

**REGULAR MEETING - WEDNESDAY AT 5:00 P.M.**

The Switzerland County Council met in regular session pursuant to law and by being duly advertised.

Those present: council members: Glenn Scott, Elizabeth Jones, Rachel Schuler, Lisa Fisher, Mike Bear, Andy Haskell, John Gary Welch, sheriff, Nathan Hughes, and the auditor, Gayle Rayles.

The meeting was opened at 5:00 p.m. by Sheriff, Hughes with the pledge of allegiance.

Glenn said that two items had been placed on the agenda before the reorganization due to the presenters having another commitment and needing to leave as early as possible. He asked if there were any objections. There were none.

**#1 Craig Beckley - Heart House**

Craig explained the mission of Heart House emphasizing that they are not a homeless shelter, but rather a facility where people can get back on their feet. They have from 70% to 90% employment of their residents. They serve five counties and in 2017 had 14 - 15 residents from Switzerland County. They have some low-income housing in Vevay. They are working with the Dept. of Corrections. For example, someone from Switzerland County incarcerated for opioids may be placed in their facility in Dearborn County after they are released to remove them from exposure to the environment they were previously in, so they won't revert to old habits. They are asking for \$7,500.00 which is the same support they received in the past.

**#2 Sally Beckley - Life Time Resources**

Sally said that Life Time Resources served about 370 residents in Switzerland County in 2017. They operate on a \$250,000.00 budget offering in-home services to prevent someone from going into a nursing home. 60% of those they serve with their in-home services are eligible for nursing home admissions. Life Time Resources also operates Catch-A-Ride which is available to the public. They brought \$151,000.00 in grant funds into the county. They provide the meals at the Jack Sullivan Senior Center. They are asking for \$15,000.00 in support in 2018.

**#3 Reorganization**

Glenn asked for nominations for county council president for 2018. Lisa made a motion to nominate Elizabeth, Mike seconded the motion. Rachel made a motion to nominate Glenn, John Gary second Rachel's motion.

Glenn called for the vote. Lisa, Mike, Elizabeth and Andy voted for Elizabeth. Rachel, Glenn and John Gary voted for Glenn. Elizabeth Jones will be the council president for 2018.

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Reorganization cont'd

Glenn turned the meeting over to Elizabeth who called for nominations for vice-president. Mike made a motion to nominate Lisa and Andy seconded the motion. There being no further nominations, Elizabeth called for the vote. The vote was six to one with Glenn voting no. The motion passed. Lisa Fisher will serve as Vice President for 2018.

#4 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the December 13, 2017 meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Rachel and seconded by Lisa. All agreed.

#5 Katie Collier - SWCD 2017 update

Katie gave a report for the 2017 Soil and Water Conservation District activity. There were payments of \$64,113.20 with additional federal funding of \$154,150.73. Their annual dinner will be March 1<sup>st</sup> at the Tech Center

#6 2018 Funding Requests

- Keisha Morton, with the **After Prom Committee** said they had approximately 250 students attend the 2017 After Prom and would appreciate support for the 2018 event. They are asking for \$1,000.00, which is what they received in 2017.
- Connie Adams with the **Hoosier Theater** said that the theater is being utilized more. They have approximately three events a month at the theater. They are asking for \$12,405.15 for upgrading, repairing and replacing exterior doors.
- Sheri Works represented the **Swiss Wine Festival**. She described several capital improvements that need to be taken care of for the 2018 festival. They are asking for \$10,000.00.
- Nancy Barker, who is on the **Cemetery Board** asked council for support in the amount of \$15,000.00. She said they had no outside donations this past year.
- Tom Baxter, a board member for the **Child Advocacy Center**, introduced the new Executive Director, Stephanie Back. He said they had worked with over 3,000 children since they opened. 500 children were seen in 2017. The number of cases from Switzerland County doubled in 2017. Their request was for \$10,000.00.
- Mary Mattingly with **Safe Passage** described their services for abused women and programs at the elementary schools; they must try to break the abuse cycle. They are requesting \$9,024.00. Lisa asked where the odd amount came from. Mary said the average cost to assist/house a person is \$98.00 (per the state's calculations) and they multiplied that by the number of Switzerland County residents they had assisted.
- There was no representative for **Shop-with-a-Cop** and the council asked that Gayle contact Officer Pritchard and have him attend a future meeting.

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2018 Funding Requests cont'd

Elizabeth called for motions for 2018 support:

- Andy made a motion to give \$1,000.00 to the *After Prom*, Rachel seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Lisa made a motion to give \$6,205.15 to the *Hoosier Theater*, Mike seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Gayle said that after the last meeting's discussion, she'd checked, and the *Wine Festival* is not-for-profit, and it is permissible for the county to give them money rather than support a specific activity. Rachel made a motion to give \$7,500.00 to the *Wine Festival*, the motion was seconded by Glenn and all agreed.
- Lisa made a motion to give \$10,000.00 to the *Cemetery Board*, Mike seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Glenn made a motion to give \$7,500.00 to *Heart House*, Lisa seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Glenn made a motion to give \$15,000.00 to *Life Time Resources*, Lisa seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Rachel made a motion to give \$10,000.00 to the *Child Advocacy Center*, John Gary seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Glenn made a motion to give \$9,024.00 to *Safe Passage*, John Gary seconded the motion and all agreed.

#7 2018 Board Appointments

- School Endowment:
  - Glenn made a motion to reappoint Rachel to the School Endowment Board, Lisa seconded the motion and all agreed.
  - Lisa made a motion to extend Jim Phipps' appointment until the position can be advertised and filled. The motion died for lack of a second
  - Glenn made a motion to extend Jim Phipps' appointment for two years; the motion was seconded by Andy and all agreed.
- SIRPC:
  - Mike made a motion to reappoint Lisa to the SIRPC Board, John Gary seconded the motion and all agreed.
- SISWD:
  - Lisa made a motion to reappoint Elizabeth to the Solid Waste Board; the motion was seconded by John Gary and all agreed.
- EMA:
  - John Gary made a motion to reappoint Andy to the EMA Board, Mike seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Economic Redevelopment:
  - Lisa made a motion to retain Bernie Gaudin and Fred Stave on the Economic Redevelopment Board, Glenn seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Fire Chiefs:
  - Lisa made a motion to appoint Mike to the Fire Chiefs Board, John Gary seconded the motion and all agreed.
- Library:
  - Lisa made a motion to reappoint Alan Bear and Bruce Williams to the Library Board, Glenn seconded the motion and all agreed.

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**#8 Donation for Switz. Co. Representatives at CAC Fund Raiser**

Rachel said that at the previous meeting there had been a discussion on the council giving a donation to Katie and Lance Collier for their king and queen of the Mardi Gras fundraiser. After some discussion on supporting fund raisers Glenn made a motion to donate \$1,000.00, Rachel seconded the motion. The vote was four to three, with Glenn, Rachel, Mike and John Gary voting in favor and Elizabeth, Andy and Lisa voting no; the motion passed.

**#9 Spay and Neuter Funding**

After discussing funding of for the spay neuter program the council agreed by consensus to table the discussion.

**#10 Sheriff's Contract**

Glenn made a motion to approve the sheriff's 2018 contract for \$74,371.00; Lisa seconded the motion and all agreed.

**#11 YMCA Membership for Employees**

There was a discussion regarding supporting the YMCA with memberships for employees. The commissioners have already signed the contract with the YMCA for \$15,000.00. Glenn made a motion to fund the contract, Lisa seconded the motion and all agreed.

**#12 Other Business**

- A. Judge Coy: Andy wanted to recognize Judge Coy for moving some of the money in funds he has control over to the General Fund at the end of 2017 to offset some of the costs of his departments. Gayle said that this is not something he has to do but Judge Coy has done this voluntarily for the past few years.
- B. Gaming Revenue: Josh South said that Bill 1350 is being reopened in this session to fix technical issues. He felt that those issues had been taken care of in other bills and suggested we keep an eye on the issue. Rep. Houston is again involved in the gaming revenue issues.
- C. Water Damage in the Courthouse: Mark Lohide went over the recent problem in the courthouse when a fitting on the second floor that goes to the sprinkler system broke. Indiana Restoration was called and were on site in two hours to get the building in a condition suitable for reopening. There will be an emergency meeting immediately following the commissioners meeting on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the damage and where to go from here.

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There being no further business to discuss Lisa made a motion to adjourn, Mike seconded the motion and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor  
Switzerland County, Indiana