

Be It Remembered that the Greene County Council met in Regular Session on Monday, October 24, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room on the third floor of the Courthouse.

The meeting was called to order by Kelly Zimmerly.

The Pledge of Allegiance opened the meeting.

Those present were Kelly Zimmerly, Jerry Frye, Joe Huntington, Brent Murray, Karen Abrams, and County Attorney Marvin Abshire. Gregg Roudebush and Ron Lehman were absent.

Re: Minutes

The minutes of the regular session held on September 26, 2022, were approved as presented with reading waived, on a motion made by Brent Murray. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: Recess to Conduct Public Hearing

At 4:03 p.m. Council Vice-President Kelly Zimmerly suspended the regular meeting to conduct a public hearing on a proposed LIT EMS Ordinance.

Re: Public Hearing for Proposed EMS Local Income Tax

Ms. Zimmerly introduced the proposed LIT EMS Ordinance for discussion. Commissioner Nathan Abrams and EMS Director both noted the need for such a LIT EMS Tax in order to support the vital service that the Greene County Ambulance provides to the county, a service which sees an annual shortfall of revenue verses expenses most years. As there were no further comments from the Council or the county citizens present, Ms. Zimmerly adjourned the public hearing and reconvened the regular meeting of the County Council at 4:09 p.m. and reconvened the regular meeting.

Re: Ordinance No. 2022-06 – LIT EMS Tax

Karen Abrams made a motion to approve Greene County Council Ordinance No. 2022-06, Ordinance Modifying Local Income Tax Rates Imposed in Greene County. This ordinance is needed to help provide financial support and stability for the Greene County Ambulance Service. The .2% income tax rate for Emergency Medical Services will take effect on January 1, 2023 and brings the total county tax rate to 2.15%. Brent Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-1. Joe Huntington voted against. Terms of this Ordinance are incorporated by reference.

Re: County Assessor – Full-Time Employee Request

Karen Abrams made a motion to approve the full-time second deputy within the 2023 Reassessment Fund Budget as requested by County Assessor Dawn Abrams. Motion died for lack of a second.

Re: Auditor's Office – Human Resources Deputy – 2023 Budget Line Item

Brent Murray made a motion to approve the \$41,000.00 addition to the 2023 Greene County Budget for the line item listed as Human Resources Deputy as requested by Payroll Deputy and County Auditor-elect Heather Perry. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: Auditor's Office – Human Resources Job Description

Brent Murray made a motion to approve the Human Resources Deputy Job Description for the Auditor's Office as requested by Payroll Deputy and County Auditor-elect Heather Perry, which she and County Attorney Marvin Abshire have put together. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Terms of this job description are incorporated by reference.

Re: Health Department Administrator – Health Department Budget

Health Department Administrator Shari Lewis explained to the Council that the Health Board approved the 2023 Health Budget amount requested, including the proposed 10% wage raises. With that oversight from the Health Board, Ms. Lewis asked that the Council reconsider those 10% wage increases as presented. Jerry Frye made a motion to approve an 8% increase since the Health Department may fall under public safety, such as, the Sheriff's Department, EMS, etc. Brent Murray seconded the motion. Motion failed 2-2-1. Kelly Zimmerly and Karen Abrams voted against, and Joe Huntington abstained.

Brent Murray then moved to approve the 6% wage increase for the Health Department Employees originally proposed for 2023. Karen Abrams seconded the motion. Motion failed 3-2. Joe Huntington and Jerry Frye abstained. The county auditor noted that, if the budget as a whole was approved, the Health Department salary increases for 2023 would default to the contemplated six (6)% increase under the proposed budget.

Re: County Recorder – Part-Time Request – 2023 Budget Line Item

Brent Murray made a motion to approve the \$23,375.00 addition to the 2023 Greene County Budget for the line item listed as Part-Time as requested by County Recorder Sarah Bender. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion failed 3-2. Karen Abrams and Kelly Zimmerly voted against.

Re: Highway Department Superintendent – Additional Appropriation Request

Brent Murray made a motion to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$100,000.00 within the Highway Fund as requested by Highway Department Superintendent Roger Hamilton to pave a portion of the county road adjacent to the Walker Cemetery. This came from a local citizen's donation in the same amount. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: Highway Department Superintendent – Additional Appropriation Request

Brent Murray made a motion to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$20,000.00 within the Highway Fund as requested by Highway Department Superintendent Roger Hamilton to update certain county road signs as mandated by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: County Sheriff – Transfer of Funds Request

Jerry Frye made a motion to approve a transfer of funds request from County Sheriff Michael Hasler in the amount of \$1,000.00 within the General Fund to pay for uniforms for the Security Department. Brent Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: County Sheriff – Transfer of Funds Request

Karen Abrams made a motion to approve transfer of funds requests from County Sheriff Michael Hasler totaling \$98,500.00 within the General Fund to cover increased costs, including, vehicle repair, prisoner meals, office supplies, and uniforms within the Sheriff's Department. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: County Sheriff – Additional Appropriation Request

Brent Murray made a motion to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$63,000.00 within the Sheriff County Corrections Fund as requested by County Sheriff Michael Hasler to properly equip 28 of his employees with updated bulletproof vests. Bulletproof vests must be replaced every 5 years as required by the Indiana Department of Corrections. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: Jasonville Library Board Appointment – C. Jean Miller

Brent Murray made a motion to appoint C. Jean Miller to serve on the Jasonville Library Board from October 31, 2022 to October 31, 2026 and have Council Vice-President Kelly Zimmerly sign the Certificate of Appointment on behalf of the Council. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: Council – Office 365 Invoices

Brent Murray made a motion to set up an account line under the General Fund/I.T. Department to pay for and track future Matrix Integration invoices until such time as a fully appropriated account line can be determined. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: Council – Additional Appropriation Request

Jerry Frye made a motion to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$30,000.00 within the General Fund as requested by the county auditor to cover premium pay costs for 2022. Brent Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Re: 2023 Budget – Recess

Council Vice-President Kelly Zimmerly called for a 15-minute recess while the county auditor made the approved changes to the 2023 Greene County Budget on the Gateway transparency portal, then print out the amended version with the reflected changes. After the 15-minute recess, Ms. Zimmerly called the meeting back to order.

Re: Greene County – 2023 Budget Adoption

Karen Abrams made a motion to adopt the 2023 Greene County Budget as amended. This adoption was scheduled to take place at the September 26, 2022, Council Meeting but was moved by the Council to the October 24, 2022, Council Meeting. This continuance was necessary to give certain office holders/department heads more time to prepare/persuade the Council of the need for new employees and increase in funding. Brent Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-1. Joe Huntington abstained.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Brent Murray made a motion to adjourn. Jerry Frye seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Jerry R. Frye

Ronald Lehman

Kelly Zimmerly

Brent Murray

Karen Abrams

Gregg Roudebush

D. Joe Huntington

Attest:

Matthew W. Baker, Auditor