

Council Meeting
February 17, 2009 – 5:00 pm

The meeting was called to order by President Spaetti. Councilmen Spaetti, Ebert, Winsett, Kress, Waninger, Kroeger, Bunner, and Attorney Wetherill were present.

Lincoln Artwork

Spaetti congratulated Kroeger on his pencil drawings of Lincoln being used in the Lincoln celebrations in Indianapolis and at the Lincoln Boyhood Memorial. Kroeger stated that he has given the Lincoln Amphitheatre the right to sell his drawings as a fund raiser.

Thank You

Spaetti thanked the REC and Vectren employees for all of their hard work throughout the ice storm.

Minutes

1/20/2009 minutes; Ebert made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Additional Appropriations

County General:

Surveyor/Office Supplies – Surveyor Herron explained that office supplies were left out of the budget for 2009 and he requested an additional of \$500. Kress made a motion to approve. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Surveyor/Cornerstone – Herron explained that the cornerstone fees were also left out of the budget and he requested an additional of \$300. Ebert made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

EMA/Equipment Reimbursable Grant – EMA Director Perdue explained that EMA has been awarded a \$4,000 grant for a generator to be hooked to the courthouse, but it is a reimbursable grant. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Waninger seconded. All in favor.

Sheriff/ Telephones – Auditor Shelton explained that the \$5,000 was originally paid out of the IDACS budget but the state auditor said it has to come out of county general. Kroeger made a motion to table until more information can be obtained. Winsett seconded. All in favor.

PRTS

2008 Claims/Psychiatric Services – Connie Branch was not present. She requested an additional of \$9,205 for bills which were for services in 2008. Winsett said that at the last meeting Branch stated that the bill she still had was for \$7,800. Winsett made a motion to approve \$7,800. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

County Drug Free

Coordinator & Discretionary Spending – Kim Litkenhus discussed the efforts of County Drug Free and requested a total appropriation of \$22,222. Waninger made a motion to approve. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Pre-trial Diversion

VOCA/Cash Match – Prosecutor Wilkinson requested the \$9,000 cash match for the Victim’s Advocate Becky Kramer. Kress made a motion to approve. Winsett seconded. All in favor.

Cleaning Supplies – Wilkinson requested \$300 for bathroom supplies. Ebert made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Water – Wilkinson requested \$300 for water. Discussion was had on the need. Wilkinson explained that their office does not have a water fountain and it is located in the lobby to give the public access to the water. Ebert made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Forensic Entomology Investigation – Wilkinson requested \$785 for a forensic entomology investigation which was needed in a local murder case. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Waninger seconded. All in favor.

Law Enforcement Fund

Martial Arts Mats – Trainer Dale Meredith explained that warehouse space has been donated by Indiana Properties (the old Pottery building) for martial arts training. Meredith requested \$1,829 to be appropriated from the Law Enforcement Fund to purchase approximately 1,000 square feet of mat to cover the floor. The training is offered to all officers every Thursday. Kress made a motion to approve. Waninger seconded. All in favor.

Riverboat

Adult Plaza Litigation – Lueken reported that after the final ruling by Judge Roell against the 231 Adult Plaza the defendants filed several motions. Judge McConnell, who is the new judge assigned to the case, denied their motions. A motion to appeal will also be filed but the transcript is needed and it is not yet complete because of the hearing being so extensive. Lueken and Wetherill stated that they expect that the requested \$25,000 will take the case through the end of the appellate process. Winsett made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Annual Appropriations

The following annual appropriations are requested:

Clerk’s Perpetuation	\$9,000
Accident and Theft	\$1,000
Firearms and Training	\$9,000
County Corrections	\$34,000
Prisoner Reimbursement	\$4,000
Jury Fee	\$7,000
Care Inmates	\$700
LEPC	\$10,000

Kroeger made a motion to approve. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Lincoln Heritage Library Appointment

Lincoln Heritage Library requested the re-appointment of Ken Sands and Debbie Fischer. Winsett made a motion to approve. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Law Books

Kroeger asked Shelton what she has found out about the law books and if it would be better to have the service online. Shelton stated that the cost online is only \$99 per month. Wetherill stated that even though it is convenient to have the books here for use during a meeting, it is hard to justify since there is a set in the law library upstairs. Shelton also stated that she can keep her computer signed in to the service during meetings in case it is needed. Kroeger stated that Shelton should sign up for the online service.

Luce Sewer

The council's LTRSD board appointee, Matt Steinkamp was unable to attend the council meeting and wrote the following letter as a report:

Unfortunately I will be unable to attend the Feb. meeting. I will be in Decatur, IL for work training, touring the Mueller Company's brass foundry and learning about fire hydrants, gate valves and such. I'm sure it will be as exciting as it sounds. I will not be able to attend Tuesday's meeting. Our last meeting was short. We are still without a lawyer. We are attempting to advertise for one and hope to have one on retainer soon. The Luce Township Advisory Board should have our vacant positions filled by next meeting. The next meeting will now be next week. The board has decided to have meetings every two weeks in order to spur on more progress. The Sewer Board has been contacted by representatives from the Algae Wheel Company. They would like to give us a presentation on their treatment system and how such a system would benefit Luce Township. We have decided to release our preliminary engineering data to the Algae Wheel Company so they can give us a more accurate presentation. We look forward to any new useful ideas. Anita from our office is contacting all the district residents who have not signed their easements. She will be asking them to answer a 6 question survey so we can determine their feelings about the project and determine what their concerns may be. We believe this survey can give us valuable information and help direct us on the best course of action. I look forward to reporting to the Council in March.

-Matt Steinkamp

Ed Ingram further reported that the Luce Township Advisory Board has now met and appointed Phillip Joe Young and Bill Glenn, Sr. to the LTRSD Board. Spaetti stated that he took Glenn to the Fulda Sewer meeting and Glenn asked several questions.

Spaetti stated that he personally, not as a councilman, wrote a letter to the advisory board encouraging them to appoint someone from Richland. Ingram stated that a Richland Town Council member could not be on the board because of the law prohibiting two lucrative positions.

Ingram also stated that the board still does not have an attorney so many things have been tabled. The board had agreed to start meeting two times a month, on the second Tuesday and the fourth Thursday. Both will be held at 7:30 pm at the Hatfield Library. Wayne Bond is in charge of finding an attorney.

Ingram said that Rural Development has asked for the board to furnish a time line or a letter de-obligating Rural Development from the grant. The grant is up in February of 2010. Discussion has been had on whether it is possible to construct the sewer in phases. RCAP will be attending the first meeting in March.

Winsett discussed the possibility of Leadership Spencer County polling the people who have not signed to find out why. Ingram stated that the LTRSD secretary Anita McKinney has been asked to poll at least 25 people by the next meeting. Matt Bunner, President of Spencer County Leadership, stated that they may be interested in helping but he would like to speak to Matt Steinkamp to get a better idea about what is needed.

Kroeger discussed with Wetherill the obligation the county has to Luce Sewer and wanted it clarified that council has no debt to Luce Sewer unless the current plans move forward. If a new plan emerges then a new agreement must be considered. Wetherill agreed but he said he would look into it further.

Winsett thanked the members of Spencer County Leadership in attendance for coming to the meeting.

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Stimulus Package

Kroeger briefly discussed the stimulus package passed by the state in which the county may be awarded over \$3,000,000.

Thank You to Sheriff's Department and EMA

The Health Department sent a letter thanking the Sheriff's Department and the EMA for their quick response in saving the vaccines refrigerated in the Health office when the power went out.

Maximus

Kroeger asked Shelton to provide a summary of what Maximus does for the county.

Community Corrections Free Copier

Community Corrections Director Janice Weber informed the council that a fairly new copier was donated to Community Corrections from Farm Bureau.

State Legislature

Ingram stated that the council may want to watch Senate Bill 267 in which sewer and water boards would have to be elected and House Bill 1114 which would allow residents of unincorporated areas to keep their approved, working septic system even if a sewer line in ran near their home.

Kress made a motion to adjourn. Waninger seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47pm.

County Council,

President

Attest:

Cindy Shelton, Auditor
