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BE IT REMEMBERED THE HENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF HENRY COUNTY, INDIANA, met at the Henry County Courthouse Circuit Courtroom, in the City of New Castle, Indiana on September 29, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. with the following members present: Kenon Gray, Susan Huhn, Kyle Allen, Michael Regner, Harold Griffin, Shannon Thom, Betsy Mills, County Auditor Debbie Walker and County Attorney Joel Harvey.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge led by Betsy Mills and a Prayer led by Susan Huhn.

A motion was made by Shannon Thom and seconded by Harold Griffin to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Penny York gave an update on the EPA Brownfield Grant they received, she also gave an update on the READI 2.0. The date for the Implicit Bias training is October 18, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Betsy Mills to approve the transfer of \$2,108.00 from Council Reclassification to Council Sick Pay. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kyle Allen and seconded by Betsy Mills to approve the transfer of \$536.00 from Surveyor GIS Office Supplies to GIS Travel/Training. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kyle Allen and seconded by Shannon Thom to approve the purchase of Tax Scanning equipment for the Treasurer's Office in the amount of \$11,850.00 to be paid from Reclassification fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Rust is revising the Storm Water Ordinance the cost is \$10,000.00. He has spoken with Corey Murphy at the EDC and they are going to pay \$5,000 of the cost. Steve Rust is asking the Council to pay the additional \$5,000. Currently the Council does not have the funds to pay for this. A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Kyle Allen pay the \$5,000 out of the 2024 Reclassification line in the council budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Cash spoke about wanting the council to consider giving Healthy Communities \$25,000 of the Food & Beverage money to help with the increased costs of trail construction due to the increase in concrete and asphalt. Their funding shortfall is \$110,000. The original construction budget was created in December, 2021 for the DNR Next Level Trails Grant application and their project award was in April, 2022, before increased construction costs were experienced later in 2022. They received no bids in October, 2022 due to uncertainty of current and future costs when constructing the trail. In March, 2023 they rebid their project and received two bids that were \$400,000 to \$600,000 higher than their construction estimate. Adjustments were made to concrete and asphalt quantities to bring the cost down, but the total project cost still exceeds their currently funding. The final project cost of \$2,055,463 was computed August 28th. They have raised a total of \$1,945,940: \$1,331,690 from DNR NLT Grant, \$220,000 in READI 1.0, \$238,000 in ECI RDA, \$38,000 in IHT, \$10,000 from Duke Energy Foundation, \$50,000 from Henry County Memorial Hospital Foundation, and Health Communities has raised \$57,800 in community funding. A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Shannon Thom to table this request and send it to the Food & Beverage committee for their recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.

Shannon Thom spoke about the Jail LIT Fund, the council misinterpreted what they were given for legislation for what they were allowed to spend for maintenance out of the Jail LIT and they need to reduce the Jail LIT budget as was previously proposed. Shannon Thom made a motion to reduce the Jail LIT budget by \$415,830 and those line items would be \$308,430 from Inmate Medical, \$44,500 out of uniforms, \$47,900 out of Janitorial Supplies and \$15,000 out of inmate supplies. The motion was seconded by Mike Regner. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Betsy Mills and seconded by Shannon Thom to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

At 3:00 p.m. the Budget Adoption meeting was called to order.

A motion was made by Harold Griffin and seconded by Shannon Thom to approve the county budget in the amount of \$28,033,045 and the Home Rule Funds in \$9,030,145. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Harold Griffin and seconded by Shannon Thom to approve the Henry County Solid Waste Management District Budget in the amount of \$346,060. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Betsy Mills to adjourn the budget adoption meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Kenon Gray, President


Susan Huhn



Shannon Thom




Betsy Mills



Attested by: Debra G. Walker, Auditor


Harold Griffin


Michael Regner

Kyle Allen