

JANUARY 13TH, 2025

REGULAR SESSION

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

The Pulaski County Council met in regular session Monday January 13th 2025 7:00PM at the Pulaski County Highway Garage training room. Council members present were Michael Tiede, Jeffrey Richwine, Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez, Jerome Locke, Tim Overmyer, Bradley Bonnell, Albert Gutwein with County Auditor Teresa Bryant and County Attorney Jacob Ahler.

Also present were Gary Kruger, Natasha Daugherty, Edwina Guffey, Jennifer Knebel, Josh Stamper, Mike Sehstedt, Judge Mary Welker, Connie Ehrlich, Chris Brucker, Darrel Gudeman, Judge Crystal Kocher, Gail Lambert, Larry Lambert, Randy Davis, Nathan Origer, and Megan Galbreath.

IN RE: COUNCIL ORGANIZATION

Michael Tiede opened the meeting and asked for nominations for Council President. Tim Overmyer nominated Michael Tiede, Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez seconded. Michael was elected president unanimously.

For nominations for Vice-President, Bradley Bonnell nominated Albert Gutwein and Tim Overmyer seconded. Jerome Locke nominated Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez and Jeffrey Richwine seconded. Bradley Bonnell, Tim Overmyer, Albert Gutwein voted in favor of Albert Gutwein and Michael Tiede, Jerome Locke, Jeffrey Richwine, Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez voted in favor of Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez. Sheila is the Vice President.

IN RE: NATASHA DAUGHERTY, EMS

Natasha had appeared at December's Council meeting requesting wage increases to compete with surrounding counties. In 2024, EMS returned \$723,089.45 to County General. Her staff has stepped up in working additional hours to cover shifts. Natasha presented information on wages, health benefits and PERF of surrounding counties, PTO discrepancies and holiday pay changes. Jeffrey Richwine asked who does the billing for EMS—Ambulance Billing from South Bend. Michael wants to know if benefits/pay or just pay is the reason people are leaving. Michael suggest a committee to discuss this further with Natasha and Albert, Tim and Sheila volunteered.

IN RE: EDWINA GUFFEY, HEALTH

Edwina requested permission to spend \$3,000. from an old State grant (Fund 8912) to paint the Health Department Offices. She will spend another \$750. for the paint from Ace Hardware. Tim asked if Health Department is staying in the County Building, and they are. Because this involves grant funds, this money needs appropriated. Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez made a motion to approve request for advertisement, Jeffrey Richwine seconded and motion carried unanimously.

IN RE: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A FUND FOR SOLAR PROJECT COMPLIANCE SERVICES #2025-01

Jeffrey Richwine made a motion to approve and sign Resolution #2025-01, Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez seconded and motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A FUND
FOR SOLAR PROJECT COMPLIANCE SERVICES
RESOLUTION #2025-01**

WHEREAS, the Pulaski County Council is the fiscal body of the County and is authorized to create funds within the county budget; and

WHEREAS, Pulaski County will be receiving a lump sum of advanced fees from each solar project (hereinafter referred to as "Project") to pay for a contracted compliance monitoring services (hereinafter referred to as the "Consultant") and said funds need to be accounted for; and

WHEREAS, the funds for the Consultant are to be set aside in the fund as advance payment of fees with a line item for each specific Project; and

WHEREAS, the Consultant shall bill the County for contracted services on each specific project and the Auditor and Treasurer shall pay the Consultant and account for the expense against the lump sum provided by each project keeping a running balance of advanced fees being held in the fund for each project; and

WHEREAS, the Consultant will be utilized until the scope of services they have been contracted for are completed, and

WHEREAS, the Projects shall each deposit additional funds to be set aside for the

expense of the Consultant as each Project progress dictates with the goal being the constant supply of advanced fees from which the Consultant is to be compensated for the contracted services until the completion of the scope of services set forth in the contract with the Consultant, which is currently VS Engineering, Inc. but includes any future Consultant utilized in the role by the Commissioners, and

WHEREAS, THE Auditor shall provide the Commissioners and Council a bi-annual report of the balance in the fund with details of the advance fees set aside for each Project; and

WHEREAS, when the scope of services has been completed by the Consultant for each project the advanced payment of fees still held in the fund after the final invoice from the Consultant is paid shall be refunded to each respective Project as the accounting dictates for each line item, and when all funds are dissipated the fund shall be extinguished.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council creates a fund for Solar Project Compliance Services as set forth herein:

All of which is Resolved this 13 day of January, 2025.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez made a motion to approve and sign December 9, 2024 regular meeting minutes, Jeffrey Richwine seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Jeffrey Richwine made a motion to approve and sign Joint Session Meeting Schedule with a start time of 5PM and Council’s 2025 Meeting Schedule with a start time of 6:00PM. Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

ALBERT GUTWEIN
JEFFERY RICHWINE
MICHAEL T. TIEDE
JEROME 'JERRY' LOCKE
BRADLEY BONNELL
TIM OVERMYER
SHEILA JIMENEZ

126 S Riverside Dr (temporary)
Room 305
Winamac, IN 46996

112 East Main St (permanent)
Courthouse Room 200
Winamac, IN 46996

Phone: (574) 946-3653
Fax: (574) 946-3928

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Pulaski County Council will meet in regular session at the County Highway Garage located at 1131 North U.S. 35, Winamac, Indiana on the second (2nd) Monday of each month at 6:00pm EDST or the next work day after a County Approved Holiday for the year 2025.

Monday, January 13
Monday, February 10
Monday, March 10
Monday, April 14

Monday, May 12
Monday, June 9
Monday, July 14
Monday, August 11

Monday, September 8
Monday, October 13
Monday, November 10
Monday, December 8

The Pulaski County Council will meet at the County Highway Garage for 2026 budget meetings from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Monday, August 11

Tuesday, August 12

PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL
Approved on January 13, 2025

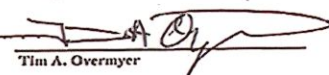

Albert Gutwein


Jeffrey Richwine


Michael T. Tiede


Jerome 'Jerry' Locke


Bradley Bonnell


Tim A. Overmyer


Sheila Jimenez

Attested: 
Teresa Bryant, Auditor Pulaski County

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**PULASKI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL**

COUNCIL MEMEBERS

Albert Gutwein
Jeffery Richwine
Michael T. Tiede
Jerome 'Jerry' Locke
Bradly Bonnell
Tim Overmyer
Sheila Jimenez

112 East Main St
Courthouse Room 200
Winamac, IN 46996
Phone: (574) 946-3653
Fax: (574) 946-3928

COMMISSIONERS

Jennifer Knebel
Donald Street, Jr
J. Mike McClure

PUBLIC NOTICE

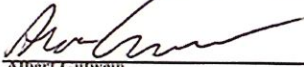
The Pulaski County Council and the Pulaski Board of Commissioners will meet in Joint Session at the County Highway Garage located at 1131 North U.S. 35, Winamac, Indiana on the second (2nd) Monday of every other month at 5:00 pm EDST or the next work day after a County Approved Holiday for the year 2025

Monday, February 10
Monday, April 14

Monday, June 9
Monday, August 11

Monday, October 13
Monday, December 08

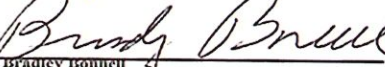
PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL
Approved on January 13, 2025

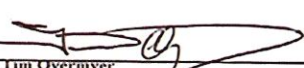

Albert Gutwein

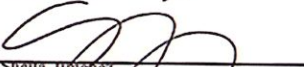

Jeffery Richwine


Michael T. Tiede


Jerome 'Jerry' Locke


Bradley Bonnell

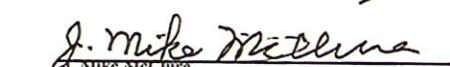

Tim Overmyer


Sheila Jimenez

PULASKI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Approved on January 6, 2025


Jennifer Knebel


Donald Street, Jr


J. Mike McClure

Attested: 
Teresa Bryant, Auditor Pulaski County

Jerome Locke made a motion to reappoint Michael Tiede to the Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission, Bradley Bonnell seconded and motion carried unanimously,

Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez made a motion to reappoint Mike White to the PTBOA, Albert Gutwein seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Michael Tiede suggested Council adopt a form for individuals to sign when wanting to make public comments, with time limit of 3 minutes.

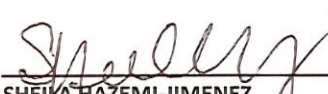
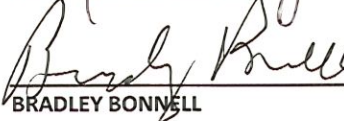
Tim Overmyer asked Highway Superintendent Gary Kruger "who does County's bridge inspections". County contracted with United Consulting. Tim has talked to official from Starke County about possibly sharing the inspections.

Bradley Bonnell stated there is a vacancy on the BZA board that needs appointed by Council. This would be an alternate and cannot be a councilmember. No one knew of any one that is interested.

Michael Tiede asked Attorney Ahlers if he is going to represent Council as well as Commissioners. Jacob said he can represent both if wanted. No one objected.

With no other business to discuss nor public comment, Sheila Hazemi-Jimenez made a motion to adjourn at 7:46PM, Jeffrey Richwine seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Approved and signed this 10th day of February 2025 by the PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL.

 MICHAEL TIEDE	 SHEILA HAZEMI-JIMENEZ	 JEFFREY RICHWINE
 TIM OVERMYER	 BRADLEY BONNELL	 JEROME LOCKE
 ALBERT GUTWEIN		
ATTEST:  TERESA BRYANT, AUDITOR, PULASKI COUNTY, IN		