

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 March 23, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Kenon Gray, Susan Huhn, Kyle Allen, Mike Regner, Harold Griffin, Shannon Thom, Betsy Mills, County Auditor Debbie Walker and County Attorney Joel Harvey.

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

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Betsy Mills to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing called to order for Resolution 2023-03-23-003, A Resolution Affirming Preliminary Resolution Designating Property as an Economic Revitalization Area and Approving Real Property and Personal Property Tax Abatement for Legacy Feed, LLC. The hearing was turned over to Corey Murphy, EDC Director. Mr. Murphy explained it was a \$21,000,000 investment, just under \$13,000,000 in buildings and just over \$8,000,000 in equipment. 30 new jobs by 2024 and 18 of those position have an hourly wage of \$23 an hour and 12 are at an annual average salary of \$80,000 per year. This is located at the current Co-Alliance facility on County Road 600 E, the project consists of a new feed mill office and grain storage. This is a proposed 7 year abatement on both real and personal property. There was no question or comment from the Council or the public. The Public Hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Shannon Thom to approve Resolution 2023-03-23-003, A Resolution Affirming Preliminary Resolution Designating Property an Economic Revitalization Area and Approving Real Property and Personal Property Tax Abatement for Legacy Feed, LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO.: 2023—03-23-003

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING PRELIMINARY RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PROPERTY AS AN ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA AND APPROVING REAL PROPERTY AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR LEGACY FEED, LLC

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2023, the Henry County Council approved a Preliminary Resolution Designating Property as an Economic Revitalization Area and Approving Real Property and Personal Property Tax Abatement for Legacy Feed, LLC (“Preliminary Resolution”); and,

WHEREAS, under the Preliminary Resolution, the Henry County Council preliminary approved the designation of an area approximately 26 acres located at the real estate commonly known as 477 South County Road 600 East, Henry County, Indiana (Parcel #s 010-01716-00 & 010-01636-00) as an economic revitalization area; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Indiana Code §6-1.1-12.1-2.5, the Henry County Council is required to conduct a public hearing before making a final determination as to whether a parcel should be designated as an economic revitalization area; and,

WHEREAS, notice of the proposed hearing was published as required by Indiana law and notice of the passage of the preliminary resolution was provided to taxing authorities as required by law; and,

WHEREAS, the Henry County Council has conducted a public hearing on the designation of the above real estate as an economic revitalization area and has provided the opportunity for testimony both for and against the designation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Henry County Council hereby confirms the preliminary resolution designating property as an economic revitalization area and approving real property and personal property tax abatement for Legacy Feed, LLC, and the area described in the Preliminary Resolution is hereby designated as an economic revitalization area.

ADOPTED BY THE HENRY COUNTY COUNCIL at its regularly scheduled meeting this ____ day of _____ 2023.

AYE

NAY

ATTEST:

Auditor

Corey Murphy gave an update on the OCRA Grant that he is working on that would help small business. He is needing a local match for this grant of \$6,250.00

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Harold Griffin to allow the \$6,250 local match money for the OCRA Grant and taken from the Food & Beverage Funds.

Michelle Leonard McConnell and Jami Marsh presented to the county a proposed plan by IU Health for a Regional Crisis Center for Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Henry and Jay counties. The Muncie Crisis Center will be opening this year and will be a safe 24/7 low-barrier environment. The individuals will receive assessment, intervention, peer support and connection to vital services. This was presented to the Council to possibly be able to use the OPOID Settlement monies the county is receiving.

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Betsy Mills to approve the Additional Appropriation for Henry County Memorial Park for \$16,778 from the 1117 Rental Fund, \$12,985 for Trash Compactor bed and \$3,792.68 for 2023 John Deere Gator. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Harold Griffin and seconded by Mike Regner to approve the transfer from the Health Department for \$4,878 from New Vehicles to Nursing Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Betsy Mills and seconded by Susan Huhn to approve the transfer from Highway Department 1176 fund of \$50,000 from Gas & Oil to Laborer. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Betsy Mills and seconded by Shannon Thom to approve the sick leave payout for Nancy Marcum of \$12,745.60. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Betsy Mills to approve the payout of sick time for Landon Dean of \$16,025.60. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Shannon Thom and seconded by Susan Huhn to approve the 2023 Sheriff Contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Susan Huhn discussed the budget needs of the Sheriff Department. There are four place where there is concern with shortfalls in the Sheriff's budget. The first is in the vehicle purchase line item when it was budgeted for the purchase of vehicles it was only budgeted for the base price of the vehicle and not the upfitting of each vehicle, in addition there was a car purchased last year that was not paid for until this year and a totaled vehicle. The shortfall for 2023 in that line item will be \$121,500.00. The Sheriff is not asking for an additional appropriation at this time but wanted the council to be aware of the possible shortfalls. Susan Huhn recommendation is to continue without an additional appropriation until the account is in the red and then discuss it. The second is for the joint drug task force that is shared with the City of New Castle, this has not been budgeted in the 2023 budget and he is asking guidance as to where to pay this from. Kenon Gray asked Auditor Walker it there was a line item for Drug Task Force. It was asked if there was an MOU for this and Joel Harvey stated that he will have to look into this. Auditor Walker also stated that the cars have always been outfitted out of the Commissary Fund. Sheriff Sproles stated that a lot of operating expense is being taken out of the Commissary Fund and he has a concern with this. The Sheriff is requesting \$5,000 hiring bonuses for three new hires and that money is not in his budget. There is also roughly \$260,000 of 2022 bills that were paid out of the 2023 budget and this will possibility make his budget short.

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Shannon Thom to approve Resolution 2023-03-23-004, A Resolution Memorializing the Matrix Pay System for Sheriffs Deputies. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO.: 2023-03-23-004

A RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE MATRIX PAY SYSTEM FOR SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES

WHEREAS, the Henry County Council has previously approved a "matrix" pay system for Sheriff's deputies under which deputies receive additional compensation based upon years of service; and

WHEREAS, matrix pay has been included within the salary ordinance for several years; and

WHEREAS, the guidelines under which the Council will budget for matrix pay should be memorialized in writing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. A full-time merit deputy Sheriff shall be entitled to receive additional annual compensation in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) beginning on January 1 following the fifth year of service and an additional sum of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) of annual compensation beginning on January 1 of each year thereafter ("matrix pay").

2. The sum of matrix pay described in paragraph one (1) above, shall be paid over the course of a year in equal installments as an addition to a deputy's regular wages, subject to applicable withholdings.

3. A deputy, who was employed as a full -time law enforcement officer by another public agency and who has completed Tier 1 law enforcement training through the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (or equivalent training in another state) at the time of hiring, shall be entitled to credit for service as a full-time law enforcement officer with the other public agency for purposes of determining eligibility to receive matrix pay and the amount of matrix pay the deputy is entitled to receive. A deputy, who is entitled to matrix pay on the date of his or her hiring, shall be paid matrix pay on a pro-rated basis during the year of hiring.

4. The payment of matrix pay shall be subject to appropriation by the County Council in adopted salary ordinances.

REPEALER: All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SEVERABILITY: Any provision herein contained which is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unlawful or which by operation shall be inapplicable, shall be deemed omitted but the rest and remainder of this resolution, to the extent feasible, shall remain in full force and effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This resolution shall become effective upon adoption by the Henry County Council and shall remain in effect until modified by the Henry County Council or otherwise rendered ineffective by legislative enactment of the Indiana General Assembly.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESOLVED this ___ day of _____, 2023.

HENRY COUNTY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

Debra G. Walker, Henry County Auditor

A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Mike Regner to approve Ordinance No. 2023-2, An Ordinance amending the 2023 Salary Ordinance to Provide for a Hiring Bonus for Experienced Law Enforcement Officers. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO.: 2023-2

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2023 SALARY ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A HIRING BONUS FOR EXPERIENCED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

WHEREAS, the Henry County Council, pursuant to Indiana Code §36-2-5-3, is required to determine the number of officers, deputies and employees of Henry County and to determine the pay of officers, deputies, and employees whose compensation is payable from the County General Fund, or any other fund from which the County Auditor issues warrants for compensation; and,

WHEREAS, the County Council has previously adopted an Ordinance establishing the salaries of officers, deputies and employees of Henry County, Indiana during the year 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Henry County Sheriff's Department needs to fill multiple openings for merit deputies; and

WHEREAS, the Sherriff's Department wishes to fill the vacancies with experienced officers that have completed training at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy; and

WHEREAS, to help attract experienced candidates, the Sheriff's Department wishes to offer a hiring bonus to experienced law enforcement officers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Henry County, Indiana, as follows:

Ordinance 2022-16 (2023 Salary Ordinance) is hereby amended as follows:

1. A person who is hired as a merit deputy in the Sheriff's Department and who, at the time of hiring, has completed Tier 1 Training through the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (or the equivalent training in another state) and who has worked as a full- time law enforcement officer for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the date of hiring, shall receive a payment in the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), less applicable withholdings, in addition to regular salary, payable as follows:

a. The sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00), less applicable withholdings, shall be paid at the next regular pay date following the satisfactory completion of field training; and

b. The sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00), less applicable withholdings, shall be paid at the next regular pay date following the satisfactory completion of one (1) year of service as a merit deputy.

2. The amounts described in paragraph one (1) shall be payable only upon the occurrence of the events described in paragraph one (1) (a) and paragraph one (1) (b).

3. The payment described in paragraph one (1) shall be available to the first three (3) qualifying persons hired as merit deputies following the passage of this Ordinance and to no other persons.

4. All other provision of Ordinance 2022-16, as amended, shall continue in effect.

REPEALER: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SEVERABILITY: Any provision herein contained which is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unlawful or which by operation of law is rendered invalid, shall be deemed omitted but the rest and remainder of this ordinance, to the extent feasible, shall remain in full force and effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall become effective upon passage.

ALL OF WHICH IS ORDAINED this ____ day of _____, 2023.

PASSED this ____ day _____, 2023, by a vote of _____ (ayes) to _____ (nays).

COUNTY COUNCIL OF HENRY COUNTY, INDIANA

President

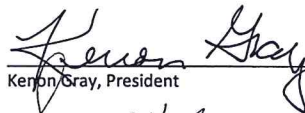
ATTEST:

Debra G. Walker, County Auditor

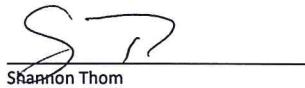
Betsy Mills gave an update on the Job Classification meeting. Butch Baker requested to send the job description of the 911 IT officer to Waggoner Irwin to change the job classification, and the committee voted unanimously to allow him to send this. Joe Copeland asked to move the operator position to the truck driver position, the committee voted unanimously to approve this. It is a budget neutral move. The Park Superintendent job description has not yet been approved, it was last updated in 2022, last month the committee did approve the salary ordinance but not the job description and that was passed with one nay. Sheriff Sproles asked to change the titles of the jail officers in order to communicate leadership ranks, this was approved unanimously to allow this.

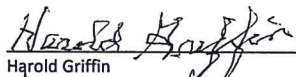
Shannon Thom made a motion and seconded by Susan Huhn to approve the park superintendent job description and moving the operator position to truck driver at the Highway Department. Motion carried unanimously.

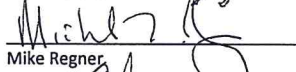
A motion was made by Susan Huhn and seconded by Betsy Mills to adjourn.


Keron Gray, President


Susan Huhn


Shannon Thom


Harold Griffin


Mike Regner


Kyle Allen

Betsy Mills


Attested by: Debra G. Walker, Auditor