

HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 19, 2025

The regular meeting of the Hendricks County Council was called to order by President Larry Scott on Tuesday August 19th, 2025, with the following in attendance: Councilmen David Cox, Nancy Marsh, David Wyeth, Larry Scott, Eric Wathen, Charles Parsons, Larry Hesson, Auditor Ann Stark, Financial Administrator Paula Alkire and Legal Counsel Rhonda Cook. Larry Scott led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE JULY 15TH, 2025 COUNCIL MINUTES

Nancy Marsh motioned to approve the minutes after recommended amendments, and Larry Hesson seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF THE JUNE 24TH, 2025 JOINT COUNCIL & COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Dave Wyeth moved, and Charles Parsons seconded to approve the joint meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION DESIGNATING ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION

The resolution passed at the July meeting needed amended. Regarding such resolution, titled "A Resolution of the Hendricks County Council Approving a Lease Between the Hendricks County Redevelopment Authority and the Hendricks County Redevelopment Commission, and Addressing Other Matters Related Thereto", David Cox motioned, and Nancy Marsh seconded to amend the resolution number from 2025-16 to 2025-17. Motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION 2025-20

Joe Jasin, Project Manager for the Hendricks County Economic Development Partnership, presented a 5-year real property abatement application for two buildings at 8863 and 8901 Union Mill Rd. It would be a \$6.3 million investment. An appeal has been approved for these parcels to reassess the land at 90,000 per acre. David Wyeth asked that the Hendricks County abatement process be updated. Auditor Ann Stark confirmed the Heartland Crossing TIF was gone. Legal Counsel Rhonda Cook advised it is more beneficial that it is not in a TIF area. Larry Hesson moved to approve Resolution 2025-20 with amendments at the public hearing, Eric Wathen seconded. There was discussion about correcting a few things before the public hearing.

Larry Hesson withdrew his motion due to pending corrections to the application. Eric Wathen withdrew his second. Eric Wathen moved to approve Resolution 2025-20. David Cox seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. David Wyeth opposed it under caution.

IN THE MATTER OF GIBBS PARK WELCOME CENTER FUNDING

It was moved by Eric Wathen and seconded by Larry Hesson to approve funding the Gibbs Park welcome center out of Food and Beverage for next year's budget. Motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PURDUE EXTENSION ADVISORY COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS

David Cox and Eric Wathen both volunteered to be assigned to the Purdue Extension Advisory Council as Council representatives.

IN THE MATTER OF INNKEEPER'S DISTRIBUTION ASSIGNMENT

Auditor Ann Stark reminded the Council that the County portion of the Innkeeper's tax is usually split between the Parks and Rec department and the fairgrounds. Larry Hesson moved to continue the 50/50 split between those two entities for 2026. It was seconded by David Wyeth. Motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEWING CIRCUIT BREAKER & RECOMMENDATIONS OF LEVY LIMITS

Ann Stark provided the circuit breaker report, per statute, and asked for levy recommendations for the underlying taxing units. Nancy Marsh moved to provide no recommendation to units and confirmed they have reviewed the 2025 circuit breakers. It was seconded by David Cox. Motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISTRIBUTION RESOLUTION 2025-27

Ann Stark presented Resolution 2025-27 to grant half of the County Public Safety LIT to certain townships for EMS/Fire services. Townships include Clay, Eel River, Franklin, Liberty, Marion, and Union. Eric Wathen moved to approve Resolution 2025-27, and it was seconded by David Cox. Motion passed 7-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE 2025-18

Ordinance 2025-18 would appropriate proceeds of the sale of certain property to the Hendricks County Redevelopment Authority. Hearing no comments, it was moved by Eric Wathen, seconded by Nancy Marsh to approve Ordinance 2025-18. Motion passed 7-0. Public hearing was closed.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION

Anthony Gary from Lincoln Township asked if documents or explanations could be provided regarding the emergency appropriations as they were not posted online. Public hearing was closed. Larry Scott questioned if item #2 had already been done. Interim Facility Director, Paul Weddle, confirmed the sale had not closed yet. A land survey was being done. Nancy Marsh moved to approve additional requests one (1) – five (5). It was seconded by Eric Wathen. Motion passed 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.	Work Release	1001.15499.000.0154	County General	\$65,000	\$65,000
2.	Commissioners	1138.41050.000.0135	Cumulative Capital	\$900,000	\$900,000
3.	Health	1161.31900.256.0214	Health First Indiana	\$759,269	\$759,269
4.	Court Admin	9108.30702.000.0160	Interpreter Grant	\$17,000	\$17,000
5.	Court Admin	9128.30205.000.0160	YAP Grant	\$15,000	\$15,000

Approved this 19th day of August, 2025.

AYE

NAY

/s/ Nancy Marsh
/s/ David Cox
/s/ David Wyeth
/s/ Larry R. Scott
/s/ Eric Wathen
/s/ Larry Hesson
/s/ Charles Parsons

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

IN THE MATTER OF REALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Eric Wathen motioned to approve items one (1) – two (2) for reallocation. It was seconded by David Cox. Motion passed 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	TO	AMOUNT	Y/N
1.	Facilities	1138.30201.000.0136	1138.41143.000.0136	\$20,000	Y
2.	Highway	1169.20401.002.0201	1169.36602.000.0201	\$40,000	Y

Approved this 19th day of August, 2025

AYE

NAY

/s/ Nancy Marsh
/s/ David Wyeth
/s/ David Cox
/s/ Larry R. Scott
/s/ Eric Wathen
/s/ Larry Hesson
/s/ Charles Parsons

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Stark asked for guidance on max levies regarding budget planning. Eric Wathen motioned to approve recommendations provided to us by FSG during the budget hearings. David Wyeth seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Nancy Marsh opposed decreasing Cume Bridge. County Engineer, John Ayers advised he has plans to use funds in the coming years and is not in favor of decreasing the levy. Eric Wathen made note that we have money in other funds that we could use if they needed it.

Mrs. Stark asked if the Council had a decision on the historical preservation line item that was discussed at the budget hearings. Larry Scott was in favor of having a budget to do such a thing. Charles Parsons expressed a desire to get specific information before committing to it. Eric Wathen suggested it came from the Commissioners. Nancy Marsh agreed.

David Wyeth expressed concerns regarding payroll changes and the salary ordinance. Mr. Wyeth wanted it made clear that Department Heads and Elected Officials should not be making payroll changes without Council approval. He motioned that payroll change forms, with exception to new hires and those on sheriff/jail matrices, be subject to review by Council (or essentially frozen) pending further investigation. David Cox seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Eric Wathen opposed it as it did not include a quick turnaround. There was discussion about changes being made throughout the year and the use of the wage scale/salary ordinance. Eric Wathen expressed a desire to have a payroll change report presented every month to the Council. David Cox motioned to have a subcommittee appointed by Council President to present policies regarding these issues. It was seconded by David Wyeth. Motion passed 7-0.

David Wyeth presented research and recommendations on increasing Auditor, Assessor, Clerk, Recorder, and Treasurer Elected Official salaries. Research compared to Counties around our size. His recommendation included a 7% COLA for 2026 for these elected officials. Eric Wathen motioned to approve a 4% COLA for all elected officials to their 2025 salary. Nancy Marsh seconded. Motion passed 6-1. David Wyeth opposed it as he wanted 7%.

The Status of Funds was acknowledged. The letter from the Avon-Washington Public Library withdrawing their sale of general obligation bonds, was acknowledged. The accountings of public safety grant fund use provided by Franklin, Eel River, and Liberty Township were acknowledged.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment was heard.

ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENTS

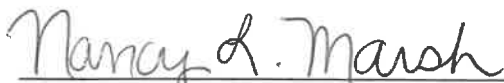
Elected Recorder Laura Herzog asked if payroll change forms were a problem, it be addressed one on one instead of in a public meeting.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

AIC annual conference is coming up in September. Hendricks County Youth Assistance Program is receiving an award at the conference.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned by President Larry Scott at 10:20 a.m.

HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL



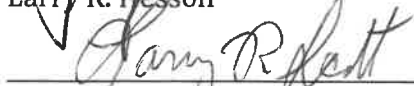
Nancy Marsh



David Cox



Larry R. Hesson



Larry R. Scott



Eric Wathen



Charles Parsons



David Wyeth

ATTEST:



Ann Stark, Hendricks County Auditor