

**THE MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN A *SPECIAL MEETING* ON MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: KIM MERIDETH, VICKIE KIVETT, TROY SPRINKLE, KELLY ALCALA, JASON MAXWELL, CHIP KELLER AND MELISSA GREENE. ALSO PRESENT WERE; DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; DAN BASTIN, MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR; JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; AND JIM WISCO, COUNTY ATTORNEY.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR OF KEENAN BLAIR – Morgan County EMS Director

PRAYER (*Vickie Kivett*)

**Additional Appropriation:**

- *Commissioners*

Josh Messmer stated that this appropriation will be used to purchase the properties across the street from the Administration Building. Some owners will want to close on the purchase before the bonds are closed and this amount can be reimbursed from the bond proceeds. Bryan Collier, Morgan County Commissioner, stated that there is one property owner that has an opportunity to move on and they are concerned they will miss the opportunity if they have to wait for the issuance of bonds. Melissa Greene asked if they were able to obtain the seventh property. Mr. Collier stated that they have not yet been able to do that. Dan Bastin suggested that this appropriation come from the Rainy Day Fund since it can be reimbursed. Vickie Kivett made a motion to approve the additional appropriation from the Rainy Day Fund (1186) into Account #1186.40002.000.0068 (Property Acquisition). Motion seconded by Jason Maxwell. Motion carried 7-0.

**Bond Ordinance 2022-9 – Second Reading**

Zach Klutz, Taft Law, serving as bond counsel for the 2022-GO bond issuance, stated that this is the second reading of the Ordinance of the County Council of the County of Morgan, Indiana, Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Bonds of the County for the Purpose of Procuring Funds to Pay for Various Capital Improvements and Other Repairs and Improvements to Public Buildings, Facilities, and Parking Infrastructure Improvement Projects within the County, Together with the Incidental Expenses in Connection Therewith and on Account of the Issuance of the Bonds Therefore and Appropriating the Proceeds of the Bonds to Such Purposes to Finance the Project in an Amount not to Exceed \$16,000,000.00. The purpose of the meeting is to adopt the bond ordinance and to appropriate the proceeds of the bond ordinance. The appropriation language is within the ordinance and the required notice has been published for the additional appropriation.

Mr. Klutz stated that they intend to sell the bonds at a 10-year amortization, but are allowing up to 15 to allow for flexibility similar to the interest rate not to exceed 5%. Vickie Kivett asked if there was a penalty for paying the bonds off early. Dan Bastin stated that this was looked into and in order to allow for that, there would be a higher interest rate. Chip Keller made a motion to approve the Bond Ordinance #2022-9 and the additional appropriation. Motion seconded by Melissa Greene. Motion carried 6-1. Kelly Alcala was opposed.

**Minutes**

Kelly Alcala made a motion to approve the April 4, 2022 minutes. Motion seconded by Troy Sprinkle. Motion carried 7-0.

**Comments**

Bryan Collier stated that he wanted to personally thank the Council. They are doing things that needed to be done years ago. He has met with community leaders to address some concerns since they don't have a public relations department. Mr. Collier would like the Board of Commissioners and Council to work together to stay on the same page. There is a business aspect to running the county and they are making some business decisions. Melissa Greene stated that there is not a solid plan for the \$16 million and asked if the Council would be involved with how the money is spent. Mr. Collier stated that the Council needs to know where the money is going and asked that they keep in mind that three EMS stations and a salt barn are needed and that the Highway Department is in a flood plain. Kim Merideth stated that they understand there is not a full plan, but they need to act quickly. Mr. Collier stated that this is just the start of the plan for the court campus. Vickie Kivett stated that county government is different than private enterprise because it takes longer to launch a program. The county is growing and they need to be part of the solution or fall behind. Mr. Collier stated that he estimated the cost of the projects to be completed would be approximately \$65 million and they

are investing in themselves. Kelly Alcala asked that the Board of Commissioners come to meetings to present updates.

Kenny Hale stated that when they added a bay to the Highway Department, that was the only location they could use because the department is in a flood way. There is one EMS location where the storage area is heated for drug storage. It is a must to move the Highway Department and they need to work together to do what is best for the county.

**Next Meeting**

Dan Bastin noted that the next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

**Adjournment**

Vickie Kivett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Melissa Greene. Motion carried 7-0.

MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL

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Kim Merideth

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Vickie Kivett

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Kelly Alcala

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Troy Sprinkle

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Jason Maxwell

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Chip Keller

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Melissa Greene

ATTEST:

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Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor