

## Ripley County Council Meeting

July 21, 2025

Councilman President, Peg Ehlers, opened the County Council Meeting with the Pledge of the Allegiance.

### Roll Call.

**Present:** Peg Ehlers, President, Stan Wiedeman, Andrew Decker, Ron Decker, David Tebbing, Diane Macek, Dawn Jordan, 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy, & John Ertel, Attorney. Stephanie Back not in attendance.

**Motion:** Councilman Wiedeman made the motion to approve the June 16, 2025 meeting minutes. **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Stan Wiedeman, **Seconded by** David Tebbing. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.

| Transfers 2025            |   |   |  |   |
|---------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Court Services            | \$973.15  | 1001.32700.00000.0021<br>Cty Gen/Mileage-Fuel | 1001.32703.00000.0021<br>Cty Gen/Van Mileage-Maint               | To pay for repairs to 2012 dodge charger received from the Town of Versailles as a donation |
| Note:                     | <b>Motion:</b> Councilman Macek made the motion to approve the above transfer, <b>Action:</b> Approve, <b>Moved by</b> Diane Macek, <b>Second by</b> Ron Decker. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.                           |   |  |   |
| Additional Appropriations |   |   |  |   |
| Sheriff                   | \$142,000.00  | 1233.49000.00000.0000<br>Jail Lit/Equipment   | Body security scanning system.                                   |   |
| Note:                     | (Handout given)<br><b>Motion:</b> Councilman Tebbing made the motion to approve the above transfer, <b>Action:</b> Approve, <b>Moved by</b> David Tebbing, <b>Second by</b> Andrew Decker. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent. |   |  |   |
| Sheriff                   | \$2,428.00  | 1233.49000.00000.0000<br>Jail Lit/Equipment   | 2 cell guardian devices that monitor inmates' physical condition |   |
| Note:                     | Tabled until next meeting, but no motion made.  |   |  |   |

|              |  |   |   |
|--------------|--|---|---|
| Sheriff      | \$21,157.00  | 1233.17800.00000.0000<br>Jail Lit/Maintenance   | Jail Maintenance salary position for the remainder of 2025  |
| <b>Note:</b> | <b>Motion:</b> Councilman Wiedeman made the motion to approve the above transfer, <b>Action:</b> Approve, <b>Moved by</b> Stan Wiedeman, <b>Second by</b> Ron Decker. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.     |   |   |
| Coroner      | \$20,000.00  | 1001.34600.00000.0010<br>County General/Autopsy | The increase in autopsy cost and the increase of young adults passing away since the beginning of the year.                   |
| <b>Note:</b> | <b>Motion:</b> Councilman A. Decker made the motion to approve the above transfer, <b>Action:</b> Approve, <b>Moved by</b> Andrew Decker, <b>Second by</b> Stan Wiedeman. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent. |   |   |
| 911          | \$4,817.95   | 1235.49000.00000.0000<br>EMS Lit/Equipment      | To appropriate the insurance check to repair the Penntown Simulcast Microwave Antenna that was damaged in the Sunman Tornado. |
| <b>Note:</b> | <b>Motion:</b> Councilman Wiedeman made the motion to approve the above transfer, <b>Action:</b> Approve, <b>Moved by</b> Stan Wiedeman, <b>Second by</b> Andrew Decker. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.  |   |   |

#### New Business:

#### Health Administrator – Tara Briggs

(Handout given) Ms. Briggs explained that she is requesting approval for a correction to be made to the salary ordinance for the Health Department Clinic Assistant (1161.11603.000.0000), for the 2025 Budget Year from \$40,000.00 to \$42,000.00.

**Motion:** Councilman Wiedeman made the motion to make the change from \$40,000.00 to \$42,000.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Stan Wiedeman, **Second by** Diane Macek. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.

Missy Byrd approached Council (handouts given) sharing highlights of the increase of job duties in her role/position, what she has done & what she would like to do. This information was shared to support why her salary should be increased.

Ms. Briggs requested consideration for the following Transfer of Funds:

From HFI 1161.37800.000.0000 for \$10,000.00 to HFI 1161.(incentives).000.0000

Explanation for Transfer: Prenatal Education Incentive vouchers for kids resell items.

**Motion:** Councilman R. Decker made the motion to approve the above transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ron Decker, **Second by** David Tebbing. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.

From Immunization Grant 8252.11603.000.0000 for \$4,000.00 to 8252.37800.000.0000

Explanation for Transfer: Reimbursable grant change & to clean up negative balances.

**Motion:** Councilman Wiedeman made the motion to approve the above transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Stan Wiedeman, **Second by** Ron Decker. Motion passed 5 yes. 1 sustained. 1 absent.

From Immunization Grant 8252.11603.000.0000 for \$3,500.00 to Immunization Grant 8252.29560.000.0000

Explanation for Transfer: Reimbursable grant change & to clean up negative balances.

**Motion:** Councilman A. Decker made the motion to approve the above transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Andrew Decker, **Second by** Diane Macek. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.

From General Health Fund 1159.25900.000.0034 for \$98.00 to General Health Fund 1159.32720.000.0034

Explanation for Transfer: To achieve zero balance.

**Motion:** Councilman A. Decker made the motion to approve the above transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Andrew Decker, **Second by** David Tebbing. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.

**State Representative - Alex Zimmerman** – Not in attendance. Councilman A. Decker shared with the Council Wheel Tax information and thoughts on it.

**Old Business:** None

Councilman R. Decker made a proposal to the Council to offer a reimbursable grant to the Ripley County Volunteer Fire Departments (VFD ) (excluding Batesville) in the amount of \$10,000.00, per year. VFD's would have to apply for it and it would have stipulations. For example, to be used for safety gear, not training, etc. ***Councilman Ehlers requested that this be added to the upcoming Budget Meeting.***

Council discussed repairs to the Courthouse Clock. Estimated cost ~\$60,000.00. It was suggested to apply for grants in order to cover cost of this project, not tax dollars. ***Individuals offered to look into grant options like RCCF, REMC and Tyson Fund.***

Councilman A. Decker suggested discussion regarding the 2026 raises. ***Councilman Ehlers requested an Executive Meeting be scheduled for August 4, 2025 in order to discuss the 2026 Raises.***

## **Other Information**

### **Committee Reports:**

Economic Development – Andrew Decker – none

SEI Regional Planning Committee – Diane Macek – none

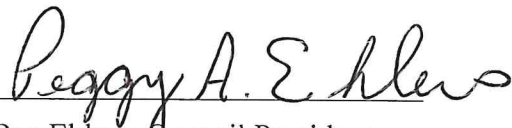
Solid Waste District - David Tebbing – none

Grants Committee - Stan Wiedeman – none

**Motion:** Councilman Wiedeman made the motion to Adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Stan Wiedeman, **Seconded by** David Tebbing. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.

“AYE “

“NAY”



Peg Ehlers, Council President



Stan Wiedeman



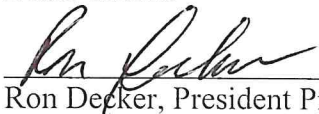
Stephanie Back

Andrew Decker



David Tebbing

Diane Macek



Ron Decker, President Pro Tem



Amy Copeland, Auditor, Ripley County

Peg Ehlers, Council President

Stan Wiedeman

Stephanie Back

Andrew Decker

David Tebbing

Diane Macek

Ron Decker, President Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Amy Copeland