

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, Mike Jones, Rachel Schuler, and Glenn Scott, the chief deputy, Richard Lock, the council attorney, Cody Kendall, and the auditor, Gayle Rayles. Terry Hall arrived later.

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

The minutes of the previous meetings of March 12th and the March 17th joint meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Tom, seconded by Glenn and all agreed.

#1 Katie Collier – Indian Creek Watershed Project Update

Katie came to give council the quarterly report for the Indian Creek Watershed project. To date they have around \$199,000.00 of the \$202,000.00 allocated. They have 20 participants and 14 of them are new to the project. Ten of them have been paid a total of \$24,784.59. When everything dries out activity will increase.

#2 Randy See – EMS

Randy did not appear.

#3 Additional Appropriation Ordinances

The following additional appropriation ordinance was approved on a motion by Steve, seconded by Tom and all agreed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget:

SEC. 1 BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Switzerland County, Indiana that for expenses of said municipal corporation, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
<i>COMMISSIONERS</i>		
300 OTHER SERVICES/CHARGES		
4356 REGION 12 SIRPC	\$ 4245.00	_____
4365 HOOSIER HILLS	\$ 250.00	_____
4367 SAFE PASSAGE	\$ 7074.00	_____
4368 CEMETERY BOARD	\$ 15000.00	_____
4369 REGION 15 CHILD ADVOC.	\$ 10000.00	_____
4371 LIFETIME RESOURCES	\$ 15000.00	_____
4379 HEARTHOUSE	\$ 7500.00	_____
TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL FUND	\$ 59069.00	_____

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Additional Appropriation Ordinances cont'd

The following additional appropriation ordinance was approved on a motion by Glenn, seconded by Steve and all agreed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget:

SEC. 1 BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Switzerland County, Indiana that for expenses of said municipal corporation, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

COUNTY OPTION INCOME TAX FUND	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
300 OTHER SERVICES/CHARGES		
4312 SHERIFF TELEPHONE	\$ 385.00	_____
TOTAL COUNT OPTION INCOME TAX FUND	\$ 385.00	_____

The following additional appropriation ordinance was approved on a motion by Tom, seconded by Jeff and all agreed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget:

SEC. 1 BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Switzerland County, Indiana that for expenses of said municipal corporation, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

LOCAL HEALTH DEPT. TRUST FUND	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
200 SUPPLIES		
4211 OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 460.00	_____
400 CAPITAL OUTLAY		
4411 EQUIPMENT	\$ 340.00	_____
TOTAL LOCAL HEALTH DEPT. TRUST FUND	\$ 800.00	_____

The following additional appropriation ordinance was approved on a motion by Rachel, seconded by Tom and all agreed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget:

SEC. 1 BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Switzerland County, Indiana that for expenses of said municipal corporation, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE FUND	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
200 SUPPLIES		
4215 VACCINES/SUPPLIES	\$ 1737.00	_____
TOTAL LOCAL MAINTENANCE FUND	\$ 1737.00	_____

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Additional Appropriation Ordinances cont'd

The following additional appropriation ordinance was approved on a motion by Steve, seconded by Glenn and all agreed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget:

SEC. 1 BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Switzerland County, Indiana that for expenses of said municipal corporation, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

GUARDIAN AD LITEM FUND	AMOUNT	AMOUNT REQUESTED
APPROVED		
300 OTHER SERVICES/CHARGES		
4301 CASA GRANT	\$ 1907.23	_____
TOTAL GUARDIAN AD LITEM FUND	\$ 1907.23	_____

#4 Tourism Budgets

Basically the statute says that the tourism commission shall annually prepare a budget taking into consideration the recommendations made by corporations and submit it to the county council, the county fiscal body, for its review and approval. An expenditure may not be made under this chapter unless it is in accordance with an appropriation made by the county council in the manner provided by law. Cody has looked this over. The budget was just taken under advisement in January when it was presented instead of being voted on and passed. They get most of their funds from riverboat revenue and then some from innkeepers' tax.

There was a question from the audience about public access to tourism's budget – they have not been forthcoming. Larry Tolbert, of tourism, told the audience member to stop in and pick up a copy.

Jeff questioned the financial balance of tourism, and Larry told him he would need to look at a financial statement and not a budget. Jeff asked again what the ending balance is – it is not clear from the documents presented.

The last audit was performed in 2010 by the State Board of Accounts. Tourism is a government entity by statute not a 501(3)c. The only thing council can do is approve or disapprove the budget not govern how tourism is operated.

After much discussion a motion to table this topic until the next meeting was made by Glenn, seconded by Jeff and all agreed. Cody is going to speak with Frank Cummings of GFC concerning this.

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#5 East Enterprise Regional Sewer District – Funding & JD Reed Invoice

Gayle has a problem with JD Reed; they gave the county a proposal of \$64,240.00 and now they are requesting additional funding. The additional funding was approved at a past council meeting.

#6 Tourism Budget cont'd

Steve is asking if tourism has money to pay the necessary bills without council approving the 2014 budget. Tourism does have money for bills and they are just trying to live within their budget.

#7 Salary Ordinance Amendment

The following Salary Ordinance Amendment was approved on a motion by Jeff, seconded by Steve and the motion carried. This is something that is addressed yearly.

**SALARY ORDINANCE
AMENDMENT**

An amendment to the ordinance of the County Council of Switzerland County, Indiana, fixing the salaries of all officers, deputies, assistants, and employees, and fixing the number of deputies, assistants, and other employees for each office or department for the calendar year 2014, for Switzerland County, Indiana:

BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Switzerland County, Indiana, that for the calendar year 2014, the salaries of the sheriff's merit deputies, jail commander, jail matron and communications/E911 director are to be amended as follows:

There will be an incentive pay amount of no more than \$4000.00 for the year paid semi-annually in installments not to exceed \$2000.00 for each sheriff's merit deputy, jail commander, jail matron, and communications/E911 director based on performance. The incentives are to be paid no more than twice a year in May and November.

FURTHER, there will be an incentive pay amount of no more than \$2000.00 for the year for each of the sheriff's jail employees and communications/E911 employees. The incentives are to be paid annually in November based on performance.

FURTHER, there will be an incentive pay amount of no more than \$500.00 for the year for each sheriff's part-time employee and each part-time jail employee. The incentives are to be paid annually in November based on performance

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#8 SIRPC Grants

Everyone received a letter from Kathy Kelly of SIRPC outlining everything that the Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission does. They are ready to proceed with a housing rehabilitation program and/or a planning grant for the East Enterprise Regional Sewer District.

Jeff asked if there is time to get a grant or does the study of the sewer district need to be done before the grant would be awarded. Glenn said Kathy informed them that the grant would come first then the study; in the amount of \$22,000.00.

Commissioner Steve Lyons was in the audience and said the commissioners would prefer to use infrastructure money for roads and etc and not as matching grant money. He also asked about the amount of chip and seal money the council was allowing them to use this year - \$561,000.00. Steve Lyons brought up the fact that Atkinson Hill Road has 2 major slid areas, Popcorn Ridge also has a slid area, and North Branch has a slid area.

The commissioners are in the process of getting a permit to fix the slid areas on Atkinson Hill Road as they are on a creek; these will be costly to fix.

Commission Mark Lohide had been to the SIRPC meeting where they discussed the housing grant and he is in favor of it.

The gentleman that will conduct the study on the East Enterprise Regional Sewer District at a cost of \$22,000.00 is Doug Graff of Graff and Associates.

Jeff asked Steve Lyons about the money for the slid areas. He said they would have to use some of the chip and seal money and then address the matter of additional funds later. Rachel asked about the Local Road and Street funds – if this could be used for road repair; current balance is \$45,000.00. Hopefully the chip and seal process will start in May.

Terry made a motion to approve the \$561,000.00 for chip and seal, seconded by Steve and all agreed.

Terry made another motion to have the study done for the East Enterprise Regional Sewer District, seconded by Glenn and all agreed.

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#9 Commissioner Residency

At the last meeting Cody was asked to look into the residency of one of the commissioners. According to the statute, if an elected official does not remain a resident of the county/district then that person forfeits the office. The county fiscal body shall declare the office vacant whenever a member of the executive forfeits the office under the subsection. So the county council is obligated to look into this matter.

Cody made a cursory search on the internet and found that Mr. Haskell does not have any property in Switzerland County but he does own property in Spencer County and has applied for a homestead exemption. This is a certified document along with a homestead verification form he signed.

Cody felt that the council should hold a hearing so Mr. Haskell can explain this away; if there is an explanation. A vote does not have to be taken at the hearing. But any vote that is taken has to be in a public meeting. Gayle is to contact the auditor in Spencer County and get a copy of the signed homestead exemption form.

Mike suggested that they address this at the next regular meeting. Cody asked Gayle to send a certified letter to Mr. Haskell concerning this to both addresses in question. Tom made a motion to proceed with the letter and to having Mr. Haskell attend a hearing, seconded by Terry and all agreed.

With no further business to come before council, Steve made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Jeff and all agreed.

Attest: _____
Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana