

Ripley County Council Meeting

July 17, 2023

Councilman, Ron Decker, opened the County Council Meeting with the Pledge of the Allegiance.

Roll Call.

Present: Ron Decker, Katie Bailey, Diane Macek, Stan Wiedeman, David Tebbing, Andrew Decker, Dawn Jordan, Deputy Auditor & John Ertel, Attorney, Peggy Ehlers absent until 6:51pm.

Motion: Councilman R. Decker made the motion to approve the June 19, 2023 meeting minutes,

Action: Approve, **Moved by** David Tebbing, **Seconded by** Andrew Decker. Stan Wiedeman abstained. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.

Transfers 2023				
Sheriff	\$10,000.00	1001.14485.000.0007 County Gen/12th Deputy	1001.13801.000.0007 County Gen/Overtime	Running low in deputy overtime due to coverage.
Note:	Motion: Councilman R. Decker made the motion to approve the above transfer, Action: Approve, Moved by Andrew Decker, Seconded by David Tebbing. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.			
Recorder	\$149.57	1001.25300.000.0006 County Gen/Office Supplies	1001.25300.000.0005 County Gen/Office Supplies	Recorder purchased a monitor from the Treasurer.
Note:	Motion: Councilman R. Decker made the motion to approve the above transfer, Action: Approve, Moved by Stan Wiedeman, Seconded by Diane Macek. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.			
Additional Appropriations				
Auditor	\$62,000.00	1112.33261.000.0018 Edit/Economic Development		To help budget for the remaining of 2023.
Note:	Motion: Councilman R Decker made the motion to approve the above additional appropriation, Action: Approve, Moved by Andrew Decker, Seconded by David Tebbing. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.			

Commissioners	\$25,000.00	2002.49000.000.0000 Milan Legion Donation Body Cams/Equipment	To give the fire department some funding to help run the departments.
Note:	<p>Motion: Councilman R Decker made the motion to approve the above additional, Action: Approve, Moved by Stan Wiedeman, Seconded by Andrew Decker. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.</p> <p>Ron Decker requested that the Auditor send a Thank you note to the Milan Legion on behalf of the County.</p>		
EMS	\$7,500.00	2003.33400.000.0000 Donation Radio/Radio Equipment	Donation from the Milan Legion.
Note:	<p>Motion: Councilman R Decker made the motion to approve the above additional, Action: Approve, Moved by Andrew Decker, Seconded by Katie Bailey. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.</p> <p>Ron Decker requested that the Auditor send a Thank you note to the Milan Legion on behalf of the County.</p>		
Health	\$300.00	2004.25301.000.0000 Versailles Lions-Sunscreen/Outreach Materials	Donation from the Versailles Lions Club for sunscreen and sun education.
Note:	<p>Motion: Councilman R Decker made the motion to approve the above additional, Action: Approve, Moved by David Tebbing, Seconded by Stan Wiedeman. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.</p> <p>Ron Decker requested that the Auditor send a Thank you note to the Versailles Lions Club on behalf of the County.</p>		
Health	\$250.00	9199.25301.000.0000 RCCF-Sunscreen/Outreach Materials	Grant from the Ripley County Community Fountain for sunscreen and sun education.
Note:	<p>Motion: Councilman R Decker made the motion to approve the above additional, Action: Approve, Moved by Diane Macek, Seconded by Andrew Decker. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.</p> <p>Ron Decker requested that the Auditor send a Thank you note to the Ripley County Community Foundation on behalf of the County.</p>		

Court Services	\$12,000.00	4300.32420.000.0338 Court Ordered Testing/Court Ordered Testing	Due to increase in cost of drug screening supplies.
Court Services	\$1,500.00	4300.25300.000.0338 Court Ordered Testing/Office Supplies	To purchase office supplies.
Court Services	\$225.00	4300.49000.000.0338 Court Ordered Testing/Equipment	To purchase equipment.
Note:	<p>Motion: Councilman R Decker made the motion to approve the above 3 additional, Action: Approve, Moved by Katie Bailey, Seconded by Stan Wiedeman. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.</p> <p>Shannon Schmaltz, Chief Probation Officer Court Services, gave a heads up that the price of drug screens has gone up and probably will continue to go up.</p>		
Court Services	\$6,900.00	9176.25300.000.0000 JDAI "B"/Office Supplies	To purchase grant related items.
Court Services	\$1,900.00	9176.37800.000.0000 JDAI "B"/Contractual Services	To purchase grant related items.
Court Services	\$1,400.00	9176.32600.000.0000 JDAI "B"/Training	To purchase grant related items.
Note:	<p>Motion: Councilman R Decker made the motion to approve the above 3 additional, Action: Approve, Moved by Andrew Decker, Seconded by Diane Macek. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.</p>		
Court Services	\$12,844.00	9127.25300.000.0000 JDAI "A"/Office Supplies	To purchase grant related items.
Court Services	\$2,548.00	9127.37800.000.0000 JDAI "A"/Contractual Services	To purchase grant related items.
Court Services	\$2,693.00	9127.32600.000.0000 JDAI "A"/Training	To purchase grant related items.
Court Services	\$138.00	9127.32703.000.0000 JDAI "A"/Van Mileage-Main't	To purchase grant related items.
Court Services	\$180.00	9127.34400.000.0000 JDAI "A"/Telephone	To purchase grant related items.

Court Services	\$15,500.00	9127.32395.000.0000 JDAI "A"/Professional Services	To purchase grant related items.
Note:	Motion: Councilman R Decker made the motion to approve the above 6 additional, Action: Approve, Moved by David Tebbing, Seconded by Andrew Decker. Motion passed 6 yes. 1 absent.		

Ripley County 4H Junior Leaders, Macey Young and Riley Mitchell, accompanied by their Junior Leader Advisor, Monica Hansen, gave a presentation on what they learned at their Leadership Training at DePauw University and gifted the Council with homemade cookies thanking them for their support.

New Business:

Jason Edwards, Highway Superintendent, (handout- Performance Evaluation) - Mr. Edwards stated that he would like to base his employees’ pay on performance evaluations, starting in 2024. Commissioner R. Decker explained that the Council has been discussing and plan to implement a matrix system for payroll in 2025 and that all departments will be following this same method and changes will not be made until then.

Ben Sieverding, Versailles Fire Chief, stated that he wanted to check back in with the Council to make sure that they had everything they needed from the Ripley County Fire Chiefs for the 2024 Budget. R. Decker said yes. Chief Sieverding was accompanied with multiple area fire fighters.

Lee Davidson, Chief Deputy, and Ruth Ann Adkinson, Matron, were in attendance to answer any questions regarding the Commissary Report. Council had no questions.

Councilman President, Peggy Ehlers arrived.

Old Business:

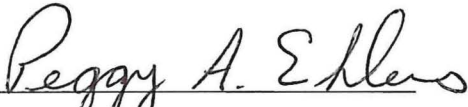
Rick Anderson, Veregy accompanied by Mark Frost & Zack Simms. (handout – Ripley County Guaranteed Energy Savings Project) Mr. Anderson expressed his apologies and explained the reasoning for the cost increase of the project. HVAC materials and labor seem to be the main factor of this increase though other elements, as well, have affected the costs. Councilman Wiedemen, stated he believes the HVAC cost increase is legit. Councilman Wiedeman proposed holding off on the window replacement and bathrooms. Council wants to avoid bonds or loans. Mr. Anderson shared that there are financing options. Councilman Tebbing suggested Veregy relook over their numbers and come back at the August meeting with findings. Councilmen R. Decker suggested Councilman Ehlers select a committee of 3 to work with the Auditor regarding budgeting options. Peg asked for volunteers. Stan Wiedeman, David Tebbing and Andrew Decker were selected. Peg asked that they get with Amy prior to the August County Council Meeting and be prepared to give Veregy an answer. Councilman A. Decker asked Veregy if they can see about doing the project at a million less. **Motion:** Councilman President made a motion to table further discussion of the Ripley County Guaranteed Energy Savings Project until the August 21, 2023 County Council Meeting. **Action:** Approved, **Moved by** Councilman Tebbing, **Seconded by** Councilman Wiedeman. Motion passed 7 yes.

Additional:

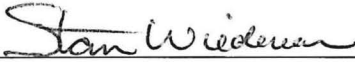
John Ertel, County Attorney, spoke on the Public Safety Tax. (Handout – Ordinance Adopting/Modifying Local Income Tax Rates Ripley County, Indiana) Mr. Ertel stated that there is a needed correction on page one, replace 0.2% with 0% under Existing LIT Rate for Correctional of Rehabilitation Facilities. Mr. Ertel went over the handout and told Council he has a few more questions, that he wants to make sure they are doing this correctly.

Motion: Councilman R. Decker made the motion to adjourn, **Action:** Approved, **Moved by** Andrew Decker, **Seconded by** David Tebbing. Motion passed 7 yes.

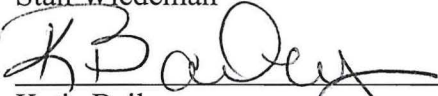
“AYE “



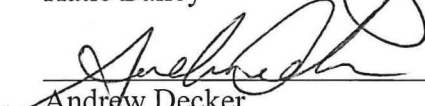
Peggy Ehlers, Council President



Stan Wiedeman



Katie Bailey




Andrew Decker



Ron Decker, President Pro Tem

Diane Macek


David Tebbing



Amy Copeland Auditor, Ripley County

ATTEST:

“NAY”

Peggy Ehlers, Council President

Stan Wiedeman

Katie Bailey

Andrew Decker

Ron Decker, President Pro Tem

Diane Macek

David Tebbing

Amy Copeland