

CASS COUNTY COUNCIL

November 17, 2023

The Cass County Council met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Hearing Room. Present were; Shawn Shoemaker, Dean Davenport, Tracy Williamson, Dave Redweik, Derek Pullen, Attorney Jeff Stanton, and Auditor Cheryl Alcorn. Bruce Ide and Damon Foreman were absent.

Tracy Williamson opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence following.

MEETING MINUTES – Dave Redweik made a motion to approve Regular Meeting, Executive Sessions, and 2nd Reading of the Binding Budgets Hearing minutes as presented, Dean Davenport seconded. Shawn Shoemaker abstained due to absence.

PUBLIC HEARING – CD SECURITY PLEDGE FOR LOGANSFORT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL –

Attorney John Hills explained the proposal between Logansport Memorial Hospital and Logansport Savings Bank for financial assistance. Logansport Savings Bank proposed Cass County to provide a security pledge on behalf of Logansport Memorial Hospital. Security would be in the form of a one-year Certificate Deposit and would not be drawn upon unless absolutely necessary.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Tracy Williamson opened the hearing to public comment. No public comment was received.

ADJOURNMENT - Dave Redweik made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RES. 23-04 CD SECURITY PLEDGE FOR LOGANSFORT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL - John Hillis presented resolution approving the purchase of a one-year certificate of deposit in the amount of \$3,000,000 to be used as a security pledge for Logansport Memorial Hospital to obtain financial assistance.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve Resolution 23-04 as presented, Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – FIRE DISTRICT #1 EQUIPMENT PURCHASE – Financial Officer Bridget Enyeart and Chief Stephen Fisher presented loan proposal of \$700,000 to purchase equipment, a pumper truck and emergency medical vehicle.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Tracy Williamson opened the hearing to public comment. No public comment was received.

ADJOURNMENT - Dave Redweik made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RES. 23-05 FIRE DISTRICT EQUIPMENT PURCHASE LOAN – Dave Redweik made a motion to approve Resolution 23-05 as presented, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE DISTRICT – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – Bridget Enyeart requested approval of additional appropriation in the amount of \$750,000 in the event the bank lender sends proceeds to Fire District rather than directly to the vendors for purchase of vehicles and equipment. Appropriation allows accessibility before the end of the year, if needed. A budget reduction will be requested if bank lender sends proceeds directly to the vendors.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve additional appropriation in the amount of \$750,000 to Fire District Capital Project Fund, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ORD. 23-14 AIRPORT BOND ISSUANCE – Director Chad Weisend and Treasurer Molly Long presented for approval ordinance providing bond issuance for construction of new hanger for corporate size aircraft.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve Ordinance 23-14 Airport Bond Issuance as presented, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RES. 23-06 TAX ABATEMENT TNL DEVELOPMENT, LLC – MH EBY, INC. - Christy Householder introduced MH EBY Sales Manager Mark Simmons. Mark explained the expansion of the facility operations and services with four additional employee positions. Estimated improvement value of \$750,000. Mark requested a five (5) year property tax abatement of 100% the first year, 80% second year, 60% third year, 40% fourth year, and 20% fifth year.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve five (5) year abatement request as presented for TNL Development, LLC – MH Eby Inc., Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

EDA AMENDMENT – APPLESEED SOLAR, LLC – Christy Householder introduced Stephen Eastridge with Nextera Energy. Stephen explained the delay in start date for the project and request approval to adjust the tax abatement schedule to begin one year later than previously approved. Survey crews will begin work in March of 2024.

Dean Davenport made a motion to approve EDA Amendment as presented, Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried 4 in favor and 1 opposed. Dave Redweik opposed.

ORD. 23-15 2024 SALARY ORDINANCE – Dave Redweik questioned the salary amounts for EMS Director and Assistance Director.

Dave Redweik made a motion to table Salary Ordinance until next meeting, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PROSECUTOR – GRANT APPLICATION - BYRNE JAG GRANT – Tom Lupke presented Byrne JAG Grant proposal for approval. Prosecutor’s office has been awarded this grant in the past and has positive expectations to receive the grant award again.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve grant proposal request as presented, Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

EMA – GRANT APPLICATION - SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT – Jeff Smith requested approval to apply for federal grant funding in the amount of \$110,000 for assessment of road pavement conditions and mapping of signs. Reimbursable grant requires 10% matching county funds.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve grant application as presented, Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CLERK – GRANT APPLICATION - HAVA ELECTION SECURITY GRANT – Destry Richey requested approval to apply for federal grant funding in the amount of \$33,440 for voting security improvements and poll worker outreach and education. Reimbursable grant requires 20% matching funds that will be provided by the state.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve grant application as presented, Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS –

- Coroner requested additional appropriation from General Fund 1000.007 in the amount of \$10,765 to replenish Deputy salary line.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve additional appropriation from General Fund 1000.007 in the amount of \$10,765, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Health Department requested additional appropriation from Health Maintenance Fund 1168 in the amount of \$10,000 to replenish extra help salary line.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve additional appropriation from Health Maintenance Fund 1168 in the amount of \$10,000, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Health Department requested additional appropriation from Public Health Coordinator Grant Fund 9122 in the amount of \$12,500 to replenish extra help and contractual services line accounts.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve additional appropriation from Public Health Coordinator Grant Fund 9122 in the amount of \$12,500, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Tracy Williamson entertained a motion to approve additional appropriation from LIT Economic Development Fund 1112 in the amount of \$300,000 for contribution to Dykeman Park Renovation Project.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve additional appropriation from LIT Economic Development Fund 1112 in the amount of \$300,000, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- IT Department requested additional appropriation from Cumulative Capitol Development Fund 1138 in the amount of \$115, 000 for the purchase of jail security cameras.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve additional appropriation from Cumulative Capitol Development Fund 1138 in the amount of \$115,000, Derek Pullen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET REDUCTION – Auditor requested approval of budget reduction in the amount of \$348,671.41 from LIT Public Safety Fund 1170. Revenues received this year will not support the budget.

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve reduction in the amount of \$348,671.41 from LIT Public Safety Fund 1170, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

TRANSFER OUT OF SERIES –

- Auditor requested transfer out of series in General Fund 1000.02 from the following line accounts to replenish Office Supplies line account:

Account Line 32130 to Account Line 22360 in the amount of \$402.00

Dave Redweik made a motion to approve Fund 1000.02 transfer out of series as requested, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.


- Planning Department requested transfer out of series in General Fund 1000.16 from the following line accounts for fuel:

Account Line 32660 to Account Line 23100 in the amount of \$1,000

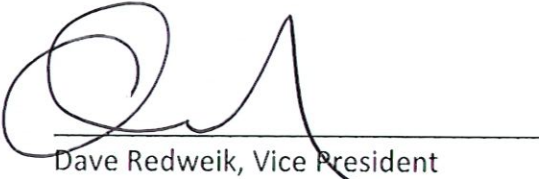
Dave Redweik made a motion to approve Fund 1000.16 transfer out of series as requested, Dean Davenport seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT- Laura Redweik, 5524 N CR 600 E, Twelve Mile – Concerns regarding the procedures before approving tax abatements. Nextera and Appleseed Solar are financially sound and do not need our county tax abatement. Products and materials, for projects receiving tax abatements, need to be American made.

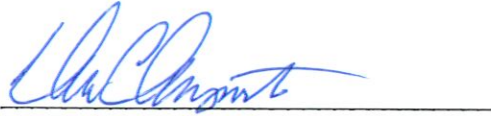
ADJOURNMENT – Dave Redweik made a motion to adjourn, Derek Pullen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.



Tracy Williamson, President



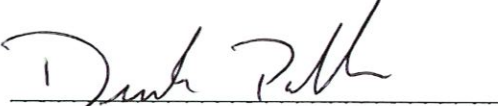
Dave Redweik, Vice President



Dean Davenport

Abstain
Damon Foreman


Abstain
Bruce Ide



Derek Pullen



Shawn Shoemaker

ATTEST: 

Cheryl Alcorn, Auditor