

MINUTES
MARSHALL COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on Monday, June 9, 2025, the Marshall County Council met in a public meeting at the Marshall County Building, Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana, at 5:30 p.m. pursuant to the call of the President. The board members present were President Tim Harman, Vice President Nicole Cox, James Masterson, Deborah Johnson, Will Patterson, Brandon Schadek, and Greg Compton; Council Attorney Marcel Lebbin; and County Auditor, Angela C. Birchmeier. The meeting streamed live at <http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN>, the Invocation was given by Steve Cox, the Pledge of Allegiance was said, and noting a quorum is present, the business at hand was heard.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBER GREG COMPTON

It was noted that Council member Steve Gorski resigned his position. The members welcomed Greg Compton, who provided a summary of his work and community service. He indicated that he would like to focus on developing revenues for the County by bringing and supporting industry.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public input on agenda items was heard.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Tamarack Solar: Litigation is still proceeding.

Public Funds Use Policy: Additional information may be presented next month.

CLERK

Clerk Jenny Bennitt expressed appreciation for the Council's approval of two part-time employees. She stated the prior full-time Records Deputy has been hired on a part-time basis to help with retention and records requests. A retired court employee has been hired to assist with collections. The first group of collections was for infractions, for calendar years 2016-2023 there is \$329,500 in outstanding fees from 1,900 past due violations. They have received 22 payments totaling \$3,600. The Clerk explained she is working with State Board of Accounts and the Judges to pursue criminal restitution and probation fees next.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Highway: Member Masterson provided a summary of details discussed at the May 14th meeting. The topics included equipment, additional appropriations, and the road program. He explained that 3.2 miles have been added to the 2025 Road Program: 1C, from US 6 to County Line; Jarrah Road, from 3rd Road to 4A Road; Lilac Road, from 3rd Road to 4A Road; Linden Road, from US 6 to 1B Road; and Plymouth-LaPorte Trail, from Thorn Road to 3B Road. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 11th.

Budget & Finance: President Harman provided a statement of the Cash Balances of Key Funds.

Job Classification & Compensation: Member Cox stated that a subcommittee meeting was held on June 4th with Members Johnson, Masterson, and Cox, Auditor Birchmeier, and Human Resources Administrator Jennifer Daake being present. Two job descriptions, Health Department Administrator and Highway Maintenance Technician, were sent to Waggoner, Irwin & Scheele (WIS) for review. Discussion was held concerning job description for Superior Court II Bailiff, Circuit Court Director of Marshall County CASA, Human Resources Administrator, and Recorder Second Deputy. Updated job descriptions were received from WIS for the Sheriff's Department Communications Supervisor and Plan Commission Administrative Assistant; the categories did not change. Flex time for exempt employees was also discussed, and recommendations will be shared with the Commissioners. The next meeting will be held on June 24th.

Health Department Interim Administrator Lisa Letsinger explained that previously there were two Public Health Nurses, currently there is only one. She explained that with the loss of obstetrics care in the County, the additional nurse would be a vital part of providing services as a patient navigator. She further explained that the Indiana Department of Health requires new positions to be posted for 30 days. Discussion was held concerning the funding of the position from Local Public Health Services Fund 1161. She requested support from the Council for the Health Department to hire an additional public health nurse. **James Masterson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to support the Health Department in the hiring of a second Public Health Nurse. Motion carried 7-0.**

Ordinance 2025-4(4) Amending Salary Ordinance 2024-25: Marshall County Probation Department, Fund 1000-273, adjusting one (1) Chief Probation Officer (AT), Full-time, SO, Exempt, at \$2,537.43 bi-weekly, effective June 5, 2025; and Marshall County Health Department, Fund 1159, removing one (1) Office Manager/Administrative Assistant and adding one (1) Clerk/Registrar I, Full-time, COMOT2, Non-exempt, at \$22.93 per hour, effective June 9, 2025. **Will Patterson moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve Ordinance 2025-4(4): Amending Salary Ordinance 2024-25, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

COUNCIL ITEMS

Ordinance 2025-1(6) Additional Appropriations: Notice of Proposed Additional Appropriation was advertised in the Pilot News, posted on the county website, and bulletin boards on May 29, 2025.

General Fund/BZA (1000-078): **Deborah Johnson moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$25,000 into Legal Services. Motion carried 7-0.**

Cum Cap Development (1138): **Nicole Cox moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$12,000 into Computer Equipment. Motion carried 7-0.**
Local Road & Street (1169): **James Masterson moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$100,000 into Dust Control; and \$150,000 into Stone, Gravel, Aggregates. Motion carried 7-0.**

Statewide 911 (1222): **Will Patterson moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$1,900 into Wages-Longevity. Motion carried 7-0.**

Bridge 232 Randolph Street (8111): **James Masterson moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the additional appropriation request of \$310,200 into Construction. Motion carried 7-0.**

Ordinance 2025-2(5): Transfer of Appropriations:

Health (1159): Nicole Cox moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve the transfer of \$18,300 from Wages-Department Head into Professional Services. Motion carried 7-0.

Medical Benefits Self Insurance (4702): Deborah Johnson moved, second by Nicole Cox to approve the transfer of \$5.10 from Paradigm Holdings into Signos. Motion carried 7-0.

Medical Benefits Self Insurance (4702): James Masterson moved, second by Nicole Cox to approve the transfer of \$18,000 from Health Clinic into Signos. Motion carried 7-0.

Solid Waste: Greg Compton moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve the transfer of \$1,336.35 from Repairs & Maintnace into Technology. Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance 2025-5(4): Establish New County Fund 4703 Dental Benefits Self Insurance:

Nicole Cox moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve Ordinance 2025-5(4): Establish New County Fund 4703 Dental Benefits Self Insurance. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes of May 12, 2025: James Masterson moved, second by Will Patterson, to approve the meeting minutes of May 12, 2025, as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1, with Greg Compton abstaining.

Lebbin Law Invoice: Nicole Cox moved, second by Deborah Johnson, to approve the submission of Lebbin Law invoice #1746 in the amount of \$1,230. Motion carried 7-0.

BZA Appointment: James Masterson moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to appoint Angie Snyder to the BZA, to fill the unexpired term of Jim Kephart, ending December 31, 2027, pending the Attorney review of qualifications. Motion carried 7-0.

Plymouth Public Library Appointment: Greg Compton moved, second by Brandon Schadek, to approve the reappointment of Christine Morrow to the Plymouth Public Library Board for a four-year term, beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2029. Motion carried 7-0.

BZA Alternate Appointment: Deborah Johnson moved, second by Will Patterson, to appoint Laura Brockway to the BZA, to fill the unexpired term of Joe Allyn, ending December 31, 2027, pending the Attorney review of qualifications. Motion carried 7-0.

Resolution 2025-7: A Resolution of the Marshall County Council Regarding the Transfer of Congressional School Funds to the State of Indiana: Auditor Birchmeier explained that the County holds and administers two funds, Congressional School Principal Fund and Congressional School Interest Fund. The Auditor is required to make semi-annual payments from the Interest Fund to public school corporations within Marshall County and the Congressional Principal Fund may never be diminished. Indiana Code 20-42-2-4.5 authorizes and provides for the transfer of Congressional School Principal and Interest Funds to the Treasurer of the State of Indiana to relieve the County of the administrative responsibility and protect it from any potential liability connected with such funds. **Brandon Schadek moved, second by Nicole Cox, to approve Resolution 2025-7: A Resolution of the Marshall County Council Regarding the Transfer of Congressional School Funds to the State of Indiana, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

Council Appointments and First Point of Contact: Prior Member Gorski was appointed to the following boards for a one-year term, ending December 31, 2025: EMA Advisory Board, Solid Waste, LEPC, and Highway Subcommittee; and assigned as the first point of contact to the following departments: Building Inspector, EMA, and Sheriff/Jail. **Deborah Johnson moved, second by James Masterson, to appoint Greg Compton to fill the unexpired terms, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC INPUT

Board of Commissioners President Stan Klotz stated that Dr. Holm would like to upgrade the generator at the new Health Department location, 990 Illinois Street. They have a buyer for the old generator. The upgrade will also require an electrical upgrade to the building. Discussion was held concerning funding the costs from Local Public Health Services Fund 1161 and the process for an additional appropriation with the State and Council. **Greg Compton moved, second by James Masterson, to support the purchase of a generator and upgrade the electrical system with an additional appropriation being submitted for formal approval at an upcoming meeting. Motion carried 7-0.**

COUNCIL ITEMS-CONTINUED

Member Schadek stated that he attended a meeting with Plymouth City Mayor Listenberger and other community leaders concerning the Red Rock Inn situation. They are looking for a solution to provide a healthy environment for children.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Council, **the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m. upon motion by Nicole Cox, second by Deborah Johnson. Motion carried 7-0.**

Tim Harman, President

Will Patterson

Nicole Cox, Vice President

Brandon Schadek

James Masterson

Greg Compton

Deborah Johnson

Attest:

Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor