

**UNION COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 21, 2016**

PRESENT: Russel Rude, Tim Williams, Dannie Witter, Burke Thomas, Richard Blank, Pam Tharp, Matt Snyder, Dale Dishmond, Jim Crouch, Loree Persinger, Paulette Worcester, Trish Witham, Paul Wiwi, David Woeste, Alan Alcorn, 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 June 16 meeting. Blank seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

HEALTH DEPT: A proposed \$37,000 loan from the Courthouse Special CAGIT fund to the Health Department was discussed. This loan would be for operating expenses for the Health Department for the last 6 months and would be paid back from the December tax distribution. After lengthy discussion, Blank moved to approve the \$37,000 loan to be repaid in December. Thomas seconded the motion and it carried 4-1 with Williams opposed.

Discussion then turned to funding the department for the remainder of the year, as it will be \$20,000 to \$25,000 short even with the operating loan. Various funding strategies were discussed with the final decision to review the matter in a few months.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Council conferred with the Commissioners concerning the Community Crossings matching grant. The Commissioners stated that the application has been sent to LTAP for review before it is sent to INDOT for the final decisions. Alcorn stated that INDOT had told him that once the county projects were selected for matching funds and contracts had been signed for the work on the projects, INDOT would cut a check for their half of the project cost to the county. Therefore this would not be on a reimbursement basis where the county would initially have to fund the full project. After some discussion for funding the county portion, Thomas moved to support the matching funds for the Community Crossings program to be determined when the projects are selected and total cost known. Blank seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: After a brief explanation, Blank moved to amend the salary ordinance for the Health Department for a Nurse Practitioner for the Opiate Treatment Center at \$45 per hour. This is currently being funded from other than Health Fund sources and being used about 4 hours per week. After some discussion, Thomas seconded the motion and it carried 4-1 with Witter opposed.

2017 BUDGET: The Auditor discussed the calendar for the upcoming 2017 budget process. Council agreed to hold the Public Hearing at their meeting on September 15 at 9:00 AM with Department Head discussion to follow. Final adoption of the budget was scheduled for their meeting on October 20th at 9:00 AM with budget workshops to be scheduled as needed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS: Clerk Loree Persinger presented bids for a copier for the Clerk's office. Office Shop was the only bidder with a Copystar for \$4,650. Since the additional appropriation had been advertised for \$4,500, Persinger stated that she could take some money from her 4D incentive funds for part of the cost. She stated that she would ask the county for \$4,074 with the remainder to be taken from the 4D funds. Thomas moved to appropriate \$4,074 in County General for the Clerk's fund for the copier. Williams seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

TRANSFERS: None

MISC: None

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

Attest _____, Auditor