

FAYETTE COUNTY COUNCIL

August 5, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED:

That the Fayette County Council of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular session on the above date at 6:00 p.m. with the following present: Council members Sharon Cranfill, Scott Bevington, Bob Stewart, Gabe Nobbe, Tim Patterson, Kay Riker-Peyton, and Connie Durham along with Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

President Cranfill called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

MINUTES:

Councilwoman Durham moved to approve the minutes from the July 1st regular meeting, Councilman Bevington seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

MAIL/EMAIL:

None

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

County Attorney Geoff Wesling did not have anything for the board at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVE:

All three commissioners were present. Commissioner Strong shared the commissioners approved 144s to hire 1 part timer and one full timer in the Clerk's office, three part timers at 911, and a full timer at the Highway Department. They gave permission for the Health Department to use the parking lot on September 6th for their Health and Safety Fair. They approved a resolution and all the documentation for the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Grant. The commissioners are going to concentrate on the aging in place group. They approved the Purdue Pharma Bankruptcy Plan. They decided to ask the State Health Commissioner to take a look at the needle exchange program here in the county. They also approved some bids for some work needing done including concrete repair at the Women's Jail and Work Release, and a contract bid for milling and paving the parking lot area there. Commissioner Strong shared an email from Amber Beach at Thor Construction regarding the Women's Jail and Work Release. He mentioned the Manlove Park project and the work needing done there.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS:

An Additional Appropriation to County General Fund 1000 Veterans Service to Account 20112 Office Furniture in the amount of \$1,400 was advertised. Ron Stevens was not at the meeting. This request was tabled.

Ryan Siggers presented an Additional Appropriation request to County General Fund 1000 Probation to Account 30062 Contracted Detention Costs in the amount of \$50,000. He explained they have expended all funds previously allocated. They have 13 juveniles in detention, and the costs are increasing. He said the perpetrators in detention have all committed felonies. Councilwoman Riker-Peyton moved to approve the additional as requested, Councilman Nobbe seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

An Additional Appropriation to Statewide 911 Fund 1222 to Account 10361 Overtime and Holiday Pay in the amount of \$12,000 was advertised. Kelly VanMeter was not present. This request was tabled.

A Transfer Request in County General Fund 1000 Coroner from Account 20420 Photo Equipment to Account 40400 Equipment in the amount of \$500 was presented. Councilman Nobbe moved to approve the transfer as requested, Councilman Bevington seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

144s:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Reminder was given that budget hearings start on Tuesday, August 12th, at 9 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review of Estimated Property Tax Levy Limits and Estimated Reductions due to Circuit Breakers. Councilwoman Cranfill moved to accept the report issued by the DLGF and to make no recommendation, Councilman Bevington seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

PATRON CONCERNS:

Brad Colter, the new Director of the Economic Development Group, spoke. He is in his fourth month in the position, and feels like he is gaining an understanding of what his job should be. So far, he has had about 75 or more meetings with people in the field of economic development. Locally EDG spent a lot of time managing property, but he wants to get out of that business. He has spoken to a lot of groups to make his office more visible to the public. The tenets of economic development are workforce development, early learning, livability, downtown revitalization, etc.. He is building partnerships such as that with IEDC. He wants to do Business Retention and Expansion visits with businesses that are already here. His first big goal is to get a workforce round table in place and try to understand what our local employers need.

Councilwoman Cranfill shared her opinion that council should put in a hiring freeze and explained her thoughts of what that would look like. She thinks before we start budget hearings this is something that needs to be discussed. Councilwoman Riker-Peyton said she agrees with that suggestion. Councilwoman Riker-Peyton moved to do a hiring freeze described as vacant positions require approval prior to being advertised or filled, Councilwoman Cranfill seconded the motion, a roll call vote taken: Durham No, Riker-Peyton Yes, Patterson No, Nobbe No, Stewart No, Bevington No, Cranfill Yes, motion failed 2-5.

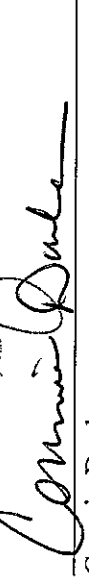
Councilwoman Cranfill also proposed that the county do a time study of all positions. There was some discussion but no action taken at this time.

Another area that Councilwoman Cranfill feels like needs to be addressed is training. She thinks the county should limit training reimbursements to only required training. Councilman Nobbe moved to table the discussion of training, Councilman Stewart seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

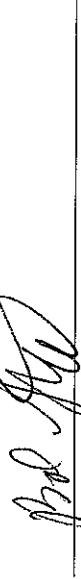
ADJOURNMENT:

Councilwoman Riker-Peyton moved to adjourn, Councilwoman Durham seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.


Sharon Cranfill, President

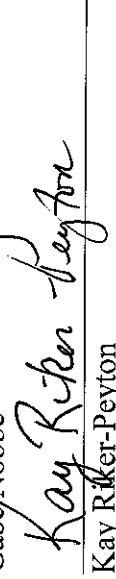

Connie Durham


Tim Patterson


Bob Stewart


Scott Bevington, Vice President


Gabe Nobbe


Kay Riker-Peyton


Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor