

MINUTES
JACKSON COUNTY COUNCIL
October 17, 2012

Councilman Murphy called the Regular Meeting of the Jackson County Council to order at 6:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance and The Lords Prayer. Sheriff Mike Carothers performed the swearing in of the Council.

Members Present: Councilman Murphy, Councilman Brewer, Councilman Wheeler, Councilman Prange, Councilman Pottschmidt,

Others Present: Sheriff Mike Carothers, Attorney Susan Bevers, Auditor Debra Eggeman

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2012 meeting as presented. Councilman Murphy seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Wheeler made a motion to adopt the 2013 at the end of the scheduled meeting. Councilman Prange seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Thompson arrived.

Councilman Murphy began the first reading of the binding review reports as received from units as follows:

Brownstown Central Community School Corporation - Budget Appropriations \$15,495,668, Tax Levy \$3,722,399, Tax Rate 1.1454. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Brownstown Fire Protection District - Budget Appropriations \$180,550, Tax Levy \$177,186, Tax Rate 0.1055. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve. Councilman Pottschmidt seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Driftwood Township Fire Protection District - Budget Appropriations \$60,510, Tax Levy \$60,272, Tax Rate 0.1746. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve. Councilman Thompson seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Grassy Fork Fire Protection District - Budget Appropriations \$44,550, Tax Levy \$39,729, Tax Rate 0.1059. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve Councilman Pottschmidt seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Hamilton Township Fire Protection District - Budget Appropriations \$99,535, Tax Levy \$91,655, Tax Rate 0.0937. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Jackson County Solid Waste - Budget Appropriations \$251,125.

Jackson/Washington Fire Protection District - Budget Appropriations \$141,500, Tax Levy

\$149,617, Tax Rate 0.0900. Councilman Pottschmidt made a motion to approve. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Owen/Salt Creek Fire Protection District - Budget Appropriations \$108,907, Tax Levy \$100,047, Tax Rate 0.1741. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Pershing Fire District - Budget Appropriations \$95,694, Tax Levy \$51,500, Tax Rate 0.1798. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve. Councilman Murphy seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Redding Township Fire Protection District - Budget Appropriations \$111,153, Tax Levy \$98,922, Tax Rate 0.0738. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Thompson explained that Binding Reviews are for units which do not have an elected board. For all Binding Units, the County notes the State has not yet released maximum **levy sheets for 2013 and understands the State will limit the Unit's Operating Fund tax levy** increase to 2.8% (unless the unit files excess levy appeals). This reduction should result in the **unit's Operating Fund levy being in compliance with the six year non-farm income factor**. Further, the County anticipates the State to reduce appropriations, if necessary, due to the lack of revenue.

Councilman Murphy made the final reading of the binding review reports. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve in total all reports. Councilman Brewer seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Thompson read an email from Reedy Financial which notes the shift in Assessed Valuation for the County and the City of Seymour. Brian stated that Council will do some research as to the validity of this information.

Councilman Murphy made the first reading of the Additional Appropriation requests. Councilman Prange made a motion to approve upon first reading. Councilman Pottschmidt seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Prosecutor Rick Poynter submitted an Additional Appropriation request in the amount of \$6,239.54 from the Asset Forfeiture Fund to pay for tasers for the Medora Police Department and a laser for the Indiana State Police. Councilman Prange made a motion to approve the requests. Councilman Brewer seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Prosecutor Rick Poynter submitted an Additional Appropriation request in the amount of \$7,500.00 from the Diversion Fund to finish payroll for two (2) part-time employees. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Highway Supervisor Warren Martin presented an Additional Appropriation request in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Motor Vehicle Highway fund for gas and oil. Councilman Prange made a motion to approve. Councilman Thompson seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried. County Commissioners submitted an Additional Appropriation request in the amount of \$2,923.00 from the Rainy Day Fund to pay for clean up of abandoned property. Councilman Pottschmidt made a motion to approve. Councilman Brewer seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Murphy made the first reading of the Emergency Transfer requests. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve upon first reading. Councilman Murphy seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Superior Court I Judge Bruce Markel submitted an Emergency Transfer request from 1-38-394 (Dues/Subscriptions) to 1-38-213 (Law Books) in the amount of \$300.00. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

Sheriff Mike Carothers submitted the Jail Activity Report and the Inmate Meal Expenditure Report for September 2012.

Councilman Murphy made a motion to adopt the 2013 Jackson County budget as prepared at the September 26, 2012 budget meeting. Councilman Prange stated that he would like to see the wage increase for county employees lowered to 2% versus the 3%. There are many people in the private sector who feels this is unfair. Councilman Wheeler stated that he is also in favor of a 2% increase. Councilman Thompson stated that at the budget hearing the 3% increase was viewed by some county employees as a promise. Jackson County employees have helped with keeping the budgets as low as possible. Councilman Brewer stated that he has never liked giving percentage raises but has no problem with the 3% increase. There was some discussion about there being a conflict of interest on the part of Councilman Murphy and Councilman Brewer. Councilman Murphy stated that he has voted on the budget each year and will continue to do so. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion to approve the budget with the 3% increase. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried. Councilman Wheeler and Councilman Pottschmidt voted no and Councilman Prange abstained.

The meeting was adjourned.

Charlie Murphy - President

Leon Pottschmidt

Brian Thompson

Brian Wheeler

Councilman Brewer

Councilwoman Schepman

Councilman Prange

Debra Eggeman - attest

