

**JULY 13, 2020**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Pulaski County Council met in regular session July 13, 2020 7:00pm at the Pulaski County Highway Garage training room. Council members present were Ken Boswell, Ron DeSabatine, Jay Sullivan, Brian Young, Scott Hinkle, Kathi Thompson, Mike Tiede with Auditor Laura Wheeler and Attorney Kevin Tankersley.

Also present were Amber Tomlinson, Jeff Richwine, Brian Ledley, Todd Samuelson, Mackenzie Ledley, Holly VanDerAa, Deb DeSchepper, Brandon DeLorenzo, Judge Mary Welker, Nathan Origer, Renee Calabrese, Doug Gutwein, Chuck Mellon, Caitlin Creek.

President Boswell opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN RE: ABATEMENTS**

The following abatements for 2020 pay 2021 were presented for approval and signatures:

ARMSTRONG, ZACHARY J. ISIS THEATRE 122 N MONTICELLO ST WINAMAC, IN 46996	\$ 5,800.00 (PERSONAL PROPERTY)	10 YEARS
GALBREATH, INC PO BOX 220 WINAMAC, IN 46996	\$ 47,410.00 (PERSONAL PROPERTY)	10 YEARS
FRANCESVILLE DRAIN TILE CORP. PO BOX 368 FRANCESVILLE, IN 47946	\$ 18,489.00 (REAL ESTATE) \$ 600,340.00 (PERSONAL PROPERTY)	10 YEARS 10 YEARS
PLYMOUTH TUBE 572 W ST RD 14 WINAMAC, IN 46996	\$ 3,010.00 (PERSONAL PROPERTY)	10 YEARS
REMINGTON SEED 15691 W 600 S FRANCESVILLE, IN 47946	\$ 615,043.00 (REAL ESTATE) \$ 587,340.00 (PERSONAL PROPERTY)	10 YEARS 10 YEARS
BRAUN CORP 631 W 11 <sup>TH</sup> STREET WINAMAC, IN 46996	\$ 271,420.00 (PERSONAL PROPERTY)	10 YEARS
STANDARD PROPERTIES, INC. 100 MICHIGAN ST. WINAMAC, IN 46996	\$ 207,080.00 (REAL ESTATE) \$ 579,160.00 (PERSONAL PROPERTY)	10 YEARS
METAL FAB ENGINEERING, INC. 9341 SOUTH STATE RD 39 WINAMAC, IN 46996	\$ 177,100.00 (PERSONAL PROPERTY)	10 YEARS
TOTAL AMOUNT OF DEDUCTIONS GRANTED (ASSESSED VALUES)	\$ 3,112,192.00	

Based on concerns and issues with the filings the following information was provided: The Galbreath Inc. abatement had been approved with no expectation of new employees, only retention of current employees and they have added 30 to 40 jobs. Metal Fab Engineering, Inc. abatement was based on estimated new jobs and has filled 8 of the 10 estimated positions. Since 2011, FRATCO has increased payroll 143% in order to attract and retain employees.

Kathleen Thompson motioned to accept the abatements as presented and Jerry Sullivan seconded. Motion carried with a 5 to 1 vote in favor. Brian Young opposed.

**IN RE: SHERIFF**

There was discussion on 12 hour shifts for dispatchers and changing them to an 84-hour employee.

The Commissary Report was given to Council for semi-annual review.

Roof leakage, Boiler, hot water heater, and jail sanitation discussed.

**IN RE: EMS**

Final inspection fee for the building addition is \$2,250.00 and concrete work in front of door and repair of drain tile is \$2,592.20 and the following transfer of funds is requested to cover these costs:

FROM: 1000.24601.301 Patient Care Supplies	\$4,842.20	
TO: 1000.35400-301 Building Repair		\$4,842.20

Mike Tiede made a motion to approve the transfer as requested, Jerry Sullivan seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Part – time pay at \$14.00 per hour was discussed. Some neighboring counties pay \$20-25-30 per hour for part-time employees. Full-time and advanced EMT are good at existing pay.

**IN RE: CIRCUIT COURT**

Arrangements were made with the local school for rooms to interview potential jurors, thereby keeping them 6’ apart with mask, to comply with COVID-19 rules. Once a jury has been selected, the courthouse can be used for the trial with continued social distancing. Because this needs to be recorded, the following transfer is requested to pay for a mobile county reporting system which cost a total of \$6,214.89 and an estimated \$1,800.00 for installation.

**1000-0232 County General/Circuit Court**

From:	36100	Equipment Repairs	\$1,000.00	
	33700	Guardian Ad Litem	\$2,015.00	
	32200	Travel	\$2,000.00	
	32500	Schools/Meetings	\$2,000.00	
	31801	Professional Expenses	\$1,000.00	
To:	44600	Computer Systems		\$8,015.00

Kathi Thompson motioned to approve the transfers as requested, Brian Young seconded and motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: COURTHOUSE PROJECT**

The following additional presented:

1112-0700 LIT Economic Development	\$668,425.50
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The money to be used as follows:

- \$9,425.50 that was spend from CDC budget for different Courthouse Project expenses.
- \$15,000.00 for financial impact analysis of solar panel project to help determine solar equipment assessment and potential abatement. County expected to be reimbursed by the taxpayer.
- \$85,000.00 for consultation on tax rate restructuring and bond issuance process and can be recouped in bond issue.
- \$79,000.00 for bond counsel for services rendered to this point which can be recouped in bond issue.
- \$480,000.00 for Rowland Architects, which is 9.5% of total renovation cost and represents 60% of their entire fee.

A workforce efficiency operation analysis, three-phase project with base services not to exceed \$35,000.00 and total cost of \$46,750.00 was discussed. Farm Bureau publishes a book every year providing much of this information.

Total additional request was approximately \$720,000.00. Some thought the courthouse project should slow down due to COVID19 and the unknown future. Council was told that it may reach a point to pause but the county would risk breach of contract to pull the plug at this point.

After further discussion, Kathleen Thompson motioned to advertise the additional from the CEDIT fund except workforce efficiency analysis. Mike Tiede wanted to go by line items so Kathleen Thompson rescinded her motion.

Kathleen Thompson motioned to advertise \$15,000.00 for solar project analysis out of CEDIT. Mike Tiede seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Kathleen Thompson motioned to approve for advertising everything that is courthouse related out of CEDIT and Brian Young seconded. Motion carried 5 to 1 with Mike Tiede opposed.

Kathleen Thompson motioned to approve \$46,750.00 additional out of CEDIT for advertising for the Employee Efficiency Study and Brian Young seconded. The vote was 2 to 4 and did not pass. Scott Hinkle, Jerry Sullivan, Ronald DeSabatine and Mike Tiede opposed.

**IN RE: INCOME TAX RATE ADJUSTMENT**

The Local Income Tax rate of 3.38% discussed at length.

Three options were presented as follows:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Net Revenue Increase for the County	\$1,280,121	\$1,370,827	\$1,371,359
Estimated Increase in Property Taxes for \$100,000 Homestead (2)	\$262	\$169	\$192
Estimated Decrease in Local Income Taxes for \$48,370 Income Taxpayer	(\$281)	(\$232)	(\$256)
<b>Expenditure Rate</b>			
Certified Shares	1.46%	1.46%	1.46%
Public Safety	0.22%	0.22%	0.22%
EDIT	0.58%	0.58%	0.58%
PSAP	0.24%	0.24%	0.24%
<b>Total Expenditure Rate</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>
Property Tax Relief - All Parcels	0.00%	0.10%	0.25%
Property Tax Relief - Homesteads	0.00%	0.13%	0.10%
Special LIT	0.30%	0.17%	0.00%
<b>Total Local Income Tax Rate</b>	<b>2.80%</b>	<b>2.90%</b>	<b>2.85%</b>

County has until October to adopt this.

Mike Tiede motioned to approve Scenario #1 and Brian Young seconded. Vote was tied 3-3 with Scott Hinkle, Jerry Sullivan and Ronald DeSabatine opposed. President Ken Boswell broke the tie with a nay.

Ronald DeSabatine motioned to approve Scenario #3 with consideration of reallocation and Scott Hinkle seconded. Vote was 6 to 1 with Mike Tiede opposed.

Council members expressed the need for a Special meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup> and Kathleen Thompson motioned same for 7:00pm, Jerry Sullivan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS**

Jerry Sullivan motioned to approve the following items on the agenda, Mike Tiede seconded and motion carried unanimously.

- Approve and sign Fiscal Body Acknowledgement for Monterey-Tippecanoe Township Library
- Approve and sign Appointment of Judy Heater to Pulaski County Public Library
- Approve and sign Revised Ordinance for Salaries & Wages for 2020 (MATRIX and Status Change)
- Approve \$6,142.50 addition from Airport Improvement Fund/Hangar Rental
- Transfer \$200.00 from County General/Coroner Body Bags to Lab Supplies

The Health insurance increase of \$210,345.00 discussed and a suggestion was made to invite Bennett-Shepherd to come to the next joint session meeting to propose cost reduction options.

Aren’s Field Airport discussed briefly.

It was determined to discuss the 2021 budget along with LIT allocation at the July 20<sup>th</sup> Special Session.

With no other business to discuss, Jerry Sullivan made a motion to adjourn at 10:00PM, Ron DeSabatine seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 10th day of August 2020.

**PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL**

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KEN BOSWELL

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SCOTT HINKLE

\_\_\_\_\_  
RON DESABATINE

\_\_\_\_\_  
BRIAN YOUNG

\_\_\_\_\_  
JAY SULLIVAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
KATHLEEN THOMPSON

\_\_\_\_\_  
MIKE TIEDE

ATTESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAURA WHEELER, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN