

## **FAYETTE COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **August 4, 2026**

#### **BE IT REMEMBERED:**

That the Fayette County Council of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular session on the above date at 6:00 p.m. with the following present: Council members Sharon Cranfill, Scott Bevington, Bob Stewart, Gabe Nobbe, Tim Patterson, Connie Durham, and Kay Riker-Peyton along with Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

President Cranfill called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

#### **MINUTES:**

Councilwoman Riker-Peyton discussed the minutes of the prior meeting and said it was not her intention to resign from the Budget and Finance Committee altogether only to resign from the pre-budget meetings that were being held. Discussion was held. The minutes from the prior meeting were correct as written. Councilwoman Durham moved to approve the minutes from the July 7<sup>th</sup> regular meeting, Councilman Nobbe seconded the motion, and motion carried 7-0.

#### **MAIL/EMAIL:**

None

#### **COUNTY ATTORNEY:**

County Attorney Geoff Wesling did not have anything for the board at this time.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Gabe gave a budget committee report. They met with most departments and initially took out all raise requests. They removed funding for council and commissioner insurance. They recommend that we give a \$1,000 raise to full-time employees and a 35 cents per hour raise to part-time employees. They also recommended that council lift the hiring freeze. Gabe said some departments had dramatic increases due to things beyond their control, and that some departments had made deep cuts. This will all be discussed in greater detail at our next budget meeting.

Sharon had a report from the Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission meeting held in Rushville on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and said she had shared the Comprehensive Economic Development's project survey with everyone and that was discussed at the meeting. She also said on July 30<sup>th</sup> she sent everyone an email from the Office of Technology Commercialization which announced \$10 million for the small business innovation research and small business research phase one funding opportunity. The next EIRPC meeting is going to be held in October.

#### **COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVE:**

Commissioner Munson gave an update on today's meeting. They approved 144s for Auditor Jane Downard's office and Assessor Jeff Coleman's office. Wade Walling shared that EMA had been awarded a \$75,000 grant from the Fayette Community Foundation. Bill MacDaniel discussed hiring a consultant to help work on a data center ordinance. Kleinpeter Associations were here and more houses were approved for funding through the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Grant from OCRA. They renewed their contract with Keitha Miller for Pauper Attorney Reporting. They heard from Gary Smith regarding a proposal to create and fund a Public Defender Department in the County.

#### **144s:**

Auditor Jane Downard requested permission to hire a part-time employee. Councilman Nobbe moved to approve the request, Councilman Patterson seconded the motion, and motion carried 7-0.

#### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS:**

Sheriff Zac Jones presented an Additional Appropriation request to Jail LIT Fund 1233 Account 10360 Overtime in the amount of \$10,000. Councilman Nobbe moved to approve the additional appropriations as presented, Councilman Patterson seconded the motion, and motion carried 7-0.

Recorder Lisa Witt presented an Additional Appropriation request to County General Fund 1000 Account 30120 Travel and Training in the amount of \$400. Councilwoman Riker-Peyton moved to approve the additional appropriation as presented, Councilman Patterson seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken with the following results: Durham Yes, Riker-Peyton Yes, Patterson Yes, Nobbe Yes, Stewart No, Bevington Yes, Cranfill Yes, and motion carried 6-1.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Baker Tilly Agreements were discussed. Councilman Bevington moved to table it, Councilwoman Riker-Peyton seconded, and motion carried 7-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Sheriff Zac Jones gave his quarterly jail commissary report.

The Circuit Breaker report was emailed prior to the meeting. Council reviewed the report, but made no recommendation regarding the report.

Councilwoman Durham shared her thoughts regarding the Animal Shelter building remodel/repair quote that was approved at the last commissioner meeting, and her wish to see the building donation fund grow and possibly be used as grant match funds in the future. She also said she would like to see a financial report for the Animal Shelter showing how much money they are making on shot clinics, etc.

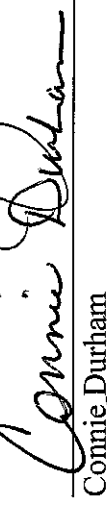
**PATRON CONCERNS:**

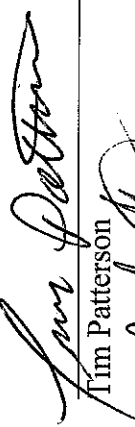
None

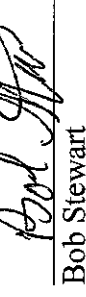
**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

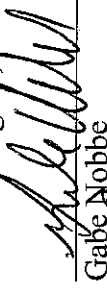
  
Sharon Cranfill, President

  
Connie Durham

  
Tim Patterson

  
Bob Stewart

  
Scott Bevington, Vice President

  
Gabe Nobbe

  
Kay Riker-Peyton

  
Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor