

**HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 20, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Hendricks County Council was called to order by President Larry Scott on Tuesday January 20, 2026, with the following in attendance: David Cox, Nancy Marsh, David Wyeth, Eric Wathen, Larry Scott, Larry Hesson, Charles Parsons, Auditor Ann Stark, Financial Administrator Paula Alkire and Legal Counsel Rhonda Cook. Mr. Hesson led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL**

The floor was opened for nominations for Council President. Larry Hesson nominated Larry Scott to serve as Council President for 2026. Dave Wyeth seconded the nomination. Larry Hesson moved to close the nominations and Mr. Parsons seconded. Motion passed 7-0. The floor was opened for nominations for Council Vice President. Dave Wyeth nominated David Cox for Vice President. Larry Hesson seconded. Charles Parsons motioned to close the nominations and Mr. Wyeth seconded. Motion passed 7-0. Larry Hesson moved to Elect Larry Scott as President and David Cox as Vice President of Council. Mr. Parsons seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

The Council appointments to sit on boards were set for 2026 as follows: Area Plan Commission – Dave Wyeth, Emergency Management Agency – Charles Parsons, Fair Board – Dave Wyeth, Hendricks County Economic Development Partnership – Eric Wathen, Health Board – Larry Hesson, Senior Services – David Cox, Solid Waste – Nancy Marsh and Charles Parsons, Youth Assistance Program – David Cox, Communication Center – Eric Wathen, Hendricks County Visitors Bureau – Nancy Marsh.

Other open Council appointments were decided. It was consensus to approve Nicholas Schmutte to the Alcoholic Beverage Board. David Cox motioned & Larry Hesson seconded to recommend Tom Downard to the EDC of Avon. Motion passed 7-0. Dave Wyeth motioned and Mr. Cox seconded recommending Michael Diener to the EDC of Brownsburg. Motion passed 7-0. Mr. Wyeth motioned and Larry Hesson seconded recommending Jerry Vornholt to EDC of Danville. Motion passed 7-0. Mr. Wyeth motioned and Mr. Cox seconded recommending Scott Slavens to the EDC of Plainfield. Larry Hesson motioned and Mr. Parsons seconded appointing Jud Wolfe and Linda Watson to the Hendricks County Redevelopment Commission. Motion passed 7-0. Mr. Cox motioned to approve all nominations. Mr. Parsons seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Eric Wathen motioned to approve the 2026 Council Calendar. Mr. Parsons seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE MINUTES**

Larry Hesson motioned and Dave Wyeth seconded to approve the December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion passed 7-0. David Cox motioned and Larry Hesson seconded to approve the December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Cox motioned to approve the list of 2025 Pay 2026 Bonus Payouts. Charles Parsons seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF RATIFYING END OF 2025 TRANSFERS**

Nancy Marsh reminded the Council that end of the year transfers should be under \$100 and recommended bringing larger items to Council throughout the year as they happen. Financial Administrator Paula Alkire acknowledged the request. Mr. Cox motioned to ratify the transfers. Nancy Marsh seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF RATIFYING 2025 INTO 2026 ENCUMBRANCES**

Mr. Cox motioned to ratify the final 2025 into 2026 encumbrances. Mr. Wyeth seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COOK GOVERNMENT ADVISORS ENGAGEMENT LETTER**

Larry Hesson thanked Counselor Rhonda Cook for helping the County in 2025. Mr. Hesson moved to recommend her engagement letter to the Commissioners. Dave Wyeth seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ANIMAL SHELTER SUPERVISOR HIRING REQUEST**

Commissioner Dennis Dawes and Human Resource Director Erin Hughes came to the Council to advise they have the best and most qualified candidate for the open Animal Shelter Supervisor position. They requested to offer \$69,500 which is above the midpoint for that grade level. Larry Hesson moved to approve the request and David Cox seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF FUTURE INCOME TAX ANALYSIS**

Financial Solutions Group Advisor, Greg Guerrettaz gave an overview of how the Local Income Tax rate might change after the 2026 legislative session. Previously the County LIT rate would have been at 1.20% but is likely to reduce to 0.70% giving the Cities/Towns more of a percentage. Mr. Guerrettaz advised to keep this in mind when budget planning and capital improvement planning. Numbers were presented as follows:

**Estimated LIT Impact Analysis**

	<b>SB-1</b>	<b>"SB-2"</b>		<b>Estimated MIN</b>
	<b>Estimated MAX</b>	<b>Possible NEW</b>		<b>Future LIT</b>
	<b>Future LIT</b>	<b>LIT Rate</b>		<b>Future LIT</b>
	\$ 7,807,896,667	\$ 7,807,896,667		\$ 7,807,896,667
MAX LIT Rate	1.20%	0.70%	LIT Rate	0.62%
LIT Revenue	\$ 93,694,760	\$ 54,655,277	LIT Revenue	\$ 48,408,959

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONALS**

The public hearing opened for additional appropriations for Hendricks County. Hearing no comment, the public hearing was closed. Eric Wathen moved to accept the four (4) additional appropriation requests. Mrs. Marsh seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE**

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 ordained 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.	Jail	1001.13788.000.0137	Personal Services	\$77,149	\$77,149
2.	Health	4014.34501.000.0214	Miscellaneous	\$17,899	\$17,899
3.	Auditor	8108.32108.000.0102	Urbanized Grant	\$438,239	\$438,239
4.	Probation	9133.xxxxx.xxx.0151	Comm. Corrections Grant	\$155,522	\$155,522

Approved this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

**AYE**

**NAY**

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

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

**IN THE MATTER OF REALLOCATION OF FUNDS**

Eric Wathen moved to approve the two (2) transfer requests. Charles Parsons seconded the motion. 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.	Surveyor	1001.10610.000.0106	1001.10614.000.0106	\$58,586	Y
2.	Prosecutor	1234.38300.000.0108	1234.44550.000.0108	\$30,000	Y

Approved this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

**AYE**

**NAY**

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

ATTEST: /s/ Ann Stark, Auditor

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The COI from Eric Wathen was presented to the Council for acknowledgment. As well as the Status of Funds, the Sheriff’s Commissary Report for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2025, the Sheriff’s Jail Meal Breakdown Report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2025, the Hendricks County Tourism Commission Fund Report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2025, and the monthly HR report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Citizen Jay Thompson brought up a comment he heard at a public meeting regarding talks about a collection fee from the County when Pittsboro was asked to help with County matters. Sheriff Sadler made it known that the County helps Pittsboro and they return the favor when the County needs help. It is not prudent to pass fees back and forth currently. No other public comments were heard.

**COUNCIL COMMENT**

Mr. Cox questioned whether the Council had the right to choose which Council member served on the Animal Control Advisory board. Counsel Rhonda Cook read the Ordinance regarding the Animal Control Advisory Board that stated the Council appointment to the Board should be decided by the Council. David Cox motioned to appoint Charles Parsons to the Board. Dave Wyeth seconded. Motion passed 6-0-1. Charles Parsons abstained.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned by President Larry Scott at 10:31 a.m.

**HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL**

  
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Nancy Marsh

  
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David Cox

  
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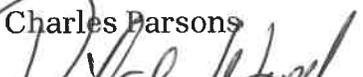
Larry R. Hesson

  
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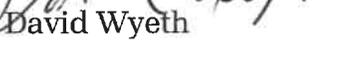
Larry R. Scott

  
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Eric Wathen

  
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Charles Parsons

  
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David Wyeth

ATTEST:

  
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Ann Stark, Hendricks County Auditor