

MEETING MINUTES  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
August 13, 2019, 9:00 a.m.  
100 E Main St, Room 103  
Montgomery County Courthouse

The August 13, 2019 Montgomery County Council Meeting was held at 9:00 am at the Montgomery County Courthouse. In attendance were Council President Terry Hockersmith, Councilmen Gary Booth, Don Mills, Greg Morrison, Tom Mellish, Mark Smith and Mark Davidson. Auditor Jennifer Andel and Attorney Rob Reimondo were present, as well as Commissioner President Jim Fulwider and Attorney Tyler Nichols.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Hockersmith called the meeting to order. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, then a Prayer given by Councilman Mills.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to approve the July 9, 2019 minutes, as made by Councilman Morrison, seconded by Councilman Mellish. Motion carries 7-0.
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS: None.
- IV. MONEY MATTERS
  - A. Additional Appropriations
    1. \$22,000.00 REIMBURSEMENT to COGEN – Election Supplies – Equipment (1000.44500.0104)
      - a. A motion to approve, as made by Councilman Davidson, seconded by Councilman Mills. Motion carries 7-0.
    2. \$50,000.00 to Co Share Riverboat – County Administrator (1191.TBD.000.0061)
      - a. A motion to approve, as made by Councilman Booth, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carries 7-0.
    3. \$23,745.04 to Surveyor's Corner Perpetuation – Contractual Services (1202.30050.0006)
      - a. A motion to approve, as made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carries 7-0.
    4. \$1,385.10 REIMBURSEMENT to Bulletproof Vest Grant – Equipment (8130.44500.0005)
      - a. A motion to approve, as made by Councilman Booth, seconded by Councilman Davidson. Motion carries 7-0.
    5. \$94,225.00 to IDOC Grant – 9121.Multiple lines.0235
      - a. Chief Probation Officer Geigle explained that the State was changing this grant cycle from July-June in 2018/2019 to January-December for year 2020. To cover the months of July-December 2019, the State is extending funds. She is asking for those funds to be appropriated according to the extension.
      - b. A motion to approve, as made by Councilman Davidson, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carries 7-0.
  - B. Transfers:
    1. \$720.00 from COGEN – Prosecutor – Depositions (1000.30013.0009) to Dues & Subscriptions (1000.32100.0009)
      - a. A motion to approve, as made by Councilman Morrison, seconded by Councilman Davidson. Motion carries 7-0.
    2. \$2,000.00 from COGEN – Superior 1 – Law Clerk (1000.30057.0201) to Travel Expense (1000.30001.0201)
      - a. A motion to approve, as made by Council President Hockersmith, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carries 5-2. Councilmen Davidson & Booth were in opposition.
    3. \$7,000.00 from COGEN – Council – Special Legal (1000.30082.0061) to Attorney Fees (1000.30230.0061)
      - a. A motion to approve, as made by Councilman Booth, seconded by Councilman Davidson. Motion carries 7-0.
    4. \$2,000.00 from PS LIT – Seminars/Training Expenses (1170.33500.0005) to Travel Expenses (1170.21001.0005)
    5. \$36,446.00 from Misdemeanant – Capital Expenses (1175.44500.0005) to Services (1175.30640.0005)
      - a. A motion to approve lines 4-5, as made by Councilman Morrison, seconded by Councilman Mills. Motion carries 7-0.
    6. \$204.48 from Highway – Chemicals (1176.23556.0529) to IT (1176.33128.0529)
    7. \$1,966.00 from Highway – Part Time (1176.11168.0529) to Insurance (1176.12051.0529)
      - a. A motion to approve lines 6-7, as made by Councilman Smith, seconded by

Councilman Morrison. Motion carries 7-0.

C. Reductions: None.

- a. Council President Hockersmith reminded department heads to start looking at their 2019 budgets and submit reductions to the Auditor, as appropriate.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Animal Welfare League Report – Kurt Homann

- a. Representing the AWL, Homann asked for \$4000 from the dog tax collections to help support AWL.
- b. A motion to approve, as made by Councilman Morrison, seconded by Councilman Mellish. Motion carries 7-0.

B. Preliminary 2020 Budget Recommendations from DLGF Workshop

- a. Auditor Andel discussed the DLGF recommendations from the 2020 Budget Workshop. The current request is for \$14.5 million in the County General Fund and a total of \$36.5 million overall. She stated cuts must be made before submission, but explained some budgets were intentionally inflated. The budget for the Highway is higher than the expected revenue and will need to be adjusted.

C. Council Recommendations to Local Taxing Units Regarding Levy Limits and Tax Caps

- a. Auditor Andel stated the Council must approve the budgets for the Crawfordsville District Public Library and the West Central Solid Waste. In lieu of a non-binding review, the Council may make a statement for the remaining units.
- b. Council President Hockersmith made a motion that units must stay within the growth quotient and recommended they be ever mindful of tax caps. Councilman Booth seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0. Hockersmith asked Auditor Andel to send a memo to the units on Council letterhead with their statement.

D. Plan Commission Appointment

- a. Council President Hockersmith expressed his wishes to step down from this board and asked Councilman Davidson to accept the appointment, to which Davidson agreed.
- b. Hockersmith made a motion to accept his resignation and replace the appointment with Davidson. Councilman Morrison seconded the motion and asked if there was anyone else for consideration, to which there was none. Motion passed 5-2 with Councilmen Morrison and Smith in opposition.

E. County Administrator Hiring Committee Appointments

- a. Council President Hockersmith made a motion to appoint Councilmen Mills and Davidson, seconded by Councilman Booth. Motion passed 7-0.

F. WCSW Commitment Letter

- a. Council President Hockersmith made a motion to commit to funding for WCSW, seconded by Councilman Davidson. Councilman Mills stated he felt it was in the tax payers best interest to stay with WCSW since the county has a reserve in place and reconsider when those funds are depleted. Motion carried 7-0.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: None

VII. STAFF & ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS:

A. Commissioner President Jim Fulwider

- a. Fulwider introduced Sherri Henry as the new E911 Director.
- b. He stated he had previously addressed the ERPS committee on two issues and wanted the Council to approve the recommendations:
  - i. Sherri Henry is currently making less than her assistant. He is asking for an increase to \$52,500, which will bring her slightly above.
  - ii. He also asked to have the County Admin salary set to \$70k so they could post the position.
  - iii. Council President Hockersmith made a motion to suspend the rules and address Fulwider's requests. Councilman Morrison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
  - iv. Councilman Booth made a motion to approve the ERPS recommendations to set the E911 Director at a salary of \$52,500 and the County Admin salary at \$70k. Councilman Davidson seconded the motion. Davidson added, as a member of the ERPS committee, that they were aware the salary for the E911 Director needed adjusted prior to the hiring of Henry. Motion carried 7-0.
- c. Fulwider also gave notice to department heads to expect about an 8-10% increase in insurance rates next year.

B. Auditor Jennifer Andel

- a. Andel stated the SBOA is getting ready to start a 4-year audit (2015-2018). They've had the initial entrance interviews and there will be 4 examiners. The expected completion is mid-September.
- b. She announced the budget process was kicked off with the DLGF workshop and that the Public Hearing would be held on September 10<sup>th</sup> at the Jail.
  - i. Council President Hockersmith requested the meeting be moved to the courthouse so they'd have better access to any data necessary. He will

address that later in the meeting.

- c. Andel also stated the budget upload is complete and available through Gateway or a link on the county website ([www.montgomerycounty.in.gov](http://www.montgomerycounty.in.gov)). A paper copy is available through her office at ten cents a page.
  - C. Circuit Court Judge Harry Siamas
    - a. Judge Siamas wanted to share with the Council there is new legislation that will effect several key departments and budgets; Jail, Public Defender and Probation, but not the courts. Starting January 1, 2020, the courts will be required to no longer use cash bonds for Level 6 felons and below, as long as the defendants are not found to be a danger to society. That will dramatically decrease the fees received via misdemeanants and pretrial. With that, the Public Defender's Office and Probation will no longer be able to rely on the supplemental funds. The 2020 budgets for these offices will reflect this change in their County General requests. The hope is there will be a decrease in jail inmates, and the costs will be offset.
  - D. Sheriff Ryan Needham
    - a. Needham announced the new body scanner is being delivered today and should be operational within a few weeks.
    - b. He also announced he did not reduce the 2020 Jail budget, as he is not as optimistic regarding the new legislation.
  - E. Surveyor Tom Cummins shared that the Mace drainage issue was on the next agenda for the Drainage Board and that he will be sending letters to the tax payers in that area.
- VIII. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:
- A. Communications Center Director, Sherri Henry, announced she is hiring for 3 open dispatcher positions.
  - B. Emergency Management Director, Shari Harrington
    - a. Harrington announced EMA was reimbursed for 2018 at \$50k.
    - b. She also stated she will be asking for administrative position to be made full time in 2020, sharing that cost will also be reimbursable by 50%.
  - C. Health Department Sanitarian, Amber Reed
    - a. Reed shared that vector control is winding down for the year and that no West Nile was found in a sampling of around 5000 mosquitoes.
    - b. She also stated her office has been very busy with new septic builds, resulting from lots of new construction.
  - D. Chief Probation Officer Andria Geigle wanted the Council to know she had intentional "fluff" in her 2020 budget and welcomes their questions.
- IX. FUNDED ORGANIZATION REPORTS: None.
- X. COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS
- A. Council President Hockersmith requested the next Council meeting to be set at 9a.m. at the Courthouse so they are better able to retrieve information, if needed.
    - a. Councilman Davidson made a motion to change the meeting, as requested, seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried 7-0.
    - b. Auditor Andel added that she has received several requests from department heads for additional evening meetings to review budgets in more detail. Andel suggested these meetings be held between the September and October meetings. Council President Hockersmith agreed the request should be added to next month's agenda.
- XI. CLAIMS: None.
- XII. INSERT: Next regular Council Meeting, Binding Reviews for WCSW & CDPL, BUDGET HEARING: 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 10, 2019 @ Montgomery County Courthouse
- XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.
- XIV. ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn, as made by Councilman Booth, seconded by Council President Hockersmith. Motion carried 7-0.

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Terry Hockersmith, President

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Gary Booth, Vice President

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Greg Morrison, Councilman

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Don Mills, Councilman

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Tom Mellish, Councilman

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Mark Davidson, Councilman

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Mark Smith, Councilman

Attest:

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Jennifer Andel, Auditor

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