

**REGULAR SESSION**  
**SCOTT COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**September 12, 2023**

The Scott County Council met in Regular Session on September 12, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Room, Suite 128, Courthouse. Those present were Council Members: President Lyndi Hughbanks, Vice President JR Ward (arriving at 5:40 p.m.), John Collins, Eric Gillespie, Diane Mullins, and Jonathon White. Also present were Auditor Jennifer Rode Hamelman, Chief Deputy Auditor Deborah Richey and Attorney Heather Archibald Peters.

The meeting was called to order by President Hughbanks, who opened the meeting with roll call, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

President Hughbanks opened the meeting for public comments: Mark Gardner requested to be moved to the front of the agenda.

**MOTION:** President Hughbanks moved to add Mark Gardner to the front of the agenda. Collins provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Mullins moved to accept the agenda with Gardner moved to the front of the agenda. Collins provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

**MARK GARDNER – COUNTY SURVEYOR**

Gardner requested additional appropriation for \$16,000 on section corners. He plans to start billing biannually.

**MOTION:** Gillespie moved to approve the additional appropriation of \$16,000.00 from Surveyor Perpetuation Unappropriated to Professional Services. Collins provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

**MEGAN STONE – PURDUE EXTENSION**

Stone requested to transfer \$600.00 from ACN Terminal to longevity for Shelly Pfaffenbach, office manager since they forgot to do so during the budget hearing in 2022.

**MOTION:** Gillespie moved to approve the transfer of \$600.00 from ACN Terminal to Longevity for Shelly Pfaffenbach, office manager. Collins provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

**JUDGE HOWSER – SUPERIOR COURT**

Howser requested a transfer of \$248.00 from postage to law books.

**MOTION:** Gillespie moved to approve the transfer of \$248.00 from postage to lawbooks. Collins provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

#### **BRITTANY COMBS – HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Combs requested approval for the Covid Supplemental Grant of \$28,000. Gillespie asked if there would be any cost to the county, and Combs responded no.

**MOTION:** Gillespie moved to approve Comb's application for the Covid Supplemental Grant. Mullins provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

#### **CEMETERY-JOHN ROBBINS**

Cemetery had to purchase a trailer for the mowers due to mechanical failure. An additional appropriation was requested of \$1500.00 from Cemetery Unappropriated Funds to Repair and Maintenance, and Travel and Mileage to cover the cost of the replacement trailer.

**MOTION:** Gillespie moved to approve the additional appropriation of \$1,500.00 from Cemetery Unappropriated to Repair and Maintenance, and Travel and Mileage. Mullins provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

#### **CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER – KELLI JETTE**

Jette requested \$25,000.00 to help support the Children's Advocacy Center. The Center helps abused and neglected children. The closest center is in Madison Indiana and there are a few north locations. They have been serving Scott County children in their Madison Center. The Commissioners approved using the Restricted Opioid money to fund the \$25,000. Mullins asked if we could get a report from them saying how they spent the money and had concerns with Scott County money supporting a center in Madison Indiana.

**MOTION:** Hughbanks moved to create a line item in 3701 professional services. Mullins replied more data is needed to make sure we are using the money properly. Motion died due to lack of a second.

**MOTION:** Collins moved to table to next meeting and invited Kelli Jette to the meeting to advise how the money is used. Ward provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

#### **JERRY GOODIN – SHERIFF**

Goodin requested an immediate five dollar an hour increase for his departments. Budget is less this year than last year due to not filling vacant positions. Goodin wants to use Baker Tilly to show that he has money in his budget to provide this pay increase. Collins mentions it's hard to give a five-dollar increase to one department. Goodin stated that he is using funding that has already been given to his department. Hughbanks does not want us to be a training department and getting to where we can keep deputies here in the county. Ward asked to put this off until the budget is approved. Goodin mentioned he lost two detectives and \$100,000 in grant funding. Goodin reiterated that he cannot wait for this increase. Attorney Peters said that it may be possible to have a special meeting to vote for the increase after the budgets are reviewed.

**MOTION:** White moved to table a possible pay raise for the Sheriff Department and Jail until the next meeting as he didn't feel comfortable making this decision when the Council was two Board Members short. Collins provided the second. Motion carried five to zero.

JR Ward joined the meeting at 5:52 p.m.

### CHRIS OWENS – PROSECUTOR

Owens explained that he has four Deputy Prosecutor positions and two left earlier in the year. There was only one applicant for both of those positions. The pay rate for his Deputy Prosecutors is much lower rate than surrounding counties. He requested to not fill the fourth position for the remainder of 2023 and split the remaining budgeted salary of the fourth position among the three current Deputy Prosecutors. Brad Hall would receive an additional \$3,641.60, Sherry Porter would receive an additional \$3,027.20, and Mark Keisler would receive an additional \$4,972.80. This would total \$11,641.60 for the rest of 2023. Owens explained that every county that has a prison in it the State pays their Deputy Prosecutor \$127,000.00 and the Scott County Deputy Prosecutor makes \$67,163.00. Owens would like to take the additional fund to raise two Deputy Prosecutors to \$79,000 and Mark Keisler up to \$ 95,000. Owens is only requesting the 2024 budget and understands that a mass tragedy could change everything.

**MOTION:** Mullins moved to table and to not to give any raises until the budget could be reviewed. Collins provided the second. Motion carried six to zero.

Attorney Peters reiterated that a special meeting Could be called after the budget is approved to approve any salary increases for 2023. Owens asked if the money requested could be back paid if this passes in the future meeting. This would be decided in the special meeting.

### JENNIFER HAMELMAN & MISSY APPLGATE – AUDITOR/TREASURER

Applegate presented the proposal for the Low Software. Low Software has given an annual breakdown for 2023 that would be \$113,492, then the following year would be \$87,500 for two years. Applegate believes Low Software would be more accurate than the current MVP system for the Treasurer office and Auditor's office than what they are currently using. Applegate stated that MVP has missed properties that should have been on the recent tax sale and were missed due to a faulty system. Properties that are three payments behind should be on tax sale and our system currently is not showing this. Hamelman stated that we are losing money using MVP system and that MVP is not making upgrades to their system at this time.

**MOTION:** Collins motioned to table until all members of the Council are there. White seconded the motion. Motion carried six to zero.

### CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Regular Council meeting minutes from August 08, 2023, were presented for approval. Gillespie had issue with the minutes stating that he had abstained from voting for the amended agenda at the beginning of the meeting as he has never abstained from voting. Auditor Hamelman stated that she had watched the video of the meeting along with other department heads and Gillespie did not vote because President Hughbanks neglected to ask for no votes. Gillespie requested the minutes be changed to reflect that he wanted to vote no but was denied the opportunity. President Hughbanks stated that the corrected minutes could state that she had inadvertently neglected to ask for no votes and therefore Gillespie was denied the opportunity to vote no.

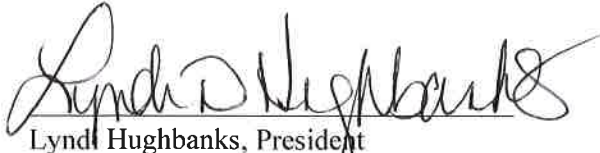
**MOTION:** Collins moved to table the Regular Council meeting minutes from August 08, 2023, until they were corrected. Mullins provided the second. Motion carried six to zero.


Council Workshop meeting Minutes from August 22, 2023, were presented for approval.

**MOTION:** Collins moved to approve the Council Workshop meeting minutes from August 22, 2023, as presented. Mullins provided the second. Motion carried six to zero.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, Collins moved to adjourn the September 12, 2023, Regular Meeting. Mullins provided the second. Motion carried six to zero.

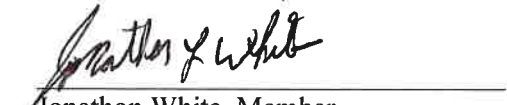
  
Lyndi Hughbanks, President

  
John Collins, Member


  
JR Ward, Vice President

  
John Miller, Member

  
Eric Gillespie, Member

  
Jonathon White, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Mullins, Member

ATTEST:   
Jennifer Rode Hamelman, Auditor