

TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: January 16, 2024

REGULAR MEETING:

The Tipton County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, January 16, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were Dennis Henderson, Tracey Powell, Nancy Cline, and County Attorney, Mark Regnier.

Others Present: Sherri Crawford, Alashia Sturgess, Alan Hensley, Steve Brown, Shannon Cassons, Matt Oliver, Bryce Runkle, Abbie Smith, Bret Morris, Rich Vautaw

The meeting was opened with a word of prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was offered by Commissioner, Pastor Brown from Normanda Christian Church.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes December 4, 2023

Regular Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2023

Executive Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2023

Regular Meeting Minutes January 2, 2024

Executive Joint Meeting of Council and Commissioners-January 8, 2024

Special Joint Meeting of the Council and Commissioners-January 8, 2024

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

The Payroll and Operating Claims were presented as follows:

Payroll Claims: The Commissioners' Payroll claims in the amount of \$260,713.94, for payment on 1-19-24, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion by Cline. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell, and the motion carried.

Operating Claims: The Commissioners' Operating claims for payment on 1-19-24, in the amount of \$440,221.77, were submitted and approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Powell. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENT BUSINESS AND REPORTS:

Tipton County Highway:

Bret Morris stated that not much has been going on at the Highway department; however, they have been removing snow from the recent inclement winter weather. There have been no problems.

Commissioner Henderson asked about a tree that needed cut down on west of 213 (250). Brett knew nothing about it but said that it would be addressed.

Bret Morris/per Phil Beer asked for a supplemental agreement for Bridge 26 in the amount of \$10,000. The construction cost is in the amount of \$52,500 (with \$10,000 supplement) with a total of \$62,500. This process began in 2020. Cost increase from that time. Using USI Construction, Inc. as a consultant. Funding for this would be from line item with the cumulative bridge 1135, along with the CCMG awarded funds. Asked the commissioners if they had a chance to review the proposal and if there were any questions. There was then a motion to approve. Motion came from Commissioner Ume and was seconded by Commissioner Powell. Commissioner Henderson signed the motion. Two copies of the motion were signed.

Bret Morris: Change order for Fairgrounds roof; the decking (south side) needed replaced. This was an additional \$6330. Commissioner Powell asked from where this was being funded. It was stated that payment came from Cumulative Capital Development. Additional appropriation funds will need to go through the council for the additional \$6,330. The motion for approval could not be signed until the council members approved (same night meeting).

County Highway:

Sherri Crawford: Contract with ADA coordinator; Tipton County ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Update (hasn't been updated since 2014); will basically be starting from scratch. Improvements have been made to the highway department.

Evaluation update will take 6-8 months to complete. Will cost \$21,500 through DLZ. This amount was approved contingent on council approval. All commissioners agreed. The motion to approve was given by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. Sherri will present all her research to the council.

Turning Point:

Matt Oliver: presented a handout to commissioners on the topic of 2024 budget for stabilization center for detox. This center acts as a before and wrap-around center for support for care services. Matt is seeking to close the gap between what the state pays for and what is needed for the level of support for the community. This would fall in line with some of the abatement dollar uses. Is asking for \$5,000 for 2024 support. If the council would offer \$10,000, he would accept that, as well. This is meant to be another support for law enforcement, hospitals, and other local support centers in the county.

Capacity of a 12-bed stabilization unit. Regardless of insurance, they work toward 24-hour access chairs. The goal is to reduce fatal overdoses and reduce incarcerations. A handout from Turning Point is available. Howard County gives \$50,000 each year; Kokomo city gives \$25,000. Turning Point is a 501C3, not-for-profit. Would need to go to the council to see if the money could come from the general fund (1000.068). Commissioners are willing to give \$5,000 for 2024. The motion was carried by commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline.

Alan Hensley – BLS Ambulance Subsidies for 2024: 2024 Agreements; pay what was paid last year. Commissioner Powell asked what the funds are being used for. Commissioners decided to continue with the status quo.

Eric Hillis-PU Extension Contractual Services Agreement for 2024-tabled.

Auditor: Discussion on Tipton County Chamber of Commerce request for contribution: commissioners decided to drop it.

Alachia/per Linda Jonnson: Request for contribution of VASIA-West Division budget 2025: Letter of intent in September 2023. Guardianship referrals at 18%. Budget for 2024 is \$236,000 Didn't meet those expectations. Tipton Co. is largely responsible for the continuance of the program. Kudos to Tipton County. In 2023, they were granted \$54,000 out of the \$75,000. With the 2024 budget of \$236,000 and the 18% referrals, \$42,480 (based on 18% of \$236,000). She is asking for \$7,500 from the commissioners for 2025. This amount needs to be carefully considered when preparing the 2025 budget.

John Colter was appointed to the alcohol board. The motion was given by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. Motion carried.

Mark Regnier: ALS Ambulance: Termination date; city requested termination date be extended seven hours into Jan. 1 of that year, assuming no renegotiation with them. Commissioners signed two copies of the document given to them by Mark R. Commissioner Cline made a motion to accept the agreement with the ALS service provider; Commissioner Powell seconded the motion.

PERF Discussion: Commissioner Powell: Discussed option four different option plans: Option 1: Start today, no catch-up payments (11.2%)

Option 2: 5-year catch-up payments (a little over \$967,000); IO-year catch-up payments (\$1.6 million); full catch-up payments (\$3.2 million);

Tipton County is one of only four counties who do NOT have PERF. Would attract talent; good for the retention of employees. A personnel committee will be assembled for further discussion. A committee involving personnel as well as committee members is recommended to have employee input, as well. A recommendation to have a committee of five including council member, a commissioner (Commissioner Powell) and perhaps two employees would be included. PERF would be lump sum catch-up pay. It was recommended that Bret Morris be included on the personnel committee. A motion was made and approved for Bret to be included. This would take the place of 457 Comp. This plan would also include all the jail Full Time employees.

Good News: Commissioner Cline had good news to share: Inside Edition with Gary Dick reported that
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New position: GIS Mapping Specialist: Commissioner Cline: job description (to be edited/amended as needed); Commissioner Cline: Moved to create GIS position under the Surveyors budget. Motion was made and seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carried. Position contingent on council approval. Upon approval, Mark Regnier: If council approves, the John Tipton room be used for that new position. Motion was moved, seconded, and approved by commissioners.

ARPA Document: Does this need revised? Loss of Revenue, specifically. Document will be sent to the three commissioners for review. Auditor: Review of all new funds to be allocated (above notes).

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commission Cline: Talked about the fuel cost of the building (operating expenses, not repairs/maintenance). All commissioners agreed. Use the Covid Relief Fund. Auditor: Make sure to include this when calculating next year's budget. All commissioners agreed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Shannon Cassons: Thank you for the mapping department and the PERF recommendation for employees. Complimented Jon DeBon on his abilities in mapping and completing it correctly. It will help the other offices to run more smoothly.

Auditor: Discussed how Debra Tragesser has been cleaning up on transfers. Uave due respect to Debra Tragesser for doing a great job.

Commissioner Cline gave a motion to close public comment; the motion was seconded.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

Approved this _____, day of _____, 2023.

Dennis Henderson, President

Nancy Cline, Vice President

Tracey Powell, Commissioner

Attest:

Melissa Pickering, Tipton County Auditor and Secretary to the Board of Commissioners Meeting'Minutes of January 16, 2024
MP (JPW)