

Dave Haines, Jeanne Houchins, Faron Parr, Chad Aker, Brian McGalliard and Cindy Bracy voting for the motion. Harold Towell voted against the motion and the motion passed by majority vote.

A discussion for how to pay for the project will be discussed at a later date to look into more possibilities for funding.

With no further business, Chad Aker made a motion to adjourn at 6:36 PM; Brian McGalliard seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**JAY COUNTY COUNCIL**

NAY

*Chad Aker*  
Chad Aker  
Cindy Bracy

*Harold Towell*  
Harold Towell

ATTEST: *Emily Frank*  
EMILY FRANK  
JAY COUNTY AUDITOR

**FEBRUARY 21, 2024**

The Jay County Council met in session on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 6:00 PM, in the auditorium at the Jay County Courthouse. Attending from the council was Harold Towell, Cindy Bracy, Randy May, Faron Parr, Dave Haines, attorney Wes Schemenaur, auditor Emily Franks, and Matt Minnich, presiding, absent Jeanne Houchins. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular session on January 10th, 2024 and joint session from January 25<sup>th</sup> and February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Additional Appropriations:**

**COUNTY GENERAL**

- 1000-011-10-0015 Extension - 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary Circuit Court- Court \$1,592.24
- 1000-232-30-00055 Appointed Dr. \$5,000.00
- Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the additional from County General. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**CORNERSTONE PERPETUATION**

- 1202-001-30-0146 Location of Cornerstones \$6,000.00
- Dave Haines made a motion to approve the additional from Cornerstone Perpetuation. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion and the passed by unanimous vote.

**PROSECUTOR DEFERRAL**

- 2400-001-30-0127 Prosecutor- Crime Control \$815.98
- Randy May made a motion to approve the additional from Prosecutor- Deferral. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**FIREARMS FUND**

- 4906-001-20-0018 Firearms \$30,000
- Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional from the Firearms Fund. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**INNKEEPERS TOURISM**

- 7304-001-30-00027 Contractual Service \$119,144.47
- Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the additional from the Innkeepers Tourism fund. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**TITLE IV-E REIMBURSEMENT**

- 8891-001-30-0087 Pauper Counsel \$2,300
- 8891-001-30-0087 Pauper Counsel \$940
- Dave Haines made a motion to approve the additional from the Title IV\_E Fund. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**ARP-2021 CLFRF**

- 8950-001-30-0148 Professional Services \$52,050.46

The additional appropriation was related to the second invoice payment to REA-Rundell Erstenberger and Associates for their work related to the 68 A land development. Harold Towell and Cindy Bracy questioned if more information could be available regarding the work that had been completed by the company. Mr. Towell stated renderings had been viewed by state officials in reference to the project which had not been given to county officials. Mr. Kimball responded the plans had not been released to the public because they were unsure if the project was possible. He will reach out to representatives from REA to have them give an update to the council on their progress. Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional from the ARP fund. Randy May seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote with Faron Parr, Randy May, and Dave Haines voting for the motion and Harold Towell and Cindy Bracy voting against the motion.

**COMMUNITY CORRECTION ADULT GRANT**

9117-001-10-0127	Wages- Deputy Director	\$51,500
9117-001-10-0049	Employer- Social Security	\$11,507.28
9117-001-10-0048	Wages- Executive Director	\$72,128.70
9117-001-10-0018	Employer PERP	\$13,846.42
9117-001-10-0017	Employer Social Security	\$9,457.60

Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for the Community Correction Adult Grant. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**RETIREMENT CENTER DONATIONS**

4102-001-30-0211	Resident Activities	\$2,000
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Faron Parr made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for the Retirement center donations fund. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**TRANSFERS**

**MVH-HIGHWAY**

1176-003-10-0018 -Employer PERP to 1176-003-10-0051 (Worker's Comp) \$16,000  
Ms. Franks explained the county's workers compensation insurance increased significantly for 2024 due to large claims in 2023. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the transfer in MVH-Highway. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**REASSESSMENT**

1224-001-30-0012 Reassessment (Travel/Mileage) to 1224-001-20-0022 (Gas, Lube, Oil) \$2,000.  
Robin Alberson, assessor, came to the council to explain she has recently obtained a vehicle slated for auction from the Sheriff's department. She is currently reimbursing the reassessment deputy for mileage traveled out of the Travel/Mileage account. The request would create and fund a gas, lube and oil account to pay for items related to the vehicle. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the transfer in Reassessment. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**JAY COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

Cindy Bracy made a motion to appoint Faron Parr and Richard Huffman to the Jay County Redevelopment Commission for 2024. The motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Minnich explained Mr. Huffman had agreed he would be willing to serve on the commission. He also asked if Mr. Parr would be willing to serve again on the board, to which Mr. Parr agreed. Mr. Schemenaur discussed the responsibilities and powers of the commission. Due to a lack of discussion or motion, Mr. Minnich asked for a motion to be made regarding the appointments. Dave Haines made a motion to reappoint Faron Parr to the Jay County Redevelopment Commission. Randy May seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Cindy Bracy made a motion to appoint Richard Huffman to the Jay County Redevelopment Commission. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**PENNVILLE PARK BOARD**

Tanner McClain, member, came to the council to discuss obtaining grant match funding from the county. All the plans for the park are based on a public survey from the summer 2023. The survey had a 44% response rate. They partnered with Framework Planning and Design out of Zionsville, Indiana on the project. The first phase would include renovating the current basketball courts with lines and new goals. They would also be painting the ground to make it more vibrant. They have been given the skateboard equipment from the city of Portland and are looking to resurface it. They would also be installing a pump track to ride bikes, rollerblade, scooter, or skateboard.

The biggest piece of phase one would include a lot of demolition and cleanup of the baseball diamond to create the new soccer field located on the southeast side of the map. They will need to level the ground and add tile to solve some flooding issues. The backstop would still be there, it just would not have the infield. Their annual soccer program brings 138 families in between May and June from Blackford, Wells and Jay counties. The first phase includes the removal of the baseball field to add a 50x100 soccer field which will allow them to have a travel team come to the facility. This will also allow them to extend the ages to 13-14-15-year-old kids.

They are looking at working with Patronicity to raise funds for a grant with Indiana Housing and Community Development. IHEDA supports projects that activate underutilized public spaces or to create new public spaces, and play spaces improvements. They have spoken to Patronicity and the project does meet those requirements. Once the board has \$50,000 pledged to receive the \$50,000, they will have enough to complete phase one of the project at an estimated \$100,800. The rules require that each place can only donate up to \$10,000 towards the match. Mrs. McClain requested \$35,000 from 4 different funds for the project. They will be applying for a \$10,000 Church of Brethren grant and have \$5,365.90 of cash on hand, not deposited.

In the meantime, they will be continuing to crowd fundraise using the initiatives already in place including Purse Bingo, Cow Pie Bingo, BBQ in the Park, Summer Soccer Program, Junior Park Board, and Green Tree Plastics initiatives. They are looking at other grant options including Indiana DNR, READI 2.0 and a Norfolk Southern Grant. Lastly, they have been working with Nate Kimball for other grant options. Any additional funds received will be saved and used for phase two of the project including renovating the community pavilion, concessions, and restrooms, developing play areas and plaza spaces, connect to Broadway Street on the easter edge and implementing on-street parking.

Faron Parr questioned if they had checked with the Pennville Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC) for help in funding the project. Mrs. Martin stated she had met with them, but have not discussed contributing funds. She added if they have the same tax ID number as the Town of Pennville, then they are not allowed to contribute due to Patronicity rules. Cindy Bracy added while she liked the project, the request highlighted the county's lack of plan. Matt Minnich echoed the need for an overall plan. Harold Towell made a motion to table the discussion, which died for lack of second. Ms. Franks requested if the council were interested in funding the project, to let her know what potential funds and amounts to be advertised for the next

council meeting. Randy May made a motion to advertise the appropriation for \$10,000 each out of EDIT, Windfarm and ARP funds. Faron Parr seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote, with Harold Towell dissenting. Ms. Franks will get the amounts advertised for March's meeting.

**HODSON ENERGY - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT**

The commissioner approved Economic development agreement with Hodson energy was presented for the council president's signature. Cindy Bracy made a motion to approve the council president to sign the agreement. Dave Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**PERSONNEL POLICY - ORDINANCE 2024-03**





The proposed updated personnel policy presented in January was discussed by the auditor. The only change from the policy presented in January was a wording change under the personal and sick leave policy. The change was made to encompass the two departments that schedule 10-hour shifts. Mr. Towell questioned if employees unwilling to sign the new policy would be terminated from employment. Ms. Franks explained the sign off was an acknowledgement they had received a policy book, but the county policy stood regardless of the employee signature. Mr. Towell questioned where the records would be housed for the added relationship policy. Mr. Schemenaur explained those policies were to cover the county in the event a relationship went bad. Ms. Franks stated the forms would be kept locked in the auditor's office. Faron Parr made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-03 affirming the new personnel policy. Cindy Bracy seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

With no further business for the council Faron Parr made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Dave Haines seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

**JAY COUNTY COUNCIL**

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NAY

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ATTEST:   
JAY COUNTY AUDITOR