HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING March 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Hendricks County Council was called to order by President Larry Scott on Tuesday March 18, 2025, with the following in attendance: Councilmen David Cox, Nancy Marsh, David Wyeth, Larry Scott, Eric Wathen, Larry Hesson, Charles Parsons, Auditor Ann Stark, and Legal Counsel Rhonda Cook. President Larry Scott led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2025, COUNCIL MINUTES

Having heard no comments, President asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Wathen moved to approve the minutes, David Cox seconded the motion, and David Wyeth abstained having missed the February meeting. Motion passed 6-0-1.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY MATCH FOR WORK RELEASE

Auditor Ann Stark explained that she wanted to plan for the Work Release budget with County funds as it is always short. They request large additional appropriations every year. After some discussion, Eric Wathen moved to pay for it out of general. Larry Hesson seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE RONALD REAGAN FINANCIAL UPDATE

Greg Guerrettaz from Financial Solutions Group gave a report on the Ronald Reagan expansion spending plan and sustainability. He informed the Council that the Fitch rating is staying the same this year as last year. He confirmed the EDIT fund is where it should be for this project. He provided the 2025 Certified LIT Distribution Breakdown and the significance of the supplemental amount being reduced and possible hurdles if it continues.

Greg Guerrettaz went over the Hendricks County Capital Improvement Plan for the next five years. The plan included the Ronald Reagan Parkway, Space Reallocation, Fair Grounds Expansion, Parks & Recreation Center, and a new Highway Facility.

There was discussion about the Fairgrounds Expansion including voter equipment storage and expanding the activity center.

There was discussion about the self-insurance research team meeting to evaluate moving to self-insured liability in 2026. The hope being to insure ourselves for \$500,000.

Greg Guerrettaz reminded everyone that we won't know how revenues will fall until the General Assembly ends their spring session as there are multiple bills on the table that could affect said revenues. Eric Wathen wanted to know why Plainfield has their own wheel tax and yet we still give them a portion of wheel tax. Greg confirmed there is a bill on the floor that will end our distribution to units if they have their own.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SHERIFF PENSION TRUSTEE

Sheriff Jack Sadler presented the Council with news that they would like to switch trustees from Comerica to Fifth Third to handle the Sheriff Pension. There were concerns with Comerica regarding communication and bookkeeping. An error was made last year and Sadler asked for Council approval to do a bookkeeping adjustment for the money instead of recouping it from the family. David Cox moved to approve the Trust Agreement and the Supplemental Trust Agreement with Fifth Third. David Wyeth seconded the motion. Charles Parsons abstained, having been on the board at the time. Motion passed 6-0-1.

David Cox motioned, and Eric Wathen seconded to do the bookkeeping adjustment. Charles Parsons abstained. Motion carried 6-0-1.

IN THE MATTER OF THE EMERGENCY ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

The public hearing was opened for the Emergency Appropriation Resolution of March 18, 2025. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed.

David Cox asked Health Director Krista Click if there was a report she could give showing what these employees are doing and if we can sustain them. Krista said they must report grant numbers every month but will look at providing it with the budget for Council.

Eric Wathen motioned to approve the 6 items requesting additional appropriations. Larry Hesson seconded, 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	Auditor	8106.32108.000.0102	LINK Operating	\$461,100.57	\$461,100.57
2	Facilities	1001.37802.000.0136	Public Defender Lease	\$600.00	\$600.00
3	Council	8950.40005.000.0149	ARP Capital Outlays	\$99,000.00	\$99,000.00
4	Highway	8160.34321.000.0201	Bridge Inspection	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
5	Health	4014.34501.XXX.0214	Advertising	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
6	Health	8149.XXXXX.000.0214	Professional Services	\$186,089.50	\$186,089.50

Approved this 18th day of March, 2025.

AYE NAY

Hendricks County Council Meeting March 18, 2025 /s/ Nancy Marsh /s/ David Cox

/s/ David Wyeth

/s/ Larry R. Hesson

/s/ Larry R. Scott

/s/ Eric Wathen

/s/ Charles Parsons

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

IN THE MATTER OF THE REALLOCATION OF FUNDS

No discussion was heard regarding the reallocation of funds. Eric Wathen motioned, and Nancy Marsh seconded to approve the Reallocation of Funds number 1 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.

	DEPARTMENT	FROM	ТО	AMOUNT	Y/N
1.	Auditor	4402.30100.000.0102	4402.42006.000.0102	\$38,678.25	Y

Approved this 18th day of March, 2025

NAY **AYE**

/s/ Nancy Marsh

/s/ David Wyeth

/s/ David Cox

/s/ Larry R. Hesson

/s/ Larry R. Scott

/s/ Eric Wathen

/s/ Charles Parsons

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

OTHER BUSINESS

The 2024 Annual Jail Report was acknowledged. The status of funds was acknowledged.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

David Cox made a comment about the leadership staff in Work Release being limited. He encouraged the Commissioners and Bridgette to investigate promoting or hiring leadership personnel to help with those gaps.

Nancy Marsh attended the Hendricks County Visitor's Bureau meeting. Eric Wathen asked if we had final payment from Brownsburg. Auditor Ann Stark agreed to confirm. Larry Hesson reminded everyone that the state called council meeting is on June 21st in Carmel. Charles Parsons confirmed his first emergency appointment meeting next week. Ronda Cook gave a summary of some of the bills that are still on the floor.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned by President Larry Scott at 10:22 a.m., Tuesday, March 18th, 2025.

HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL

Nancy Marsh

David Cox

Larry R. Hesson

Larry R. Scott

Eric Wathen

Charles Parsons

David Wyeth

ATTEST:

Ann Stark, Hendricks County Auditor