

MINUTES

Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order and Roll Call

Committee Chairman Steve Miller called the Special Finance & Personnel meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Upon the call of the roll, the following members were present; Steve Miller, Jerry Hawker, Craig Golden, Todd Johnson and Becky Stark. Excused absent was Joe Eakle. Absent was Shelley McLain. 5 Present, 2 Absent. Also, in attendance; Larry Baughn, Jr. – Chairman, Cassy Carter- Vermilion County Financial Resources Director, Dr Wes Bieritz – Land Bank, Bill Donahue – Audience Member, Bill Pickett – Neuhoff Media, Robyn Heffern – Chief Deputy County Clerk’s Office, Cathy Jenkins – County Clerk, Ashley Immke – Chief Deputy Treasurer Office, Nancy Boose – Vermilion County HR Director, Matthew Long – Supervisor of Assessment, Teri Gaffney – Palmer Arena, Dean Shore – Palmer Arena, Kasey Snyder – Animal Shelter Director (via phone call), Randy Leibach – Blount Township, Blaine Meadows – Centrica Business Property Improvement, Nicole Van Hyfte – Vermilion Advantage and Jeff Wise, Bob Porth, Kellie Ferrell – City of Hoopeston.

Agenda Item 2 - Adoption/Amendments to the Agenda

Stark motioned to approve the agenda, second by Johnson. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Minutes – October 5, 2023

Golden motioned to approve the minutes, second by Hawker. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 4 - Audience Comments

None

Agenda Item 5 – Financial Update

Carter noted the attached financial reports and stated the General Fund is doing very well and is ahead of where it should be. The ARPA financial report was also attached with no questions to Carter.

Agenda Item 6 – Centrica – Guest Speaker – Blaine Meadows – Property Improvement Discussion

Mr. Meadows supplied a hand out with the areas of improvement for county buildings. The major priorities are: windows at the JGC building, general energy utility savings, improved efficiency/comfort and renewable energy generation. The renewable energy systems would be installed roof-mounted solar panels at the Health Department. It was requested that Mr. Meadows’ attend the full County Board meeting to review these projects with the full board.

Agenda Item 7 – ARPA Funda Allocation Action

- A. Sheriff ARPA Request – Tasers - \$217,090.00-
Hawker motied to approve, second by Stark. The Sheriff explained the older tasers are not reliable. This is an upgrade from previous and would be more reliable.
Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Miller, Hawker, Golden, Johnson and Stark. 5 yes, 2 absent. Motion passed.
- B. Danville Humane Society Request –
Hawker motived to approve, second by Stark. The Humane society is in need of new kennels in the back part of the building. The Humane Society works with the Animal Shelter to help with the animals when needed.
Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Miller, Hawker, Golden, Johnson and Stark. 5 yes, 2 absent. Motion passed.
- C. Vermilion Advantage/City of Hoopeston-
Chairman Miller excused himself from this part of the meeting and asked Vice Chairman Hawer to lead the meeting. Hawker motioned to approve, second by Johnson. The Mayor of Hoopeston along with other representatives, are requesting \$600,000 from ARPA fund for a frontage road that will enter into a strip mall area along with

a hotel. The city is investing \$200,000 from their ARPA funds, and \$50,000 from TIF. Private investors are contributing \$1,000,000 for the hotel. This would add 15 full time jobs, 25 part time job, and increased property taxes and addition hotel tax.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Hawker, Golden, Johnson and Stark. 4 yes, 3 absent. Motion passed.

D. Land Bank \$500,000 Request-

Chairman Miller returned to the meeting. Dr. Wes Biertz explained this is a request to rehabilitate homes in the county. This would include rehabilitating roofs as well. Stark noted she would be more interested in demolition than rehabilitation.

E. Land Bank \$70,000 request-

It was requested to strike this from the agenda due to no vote on item D.

F. Palmer Arena-

Dean Shore requested money for the Palmer Arena HVAC system which would cost \$2.7Million. It was stated this building is in critical need since it is currently running on emergency power. The committee requested that they come back to the next meeting once the City of Danville has decided the amount, they are willing to give to this project from their ARPA funds.

G. Blount Township Highway Commissioner – Equipment Purchase –

Golden motioned to approve, second by Stark. Road Commissioner Randy Leibach stated he is requesting \$75,000 of ARPA funds to purchase a new tractor. The current tractor will not start and there will be no way to remove snow.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Miller, Hawker, Golden, Johnson and Stark. 5 yes, 2 absent. Motion passed.

H. Animal Shelter Assessment Fees – Shelter Planners of America

Hawker stated we should use another company to evaluate the Animal Shelter. This company will want to build new since they would be the contractor. Miller stated he would also rather use an independent contractor. Stark stated she thought this had passed Heath & Education to have this company evaluate the needs of the county Animal Shelter.

Agenda Item 8 – Ordinance – RE: Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the VC Meg/Exp Multi – Jur – Narc – Received Revenue - \$15,7770.00

Hawker motioned, second Golden to approve. Carter explained this grant was more than planned. Due to this, we need to move this additional money to the expense line so that it may be spent.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Miller, Hawker. Golden, Eakle, Johnson and Stark. 5 yes, 2 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 9 – Ordinance – RE: Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Liability Fund – Received Revenue - \$4,801.00

Stark motioned, second by Hawker to approve. Carter explained this is an insurance check deposited into the revenue line. Moving this to the expense line would allow the payment of the repair for the coroner's vehicle.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Miller, Hawker, Golden, Eakle, Johnson and Stark. 5 yes, 2 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 10 – Animal Shelter FY2023 – 2024 Budget Discussion

Stark questioned the animal shelter budget. She stated this was due to her not being on Finance when it was discussed. Snyder explained the increase was due to being 100% transparent on this budget, and not planning for anything to be paid from ARPA. She also stated there is a request for seven additional staff members. This would allow the shelter to be open later as well as weekends. This would also allow for better care of the animals since the full shelter number of animals would be able to be spread-out among more employees. Discussion ensued on the Animal Shelter Budget.

Agenda Item 11 – Vermilion County Final Tax Levy – 2023 – 2024FY

Johnson motioned, second by Stark to add to the Full County Board agenda.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Miller, Golden, Eakle, Johnson and Stark. Hawker voted no. Eakle and McLain absent. 4 yes, 1 no, 2 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 12 – Vermilion County Final Budget – 2023 – 2024FY

Golden motioned, second by Stark to add to the Full County Board agenda.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Miller, Golden, Johnson and Stark. Hawker voted no. Eakle and McLain absent. 4 yes, 1 no, 2 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 13 – Executive Session

None

Agenda Item 14 - Items of Information

Chairman Baughn stated that the HVAC at JGC Building is 99% complete. He also stated he is getting prices for the new signs to be places outside of the Joseph G Cannon Building.

Agenda Item 15 – Adjournment

Committee Chairman Steve Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:39PM.

Minutes by: Cassy Carter, Vermilion County Financial Resources Director