is that the premium?

Paula said approximately, yes.

Dave said how much goes into the account every month. It has receipts on it.

Paula said that is what is receipted into it.

Dave said this goes back to where we had to add money into it.

Paula said we have an appropriation that is budgeted and then we come and ask as funds get low.

### **Sheriff Art Movstner**

Art said I want to give you information, I emailed the commissary report to everyone. If you have any questions on it feel free to contact me. The body scanner is up and running, we had training before Christmas. I go tomorrow to test the security system or the control system for the doors at the jail and that is supposed to be installed and working no later than the end of the month.

### **Citizen Comments (3-minute limit)**

Ceann Bales said I should have sent you guys the bylaws for the new organization that will be adopted Randolph County United started. Because we have to have a rotating board and I know you are appointed, but we talked about making sure that people rotate every six years, I know your term has been longer, so that apprised to the ex officio members as well. I'm sorry, I should have sent you guys the bylaws so you would have known that before you decided today. I just want to make you guys aware of that, that we would be out of compliance with the bylaws if you serve in that capacity. I would be happy to send you those bylaws, I know you were not a part of that conversation and David, I don't think you were at that meeting in August but it does have that in our bylaws and states that so, I am sorry I didn't send those to you.

Gary said I disagree on that, if the Mayor of Union City and the Mayor of Winchester is a Mayor for eight years, are you going to tell them.

Ceann said actually in our bylaws, it does not count the Mayors.

Gary said does it count the Commissioner's?

Ceann said yes.

Gary said so when Mike gets to six years, he can't be on anymore.

Ceann said he would have to sit off for 1-year, is how they read.

Dave said this is a brand-new board, it is not like.

Ceann said that was not part of the discussion.

Dave said it should have been.



Ceann said it says ex officio that have served consecutive one-year terms can be reappointed when another one-year lapse shall have occurred, it does not apply to Mayors.

Gary said I talked to some of the executive board members and I said you guys really going to tell a member of the Council who has been appointed by the body they cannot serve and they said no. So really, it's a hollowed law. If he is not going to listen to who cannot be on the board then I guess you can do that in your organization but I don't know how the Council feels about that, I don't think a smart move.

Ceann said I am sorry, we had those conversations when everybody was not there. How things were proceeding and what we were doing. The committee meets tomorrow but I just want you to know that we will have to decide because of this appointment this makes us out of compliance.

Gary said who makes the decision?

Ceann said it will be the leadership committee for out bylaws and then the full board has to approve. The full board has to approve all ex officio members.

Gary said the full board, there is only nine people on the full board.

Ceann said there is 15 people on the full board.

Gary said six are ex officio, so they are not even actually part of the board until the body vets them. So, are the ex officio going to get to vote against another ex officio?

Ceann said I don't know.

Gary said seriously everybody that's not a full board member, the nine members, the other six are not even part of the board until they are reupped every single year by their represented bodies. So, you've got nine members voting for the six officio's?

Ceann said again, I thought this was a moot point, I'm sorry I should have sent that, we had kind of hashed all this out in August when we were forming a new organization and I thought that was understood and again, I apologize I should have sent everybody those bylaws, again that was a board decision, I just want you to be aware that we're going to have to make decision because your appointment is now making us out of compliance with our bylaws. My job as a director is to make sure our organization is following the bylaws and your appointment has made us out of compliance. I apologize that I did not sent you the bylaws beforehand, I thought it was a moot point, I thought it was understood but I will definitely send those and we will have to revisit and see how we want to proceed.

Gary said I don't think no matter who the body of the elected representatives are, how it could ever be a moot point, that you can tell them that they can't be a part of a board that they help fund.

Ceann said I don't think we are saying not, I just think we are saying that the board decided that it was really important to have rotating board.

Gary said I think that was really for the nine members, the ex officio, you start telling elected officials that can't be on, I think your in different territory. I guess you are a stand-alone 501c3.

Ceann said we are just asking for it to be a rotating, so different voices can be heard and to respect the board and respect those bylaws. We have a committee meeting tomorrow and I will take this forth to them and then we have a board meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Gary said it is disrespectful by the Council to tell them who they can and can't have on.

Ceann said I can tell them that and if you would like to come to our meeting tomorrow. I am just relaying what our board voted on and the bylaws. That is my goal to make sure we are abiding by our bylaws.

Gary said what does the Council think about that.

Bev said I agree with you.

Rick said I am fine with our appointment, you do not want to get me started on this.

Tom said Council appointment is a Council decision.

Gary said that is what I say. Meeks where are we at on this?

Meeks said it is a new organization.

Dave said it is a brand-new organization.

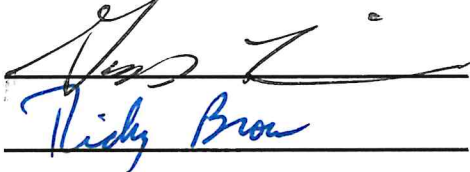
Tom said it should be a new appointment anyways.

**Adjournment**

Rick made a motion to adjourn. Bev seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Reviewed and accepted this 2 day of March, 2021.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COUNCIL

  
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Ricky Brown

Burly Fields



L. John Holaday

David Kenkendorf



ATTESTED:   
Laura J Martin, Auditor