

**Council Regular Meeting**  
**December 12th, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Commissioners' Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Owen County Courthouse**  
*60 S. Main Street*  
**Spencer, IN 47460**

Present: Anton K. Neff, Nick Robertson, Mike Wood, Patty Steward, Irma Jean Franklin, Chuck Hess & Mark Snapp

Guests: Tami Snodgrass, Stan Frank, Zoeann Frank, Tab Woods, Chad Walker, John Wallace, Phil Albright, Joe Pettijohn, Mike Stanley, Frank Nardi, Peggy Robertson, Brian Leonard, Jamey Harden, Cris Lunsford, Samuel L. Hobbs, Chester Richardson & Denise Shaw.

**MEETING WAS OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG**

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2011 REGULAR MEETING**

**Mr. Hess made a motion to approve the Minutes for November 14th, <sup>2011</sup>. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.**

**IN THE MATTER OF PRESENTATION TO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

Mr. Wood stated that the County Council had decided to give all the proceeds from Timber Sales in Owen County to the area Volunteer Fire Departments. The total amount per unit for 2011 is \$2,462.99 for each of the 7 local departments. Each Council member presented a check to the Departments in attendance. Clay Township and Cataract did not have representatives but their checks will be mailed. Mr. Wood and the Council thanked the Departments for their continued hard work on behalf of the residents of Owen County.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS**

1. Circuit Court – Request For Additional Appropriation for Pauper Council  
Judge Nardi was present to discuss the issue of the shortfall within his budget for payment to Public Defender attorneys. There was discussion about trying to get reimbursement from the State on a portion of the expenses; it doesn't appear that would be a benefit to Owen County as we would have to pay more per case than currently paid. The other possible solution might be to start a Public Defender Department within the Courthouse, space is the obvious problem but the Judge stated he thought this might be a good solution to the issue, by contracting with 2-3 local attorneys for a set dollar amount per year he stated \$30,000 each and they would just do the cases. The requirement to have someone other than those 2-3 would be minimal but would also need to be considered. There is much review to do in order to figure out the best approach and the Council discussed possibly forming a Committee to study the issue.

**Mr. Hess made a motion to appropriate from the Cash Balance in the General fund \$30,600 to line 1000-136-4137 Public Defender to cover 2011 shortfall. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

2. Highway – Request For Transfer of Funds  
Request is for the Repair of Equipment due to funds being low and bills still to pay.

**Mr. Neff made a motion to Transfer from the Highway Fund 1176-000-4116.40 Employee line \$6891.39 to 1176-000-4232 Repair of Equipment. Mr. Neff seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

3. Auditor's Department – Request For Transfer of Funds  
Request is for a shortfall in Supply due to toner Cartridge expenses.

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Transfer from the Auditor's 1000-102-4331 Printing \$521.02 to 1000-102-4213 Supply. Mr. Neff seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

4. Commissioners – Request For Transfer of Funds  
Request if for the remaining Unemployment Compensation estimated for December and the amount already in the negative.

**Mr. Neff made a motion to Transfer from Commissioners 1000-130-4398 Care of Patients \$7811.00 to 1000-130-4122 Unemployment. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

5. Surveyor – Additional Appropriation  
Current Surveyor is State Certified so a new salary Ordinance had to be initiated due to statue.

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Appropriate from the Cash Balance in the General Fund 1000 \$3816.00 to line items 1000-106-4111 Salary and 4121 FICA and 4123 PERF to cover the current shortfall. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

6. CEDIT – Request For Additional Appropriation  
Request is for a shortfall in Health Insurance to cover the remainder of the year.

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Appropriate from the Cash Balance in the EDIT Fund 1112 \$47,853.00 to line item 1112-4345 to cover the current shortfall. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

7. Coroner – Request For Additional Appropriation  
Request is for the shortfall in Autopsies this year.

**Mr. Neff made a motion to Appropriate from the Cash Balance in the General Fund 1000 \$5353.84 to line item 1000-107-4116 Autopsies for the current shortfall. Ms. Franklin seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0-1 (abstained by Mr. Hess)**

8. Sheriff and Jail Housing  
Request is for the Safe keeper in the jail housing fund due to an inmate being housed from Owen County.

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Appropriate from the Cash Balance in the Jail Housing Fund 4906 - \$7591.28 to line items 4906-000-4356 Safe keeper Expenses. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

Sheriff also presented transfers in order to cover large amounts of Comp time that have accumulated.

**Ms. Franklin made a motion to Transfer from 1000-105-4213 Office Supply \$200.00 to line item 1000-105-4115 Overtime. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Ms. Franklin made a motion to Transfer from 1000-105-4222 Gas, Oil and Lube \$9094.95 to line item 1000-105-4115 Overtime. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Mr. Snapp made a motion to Transfer from 1000-105-4223 Tires \$2400.00 to line items 1000-105-4115 Overtime. Mr. Hess seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Mr. Snapp made a motion to Transfer from 1000-105-4329 Training \$2000.00 to line items 1000-105-4115 Overtime. Mr. Hess seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Transfer from 1000-105-4332 Extradition \$1887.33 to line items 1000-105-4115 Overtime. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Transfer from 1000-105-4364 IDACS Service \$2000.00 to line items 1000-105-4115 Overtime. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Transfer from 1000-105-4363 Radio Repair \$2200.00 to line items 1000-105-4115 Overtime. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**9. Treasurer – Request For Transfer of Funds**

Request is for the shortfalls in 2 line items. There was a question asked by Mr. Neff regarding the need to cover this shortfall in the Clerical as to why the department went over the allotted hours. Ms. Snodgrass responded that they had to have more part time help because the tax bills were sent earlier than normal.

**Mr. Neff made a motion to Transfer from 1000-103-4391 Dues & Subscriptions \$58.58, and from 1000-103-4442 Copier Maintenance \$202.00, and from 1000-103-4331 Printing \$451.76 to line items 1000-103-4114 Clerical Assistant. Additionally Transfer from 1000-103-4331 Printing \$522.46 to line item 1000-103-4213 Office Supply to cover year end expenses. Mr. Hess seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**10. EMS – Request For Transfer of Funds and Additional Appropriation**

Request is for Group Insurance which will have a shortfall. Cris moved as much money around in his budget to cover the bulk of the shortfall but it still requires an additional appropriation.

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Appropriate from the cash balance in fund 1151 \$14,870 to line item 1151-000-4345 Group Insurance. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Ms. Steward made a motion to Appropriate from the cash balance in fund 1151 \$2701.16 to line item 1151-000-4232 Repair of Equipment. Mr. Hess seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Appropriate from the cash balance in fund 1151 \$4055.00 to line item 1151-000-4300 Contract Service. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**Mr. Hess made a motion to Transfer from 1151-000-4240 Clinical Supply \$3400.00 to line item 1151-000-4176 Work Comp. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

**IN THE MATTER OF ADA PROJECT**

**Mr. Hess made a motion to appropriate from the Rainy Day fund line 1186-4452 \$5750.00 for \$8,000 for PMSI. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.**

**Mr. Hess made a motion to appropriate from the Rainy Day fund line 1186-4452 \$5750.00 for \$5,750 for Architura. Mr. Neff seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.**

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Denise Shaw from Economic Development wanted to make sure that the Council had received the information on the Redevelopment Commission Ordinance that she stated needed passed as soon as possible. She will return in January to discuss the matter further. Ms. Lawson stated that settlement is almost completed and that checks would be sent earlier this year than in past settlement periods due to the Treasurer providing final figures at an earlier date. Mr. Hess discussed the Grants Committee recommendations as presented in the November meeting. He asked for formal acceptance of the recommendations and that the award is made in January at the first meeting of the Council.

- Area 10 Agency on Aging \$2000
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters \$1000
- Hoosier Hills Food Bank \$1500
- Middleway House \$1000
- Fair Board \$10,000
- Learning Network \$1000
- Senior Friends of OC \$1000
- Patricksburg Community Center \$1000
- OC Humane Society \$10,000
- OC 4-H \$5000

**Mr. Neff made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Grants Committee for the 2012 Council awards to the not for profit entities listed and that this funding come from the EDIT Fund. Mr. Snapp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0**

Mr. Hess stated that he would be working on an award letter to be presented to the entities at the January meeting. They will all be contacted to send a representative for the award letter. Mr. Wood commended the work of all the Committee's; he stated that all the Committees have done many good things for the County. Mr. Snapp requested that Sweet Owen Industries come to give a financial report at the meeting in February to the Council. Ms. Snodgrass informed the Council that she had one individual that had issues with the Innkeeper tax and would probably be filing an appeal.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Snapp moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**

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**Mark Snapp**

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**Irma Jean Franklin**

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**Anton Neff**

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**Nick Robertson**

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**Patty Steward**

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**Chuck Hess**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Angie Lawson

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Michael Wood