

MIAMI COUNTY COUNCIL
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, INDIANA 46970
January 14, 2020

Councilman Duckwall – Present
Councilwoman Chittum – Present
Councilman Donaldson – Present
Councilman Wood – Present
Councilman Wiles – Present
Councilman Sailors – Present
Councilman Nutt-Present

President Duckwall called the meeting to order.

Councilman Wiles led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

MINUTES

Councilwoman Chittum made a motion to approve the December 10, 2019 minutes for the Public Hearing and regular Council meeting. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION/TRANSFERS

None

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Duckwall turned the meeting over to Vice-President Chittum for election of officers. Councilwoman Chittum opened the floor for nominations for Council President. Councilman Wiles made a motion to nominate Councilman Duckwall as Council President. Councilman Wood 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0-1 (Duckwall abstained).

Vice-President Chittum turned the meeting back over to President Duckwall. President Duckwall opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Councilman Sailors made a motion to nominate Councilman Wiles for Vice-President. Councilman Wood made a motion to nominate Councilwoman Chittum. A vote was taken for the nomination of Councilman Wiles to serve as the Vice-President. Councilman Sailors, Councilman Duckwall and Councilman Wiles voted for Councilman Wiles. A vote was taken for the nomination of Councilwoman Chittum to serve as the Vice-President. Councilman Nutt, Councilman Wood, Councilman Donaldson and Councilwoman Chittum voted in favor of Councilwoman Chittum serving as the Vice-President.

Councilman Sailors made a motion to close all nominations. Councilman Wood 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0. President Duckwall declared himself duly elected as President and Councilwoman Chittum duly elected as the Vice-President.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

President Duckwall reviewed the committee appointments below:

Budget and Wage	3	Ralph Duckwall, David Sailors, Dick Wiles
Community Corrections	1	Richard Wood

County Plan Commission	1	Ralph Duckwall
Courthouse Security	1-2	Sandy Chittum, John Donaldson
Dukes Healthcare Foundation	2	Ralph Duckwall, Richard Wiles
E911	2	Richard Wiles, Richard Wood
Emergency Management Agency	1	John Donaldson
Historical Society	1	Sandy Chittum
IT Committee	1	Dave Sailors
Jail	2	David Sailors, Sandy Chittum
Local Coordinating Council	1	Richard Wood
MCEDA Elected Officials Council	1-2	Ralph Duckwall, Sandy Chittum
Miami County Chamber of Commerce	1	Sandy Chittum
Purdue Extension Advisory Board	1	John Donaldson
Regional Planning Council	1	Richard Wiles
Solid Waste District	1	David Sailors
Tax Abatement	3	Ralph Duckwall, Sandy Chittum, Brian Nutt
Peru Public Library	1	Sandy Chittum

Councilwoman Chittum made a motion to approve the committee appointments. Councilman Nutt 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

2020 SHERIFF CONTRACT

The Council received the 1-year 2020 contract for Sheriff Hunter. President Duckwall noted that the contract remains the same from 2019, with a salary of \$90,000.00. Councilwoman Chittum made a motion to approve the 2020 Sheriff contract. Councilman Wood 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

9-1-1 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

President Duckwall reviewed the updated 9-1-1 Interlocal Agreement with City of Peru. The agreement requires the City of Peru to reimburse the county ½ the expenses associated with 9-1-1. President Duckwall noted that Attorney Downs reviewed the agreement and cleaned-up some language, but did not change the details of the agreement. Once the Council approves the contract, it will go before the Board of Commissioners and then on to the City for their final approval. Councilman Wiles made a motion to approve the 9-1-1 Interlocal Agreement. Councilwoman Chittum 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE

Sheriff Hunter came before the Council to discuss an issue with the IT services of the county, specifically the service the Jail, 9-1-1, Sheriff Department and the City of Peru. Sheriff Hunter explained that there are major IT issues, bringing costly repairs to both the county and City of Peru. Sheriff Hunter stated that the departments do not know about upgrades or replacements are needed until the last minute. It comes at a substantial cost, which was not planned. Sheriff Hunter went on to state that the 9-1-1 Advisory Board met last week and suggested the county and City of Peru work together to resolve the problem. Sheriff Hunter noted that Peru Utilities also uses Intrasect. When outages or issues happen, it does not only affect the county, City of Peru and Peru Utilities, but all the citizens of the county because public safety is put in jeopardy.

Jessica Freeman, Administrative Assistant/Spillman Coordinator explained some of the issues they are experiencing at the Sheriff's Department as it relates to IT support with Intrasect. Ms. Freeman noted that she serves on the IT Committee and they are aware of the current issues. The Committee is looking at potential resolutions to the problem and has recommended the county seek quotes from other vendors who offer IT support. Ms. Freeman stated there are issues with the response times when there is a problem at the Jail/9-1-1. In addition, there are several Windows 7 computers, which are nearing the end of life and it took weeks to get a quote. These computers will no longer be supported as of January 31, 2020. Ms. Freeman found out last week 14 computers needed to be upgraded, another expense that the department did not anticipate. The cost of the equipment is not only an issue, but also the labor costs to set-up or upgrade computers is becoming excessive and feels the county needs to find a new IT company.

Captain Dave Vitek spoke to the Council about the fact the IT issues not only affect the Sheriff's Department, but all county employees due to the way the systems are connected. For instance, a circuit recently went down and it shut the Jail, 9-1-1 and Sheriff Department down, leaving them only being able to communicate by radio. These kinds of outages can last hours without a sense of urgency. Captain Vitek had an issue with his email and it took 7 trips for IT to get it fixed, 3 trips alone in 1 day. Captain Vitek also spoke about an issue with the tough pads the Sheriff Deputies and City Officers use in their cars. Back in November, there was discussion about getting a plan together because the tough pads would be out of warranty soon. Intrasect wanted to replace all 20 tough pads for \$60,000.00, but Dave found out they could get 14 of the exact same thing from another company for \$45,000.00. It raises concerns over the cost the county is being charged with that big of a disparity in cost. Captain Vitek also spoke about the fact that they just found out the computers in 9-1-1 are out of date and no longer compatible with the tough pads when a major issue arose over Christmas. Another example was when 9-1-1 had not been notified prior that they needed to make the upgrade to their computers. 9-1-1 asked why their computers did not last longer than what they did, Intrasect told them that because there was a delay in moving the 9-1-1 Dispatch to the Jail, and by that time the computers were already outdated. Captain Vitek wanted to make it clear that he feels the employees are good people, but the service provided is horrible and a change needs to happen.

Mayor Miles Hewitt spoke about the same concerns the City of Peru is experiencing with Intrasect. Recently, he and the Clerk Treasurer went 1 ½ days without internet or the ability to send emails. Mayor Hewitt stated City of Peru received notification they need to purchase all new computers for the police cars. The City of Peru had not planned for the expense because of lack of communication with Intrasect.

Tom Gustin, City Council and 9-1-1 Advisory Board Member feels like Intrasect is in breach of contract with all the issues and echoes the feelings already expressed that something needs to change.

Councilman Wood feels that the county needs to find an independent attorney because Attorney Downs represents Intrasect and the county.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION & COMMITTEE UPDATE

President Duckwall spoke to the Council about moving funds from County General and CEDIT in 2020 to set aside for Courthouse/Annex renovation or construction projects. President Duckwall recommended moving \$10,000.00 from County General and \$30,000.00 from CEDIT. The Council could approve to move forward with having the ordinance prepared by the County Attorney to authorize Auditor Brown to make the monthly transfer. Councilman Sailors made a motion to move forward with the ordinance to make the monthly transfer. Councilwoman Chittum 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Councilman Wood requested an update on the status of the 2nd Maintenance position created in December. Sheriff Hunter stated that he hired a full-time person and today, he had a meeting with the Commissioners, Highway Superintendent Kerry Worl, Highway Engineer Einselen, Auditor Brown and the maintenance men to work through the details of division of duties.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Councilman Wood made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Chittum 2nd the motion and it passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Brown
Miami County Auditor