

Benton County Council

October 20th, 2022

The Benton County Council were set to meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Benton County Courthouse. Those in attendance were Council members: Robert Sloniger, Mike Conner, Brent Cox, Jack Duncan, Jim Schoen, Brad Harman and Auditor, Audrey Freeland

Others in attendance were – Lisa Jefvert, Angie Taylor, Mike Freeland, and Clayton Doty

Business:

The meeting minutes from the September 22, 2022, meeting minutes were approved as presented with a motion by Councilman, Jim Schoen, second by Councilman, Brent Cox and motion carried.

The additional appropriation for the clerk part time clerical (\$1698.00) was signed with a motion by Councilman, Jack Duncan, second by Councilman, Brad Harman and motion carried.

Department head transfer requests were approved with a motion by Councilman, Jim Schoen, second by Councilman, Jack Duncan and motion carried

Councilman Sloniger asked for a motion to appoint Vicki Goodwine to the Boswell/Grant Township Library board. Motion was made by Councilman, Brent Cox, second by Councilman, Brad Harman and motion carried

The board signed the updated the Declaration of the Fiscal Body for the York Township library.

Commissioner Freeland and the Council spoke about the ongoing issues due to the BP Wind Farm issue with the significant drop in their certified assessed values. The DLGF is working with the county to resolve this issue.

Auditor Freeland then did the final reading of the 2023 budget.

Clerk – 144,329.00 / Auditor – 157,485.00 / Treasurer – 88,096 / Recorder – 71,385.00 / Sheriff – 547,855.00 / Surveyor – 108,307 / Coroner – 48,522.00 / Assessor – 81,935.00 / Registration – 2,734.00 / Extension – 109,409 / Veterans – 16,891.00 / Prosecutor – 48,858.00 / Drainage Brd – 16,270.00 / Commissioner – 1,566,235.00 / Plan Commission – 33,264.00 / PTBOA – 1,700.00 / Election – 10,400.00 / Courthouse – 185,834.00 / Circuit Court – 170,427 / Probation – 163,351.00 / Emergency Phone/Dispatchers – 153,000.00 / EMA – 122,007.00 / Jail – 523,540.00 / Recycling – 116,069.00 / Retirement village – 250,300 / Title IV-D – 56,748.00 / Soil & Water – 71,453.00 / Fairgrounds – 6,000.00 / LIT-Econ Dev – 462,577.00 / Cum Bridge - 480,000.00 / Cum Capital Development – 381,000.00 / Cum Jail – 65,664.00 / Drug Free Community – 16,000.00 / EMS – 708,375.00 / County Health – 76,126 / Local Health Maintenance - 33,139.00 / Local Road & Street – 80,000.00 / LOIT Public Safety – 540,108.00 / MVH Res. – 1,300,000.00 / MVH – 2,664,763.00 / County Plat Book – 7500.00 / Rainy Day – 119,000.00 / Records Perp – 25,100.00 / Riverboat – 0.00 / Local Health Trust – 27,023.00 / Elected Officials Training – 5,100.00 / Statewide

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911 – 46,435.00 / Reassessment – 113,979.00 / Adult Probation – 167,540.00 / Juvenile Probation – 4,800.00 / MISD User Fees – 6,500.00 / Infraction User fees – 6,000.00 / User fees – 5,000.00 / Infraction Penalty – 6,000.00 / Megawatt Production – 25,000.00 / Fowler Ridge II – 0.00 / Hoosier Wind – 75,000.00 (after January will increase to 317,781) / Wind Tourism – 2,450.00 / Jordan Creek – 55,000.00 / Health BIO-Preparedness – 24,999.00 / Immunization Cooperative – 44,601.00 and EBOLA grant – 1,036.00.

Total budget for 2023 - \$12,329,375.00, the Council made cut a total of \$925,676.00 out of requested budgets.

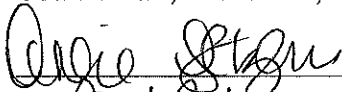
Councilman, Jim Schoen motioned to approve the 2023 budget as read, second by Councilman, Jack Duncan and motion carried.

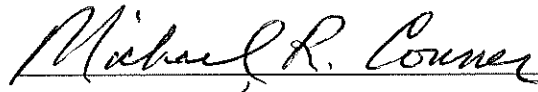
The 2023 Form 4 for both Benton County Government and the York Township library were approved and signed with a motion by Councilman, Brent Cox, second by Councilman, Jack Duncan and motion carried.

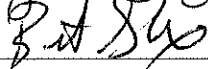
The proposed 2023 Council meeting dates were shared with the group to review prior to approval at the November meeting.

Clayton asked if the county was in the process of an appeal or anything for the CNAV loss from the BP Wind farm. Auditor Freeland explained what had transpired so far, and what the goal of both the Commissioners and the Council are hoping to accomplish so the taxpayers are not so heavily affected. She said that there have been some conversations that included the DLGF, Senator, Rick Niemeyer, State Representative, Sharon Negele and BP Wind farm representatives. Councilman Sloniger added that the goal is that something that is resolved and fixed moving forward so the county is not in the same boat next year.

The group closed out the meeting at 9:45 a.m. with a motion by Councilman, Jim Schoen, second by Councilman, Brent Cox, motion carried.



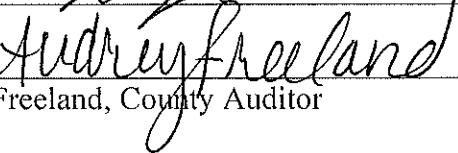










Attest: 
Audrey Freeland, County Auditor