

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

The meeting was called to order by Roy who also led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meetings of May 8th and May 22nd were approved as presented on a motion by Tom, seconded by Terry and all agreed.

#1 Eric Cole – YMCA

Eric brought the YMCA contract with the county for the council's consideration and signatures. This is for membership for county employees and their family members. This would take effect on July 1st. The amount of the contract is \$20,000.00. Terry made a motion to accept the contract, seconded by Steve and all agreed.

#2 Roger Nay – LifeTime Resources

Roger came on behalf of LifeTime Resources to ask for their organization to be placed in the 2014 budget. He was told that it would be taken into consideration.

#3 Craig Beckley – Heart House

Craig came on behalf of Heart House to ask for their organization to be placed in the 2014 budget. He explained their expenses from the handout he gave the council members. They are asking for \$7,500.00 for 2014. This will be taken into consideration.

#4 Sheriff Roy Leap – Video Arraignment & Vehicles

Roy informed the council that the Ohio County sheriff is trying to implement a video arraignment system between our detention center and their courthouse through grant funds. They need to enter into an agreement with Switzerland County stating that we will put their prisoners in front of the system when Ohio County has court. Ohio County is paying for the total cost. It is also compatible with the Department of Corrections video systems which could reduce our costs and time usage. Tom made a motion to accept the agreement, seconded by Glenn and all agreed.

Roy was asking about new sheriff department vehicles; he needs to purchase 2 at a total cost of about \$32,000.00 per vehicle. This was discussed at an earlier meeting but no action was taken at that time. Glenn made a motion to approve the purchases, seconded by Steve and all agreed.

REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 2**#5 Linda Elam – East Enterprise Regional Sewer District**

Linda brought information for the council to review concerning the financial status of the sewer district. Kathy Kelly is their accountant and she told the sewer board at their last meeting that the sewer district has about \$500.00 in their bank account and she has about \$4,000.00 worth of bills due.

Keith Penick had come to the council back in 2010 and received some money to pay off their loan and to do some repairs on the lift station. There was \$55,000.00 left that was not spent at the time. There are manholes that need repaired and they need operating funds; for a total of \$150,000.00.

Linda thought the best long-term solution would be to connect with the Florence Regional Sewer District since the East Enterprise Sewer District is so deteriorated.

They are going after those residents that do not pay; they are attaching liens to the properties and this should yield approximately \$3,000.00 this month. There are approximately \$12,000.00 worth of liens on the books. The liens are filed once a year. There are 175 customers on the whole system.

Steve wanted the engineering company that did the Moorefield/Bennington Sewer District come in and do a survey. He thought the survey cost would not be great. Bernard & Lockmueller were the engineers. Of course the commissioners would have to be involved in the project.

Florence does not have the capacity at the present time; for new customers or the Markland Industrial Park.

The repairs on the manholes have to be done regardless of what the long-term solution is. The cost for repairs is approximately \$80,300.00; this is included in the \$150,000.00 request.

After much discussion, Mike asked Commissioner Steve Lyons if he would go ahead and set up a meeting with the sewer districts with commissioner and council representation. Mike said he would be willing to be on the committee as did Steve Lyons.

Terry made a motion to give them \$15,000.00 for operating costs, seconded by Rachel and all agreed.

#6 Jewell DeBonis – Legislative Report

Jewell came to give the council the latest of what has happened in legislation. She gave the council a handout detailing what has changed. She thought the main topic should be the gaming money. Legislature did pass bills that did a number of things. The thing that should be of the most interest to council is that they put a cap on the "held harmless" money for this year and next year.

REGULAR MEETING – PAGE 3**Jewell DeBonis – Legislative Report cont'd**

The May gaming revenues were down; the interesting thing about the revenue being down is that one of the bills that was passed allowed the casinos to deduct free play. In May and June they could deduct up to \$2,500,000.00 and most of them did deduct this amount in May; Belterra did.

According to the numbers, the casino in Cincinnati has not had the dramatic effect on Belterra that it has on the other 2 casinos up the river in Rising Sun and Lawrenceburg.

Glenn asked what the definition of "held harmless" money is. Jewell said when the casinos stopped floating, went dockside, the legislature realized after much discussion with people like Jewell, that the number of admissions would reduce because when the boats were sailing someone could gamble for 2 hours and get off and then if they wanted to gamble more they could get back on. So it is now one admission for as long as someone wanted versus having to renter the boat each time. So due to the cost of that and another important fact the state said that we are going to put a floor on the "held harmless" money and the riverboat counties and cities that receive admissions tax will never get less than what was received in fiscal 2002 but at the same time they also capped the wagering money. This hurt Switzerland County the most because this casino had only been in operation for 9 months. The "held harmless" money is the difference between the floor and what is actually being received now in the admissions tax.

The estimate of the impact of the Cincinnati casino on Belterra is that the county should be ok when the admissions tax money is mailed out in August or September. The impact would not be as great as what the state had anticipated. She also said she thought there would be a loss next year in the "held harmless" money but not a great one. Then there are a number of legislators that envy what the casino counties have and she is hearing a lot of complaining from them about money. We still need to be very watchful and careful how the money is spent. The county needs to spend it on economic development and infrastructure because if you start varying from this there will be more complaining. The state cannot do anything about your local development agreement with the casino but as you well know the state can always go in and change the terms, percentages, and or dollar amount of the admissions tax revenue or the wagering tax revenue. Jewell said as you look to the future be certain that you look at economic development, infrastructure, and tourism.

#7 GFC Agreement

The agreement with GFC, which is owned by Frank Cummings, is for \$8,000.00 and it is time for the renewal. Gayle said his budget work is invaluable. Terry made a motion to renew the contract, seconded by Glenn and all agreed.

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#8 Transfer Ordinance

The following transfer ordinance was approved on a motion by Steve, seconded by Tom and the motion passed with Terry voting no.

TRANSFER ORDINANCE

Pursuant to Auditor’s Bulletin of July 1972, and also Public Law Number 54 of 1971, the County Council has the authority to transfer funds to different appropriations from one major classification to another within a department or office, at any regular public meeting.

COUNTY OPTION INCOME TAX	AMOUNT
<i>EMA</i>	
200 SUPPLIES	
4211 OFFICE SUPPLIES	INCREASE \$3854.51
300 OTHER SERVICES/CHARGES	
4312 TELEPHONE	DECREASE \$3854.51

Adopted this 12th day of June, 2013.

#9 Budget Hearing Dates

The council decided to make the necessary budget cuts and then give each department a copy of the revised budget and then have them come to discuss the cuts if necessary. All departments are to cut their budgets by 5%.

The meeting date for budget review is Wednesday, July 31st at 5:00 p.m. which was decided on a motion by Tom, seconded by Rachel and all agreed.

#10 Comp Time

Gayle had given the council some information regarding comp time payment. The first option would be to change the personnel policy and possibly make everyone salaried so there is no comp time. The second option is to pay out the comp time; this would be a discussion with Cody. Jeff said what needs to be done long term is to not get in this situation. Gayle is to contact Cody with these issues.

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With no further business to come before the council, Steve made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Terry and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

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