MINUTES
JACKSON COUNTY COUNCIL
May 22, 2024
8:00 AM

Members Present: Councilman Brady Riley, Councilman Brian Thompson, Councilman Michael Davidson, Councilman Jake Brown, Councilwoman Amanda Lowery and Councilman Ryan Brett Turner and Councilman John Nolting
The Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Councilman Riley called the Regular meeting to order at 8:00AM.
Sheriff Rick Meyer performed the swearing in of the Council.
Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2024, regular meeting. Councilman Turner seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Reports from Other Committees:

Councilman Davidson met with the Health Department Board and Dr. Bunce advised there is a new variant of Covid going around, but no to be alarmed that it is contagious, but not deadly. The newly hired nurse position is working out well. The only concern at this time for the Health Department is supply storage. They are looking for storage space options for their extra supplies in case of an emergency with their facility in a natural disaster.

Councilman Turner had an Ambulance Authority Board meeting and stated collections are up 22% and run volume is up 5%, so our EMS crew is busy serving our county!

Councilman Nolting attended the Plan Commission meeting and said Bill Sons has 2 areas of concern to be vacated in the Surprise area that they will further discuss in the future.

Amended Agenda adding:

- Jeff Hubbard, Salary Ordinance Change
- Dan Davis, Community Foundation of Jackson County

NEW BUSINESS:

Reuben Cummings, Vernon Township Fire Department, came seeking approval for Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2024-5 Council Bill #4. Councilman Riley then performed the 1st reading of Ordinance 2024-5 Council Bill #4. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve upon 1st reading. Councilman Turner seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried. Councilman Riley then performed the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2024-5 Council Bill #4 by title only. Councilman Brown made a motion to approve upon 2nd reading. Councilman Davidson seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Dan Robison, Spark Jackson County Co-Working Space, came seeking $1,000,000.00 for future entrepreneurs, remote workers and start up businesses to develop a place for strong healthy businesses in Jackson County to make their start and gain perspective and direction. The Maverick Program was established years ago for high school students to launch business ideas here in the county, but nothing is in place to keep those ideas flowing at the next level. Jackson County Chamber will provide the programming for this venture, but they need the county's help on securing infrastructure. By utilizing these funds that are being requested, this will purchase 4 parcels with a letter of intent to purchase for $515,000.00 by a joint

collaboration between the county and chamber to build out a co-working space to serve different capacities for the county in Seymour to share resources, ideas and business landscape. The use of the facility could also include but not limited to a Vote Center and a Central 911 Dispatch Center if all specs play out accordingly. Another possibility for the space would allow the county storage area for the Health Department. By the chamber and the county undergoing this project together, it would allow endless opportunities to the people of Jackson County on numerous levels. Council did make the request that if they commit to this joint venture, there would need to be a spot on the chamber board for a county council member in which Dan replied that he did not see where that request would be a problem. Councilman Thompson made a motion to commit to Mr. Robison's request contingent upon a County Council member position being added to the Jackson County Chamber Board. Councilwoman Lowery seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

JL Brewer, JRAC Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council Chair, came to discuss Opioid Settlement Funds and how the decision is made to be disbursed. The committee is requesting that they provide guidance in the future to commissioners and council on how to spend the funds and what services are to be provided. This committee can be used as a guide on how the funds are spent on a recommendation from JRAC. JRAC can issue a letter to any entity to guarantee no duplicate services are being rendered, and to fill gaps on what needs are not being met in different areas like recovery, etc. Councilman Brown made a motion to allow and utilize JRAC as advisory committee for opioid funds. Councilman Nolting seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Nate Bryant, EMS Director, spoke about this is the 50th year of celebrating EMS Week and the activities surrounding it. Activities that his staff has been partaking in are wearing uniform shirts, employee spotlight on social media, providing shift meals, community engagement and involvement with station tours and local businesses donating prizes to be awarded to staff members.

Abatement Compliance:
The following presented their 2024 abatement compliance for council to review:

Linda King, King's Trucking
After review, Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the compliance as presented. Councilman Brown seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Dan Davis, Community Foundation of Jackson County, thanked council for their continued support of the annual $30,000.00 grant for operating funds for Jackson County Learning Center. He will be asking for same amount for the 2025 budget. Two pieces, of new and good news to report is Vincennes University began it's fifth group of local incumbent workers taking classes in its new maintenance training program at the Learning Center. This program includes private matching funds through Aisin, Cummins and Valeo. Vincennes has also approached the Learning Center about offering Next Level Jobs training later this month training for phlebotomy technicians and certified clinical medical assistants. Bringing Vincennes to Jackson County is already paying off for our county's future! Next, Dan advised council that grant foundation submitted an application for a grant from Lilly seeking $5,000,000.00 to help build a health center. Lindsey Sarver has played an intricate role in helping write the grant proposal and with the help of Healthy Jackson County, the plan is to build out a two-story property on St. Louis Avenue for healthcare needs that can also have on hand availability mental health services. RCO and JRAC would be on hand to assist in the

process. If approved for the Lilly grant, the request would be for $100,000.00 from council for the health center project. Indiana Health plans to spend $1.9 million in the future on services. The timeline to hear back from Lilly on the process to step 2 of the grant is summer/fall 2024. The last request from council would be another up to $100,000.00 for the Vincennes Maintenance at the training center to expand program equipment use at the learning center . Council requests that Dan see if Seymour RDC can help him fund this project first before council.

Councilman Riley performed the 1st reading of the Amendment of Jackson County 2024 Salary Ordinance 2024D. This change is removing a public defender and adding a senior public defender. Councilwoman Lowery made a motion to approve 1st reading, Councilman Davidson seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried. Councilman Riley performed the 2nd reading of the Amendment of Jackson County 2024 Salary Ordinance 2024D by title only. With no discussion, Councilman Brown made a motion to approve 2nd reading. Councilman Turner seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None

MISC BUSINESS:

Conner Barnette, Building Commissioner, provided an update on the Community Pathway grant. RDC to act as lead, Seymour chose not to participate, and the letter of intent was submitted at the end of April 2024. The selection process will choose four in June to be awarded $50,000.00 so he is hoping to hear good news and move on to the next step, possibly being awarded $7.5 million!

Rick Meyer, Sheriff, stated Council was provided April 2024 reports.

Jamie Pyle, Auditor, informed council that they were given the April 2024 Treasurer Report and April 2024 Fund Balance Report.

Councilman Riley will forward emails from Alan Marshall regarding 2025 budget and Reedy's timeline for 2025 budget to all council members.

Councilman Turner made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Brown seconded. Six (6) yes votes, motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 8:00 AM.
Signed this 20th day of June 2024.

Brian Thompson

Brett Turner

Michael Davidson

John Nolting

Jacob Brown

Amanda Lowery

Brady Riley

Jamie M Pyle - attest