

**HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Hendricks County Council was called to order by President Eric Wathen on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, with the following in attendance: Councilmen Caleb Brown, David Cox, Larry Hesson, Larry Scott, Eric Wathen, Brad Whicker, David Wyeth, Auditor Nancy Marsh, Financial Administrator Tami Mitchell, and Legal Counsel Rhonda Cook. Council President, Eric Wathen, led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2023 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

It was moved by Brad Whicker and seconded by Larry Scott to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2023 Regular Council Meeting as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jarod McKee, Executive Director of Public Safety introduced the new Director of the Hendricks County Communication Center, Renee Tomlinson. The Council welcomed Ms. Tomlinson to Hendricks County and the Communication Center.

Human Resources Administrator Erin Hughes asked for the Council's authorization to allow Todd McCormack's position to become an INPRS covered position. Ms. Hughes stated laws had changed and the position would now be eligible. Commissioner Phyllis Palmer stated the position's benefits were negotiated by a former Commissioner. It was the consensus of the Council to allow the position to be covered by INPRS if it is eligible.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE AVON-WASHINGTON  
TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY APPOINTMENT**

Auditor Nancy Marsh stated the Council had received one application for reappointment to the Avon-Washington Township Public Library Board from Tina J. Stansbury and a letter of recommendation for Ms. Stansbury had been received from Laurel Setser, Library Director of the Avon-Washington Township Public Library Board. It was moved by David Cox and seconded by Larry Scott to appoint Tina J. Stansbury to the library board for a term ending December 31, 2027. Motion carried 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PLAINFIELD-GUILFORD  
TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY APPOINTMENT**

Auditor Nancy Marsh stated the Council had received two application for appointment to the Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library Board from Alyshia Ingram Busby and Elizabeth Giesting. Councilman David Cox stated both applicants were equally qualified and based on the years as a Hendricks County resident, it was moved by David Cox and seconded by Larry Hesson to appoint Elizabeth Giesting to the Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library Board for a term ending December 31, 2027.

### **IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Hendricks County Chief Public Defender, Jeremy Gooch, discussed the upcoming capital murder case and the funding for the expenses of the case. Mr. Gooch stated he has consulted with the Hendricks County Public Defender Board and is authorized to request an appropriation for funds to apply toward the fees and costs of the defendant's legal representation. Mr. Gooch stated that he is requesting his remaining funds from the Public Defender's General Fund budget to be encumbered and applied toward the expense and to match that amount with funds from the Supplemental Public Defender Fund. Mr. Gooch additionally requested that the funds reimbursed from the State attributed to this new line be equally divided with a portion returned to the Supplemental Public Defender Fund.

The Council thanked Mr. Gooch and had no objection to his transfer and encumbrance plan which would be heard later in the meeting.

### **IN THE MATTER OF THE HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Health Director Krista Click gave the Council some background to the new law regarding the Council's new authority to appoint a citizen Health Board member from the general public. Ms. Click recommended to the Council that they acknowledge the new requirements and postpone their appointment until next year when the current citizen appointment term expires on December 31, 2024. It was the consensus of the Council to acknowledge the new law under IC 16-20-2-5 and postpone the Council's appointment until January 1, 2025.

### **IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN TOWN OF AVON AND HENDRICKS COUNTY, INDIANA AND THE INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND HENDRICKS COUNTY, INDIANA**

County Engineer, John Ayers presented Resolution 2023-46 approving an interlocal agreement between the Town of Avon and Hendricks County and Resolution 2023-47 approving an interlocal agreement between the City of Indianapolis and Hendricks County. Council Attorney Rhonda Cook stated there are some issues to be worked out with the Commissioner's attorney and recommended the Resolutions be tabled until the issues are resolved. It was moved by Caleb Brown and seconded by David Wyeth to table Resolution 2023-46 and Resolution 2023-47. Motion carried 7-0.

### **IN THE MATTER OF THE 2023 INTO 2024 ENCUMBRANCES**

Auditor Nancy Marsh presented the 2023 -2024 Encumbrances requested up to and including December 15, 2023. Auditor Marsh stated there may be a couple of stragglers that she will present and the January 2, 2023 meeting for the Council's ratification. It was moved by Caleb Brown and seconded by Larry Scott to approve the 2023 - 2024 Encumbrances as presented to date in the amount of \$38,684,438.80. Motion carried 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE SALARY ORDINANCE**

Auditor Nancy Marsh stated the Salary Ordinance is not ready for signature as she has not received a report from Red Envelope regarding the performance increases.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Council President Eric Wathen opened and closed the public hearing with no comments being heard from the assembly.

Court Administrator, Catherine Haines, withdrew request #1. It was moved by David Cox and seconded by Brad Whicker to approve additional appropriation #2 through #5 as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

**EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION**

Whereas, certain extraordinary emergencies have developed since the adoption of the existing budget, so that it is necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; therefore, to meet such extraordinary emergencies;

Be it resolved by the County Council of Hendricks County, Indiana, that for the expense of said County the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds as herein and for the purpose herein specified, subject to the laws governing *the same*.

	DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	APPROVED
1.	Court Administration	1001.30705.000.0160	Petit Juror	\$10,000.00	Withdrawn
2.	Health	1159.13591.000.0214	PERF	\$38,000.00	\$38,000.00
3.	Westpoint TIF	4402.30200.000.0102	Attorney Fees	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
4.	2021 GOB	4612.34201.000.0102	Trustee Fees	\$350.00	\$350.00
5.	Soil & Water	1001.1550.000.0155	Personal Services	375.00	375.00

Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

**AYE**

/s/ Caleb Brown  
/s/ David Cox  
/s/ Larry R. Hesson  
/s/ Larry R. Scott  
/s/ Eric Wathen  
/s/ Brad Whicker  
/s/ David Wyeth

**NAY**

ATTEST: /s/ Nancy L. Marsh

## **IN THE MATTER OF REALLOCATION OF FUNDS**

Auditor Nancy Marsh presented the list of end of year transfers required. It was moved by Larry Scott and seconded by Caleb Brown to approve Reallocation of Funds numbers 1 through 57 as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

## **REALLOCATION OF FUNDS RESOLUTION**

Be it resolved by the County Council of Hendricks County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the unit of Government of Hendricks County, the following sums of money previously appropriated for expenditures from a detailed account within a major classification, are hereby reallocated to another detailed account within a different classification as originally appropriated, all as herein specified.

	<b><u>DEPARTMENT</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>TO</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>Y/N</u></b>
1)	Sheriff	1001.10517.000.0105	1001.10500.000.0105	\$26,812.00	Y
2)	Sheriff	1001.10517.000.0105	1001.10544.000.0105	\$3,363.00	Y
3)	Sheriff	1001.10517.000.0105	1001.10582.000.0105	\$4,262.00	Y
4)	Prosecutor	2501.10828.000.0108	2501.10899.000.0108	\$5,000.00	Y
5)	Assessor	1001.18998.000.0109	1001.18999.000.0109	\$2,000.00	Y
6)	Facilities	1001.13613.000.0136	1001.14309.000.0136	\$1,285.00	Y
7)	Jail	1001.13723.000.0137	1001.13701.000.0137	\$1,562.00	Y
8)	Jail	1001.13723.000.0137	1001.13704.000.0137	\$5,051.00	Y
9)	Jail	1001.13723.000.0137	1001.13721.000.0137	\$5,051.00	Y
10)	Engineering	1001.14308.000.0143	1001.14399.000.0143	\$15.00	Y
11)	Animal Shelter	1001.14412.000.0144	1001.14413.000.0144	\$637.00	Y
12)	Animal Shelter	1001.14412.000.0144	1001.14499.000.0144	\$2,000.00	Y
13)	Council	1001.13592.000.0149	1001.13590.000.0149	\$200,000.00	Y
14)	Council	1001.13592.000.0149	1001.13591.000.0149	\$300,000.00	Y
15)	Probation	1001.15100.000.0151	1001.15128.000.0151	\$4,487.00	Y
16)	Probation	2005.15100.000.0151	2005.15117.000.0151	\$2,760.00	Y
17)	Probation	2005.36600.000.0151	2005.20100.000.0151	\$1,930.87	Y
18)	Home Detention	4922.44101.000.0151	4922.20100.000.0151	\$7,700.00	Y
19)	Superior Three	1001.15310.000.0153	1001.15311.000.0153	\$5,612.00	Y
20)	Work Release	1122.15419.000.0154	1122.15499.000.0154	\$2,091.74	Y
21)	Work Release	4909.15419.000.0154	4909.15401.000.0154	\$1,874.00	Y
21)	Work Release	4909.15419.000.0154	4909.15402.000.0154	\$2,457.00	Y
22)	Work Release	4909.15419.000.0154	4909.15403.000.0154	\$2,663.00	Y
23)	Work Release	4909.15419.000.0154	4909.15404.000.0154	\$2,663.00	Y
24)	Work Release	4909.15419.000.0154	4909.15405.000.0154	\$2,663.00	Y
25)	Work Release	4909.15419.000.0154	4909.15406.000.0154	\$1,751.00	Y
26)	Work Release	4909.15429.000.0154	4909.15407.000.0154	\$2,142.00	Y
27)	Work Release	4909.15429.000.0154	4909.15408.000.0154	\$2,142.00	Y
28)	Work Release	4909.15429.000.0154	4909.15410.000.0154	\$2,142.00	Y
29)	Work Release	4909.15429.000.0154	4909.15425.000.0154	\$2,142.00	Y
30)	Work Release	4909.15430.000.0154	4909.15434.000.0154	\$1,947.00	Y

31)	Work Release	4909.15430.000.0154	4909.15435.000.0154	\$1,947.00	Y
32)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.10110.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
33)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.13902.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
34)	Court Administration	1001.13901.000.0160	1001.13903.000.0160	\$5,063.00	Y
35)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.13904.000.0160	\$5,471.00	Y
36)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.14000.000.0160	\$5,063.00	Y
37)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.14001.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
38)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.14002.000.0160	\$234.00	Y
39)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.14100.000.0160	\$220.00	Y
40)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.14101.000.0160	\$1,034.00	Y
41)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.14102.000.0160	\$7,606.00	Y
42)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.14104.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
43)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.14109.000.0160	\$5,471.00	Y
44)	Court Administration	1001.15313.000.0160	1001.15300.000.0160	\$5,063.00	Y
45)	Court Administration	1001.14003.000.0160	1001.15301.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
46)	Court Administration	1001.14003.000.0160	1001.15304.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
47)	Court Administration	1001.14003.000.0160	1001.16004.000.0160	\$5,306.00	Y
48)	Court Administration	1001.16203.000.0160	1001.16200.000.0160	\$5,063.00	Y
49)	Court Administration	1001.16203.000.0160	1001.16201.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
50)	Court Administration	1001.16203.000.0160	1001.16204.000.0160	\$8,068.00	Y
51)	Court Administration	1001.16203.000.0160	1001.16300.000.0160	\$5,063.00	Y
52)	Court Administration	1001.16203.000.0160	1001.16301.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
53)	Court Administration	1001.16203.000.0160	1001.16302.000.0160	\$5,471.00	Y
54)	Court Administration	1001.16203.000.0160	1001.16303.000.0160	\$1,097.00	Y
55)	Public Defender	1001.30702.000.0166	1001.16600.000.0166	\$6,199.00	Y
56)	Highway	1176.18598.002.0201	1176.18537.002.0201	\$4,793.12	Y
57)	Health	1159.18617.000.0214	1159.13590.000.0214	\$14,000.00	Y

Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

**AYE**

**NAY**

/s/ Caleb Brown  
/s/ David Cox  
/s/ Larry R. Hesson  
/s/ Larry R. Scott  
/s/ Eric Wathen  
/s/ Brad Whicker  
/s/ David Wyeth

ATTEST: /s/ Nancy L. Marsh

### **IN THE MATTER OF THE AUDITOR**

The Status of Funds was reviewed and noted that the fund balances and surplus funds remaining are very strong. Auditor Marsh stated the \$5,000,000,00 Food & Beverage receipt threshold has been met by the participating counties, therefore Hendricks County will receive the full 1% of the Food and Beverage Tax until the end of the fiscal year of June 30, 2024.

Auditor Marsh provided a 2023 Council Appointment list for the Council's review in making their 2024 appointments and a 2024 Council Calendar for their review before adopting at the January 2, 2023=4 meeting.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Council Attorney, Rhonda Cook, presented the Engagement Letter of Cook Government Advisors, LLC for the Council's review and approval. It was moved by Brad Whicker and seconded by Caleb Brown to approve the Engagement Letter as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman David Cox expressed his concern about who has the authority to hire or fire the Financial Administrator position and he felt the employee should know who holds that power. Mr. Cox stated that he thought the issue should be clarified to avoid problems down the road. Councilman Larry Hesson stated he felt the position is responsible to the Council because the salary comes from the Council's budget. It was the consensus of the Council that further research and discussion be held at a later time.

Assessor Nikki Lawson asked for an official announcement on who was chosen to replace Tami Mitchell as Financial Administrator. Auditor Nancy Marsh stated Paula Alkire from the Auditor's Office was selected as the new Financial Administrator.

Assessor Nikki Lawson asked for clarification about when the department heads would be notified by the Council or Red Envelope, whether the performance increases they granted had been approved. Council President Eric Wathen stated that there will be no changes made by the Council or Red Envelope to the increases and the departments can share this information with their employees.

Court Administrator Catherine Haines asked for clarification on whether or not the performance pay stays with the employee when they move to another office. Auditor Marsh stated she and Council President have been working on a best practice plan to manage the wages in payroll. Council President, Eric Wathen, stated the performance pay stays with the person, but will need to be funded through the additional appropriation process initiated by the new office.




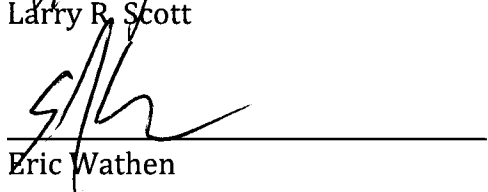
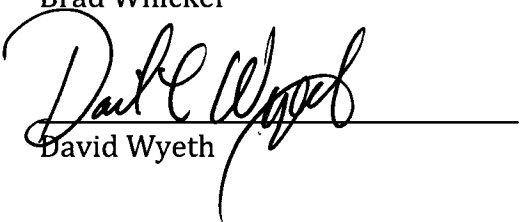
Council member Brad Whicker stated he would be absent from the January 2, 2024 meeting.

Council member Larry Scott stated he is actively participating in the Bicentennial Steering Committee, and they have many great plans made for the celebration. Mr. Scott stated their website is Hendricks200.com. Mr. Scott stated there will be a newsletter coming out in April of 2024.

As this was Financial Administrator Tami Mitchell's last meeting, each Council member gave their personal thank you, congratulations and well wishes to Tami upon her upcoming retirement. Tami has worked in the Auditor's Office for 22 years with 16 years serving as Financial Administrator. She will be missed.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion by Brad Whicker and second by Larry Scott the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m. on Tuesday, December 19, 2023.

**HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL**

  
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Caleb Brown  
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David Cox  
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Larry R. Hesson  
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Larry R. Scott  
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Eric Wathen  
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Brad Whicker  
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David Wyeth

ATTEST:

  
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Nancy L. Marsh, Auditor