

# Benton County Council

## July 27th, 2023

The Benton County Council met at 8:30 a.m. at the Benton County Courthouse. Those in attendance were Council members: Jim Schoen, Brent Cox, Mike Connor, Jackie Steinmetz, Trina Schutter, Angie Glotzbach and Jack Duncan

Others in attendance were –John Cox and Carole Hoff

### **John Cox – Sheriff**

John spoke to the board about a recent tort claim from a situation that occurred in April of 2023. He has responded to the notice but wanted the board to be aware of the situation.

John then let the board know that he was awarded \$20,000 from the Foundation grant for CO outfitting and equipment. The ballistic grant he was awarded had been used to purchase new vests, he is able to get one more than he originally thought with those grant funds. From another grant through the ICJI he was awarded he will be purchasing body worn cameras.

Quality Correctional care who provides the jails medical services will also now be able to attempt to collect fees from the inmate's insurance at no additional cost to the county.

John said that the jails average is 32 inmates. They are reviewing the food budget to see where they could possibly cut some costs and stay within the state dietary guidelines. Councilman Schoen asked if any of the inmates were out of county inmates, no they are all from Benton County.

John said that 92% of the drunk driving arrests are not alcohol, they are meth. He spoke about a treatment for those who are detoxing while being incarcerated and what other counties have experienced, and it might be something that Benton County will begin to offer. John stated that his staff is not medical staff but there are a few choices on how it will be able to be administered by medical staff. Councilwoman Steinmetz asked who our medical staff is. John stated Quality Care would be for the jail.

John wrapped up by discussing the current balance of the commissary and want he has used those funds for.

Councilwoman Glotzbach told John that the Fair board did a very good job with the fair. He thanked her and said that their 2024 budget request shows an increase requested but that is to continue with more improvements. He stated they received approximately \$40,000 in donations and the fair had better attendance than previous years and they were asked when they would be bringing back the carnival.

### **Business:**

The meeting minutes from the June 22nd, 2023, meeting was reviewed and a correction to remove Angie Glotzbach from being in attendance was needed. The motion to accept the amended minutes was made by Councilman, Brent Cox and second by Councilman, Jack Duncan and motion carried.

The department head request for budget transfers were approved as presented with a motion by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach, second by Councilman, Brent Cox and motion carried.

The group signed the previous approved resolution for the York Township Library

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Councilman Schoen spoke about the next meeting, which is set to be held on August 24<sup>th</sup>, they will start with the business portion of the meeting and once business is concluded they will move into the department head budget discussions. Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> is scheduled as a backup day if they need it.

He asked Auditor Freeland how the lower assessments were going to affect the budgets. Auditor Freeland said that while it is not as big of a drop as she originally anticipated but it is lower. Since we used the actual lower assessments after the BP situation last year, the impact is not bad moving forward. He asked why the budgets did not need to be adjusted last year. Auditor Freeland said that there were sufficient cash balances in the funds and the board made additional cuts over what was needed to cover the deficit.

Councilman Connor asked if the funds paid to the county by BP would be available to utilized. Auditor Freeland said that the county funds are still in the non-reverting fund, and they can be used. Nothing is currently budgeted from that fund.

Councilman Schoen asked Carole Hoff if she had anything for them. She replied that she was just here to listen for the budgets.

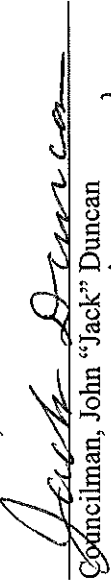
**With no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m. with a motion by Councilwoman Angie Glotzbach, second by Councilman, Jack Duncan, motion carried.**



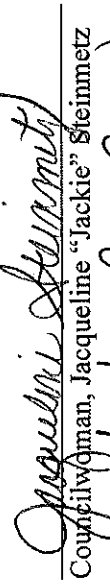
President, James "Jim" Schoen



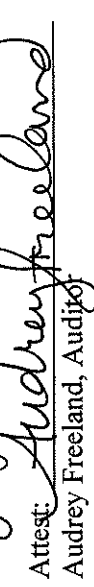
Councilman, Mike Connor




Councilman, John "Jack" Duncan



Councilwoman, Jacqueline "Jackie" Steinmetz

Attest: 


Audrey Freeland, Auditor



Vice President, Brent Cox



Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach



Councilwoman, Katrina "Trina" Schutter