

**UNION COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 20, 2015**

PRESENT: Russel Rude , Jim Hensley, Dannie Witter, Burke Thomas, Richard Blank, Pam Tharp, Matt Snyder, Jim Crouch, Dale Dishmond, Shaun Tudor, Cheryl Begley, Paul Wiwi, Alan Alcorn, David Woeste, and Gene Sanford.

President Russel Rude opened the meeting by leading the group with the pledge to the flag. Thomas moved to approve the minutes of the July 16 meeting. Hensley seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

HEALTH CLINIC: Council reviewed financial information from the health clinic with Diane Timberman. Timberman stated August was going well, but the clinic needed additional funds to continue. She stated that the clinic should receive a grant of over \$20,000 from Purdue by the end of the year. After lengthy discussion, Hensley moved to appropriate \$15,400 for Nurse Practitioner salary, \$2,400 for OASI, \$4,400 for PERF and \$3,000 for Health Insurance from the Riverboat Wagering Fund. This \$25,200 should get the clinic through December of 2015 except for \$15,200 for Nurse Practitioner salary which could be paid from the Purdue grant. Thomas seconded the motion and it carried 3-1 with Witter opposed and Blank abstaining. Since it did not receive a majority of 4 Council votes the motion failed. Further discussion followed, and Hensley amended the motion to be \$25,199. Thomas again seconded and this motion carried 4-1 with Witter opposed.

PUBLIC SAFETY LOIT: Paige Sansone of Umbaugh presented a study of Local Option Income Taxes (LOIT) which could help finance Union County budgets. There are three LOIT's to consider: Levy Freeze LOIT, Property Relief LOIT, and Public Safety LOIT. The Public Safety and Property Tax Relief LOIT's seem to be the ones to consider for Union County. The Public Safety LOIT of .25% would generate an estimated \$240,000 in new funding for public safety expenses which would reduce the property taxes needed for these expenses and help to get the budget under the levy limit. The property tax relief LOIT could be up to 1% and would reduce the amount of property taxes needed to fund budgets and would help reduce losses due to property tax caps. To be used in 2016 the LOITs would have to be adopted by October 31, 2015. Questions and discussion followed with Umbaugh agreeing to provide more detailed information.

2016 BUDGET PREPARATION: Council reviewed dates for the 2016 Budget process. The Auditor reported that the DLGF workshop had been held and approximately \$900,000 would need to be cut from the submitted budget requests. He also stated that the state had reduced mileage reimbursement to 40 cents per mile. Council will take up budget discussions with an all day session beginning at 8:30 AM on September 17.

SHERIFF: The Sheriff presented the Commissary report for review. He stated that the department would be doing some training with the schools on August 24. He also stated there currently are 18 inmates in the local jail and 2 out of county.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS: For the Health Department, see Health Clinic above.

For the Firearms Training Fund, Thomas moved to appropriate \$2,100 for new firearms. Witter seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

TRANSFERS: In County General for the Sheriff, Hensley moved to decrease Telephone \$1,500 and increase Office Supplies \$1,500. Blank seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

MISC: None

There being no further business, Hensley moved to adjourn. Thomas seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

Attest _____, Auditor