

**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: Tom Conroy, Steve Crabtree, Jeff Darling, Terry Hall, Mike Jones, Rachel Schuler, and Glenn Scott, the sheriff, Roy Leap, the council attorney, Cody Kendall, and the auditor, Gayle Rayles.

The meeting was opened by Roy who also led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meetings of December 11<sup>th</sup>, December 26<sup>th</sup>, and January 8<sup>th</sup> were approved as presented on a motion by Steve, seconded by Tom and all agreed.

**#1 Nancy Barker – Cemetery Board**

Nancy came to ask for financial support for the cemetery board in the amount of \$15,000.00. Carolyn Miller has contacted the Ogle Foundation in Jeffersonville for funds for repairs to the Ogle Cemetery. The Town of Vevay does not want to contribute any money for the Vevay Cemetery.

Mike asked if the trustees contribute any money toward upkeep; they keep the cemeteries mowed in their townships. There have been a few donations from random people.

Steve said to wait and decide on further down the agenda as casino donations/contributions is a line item for later discussion.

**#2 Bob Slover & Craig Beckley – HeartHouse**

Mr. Beckley gave the council an update on what his organization is doing. They provide shelter and affordable housing in Vevay, they have staff here, they buy things locally, and live here. They are the only shelter in Southeastern Indiana. They are asking for \$10,000.00 for 2014. In 2013 they served approximately 30 county residents. About 5% of their income comes from a grant from HUD, about \$30,000.00, which is an Emergency Solutions Grant. They also get money from Rapid Re-housing. They serve 5 counties and they are the largest shelter south of Indianapolis. There is a 72-bed capacity at HeartHouse itself and they are putting mattresses on the floor. They are one of the few shelters that take families and children. Mike asked if they do background checks; yes they get this from the place the person(s) came from.

They are hoping to get \$20,000.00 from Lawrenceburg. They have lost some of their other funding sources. They get some money from Dearborn, Ripley, and Ohio counties. Franklin County does not contribute anything.

This will also be decided later in the meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 2****#3 Betty Lucas – County Health Department**

Betty came to ask for help with the County Health Department budget for 2014. The operating budget is \$324,454.00 and the current balance is approximately \$24,000.00 in the red. The next income won't be until June and December when the settlement distributions are made; approximately \$140,000.00.

Their budget amount from the state is based on their share of property taxes (levy). The state made the health department spend down their surplus that they had previously. They have other funds but they can only be used for certain things.

The total shortfall for the year is approximately \$200,000.00 not counting what is coming from settlement. Just for payroll and Dr. Frede's salary they would need \$209,848.00 – for 2014.

Terry asked where \$100,000.00 could come from to get the health department through May 31<sup>st</sup>. Tom made a motion to take \$100,000.00 out of casino funds to get the health department through May 31<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Terry and the motion carried. This is to come from the Rainy Day Fund.

**#4 Other Business**

Casino Revenue Appropriation Ordinance: The Casino Revenue Appropriation Ordinance was approved on a motion by Steve, seconded by Glenn and all agreed.

SIRPC Board Appointment: It was approved at the January meeting to re-appoint Jon Bond to this board all that is needed today is a signature.

SIRPC Membership: The membership amount is \$4,245.00. It was suggested that a representative come and make a presentation to explain what all they do. Gayle is to contact Susan Craig to come and give a presentation at the joint meeting.

Casino Revenue Donation/Contributions for 2014: There is a list of organizations requesting funds: Burial of Veterans, HeartHouse, Historical Society, Hoosier Hills, LifeTime Resources, SIRPC, and Safe Passage, (these all used to be part of the commissioners' budget), then there are organizations like the After-Prom, Jeff-Craig Fire Dept. Antique Car Show, Cemetery Board, sheriff vehicles, the Advocacy Center, etc. The money for these would come out of the council's share of the casino funds.

**REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 3****Other Business cont'd****Casino Revenue Donations/Contributions for 2014 cont'd**

These requests were funded as follows:

Terry made a motion to move the sheriff's vehicles into the approved column of the spreadsheet, raise HeartHouse \$2,500.00 for a total of \$7,500.00, and then the rest of the requests would stay the same amount as last year, seconded by Steve. Terry amended his motion to approve the same amounts as 2013, except for the entity that requested less-give them what they requested, and then to give HeartHouse a total of \$7,500.00. This motion was seconded by Steve.

Rachel asked Michelle Thompson why Vevay Main Street asked for \$15,000.00 for this year when they only received \$2,500.00 in 2013. She said they were cut from the Town of Vevay. Mike asked what other sources of funding Vevay Main Street has; she said the "Flair for Wine" event helps fund the grant program and then donations for the "Flowerpot Program" and other things. Their operating budget is \$25,000.00 including rent, utilities, and committee work.

Mike called for a vote on Terry's motion, the motion carried.

**Secretary Pay for the Auditor:** Cody said he had a conversation with Gayle as to how this would be handled. What is taking up the additional time are additional meetings, Gateway-which is state required, the Moorefield/Bennington Sewer District accounting work, the riverboat revenue work, etc. Mike asked how much is being talked about; the amounts range from \$1,500.00 to \$15,000.00 – there are various formulas for the different counties that do the extra pay. Cody said he saw the average range being \$1,500.00 to \$5,000.00. Rachel said she would rather address this issue at budget time. No action was taken.

Steve wanted Cody to look into the eligibility for county commissioners. It is the council's authority to decide whether a commissioner has met the requirements to hold the office of county commissioner.

With no further business to come before council, Steve made the motion to adjourn seconded by Glenn and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

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Attest:

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Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor  
Switzerland County, Indiana