

**PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**April 28, 2020**

The Porter County Council will hold a video conference meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., Pursuant to the Governors Orders we are attempting to keep essential matters critical to the operation of County Government functional by making sure Employees, Departments and Vendors remain funded.

Curt Ellis, This is the April 28, 2020 meeting of the Porter County Council.

Mr. Rivas called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Rivas, That was difficult to get in sync, Madame Auditor Vicki can you do a roll call?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Members present were Council Member Jeremy Rivas, Council Member Sylvia Graham, Council Member Mike Jessen, Council Member Jeff Larson, Council Member Bob Poparad, Council Member Greg Simms and Council Member Dan Whitten. Also present was, Auditor Vicki Urbanik and Council Attorney Harold Harper.

Mr. Rivas, Thank you and let me just start off by saying to everyone, you guys thank you very much this is has been difficult I know we like to get together and I know we like to debate things, it's a lively group and trying to get through these last couple of months and doing our business hasn't been easy. Thank you guys for your patience and everything and I am certain we will be able to see each other's shining faces at the county building.

**Minutes**

Approval of Council minutes for March 24th, 2020.

Mr. Rivas, So alright next on the agenda is the approval of the March 24th, 2020 minutes.

Mr. Whitten, I'll make a motion (Dan Whitten) to approve the minutes.

Mr. Poparad, Second (Bob Poparad).

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion by Councilman Whitten and a second I think by Councilman Poparad?

Ms. Graham, Yes

Mr. Jessen, That works.

Mr. Rivas, Ok could we get any discussion on the question? Could I get a roll call on that Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

**First Reading**

Mr. Rivas, Alright Madame Auditor could you give us First reading for us?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Porter County, Indiana that the proper legal officers of Porter County, Indiana will meet on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. to consider the following appropriation adjustments to the county budgets for the year 2020 and to transact any further business which might come before the Council:

**General Fund**

Sheriff	1000-32500-000-0005	Returning of Fugitives	\$	10,000.00
ITS	1000-45100-000-0106	Data Processing Equipment	\$	40,000.00
EMA	1000-11200-000-0360	Hourly	\$	<u>17,168.00</u>
			\$	67,168.00

**Parks Operating Fund**

Parks Operating	1179-33400-000-0803	Advertising	\$	2,000.00
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**PC Drug Task Force Fund**

PC Drug Task Force	4010-23200-000-0005	Auto Truck & Equip Supplies	\$	5,000.00
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**Cable Franchise Fund**

Cable Franchise	4906-43200-000-0068	Roads and Taxiways	\$	294,502.00
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**Local Income Tax (LIT) Fund**

LIT	1112-61000-000-0068	Funds Transfer	\$	120,000.00
LIT	1112-61000-000-0068	Funds Transfer	\$	<u>80,000.00</u>
			\$	200,000.00

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance. Where applicable, the DLGF will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.

Vicki Urbanik  
Auditor of Porter County

\*\*Changes to the meeting time or place as needed to comply with the Governor’s Stay At Home Executive Order will be posted on the Porter County website [www.portercor.org](http://www.portercor.org)

Publish April 17, 2020

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, And that concludes first reading.

Mr. Whitten, Thanks Vicki.

**Commissioners**

**LIT Fund - 1112-000-0068**

Additional \$120,000 to 61000 Funds Transfer (EXPO)  
\$ 80,000 to 61000 Funds Transfer (MOH)

Reason: Operating expenses for the Expo Center and Memorial Opera House due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Rivas, Alright the first item up is the Commissioners LIT fund additional of \$120,000 funds transfer to the Expo and \$80,000 funds transfer to the Memorial Opera House. The reason operating expense needed for the Expo and Memorial Opera House due to COVID-19 pandemic

Mr. Whitten, I will make a motion on both of those Jeremy.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion by Councilman Whitten and second by Councilwoman Graham. Any discussion on the question? Alright could we get a roll call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Jessen - Yes

Mr. Simms, Which one?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Councilman Larson...I'm sorry I didn't hear?

Mr. Rivas, Councilman Larson? Did we lose Jeff you guys?

Mr. Whitten, Sounds like it.

Ms. Graham, He should be on the...

Curt Ellis, Yes he has exited.

Mr. Rivas, Ok hopefully he reconnects. So we have a little technical difficulty there Madame Auditor can you move on with the roll call?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok

Mr. Poparad - Yes

Mr. Simms - Yes

Mr. Whitten - Yes

Mr. Rivas - Yes

Ms. Graham - Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 6 – 0

Mr. Whitten, I'd like to see Jeremy that maybe for our next meeting and the meeting thereafter if we could get sort of a running report from the MOH and the Expo on their expenditures and there revenues coming in so that we can keep track on this. I know that it's kind of a moving target with the COVID-19 as to when folks are going to be getting back to places like the Expo and the Memorial Opera House but I think this Board should have an ongoing update on that.

Ms. Graham, I think that's a good idea Dan.

Mr. Rivas, Ok I will work on that.

Mr. Whitten, Thanks Jeremy.

**Cable Franchise Fund - 4906-000-0068**

Additional \$294,502 to 43200 Roads and Taxiways. Reason: Funds depleted the additional will come from INDOT reimbursements.

Mr. Rivas, Alright next under Commissioners is the Cable Franchise Fund there is an additional for \$294,502 to Roads and Taxiways. The reason is the fund is depleted the additional will come from INDOT reimbursements.

Mr. Whitten, Motion on that one as well Jeremy to approve.

Mr. Jessen, (Mike Jessen) will second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion by Councilman Whitten and seconded by Councilman Jessen. Any questions and it looks like Jeff Larson is back.

Mr. Whitten, Elvis has come back to the building.

Mr. Rivas, Can we get a roll call on the additional for Cable Franchise Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

Mr. Whitten, Now Vicki this says that the funds will come from INDOT reimbursements...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, What's the timing on that do you have any idea at this point?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, No I don't but the balance in the fund is pretty stable.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, \$304,400 dollars.

Mr. Whitten, I was just curious of when the reimbursement would come.

### **Superior Court 3 – Judge Drenth**

#### **Superior Court 3 General Fund - 1000-000-0203**

Transfer \$900 from 31100 Legal to 44100 Office Equipment Over \$100  
\$900 from 31700 Interpreter to 44100 Office Equipment Over \$100  
Reason: To pay for a mixer for the Audio Equipment.

Mr. Rivas, The next item for your consideration if the Superior Court 3 Judge Drenth's transfer s \$900 from Legal to Office Equipment Over \$100 and \$900 from Interpreter to Office Equipment Over \$100. It's to pay for a mixer for the Audio Equipment.

Mr. Whitten, Motion on both.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion by Dan Whitten and Second by Councilwoman Graham any discussion? Can we get a roll call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

**ITS**

**ITS General Fund - 1000-000-0106** (Tabled 3-26-2020)

Additional \$60,665 to 45100 Data Processing Equipment. Reason: Increase storage capacity for Sheriff Exchange and other Sheriff/E911 servers.

Additional \$40,000 to 45100 Data Processing Equipment. Reason: Upgrade Sheriff Exchange (email) server – currently on a server that’s 12 years old and domain controllers.

Mr. Rivas, Alright the next item is IT. Now on this I spoke with Scott McClure again on this and he indicated that this could be tabled again until next month they are not certain that the work could be done. It’s needed but he indicated that it could be tabled.

Mr. Poparad, I’ll make the motion to table it.

Mr. Jessen, I will second it.

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion by Mr. Poparad to table and there was a second by Mr. Jessen?

Mr. Jessen, Yes

Mr. Whitten, Technically it stays tabled until we take it off but that sounds fine.

Mr. Rivas, Could we get a roll call on keeping it tabled Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Sure

Motion to table carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

**Juvenile Probation – Director Chris Buyer**

**Juvenile Probation Supplemental Fund - 2150-000-0273**

Transfer \$3,000 from 39500 Contractual Services to 22500 Other Supplies. Reason: Transfer needed to correct part of the previous transfer approved in February to the appropriate account/category.

Mr. Rivas, Alright we have Juvenile Probation there is a transfer of \$3,000 from Contractual Services to Other Supplies the transfer is needed to correct part of the previous transfer approved in February to the appropriate account/category.

Mr. Whitten, Motion to approve the transfer.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion and a second any further discussion? Roll Call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

## **Sheriff**

### **Sheriff General Fund - 1000-000-0005**

Additional \$10,000 to 32500 Returning Fugitives. Reason: This line item that was turned over to the Sheriff's Office from the Prosecutors Office in 2019. This is the original budget line item amount in 2017-2018 and 2019.

Mr. Rivas, Next up is Sheriff this is an additional out of the General Fund \$10,000 dollars to Returning Fugitives the reason is this line item that was turned over to the Sheriff's Office from the Prosecutor's Office in 2019. This amount was the original budget line item amount in 2017, 2018 and 2019. Now this is when we moved it from the Prosecutor to the Sheriff's and I believe at the last budget session when we reverted back the Sheriff's previous line item was zero so it reverted back to zero. So he does not have anything in Returning Fugitives at this time, I believe that is correct Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, That is correct.

Mr. Rivas, I thought in discussion the previous line item might have been \$6,000 or \$7,000 dollars for the Prosecutor. I do believe that this is an increase that he is asking for that he did ask for during budget session from what the Prosecutor used to have?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok I can clarify that.

Mr. Rivas, Yes please.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok the budget for 2017 and 2018 in the Prosecutors budget was in fact \$10,000 dollars. Then in 2019 it was increased to just over \$12,000 dollars but when this line item was shifted over to the Sheriff's budget the remainder was shifted over and that remainder was \$6,535 dollars. Then in the proposed budget that's what was the proposed amount \$6,535 dollars, but of course we at your direction scaled all of the increases back to 2019. So that's where that \$6,500 dollars figure came in.

Mr. Rivas, I did talk to the Sheriff and he said they have been spending money doing this...I thought he said he spent roughly \$5,000 to 6,000 dollars already.

Mr. Whitten, Wow.

Mr. Rivas, That he's has been using it. It has been used in the past and it's being used so...

Mr. Jessen, Does he receive revenue or get any sort of reimbursement for that?

Mr. Rivas, I do not believe so...what do you think Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I don't believe so.

Mr. Rivas, It's just the cost of either his officers within range within a couple of states range. If get with his officers you are talking about gas and a hotel, but I think he mentioned when you have somebody in California then you hire a company to do that so I don't think there is any reimbursement what's so ever. I think it's just the cost of going and getting these fugitives and bringing them back.

Mr. Jessen, Ok.

Mr. Rivas, So you have the additional in front of you for \$10,000 dollars.

Mr. Poparad, You don't have a motion?

Ms. Graham, No there is no motion.

Mr. Poparad, I'll make the motion.

Mr. Jessen, I'll second.

Mr. Rivas, We have a motion by Councilman Poparad and a second by Councilman Jessen any further discussion on the question? Can we have roll call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

**PC Drug Task Force Fund - 4010-000-0005**

Additional \$5,000 to 23200 Auto, Truck and Equipment Supplies. Reason: To repair and purchase equipment for vehicles.

Mr. Rivas, Porter County Drug Task Force Fund there is an additional here to that fund not the General Fund it's \$5,000 dollars to Auto, Truck and Equipment Supplies the reason is to repair and purchase equipment for vehicles

Mr. Whitten, Move to approve.

Mr. Poparad, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion by Councilman Whitten and seconded by Councilman Poparad any discussion on the question? Can we get a roll call?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

## **Health**

### **Health Fund - 1159-000-0610**

#### **Form 144**

Food Service Inspector	\$44,990 to \$48,099
Sanitarian II	\$48,099 to \$44,990

Reason: Restructuring Department

Mr. Rivas, Ok moving on the Health Department, the Health Fund there is a Form 144 it's a reduction from \$44,990 ...No that's an increase there I'm sorry \$44,990 to \$48,099 dollars for Food Service Inspector and then there is the reduction in the Sanitarian II to \$48,099 to \$44,990 dollars the reason is restructuring the department. I think Councilwoman Graham you talked to the Health Department today?

Ms. Graham, Yes I talked to Letty Zepeda she said basically what's happening is that the Food Service Inspector was off ill and he has come back now but he can't be around chemicals like he used to be. So what they are doing is they are switching him to the Sanitarian II and they are moving that gentlemen up to the Food Service Inspector so basically these are two people that are on our payroll but before the Auditor can change them they have to show what they are doing.

Mr. Whitten, Well it is good that they show what they are doing.

Ms. Graham, Yes it is.

Mr. Poparad, I'll make the motion.

Ms. Graham, I'll second it.

Mr. Rivas, Motion by Councilman Poparad and a second by Councilwoman Graham any further discussion on the question?

Mr. Jessen, In this particular case we are not changing the Salary specific to the position right?

Ms. Graham, I think that they are Mike.

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Ms. Graham, Yes they are changing it.

Mr. Poparad, One is going up and one is going down.

Ms. Graham, The Food Service Inspector is taking a cut in pay because he cannot go out and do what he used to do.

Mr. Jessen, I guess what I am asking is the Sanitarian II has been at \$44,990 and that same position will still be at \$44,990.

Ms. Graham, That is correct.

Mr. Jessen, Ok thank you.

Mr. Rivas, Any further discussion? Can we get a roll call?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

### **Parks and Recreation**

#### **Parks Operating Fund - 1179-000-0803**

Additional \$2,000 to 33400 Advertising. Reason: Marketing and advertising expenses for 2020

Mr. Rivas, Alright Parks and Recreation Parks Operating fund.

Mr. Whitten, Move to approve the \$2,000 dollars

Mr. Poparad, Second.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion by Mr. Whitten and I am not sure who seconded it Ms. Graham...Alright any further discussion on the \$2,000 dollars to Advertising? Can we get a roll call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

Mr. Rivas, Alright motion passes.

## **EMA**

### **EMA General Fund - 1000-000-0360**

Additional \$17,168 to 11200 Hourly. Reason: Part-time hire of Deputy Director to work May 1st through August 31, 2020.

### **Form 144**

Hourly Up to \$27.24 Deputy Director  
Reason: Part-time hourly May 1st through August 31st, 2020

Mr. Rivas, Moving on to EMA now this is a General Fund, it's an additional of \$17,168 dollars to hourly the reason is part-time hire of a Deputy Director to work May 1st through August 31st, 2020. Included in that would be a Form 144 hourly up to \$27.24 for the Deputy Director and the reason Part-time hourly May 1st through August 31st, 2020. As you guys know he sent some information that I forwarded on to you guys. I think a number of you have talked to Lance and this stems off of him requesting a fulltime at last budget session that he has already on the staff and as we got into this Corona Virus he activated all of his volunteers that were working so he is mostly working off of a volunteer staff. While he does have salaried employees he does not any hourly in his budget. This does state a specific amount so in a conversations with him if this was approved I asked him to come back and report the duties and the tasks that this new employee took on and see if this is something that warrants continuing on.

Ms. Graham, I have one question why are we putting it in a specific time frame? Why not just have a hourly on it?

Mr. Rivas, I think in the conversations it got him out three (3) or four (4) months Sylvia to see if it worked and I think the amount equals what he wants to pay per hour. So he went out four (4) months and he gave a reasonable time frame I think to see and prove the worth.

Ms. Graham, Well I'm very much in favor of him having some part-time help especially in this crisis that we are in. I just didn't know why it was in a specific time frame.

Mr. Whitten, I think Sylvia that maybe some of the discussion was we wanted to see because we are in an extraordinary times particularly for EMA I would assume so we wanted to give him the help that he was asking for during this pandemic time and then maybe come back and see if it was kind of a forever new person. To see what his needs were at that time and sort of assess is again. August 31st I suppose if God forbid we are still in midst of a crisis in August we could always come back and revisit it for longer but it just seemed like an opportunity to give him a time period where we could evaluate at the end and see what his long term needs might be.

Ms. Graham, Ok.

Mr. Jessen, Do we know how many hours this Part-time position would be per week approximately? Or whatever that extrapolates out to be?

Mr. Poparad, I sure it's 29 not 30...that's part-time right?

Mr. Whitten, I still amazed that Mike new a word like extrapolate.

Mr. Jessen, Just trying to catch your attention Dan.

Mr. Rivas, Madame Auditor in terms of Part-time employees what is the maximum that they can work a week is there?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I am looking at what he submitted and I think it was 29 hours a week...I am looking it up in you packets right now.

Mr. Whitten, As am I...let's see here.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes it's 29 hours...I am sorry I can't find it right now but I believe it was set at 29 hours.

Mr. Poparad, Do you need a motion Jeremy?

Mr. Rivas, Yes there is not a motion on the floor right now.

Mr. Poparad, I make the motion on the Additional and the Form 144.

Mr. Rivas, We have a motion by Councilman Poparad to approve.

Mr. Whitten, Second.

Ms. Graham, I'll second it.

Mr. Whitten, Ok go ahead Sylvia.

Mr. Rivas, Seconded by Councilwoman Graham, any discussion on the question? Lance has definitely taken a leadership role with this pandemic in the county and I will make certain that...well I don't know if you guys want to a report at the end or if you want monthly reports of what's going on with the new employee and the tasks and he will be more than accommodating so...

Ms. Graham, I think that the end of August.

Mr. Rivas, Ok. Can we get a roll call Madame Auditor.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

## **Council**

### **Foundation Budget Fund - 4922-000-0000**

Transfer \$22,000 from 39810 Council on Aging to 39820 COVID-19 Relief. Reason: Funds for COVID-19 relief plan.

- Grant discussion on COVID-19 requests.

Mr. Rivas, Alright moving on underneath the Council we have the Foundation Budget Fund for COVID-19 Relief Plan. You know I can lay out a little groundwork for you guys again. We were in contact with Bruce Lindner director of the Council of Aging and as the pandemic hit he did the right thing and stopped transportation as he had to with COVID-19. So we give Council on Aging \$450,000 dollars a year for transportation. He indicated he could free up a little money and give it back to the County to help out. So we had a few request that were coming in Meals on Wheels, a request from Portage Township Food Pantry so he graciously cut a check back to the County for \$22,000 dollars and Vicki created a COVID-19 Relief Fund within the Foundation Budget so if we transfer the money from Council On Aging to this COVID-19 relief there is \$22,000 dollars we could do with that right now if you guys chose...

Mr. Whitten, I'll make a motion to approve the Transfer.

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion from Councilman Whitten on the \$22,000 dollar transfer.

Mr. Poparad, Second.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, There are seconds, is there any discussion on the mechanics of that? Alright...

Mr. Whitten, Just to be clear this is not a forever take from the Council On Aging. We made it very clear to Bruce Lindner that this is extraordinary times he suspended transportation this is not going to adversely affect his budget next year.

Mr. Larson, Are we planning on reaching out to other departments to do the same?

Mr. Rivas, We most certainly could and we give...talking specifically to the Foundations budget we give to...

Mr. Whitten, Opportunity Enterprises, Family Youth Services Bureau...

Mr. Larson, Right.

Mr. Whitten, Council On Aging

Mr. Rivas, We could reach out and ask those organizations if they are (inaudible) during this time.

Ms. Graham, I would also like to interject that this is a one-time thing because Bruce is finding out that he might have further obligations when he re-starts his transportation project. He is finding that the Federal Government may require him to have an associate or somebody on the bus that will be in full dress with full PPE (personal protective equipment) to have handling the transportation patients for the people or the residents that come on board. So that's something that we never expected...

Mr. Whitten, We're not going to adversely affect the services to the seniors.

Ms. Graham, Yes it's a one-time deal.

Mr. Rivas, You are one hundred percent right Councilwoman Graham I talked to Bruce at length today and there is no doubt that his organization is going to have to adapt moving forward with regards to transportation as we move forward and get out of this and the guidelines with this moving forward. I told him that we can get back and with each other in person and we will have him in front of us to kind of discuss what's going to happen to his organization moving forward and what's going to change. So we have a motion on the floor to make the transfer right now for \$22,000 dollars. Can we get a roll call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

- Grant discussion on COVID-19 requests.

Mr. Rivas, So underneath that is the Grant discussion on the COVID-19 requests. Now we do have a line item under the foundation budget of COVID-19 relief and it's got \$22,000 dollars in it. As you all are aware we have had a few requests come in from Meals on Wheels, that I know Mike and I talked to and I am not sure if anybody else did. We also had a request from the Portage Township Food Pantry and also there was a request that came in from another organization...

Mr. Jessen, The VNA (Visiting Nurse Association).

Mr. Rivas, Yes VNA...thank you Mike. One of their things was Meals on Wheels that they participated in so I thought this kind of folded into that and they were directed to an attorney law firm that said that they were helping free through non-profits to work through the Cares Act (Introduced in Senate (03/19/2020) To provide emergency assistance and health care response for individuals, families, and businesses affected by the 2020 coronavirus pandemic. To provide emergency assistance and health care response for individuals, families, and businesses affected by the 2020 coronavirus pandemic.) So I will just put this out there and just leave it at that, I think this group should if we're going to do anything we should do it as a group obviously to make those decisions to help people in need (inaudible)

Mr. Whitten, You are cutting out Jeremy I can't hear you.

Ms. Graham, Yes I can't either.

Mr. Rivas, I just said we are in the middle of a pandemic and now we have an opportunity because of Bruce's graciousness to...

Ms. Graham, You are cutting out.

Mr. Rivas, He returned some money so it's up to you guys what you want to do.

Mr. Jessen, Mr. President I'd like to make a motion, I move that we transfer \$5,000 dollars from COVID-19 relief plan to the Northwest Indiana Meals on Wheels.

Mr. Simms, I'll second.

Mr. Rivas, Yes so it wouldn't be a transfer it would be we would be spending money out of it and I will work with Vicki on how to do that with Joy. So I think...

Mr. Whitten, Jeremy we really can't here you. But Vicki I have a question, what's the proper motion here to do this...it's not a transfer, it's not an additional it's an expenditure.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Basically you are giving your approval to spend this appropriation on something specific.

Mr. Whitten, Alright so the motion is fine the way Mike gave it?

Mr. Rivas, It's not a transfer.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Or to approve...

Mr. Whitten, The expenditure of \$5,000 dollars...granting the expenditure of \$5,000 dollars to Meals on Wheels.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion I think...(I don't know if you guys can here me) on the floor from Councilman Jessen and I'm not sure who seconded it.

Ms. Graham, I'll second it.

Mr. Rivas, Seconded by Councilwoman Graham to grant \$5,000 dollars to Meals on Wheels. Any further discussion on the question?

Mr. Whitten, So just to make sure that I understand it because I know we've talked and actually I did have a conversation with Meals on Wheels but this money will be used specifically in Porter County? Because I know that they do services in Lake County obviously.

Mr. Rivas, That was the...

Ms. Graham, The letter I received said that it was Porter County's portion and I would that specifically that maybe the motion could be made where it would be used for Porter County's residents.

Council Attorney Harold Harper, You can make it contingent on the monies being used in Porter County...I mean that a thought.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Jessen, Motion accepts that.

Ms. Graham. Second does too.

Mr. Rivas, The motion agrees to the stipulation that it has to spent in Porter County and the second also agrees, any further discussion?

Mr. Jessen, You know Jeremy I'd just like to say as we've had our conversations and have gotten literature from Meals on Wheels and of course everybody appreciates the value of the work that they do on a typical basis but especially in light of the pandemic and so forth that the need for their services is five times more than usual as they explained it. So the work that they are doing delivering meals to senior citizens, specifically in the Bonner Senior Center they had thirty-four (34) people that were...

Ms. Graham, Right.

Mr. Jessen, relying on meals at the Bonner Senior Center and they are now taking care of those and I know that even in 2019 there were 6,500 meals that were delivered to 125 seniors in Porter County, they do great work and they are in desperate need. I know the Porter County Community Foundation along with the United Way tried to or supported there organization as well as Lake County Commissioners help support them in the work that they do so they have laid it out pretty clearly in terms of what their needs are and of course they were much greater than the \$5,000 dollars that we are offering but I think that's an appropriate amount to at least offer assistance for the program that they do specifically in Porter County.

Mr. Whitten, I would echo that Mike, in these particular times...these desperate times that call for extraordinary measures and I think we all understand the need to try to help as much as we can.

Ms. Graham, Well I also think that it fits right in with Porter County Aging and Community Services because as Mike mentioned they did serve at the Bonner Center and can you hear me?

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Ms. Graham, But anyway I concur with what's been said.

Mr. Rivas, Alright is there any further discussion? And I know on this one there has been a lot of work trying to make this happen and I know that Commissioner Blaney was instrumental in it along with Bruce has really been in this

for us to even have the opportunity to do this I just want to make sure to recognize those two and Mike and Dan and everybody. So on this specific one there is a motion and a second could we get a roll call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Whitten - Yes

Mr. Rivas, It looks like her screen froze.

Mr. Whitten, I mean it's really a yes Vicki.

Ms. Graham, This has been cutting out a lot.

Ms. Graham - Yes

Mr. Jessen - Yes

Mr. Larson - Yes

Mr. Poparad - Yes

Mr. Simms - Yes

Mr. Rivas, I didn't hear my name but I will say Yes.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

Mr. Rivas, We did have another request that was sent to us so you guys what's your pleasure?

Mr. Poparad, Can I jump in here Jeremy?

Mr. Rivas, As always I think you are the senior person on this Council.

Mr. Poparad, Dan doesn't like that so watch it... he has more time but I was down there earlier.

Mr. Whitten, That's true.

Mr. Poparad, I know we have a request from Portage but I was going to throw this out on table...if it dies it dies. If we could split the rest of the money between the Portage Township Food Pantry, Westchester Food Pantry and Hilltop Food Pantry. The three biggest food pantry's in the county. Spread it around maybe it will do the most good. I am just throwing that out on the table. I guess you can consider that a motion too I guess. I will make the motion.

Mr. Whitten, I will second that for discussion. So the thought here and I know the other two have not asked. They have not asked us right Jeremy?

Mr. Rivas, I don't believe formally like the other two, I know Portage Township Food Pantry formally did so I can't say, I know Bob was working on this yesterday in conversations reaching out and doing some research to see where we could give the most effect to those in need. So I know that Bob was working on it.

Mr. Whitten, So Bob did you have the opportunity to talk to the other two?

Mr. Poparad, No I have not I just thought that the three biggest in the county but actually there is eleven in the county, but a lot of them are church affiliated. The need in Chesterton is probably not as great as the need in Portage, Valparaiso is probably as great as Portage...I am just making the motion. If it goes anywhere fine, if it doesn't...I just thought we would spread it around that's all. Portage doesn't get to have all the money let's split it.

Ms. Graham, I will second that motion. Who's got the Cuckoo clock?

Mr. Whitten, My only concern and I don't disagree with that Bob but my concern is that when we watch the numbers on the corona virus Portage Township is clearly leading the pack and the thought here is to help these areas through this horrific time it would seem that the area with the most need should get a proportionate amount.

Mr. Poparad, Yes I agree with that statement up to the point to where Portage Township has the largest budget of all the Township Trustees. It's not like Portage Township is broke I am making a gesture here. Mr. Clancy has a nine million dollar budget that's all I want to clarify...I just made a motion.

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion and a second on the floor and just for clarification purposes this is not to the Township Government this is the Portage Township Food Pantry. It's a separate entity altogether this is a purely volunteer entity that helps those in need with food so they are two different things that your discussion there with the Township Government and Food Pantry.

Mr. Poparad, Correct.

Mr. Rivas, And actually the Portage Township now is in the same building as the Township Trustee and us. We now share a building in one of our new buildings that we constructed in North County.

Mr. Whitten, So I guess I would and I am not opposed to splitting it up I guess I just think that we should put the largest proportion to the area that is the hardest hit.

Ms. Graham, Well do you want to do it by population?

Mr. Whitten, Well that is going to require math.

(Laughter)

Mr. Jessen, If I could just jump in here for a moment

Ms. Graham, We have an auditor.

Mr. Rivas, Yes a very good one. Yes Mr. Jessen?

Mr. Jessen, If I could just jump in I have extreme appreciation for what the Portage Township Food Pantry does, what the Westchester group does and Hilltop does and I think all of them are doing great work and are needed now more than ever. But as we are talking about divvying up the \$17,000 dollars that remains we are talking about doing it based on population. Or we are talking about doing it with one of the three specifically requesting it the other two haven't even requested it. We'd be doing it in advance of knowing if there are other Townships that would require some help or other food pantries that may have as desperate of a need as the three that we are talking about. So to me it seems like it could be very premature without knowing the specific status or the budget of each of those entities and also reaching out to find out if there are other entities that might be in more dire straits. And so I think that we would be jumping into it prematurely and I think it would take more time and more study before we start talk about distributing additional funds.

Mr. Poparad, I didn't say it was a good motion I just made a motion. Here's what I think is going to happen, if we give \$5,000 dollars to Portage which I am not adverse to next month we are going to have the rest them in our Council meeting wanting the same. I'm just trying to split this money up equally and give something out to everybody.

Ms. Graham, Yes this is a one-time shot.

Mr. Whitten, Yes but I guess I am looking at this like we are answering the call to action from a group that has said we have extraordinary needs during the

Corona pandemic and clearly by all the numbers that were given by the Health Department, Portage Township has the highest numbers. I'm not saying we shouldn't give money to the others and I'm not saying that we shouldn't entertain requests from others. What I am saying is the area that has clearly been hit from the Corona numbers displayed the highest amount of confirmed cases and that have asked us specifically for help and I think that we should give them help. So I understand what everybody else is saying, I'm not saying that others don't need it but they haven't asked they haven't approached us but the area that is being affected at least from the numbers that we are being given and hit the most has reached out for help.

Mr. Jessen, Have we specifically seen where that need is from the Portage Township Trustee's budget? Do we know where they are at with income and expenses and food distributions? We got a pretty comprehensive review from Meals on Wheels in terms of their process and their specific needs, did we do the same thing with Portage Township Food Pantry?

Mr. Rivas, Well again we just this clear that it is not the Trustee's office and it's government budget and in talking to Brendan I think he did allocate money to the Food Pantry also so the Township has given money. I know in the letter I think that the Pantry served 1,917 families and approximately 38,400 meals to date. So in terms of wanting to review the Food Pantry's budget I'm sure that is absolutely available. So they are 100% percent a volunteer organization and I know Brendan because it's also an older generation that does most of the volunteering and that's out there helping so that they don't put themselves in harm's way with this COVID-19 of not being able to assist so that why you will find Brendan out there with a mask on two days a week handing food out to those that are coming to that North County Complex. So in terms of what you want the data or information it should come from the Food Pantry because this is where that assistance would go directly to.

Mr. Jessen, And that's fine too if we could see their balance sheet perhaps would be good and then we could make a better determination of their needs.

Mr. Rivas, Well with that said and I do appreciate that Mike I was never apprised of the Meals on Wheels balance sheet I know they gave us the information of their request but I certainly didn't see their income, their expenditures and their entire balance sheet, I was not given that information. So to ask 100% percent volunteer group for their balance sheet which is not a very large organization with full-time employees I think is unfair.

Mr. Jessen, I guess Jeremy what I am trying to say is that again the work that they do is awesome and we appreciate it as a county as a community but I'm saying that as we try to gage one pantry's needs versus another it would be helpful to have some sort of documentation or some sort of financial information to review to help us determine who truly has the greatest need.

Mr. Whitten, You see I am not looking at it like that, I guess I am looking at it differently. I understand what you are saying Mike and I don't necessarily disagree with that but I'm not looking at this pantry versus that pantry I'm looking at it like the food pantry in the area that by all accounts is getting hit the hardest by the Corona confirmed cases has asked us for help are we going to help them? I'm not saying that there needs are more or less than others, I'm saying they've asked and they are clearly in the hot zone in the county. So that's just my thought, we help these guys out we get some money into them to continue to feed the folks in that area that has been hit the worse by confirmed cases. We'll see how the census comes through is the biggest city in the county.

Ms. Graham, Quite truthfully do we even have any numbers on Westchester and Hilltop?

Mr. Poparad, We didn't get that far.

Ms. Graham, And secondly have we asked for them?

Mr. Poparad, No I didn't ask.

Mr. Whitten, I'd like for us to give \$7,000 dollars to the Portage Food Pantry and we can ask the other guys for information at our next meeting.

Mr. Rivas, Well we do have a motion and a second on the floor Councilman Whitten.

Mr. Whitten, I understand I am just giving my suggestion.

Mr. Rivas, Is there any further discussion on the motion that's on the floor?

Mr. Larson, Well I'd like to ask Bob if he'd maybe look at that a little differently and maybe reduce...not to say that Westchester isn't requiring as much, but you guys are absolutely correct on the requirement of based need. The issue is it seems like we are trying to give the majority of that money away and we are going to have to have funding at another point, we know that we are going to be asked again just like Bob said. I relate to where he said that there's an issue with the Trustees they are the first line of defense for people in those communities and their responsibility is to feed those needs directly just like in those food pantries and we've had contact with Matt Keiser (Liberty Township Trustee) and other Trustees and they are doing exactly that just like Brendan Clancy (Portage Township Trustee) is. But the problem that I'm hearing from you guys is we believe Portage has the highest need and there is not a lot of information other than we've talked about it. So what if we reduced the amount we were giving Westchester and reduced the two other amounts or just held them or just held them Valparaiso or Center Township and Portage at \$5,000 dollars and reduce Westchester to \$3,000 dollars and left a little additional money in that pot so we can address some of the smaller food pantries later would that be acceptable Bob?

Mr. Poparad, Yes I will amend my motion. I'll amend my motion because I like Dan's idea of giving Portage \$7,000 dollars, maybe Valparaiso \$5,000 dollars and then Westchester \$3,000 dollars so that leaves a little bit left over. Because Dan makes a good argument because Portage has been hit the hardest. So I will amend my motion to \$7,000 dollars to Portage, \$5,000 dollars to Hilltop because they are the second biggest and \$3,000 dollars to Westchester. What does that math work out to \$15,000 dollars?

Mr. Rivas, So that only leaves \$2,000 dollars at the end for any other small food pantries.

Mr. Poparad, Yes I know I'm just...

Mr. Whitten, I can go with that Bob if you made that motion I would go vote for that.

Ms. Graham, The second agrees with that motion.

Mr. Poparad, So I just amended it to \$7,000 dollars, \$5,000 dollars and \$3,000 dollars.

Mr. Whitten, I'll second that.

Mr. Poparad, Sylvia already did.

Mr. Rivas, Councilman Poparad amended his motion.

Ms. Graham, the second agrees with that.

Mr. Whitten, Oh Sylvia is the second I do not want to steal her thunder.

Ms. Graham, I'm sorry.

Mr. Rivas, The seconds concur, is there any further discussion on this motion?

Mr. Jessen, I guess only to additional point out that to me my opposition is strictly based on the fact that we're providing funds in a donation to at least two specific organizations at this point that haven't requested it.

Mr. Poparad, Yes they probably will next month when they find out that Portage got money.

Ms. Graham, They can't we don't have any other money.

Mr. Poparad, Oh yes that is not going to stop them from coming. We have enough money for the Memorial Opera House and the Expo Center running with no events. So they will be back.

Mr. Whitten, Well Mike your point is well made. I understand what you are saying, I'm just trying to get some folks in Portage some help and it seems like from the discussion that we have all had here this motion is the most likely way to get us that.

Mr. Poparad, Call the question please.

Mr. Rivas, Madame Auditor if there is nobody else that wants to jump in I certainly don't want to cut anybody off to add, this is a good thing and I know it's been difficult but it's a good thing...we are doing a good thing here.

Mr. Whitten, Yes we are.

Mr. Rivas, So if there is no further question Madame Auditor can you call roll call please?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	No
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	No
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 5 – 2 Motion passes

Mr. Rivas, The motion passes and I'll work with Vicki and Joy in getting the right letters out with that and I do appreciate you guys and the conversations. Mike and Greg I know where you guys hearts are at and I understand it. There should be no doubt where all of our hearts are at right now, I mean we are trying to do something for those in need right now, but we're here to make decisions on finances for the county so that happens.

Mr. Larson, I do have a request, and I wish that we would visit Tourism and a couple of other departments especially Expo and the other areas to find out if we are talking about what we are doing with employment? How much money we are actually using in those departments? What's being utilized while they are there and while they are not there? And what funding are we going to be requesting in the future, I'm mean we're looking at giving away this money currently because we found there wasn't a need. But we're going to be faced with some needs here in the future beyond what we will be able to supply. So I would hope that we really think seriously about where that next group of funding is coming from and that we can kind of stay the course on an additional outlay.

Mr. Whitten, Well I think guys listen, I think that and I understand that Jeff and I don't disagree with you. There is one thing about this board collectively we are a conservative bunch, we have been a conservative board, we have been very closely watching the money, holding expenditures close to the vest. Tonight is an illustration that when hopefully temporarily different times to some desperate times, the norm is being redefined so we've tried to do what we can tonight to address that. But in the end we are still a conservative board which is why I have asked earlier that the venues kind of give us a report on their ongoing budget changes, expenditures, revenues just for that particular reason Jeff so we can kind of get a handle of where their shows being postponed and canceled at the Opera House and there is certainly events being canceled at the Expo. We are all going to be feeling some crunch from the reduced LIT money no doubt, folks are not working and when folks aren't working they are not paying income taxes. There is going to be Highway money reductions, there is going to be all kinds of things to keep our eye on the ball and there is a lot of balls in the air. So there is no doubt, no question now more than ever we have to be very watchful of our expenditures.

Mr. Poparad, Well I am going to publically express my disappointment with the Tourism Board with the fact that they can't find any money to give to the venues and the building is locked and I still see people in hotels. I'll just state that I am probably going to get in trouble for saying that but it isn't going to be the first time.

Mr. Rivas, No that's alright, so Jeff to your point we are trying to and maybe it's being setup this week I am not entirely certain that Vice President Councilman Jessen and I are trying to put together a meeting with the President of the Board of Commissioners and Auditor Urbanik and the Attorney McClure to begin to do just that to begin to try to look out a couple of months and the rest of the year of what this is going to mean to the finances of the county. So we are trying to get together and begin those discussions as a small group and we'll definitely pass on that information on to the rest of both Boards.

Mr. Larson, And I would highly encourage that because I've worked with some other counties specifically LaPorte County and they have...they are way out in front of us on the Cares Act, getting funding...Toll Road monies and a lot of other things that we currently aren't doing. And so I would encourage that meeting and encourage that there be some serious questions about what kind of formulation do we have? Have we put a COVID team together that can do this research? There is a ton of grant money out there and a ton of money trickling down towards us so where are we currently at with that?

Mr. Rivas, You know Jeff I have been trying to listen to the Governor every day and they were just talking about what was coming from these bills. The State just got a...I don't want to misquote the number but it was in the billions and they asked if there was going to be a local government component and there is going to be. I have seen already that there are grants going out to municipalities but there was a large amount that came from the Cares Act to the States. Now the States we hope and they are saying that there will be a local government component to that.

Mr. Larson, Currently we don't qualify for the HUD one because they have kind of overlooked us. So maybe Vicki could explain that a little bit more maybe because our need wasn't quite as high as the other counties around us but there was...there are some releases on some of those funds already that we kind of missed. So I hoping that we can encourage the Commissioners to move quickly to find that other funding.

Mr. Rivas, So Mike and I and all of us we do have a good relationship with the Commissioners so we will further those discussions and get into that stuff so we have a tough year ahead of us but this is a Council and Board of Commissioners in a county that will undoubtedly get through it.

Mr. Larson, Good.

Mr. Rivas, And I was just told there was \$2.4 billion dollars that Indiana got from the Cares Act. So \$2.4 billion dollars there should be a local government

component so we will see how that plays out and keep an eye on it and aggressively go after that.

I know Madame Graham I think you worked with Councilman Whitten on a Resolution that you'd like to go over.

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, Hold on I apologize can we get second reading to completed the financial part of this and then we will move on. Auditor Urbanik?

Mr. Poparad, Can I stop her for a second Jeremy?

Mr. Rivas, Hold on...sorry

Mr. Poparad, I have to circle back to the EMA guy on the additional with up to \$27.24 and on the job description it says the salary is \$27.24 per hour so I don't know which one is right and which one is wrong but they are not the same.

Ms. Graham, It should say up to.

Mr. Poparad, Well that's not what it says in the job description in the back and the number strikes me as being an odd number too. I thought we would clarify that before we get to second reading that's all.

Ms. Graham, That's a good point.

Mr. Rivas, I'm guessing that the number \$27.24 is probably reflective of the salary he requested in the budget session. I'm going to guess that's why he's using the \$27.24 from and then I'm going to guess because I haven't done the math that into the hours that he'll work is going to equal \$17,168.

Mr. Poparad, I agree, I'm just saying that the Form 144 say up to. Just as long as everybody is aware of that...I don't care, I'm just saying.

Mr. Whitten, He laid it out at 29 hours per week and tried to do the numbers off of that but you're right Bob but the Form 144 is up to so that's the end of that story.

Mr. Poparad, Ok but on the back page it say the salary is \$27.24 so as long as you all are aware of that I don't care. I just didn't know if the Form 144 had to reflect it, that all.

Mr. Rivas, Madame Auditor? Are you comfortable with what was passed?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I can't put my fingers exactly what was submitted but you can put an up to in your Form 144.

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, Well the Form 144 that's in front us say up to, so I get Bob's comments or concerns. But that's the Form 144 that we approved so that's what he gets.

Mr. Poparad, I didn't mean to interrupt...I'm sorry Jeremy.

Mr. Rivas, No as you are a second senior member of the Council it's alright. Madame Auditor can we get second reading?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Second reading.

Mr. Whitten, Well Bob I guess I have a question where do you seeing the salary is \$27.24?

Mr. Poparad, On the job description, the back page.

Mr. Whitten, The only job description that I have is the one that he submitted for the full-time salary person that's the only one that I have so I don't know what you are looking at.

Mr. Poparad, Whatever I got sent.

Mr. Whitten, Well that's weird because that is the one that he submitted that says and we didn't approve this job description did we because it's say status full-time salary.

Mr. Poparad, I agree because how can it be salary if it's \$27.24 dollars per hour. That's ok just as long as everyone is aware I just pointed it out.

Mr. Larson, What your request to recall it and have the description changed?

Mr. Poparad, Just as long as everyone is aware that one says one thing and the other says the other that's all. One says up to and the other says it is \$27.24.

Ms. Graham, Well we did approve the up to.

Mr. Poparad, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, We did not approve the job description we approved the Form 144.

Mr. Poparad, Right.

Mr. Whitten, Because I wouldn't of voted for a full-time salaried job description at this point.

Mr. Larson, Right.

Mr. Poparad, I agree with you 100% percent.

Ms. Graham, I agree.

Mr. Rivas, And I don't think that was Lance's intention, I think he understands it's temporary that we are giving him some hourly to fill a request and he's got to report back to us in a couple of months to see if we want to keep that hourly or move it to a full-time moving forward.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Council Attorney Harold Harper, The job description that he included in there he clarified in his hourly paid position request that the attached job description which is the full-time job would be the duties that would be included in the part-time position. Maybe that's part of this.

Mr. Whitten, Yes he submitted that when he wanted a full-time person and then he just attached it saying this is what the part-time person is going to do.

Council Attorney Harold Harper, Yes that's what it looks like.

Mr. Poparad, Sorry.

Mr. Whitten, That's a good point Bob...it's a good point actually.

Mr. Poparad, Sorry.

**Second Reading**

Mr. Rivas, Can we get a roll call...no go ahead with second reading Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Whereas it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than what was appropriated in the annual budget. Therefore be it resolved by the Porter County Council of Porter County Indiana that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified subject to the laws governing the same

General Fund
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Sheriff	1000-32500-000-0005	Returning of Fugitives	\$ 10,000.00
EMA	1000-11200-000-0360	Hourly	\$ <u>17,168.00</u>
			\$ 27,168.00

Parks Operating Fund
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Parks Operating	1179-33400-000-0803	Advertising	\$ 2,000.00
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PC Drug Task Force Fund
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PC Drug Task Force	4010-23200-000-0005	Auto Truck & Equip Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
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Cable Franchise Fund
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Cable Franchise	4906-43200-000-0068	Roads and Taxiways	\$ 294,502.00
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Local Income Tax (LIT) Fund
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LIT	1112-61000-000-0068	Funds Transfer	\$ 120,000.00
LIT	1112-61000-000-0068	Funds Transfer	\$ <u>80,000.00</u>
			\$ 200,000.00

That conclude second reading.

Mr. Whitten, Motion to approve second reading Mr. Chairman.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, There was a motion to approve by Councilman Whitten and a second by Councilwoman Graham. Is there any discussion on the question? Can we get a roll call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

Mr. Rivas, Alright that concludes our financial business.

**Any other matter that may come properly before the Council**

Mr. Rivas, Councilwoman Graham you and Dan worked on a Resolution?

Ms. Graham, Correct.

Mr. Rivas, Do you want to take that over Councilwoman Graham?

Ms. Graham, Well I was approached and we all have observed what has been asked of the Health Care Providers in this area and I just feel as if we should reach out to them and let them know our appreciation. I asked Dan Whitten if he would please draw this up for me.

Mr. Rivas, So Councilman Whitten since we are doing this remotely and there is not copies do you want to read through it real fast?

Mr. Whitten, Sure it's a Resolution by the Porter County Council

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-4-28**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE  
HEALTHCARE WORKERS OF PORTER COUNTY**

**WHEREAS,** The Porter County Council is aware of the inherent dangers to the Healthcare Workers during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council is aware of and hereby acknowledges the sacrifices that the Healthcare Workers are making to continue to render aid to the sick and afflicted during this national emergency; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council desires to recognize and show their appreciation for the commitment and sacrifices Healthcare Workers are making during these difficult times.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PORTER COUNTY INDIANA AS FOLLOWS:**

The County Council understands that in the face of mandated quarantines, ongoing spread of the COVID virus and in increasing numbers of COVID cases Healthcare Workers of this County have continued to supply medical care despite the inherent personal risk to that the Porter County Council hereby extends its gratitude and appreciation for the hard work and dedication being performed by the Healthcare Workers throughout the county.

This resolution passed and adopted this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020.

PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL

<hr/> <p>Jeremy Rivas, President</p>	<hr/> <p>Dan Whitten</p>
<hr/> <p>Mike Jessen, Vice President</p>	<hr/> <p>Sylvia Graham</p>
<hr/> <p>Jeff Larson</p>	<hr/> <p>Bob Poparad</p>
<hr/> <p>Greg Simms</p>	

Mr. Larson, Nice job Dan.

Mr. Whitten, Thank you

Mr. Rivas, Thank you Sylvia.

Mr. Poparad, I make the motion.

Mr. Larson, Second.

Mr. Rivas, I'm not sure was that Mr. Poparad with the motion?

Mr. Poparad, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, And Mr. Larson with the second, so any further discussion on the Resolution? So can we get a roll call on this Resolution Madame Auditor? Did I miss something?

Mr. Whitten, I think she has frozen up again,

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, Well Councilman Whitten votes yes.

(Laughter)

Mr. Whitten, How do you vote Councilman Poparad?

Mr. Poparad, Absolutely.

Mr. Rivas, Madame Auditor are you there?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes I am.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Jessen	-	Yes
Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0

Mr. Rivas, I appreciate that you guys it's well deserved, but I want to make sure that we're not leaving anybody out there's the Police Officers, the Firefighters that are out there, even the Government Workers that are still making sure that our Police and Firefighters are being paid like our Auditor showing up to work every day.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Mr. Rivas, We want to thank them...or the Steelworkers and Construction Workers, and the Grocery Workers that are going out there every single day.

Ms. Graham, Absolutely.

Mr. Rivas, There really is no opportunity for them to social distance. They are going out there keeping this economy going. So I think that's important and everybody in Porter County all the Citizens need to be acknowledged for what they are doing everybody is chipping in and we are going to get through this so just to build up you guys resolution I think we need to recognize everybody in Porter County who's playing their part.

Mr. Whitten, I would agree.

Ms. Graham, I agree with you.

Mr. Whitten, This certainly wasn't exclusive it was just a group that came to mind but you are absolutely right Jeremy there is so many folks out there.

Mr. Rivas, Yes.

Ms. Graham, Quite truthfully I was approached in the first week...week and a half into this that why it was mentioned for Healthcare Workers but I do appreciate what you are saying because it's take all of us to get this done and we are doing it...we are really doing it in Porter County.

Mr. Rivas, They are and with that said I will make sure everybody gets a chance to talk. if we can turn to the esteemed Harold Harper.

### **Attorney's Report**

- Council Attorney Harold Harper – COVID-19 Federal Legislation Act

Mr. Rivas, If we can turn to the esteemed Harold Harper do you have an attorney report?

Council Attorney Harold Harper, The only report today is you had asked...Dan had asked at the last meeting for a summary of the recent Federal Corona Virus legislation and its impact on the county budget and I as everyone is aware I had submitted a memo to all council members regarding that. Now I don't want to waste a bunch of time but essentially dovetailing to what Jeff had said the Cares Act is the big one that we hear about quite a bit because of paycheck protection, program loans under the Cares Act but there was also a component of significant funds for municipalities. The problem is under the Cares Act the first iteration of it any direct funding to municipalities was limited to Counties, Cities, Townships with populations over 500,000 and so any monies that Porter County would be eligible for under the Cares Act would have to go through as it passed through the State as the money that the State gets from the Federal Government through the Cares Act. That any direct payment to Porter County under the Cares Act we are not eligible for because we don't have more than 500,000 residents. Now why they picked that number I'm not sure but it's a lot of money...a substantial amount I should say but I guess its relative too. There is going to be some money available for Porter County through the State through the Cares Act but in term of a direct payment there is not anything available at least right now under the Cares Act.

I think the bigger impact at least the immediate impact for the county in terms of the recent Federal legislation would be the Families First Corona Virus Act which essentially and again I don't want to go on to long. But it expands the Family Medical Leave Act and provides two weeks of emergency medical sick leave and it does apply at either full-time rates or two thirds (2/3) depending on the reason behind the request. It does impact the county because it applies to the county and because unlike private employers under 500 employees the County isn't eligible for tax credit. Private employers if they have to pay money under either of those two provisions Families First Act private employers can get credit for that through payroll tax but the municipalities cannot. So it's sort of an unfunded mandate at least at this stage we're not going to really know what's going to impact the budget until we see how many county employees are going to take advantage of that, but I think the Council needs to keep it in the back of their minds. But other than those two the bigger issue is going to be I think not so much the federal legislation is the impact on the economy of the virus. I am open to any questions that anyone might have just feel free to give me a call.

Mr. Larson, I'd just like to build on that Harold there's talk Todd Young has a Cares Act information online and you guys can reach out to it's under [young.senate.gov/Coronavirus](http://young.senate.gov/Coronavirus) and there is a huge resource there for all that same information that he just shared so it's a great opportunity to see what's available.

Mr. Rivas, Thankyou Harold for that so I think that covers everything on the agenda is there any other matter that may properly come before the board? No...

**Meeting Adjourned**

Mr. Poparad, I'll make the motion to adjourn.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion and a second to adjourn. I will finish with kind of a public service announcement and Mike may be able to build upon this in watching the Governor's daily press conferences it seems and Sylvia this may answer some of your questions that (inaudible) the Governor did start with IUPUI a random sampling of the State and I know Mike was involved with that over at IVY Tech over the weekend and I heard today that they are going even further now they are partnering with Optum Health Services and they are going to begin as part of that random sampling they are working with the IUPUI medical.

Ms. Graham, Right.

Mr. Rivas, This now is going to be offered to people with any kind of symptoms you can call and get pre-approved and you don't need a doctor's approval so I believe that they are starting next week with thirty (30) sites and it's supposed to expand to fifty (50). I know that Sylvia you have been very (inaudible)...

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, And Mike has been involved with this with Valparaiso so I just want to say that there is going to be more testing available to the general public starting next week I believe and Valparaiso is going to be a site for that.

Ms. Graham, That's very good Jeremy, very good information.

Mr. Rivas, Alright with that there is a motion and a second to adjourn can we get a roll call on adjournment Madam Auditor Urbanik?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Larson	-	Yes
Mr. Poparad	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Whitten	-	Yes
Mr. Rivas	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Jessen	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 7 – 0 to adjourn.

Mr. Rivas, Thank you everyone.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

**PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL  
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA**

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Dan Whitten

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Jeff Larson

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Sylvia Graham

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Mike Jessen

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Bob Poparad

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Jeremy Rivas

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Greg Simms

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor