

SULLIVAN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020

SUPERIOR COURT ROOM, 1ST FLOOR

SULLIVAN COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Tim Abrams called the meeting to order with everyone standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

The following County Council Members were present:

Tim Abrams, Logan Pearison, Larry Kinnett, Duane Wampler, Jerry Payne, Nick Cullison and Curt Bedwell

Minutes

Tim asked if everyone had received the minutes for the May 26, 2020 Council Meeting?

Logan Pearison made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Jerry Payne seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Shelly Parris, Auditor asked if she could speak for a moment.

Shelly stated to the Council that she has hired an attorney. He advised me not to discuss the situation concerning PERF until such time he could be present. At that time it will be clear why I did what did. Shelly let Ed Linneweber, Council's attorney know that she would get him her attorneys information tomorrow.

PERF

Tim Abrams, having voted on PERF, they needed a motion to set a new date to set another deadline. Tim asked Ed if he had the resolution that had been prepared after the meeting last month concerning PERF.

Ed Linneweber, presented the resolution, saying, it just needs a new date, since the previous resolution had a date to join PERF of July 1, this resolution will have a date of August 7.

There was discussion concerning the PERF Resolution.

Duane Wampler, stated, we did not have a resolution last month, the minutes from the May meeting did not have anything about a resolution in it. The resolution that had the aye and nay votes, but it was not legal how it was done. The Council is to be good stewards of the tax payers money and we are not doing a very good job. If there is a retirement plan in place, there needs to be seventy-five percent of the employees agree to do PERF

Tim Abrams stated, he had not got one phone call against PERF.

Jerry Payne, the Council did not know it was their place to vote for PERF. So, no one has not been sitting on it, we did not know it was our decision to make.

Larry Kinnett, the Commissioners and Council hired the guys to do our financial report and we will be in the red in three to five years. How can we put the county in red in three to five years over a plan that we cannot afford, when they tell us we can't afford it?

There was discussion concerning the actuarial survey. A question was asked, what was it going to cost the county to join PERF, would it be \$1,000,000 or more. Curt Bedwell, stated no, it would be an additional \$130,000.00, more than what the county is paying now. That is

\$1,400 X 138, plus the \$130,000.00

A gentleman in the audience informed the Council that the taxpayers of Sullivan County are not happy with how the Council is doing and they have hired an attorney.

Tim put the PERF resolution on hold until other had been conducted.

Additional Appropriations – County General

- Sullivan County Council for Professional Fees for Bakertilly

\$12,500.00 - to Account Number 1000 – 39500-000-0134

Motion by Logan Pearison, seconded by Curt Bedwell, all in favor, motion carried.

Cheryl Waterman

- \$599.50 to New Equipment Account Number 1000-41000-000-0006

Motion made by Curt Bedwell, seconded by Nick Cullison, all in favor, motion carried.

Cheryl Waterman

From Surveyor's Perpetuation

- \$32,200 for Professional Fees and Charges Account Number 1202-39500-000-0251

Motion made by Logan Pearson, seconded by Nick Cullison, all in favor, motion carried.

Transfer

Cheryl Casselman – 4-H County Extension, from Office Supplies - Fund # 21000

- To Repairs - Fund # 34001 \$1,100.00

Motion made by Curt Bedwell, seconded by Logan Pearson, all in favor, motion carried.

Checks from American Land Holdings

Ray McCammon received checks from American Land Holdings in the amount of \$243,938.00

For road closure fees to be put into Bituminous Highway Fund # 1173.

Motion made by Logan Pearson, seconded by Nick Cullison, all in favor, motion carried.

Sullivan County Library

Jordan Orwig – has a vacancy on Library Board, tom Hiatt has served eight years and is going off of the board, Sarah Hannon is interested in being appointed to the Library Board.

Motion made by Logan Pearson, seconded by Curt Bedwell, all in favor, motion carried.

Sheriff and Deputies Retirement

Tim said the last couple of years have had problem getting retirement paid for Sheriff's Department. If not paid before three years it will be liquidated. The fees have been paid for both 2019 and 2020.

PERF

Tim – what are we doing on the date. Ed Linneweber, said there may be something there Concerning a seventy-five percent vote by employees to join PERF.

Bob Davis, County Commissioner asked that he heard that you wanted to get this done before the next quarterly payment went into their retirement fund, why is that? Tim said, if they

went at the same time as the quarterly payment it was just easier to do the transition.

Bob said the pension is paid from the Commissioners Budget, they approved it and signed it, he is not sure that you take that money for something other than what it was in there for originally. Bob asked was the Council wanting to take that quarterly payment and pay PERF with it. Tim said, yes, he thought it could be used for that. If already set to pay one plan, can the council take the money and put it into another plan. Bob said it's the employee's money and they are counting on that money into their current account.

Curt said it was to start July 1, but Shelly chose not to sign the paper work and send it in. The result is that a person has to be in six months in order to benefit from it.

Logan Pearson made a motion due to Duane bringing up the Indiana Code that our attorney is going to look at, that we table this resolution until July 27, seconded by Nick Cullison, all in favor, motion carried.

Duane said if they find out the seventy-five percent rule is correct, we need someone talking to each employee independently no council, total independent.

Motion to adjourn made by Curt Bedwell, seconded by Duane, all in favor, motion carried.

Sullivan County Council

Tim Abrams 


Nick Cullison 

Logan Pearson 

Larry Kinnett 

Duane Wampler 

Curt Bedwell 

Jerry Payne 

Attest Shelly Hiatt Parris, Auditor



7/22/2020