

**MINUTES
MARSHALL COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2024**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on Thursday, August 29, 2024, the Marshall County Council met in a public meeting at the Marshall County Building, Room 203, 112 W. Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Indiana, at 10:30 a.m. pursuant to the call of the President. Board members present were President Jesse Bohannon, Vice President Tim Harman; Members James Masterson, Nicole Cox, Deborah Johnson, and Adam Faulstich; and County Auditor, Angela C. Birchmeier. Member Will Patterson was absent. The meeting streamed live at <http://www.youtube.com/@MarshallCountyIN>, the Pledge of Allegiance was said, noting a quorum is present the business at hand was heard.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION SUPPORT

Sheriff Matt Hassel and Jail Maintenance Supervisor John Greer explained that the rooftop air handler unit needs to be replaced and the deadline for ordering is September 6th. The unit cost is \$144,800, which has been included in the Sheriff's 2025 budget request. If the unit is ordered after September 6th the cost increases to \$163,429 due to the change in freon. **Tim Harman moved, second by Nicole Cox, to support the 2025 budget appropriation request to purchase an air handler unit and electrical work in the amount of \$160,000. Motion carried 6-0.**

Sheriff Matt Hassel and I.T. Director Michael Marshall explained that they would like to transition from storing dispatch and jail data from a hosted server to a cloud based program. The initial cost is \$25,000 and the annual maintenance fees will increase by \$45,000. The maintenance fees next year will be \$123,364 and increase to \$168,075 in the calendar year 2026. **Tim Harman moved, second by Adam Faulstich, to support funding the movement of jail data to a cloud based system as presented. Motion carried 6-0.**

READI GRANT

Plymouth City Attorney Jeff Houin explained the funding opportunity through READI 2.0 (Regional Economic Acceleration & Development Initiative) and Lilly Endowment, Inc. The known Marshall County READI 2.0 applications are Bremen GROWTH Project, Culver Community Youth Center, Marshall County Habitat for Humanity Housing Project, Heartland Art Center, Plymouth Housing Project and The Exchange (Culver). The application deadline is tomorrow, August 30th.

Bremen Town Attorney Tony Wagner explained the Bremen GROWTH Project: A multi-site development that adds additional housing units and connects the community with recreational facilities and town-wide greenway trail.

Culver Youth Club Director Mary Boland and Culver School Superintendent Karen Shuman explained the Culver Community Youth Center: Construction of a new facility to expand childcare and programming for youth education and activities.

Dean Byers explained the Marshall County Habitat for Humanity Housing Project: A region-wide collaboration between Habitat for Humanity in Marshall, St. Joseph, and Elkhart Counties to expand affordable housing opportunities.

Heartland President Anna Kietzman explained the Heartland Art Center: A project to renovate the historic Montgomery Ward building and transform it into a regional arts hub.

Attorney Houin explained the Plymouth Housing Project: A development across two locations in the city to construct a diverse mix of housing types and address the current housing burden.

Attorney Houin also explained The Exchange (Culver): A renovation project to activate an under-utilized building in the downtown area for mixed-use development and support other residential development currently under construction.

Marshall County Community Foundation and United Way Executive Director Linda Yoder explained the GIFT (Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow) VIII Community Leadership Phase 2 Implementation Grant: To establish a countywide Community Development Corporation (CDC) and a Community Development Loan Fund (CDLF). Director Yoder read the letter of support into the record.

ONE Marshall County President Gary Niedig thanked the board for the opportunity to present the READI 2.0 projects and requested a letter of support. Vice President Harman read the letter of support into the record.

Jim Masterson moved, second by Jesse Bohannon, to offer support of the READI 2.0 grant and GIFT VIII Community Leadership Phase 2 Implementation Grant and to allow the President to sign the letters on behalf of the board. Motion carried 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION - CONTINUED

Board of Commissioners President Stan Klotz clarified the request for an additional appropriation submitted for consideration at the September meeting is \$2,000 for travel/mileage and \$1,500 for training. Marshall County is being recognized at a national conference in Washington DC for their innovative approach to providing high-value, low-cost employee health plans. He stated that he will be attending the conference and while in Washington DC will meet with representative Rudy Yakym to discuss mental health grants. The training costs for this trip have already been paid and the additional is for upcoming training sessions. Commissioner Klotz also stated that other department costs have been paid from the Commissioners budget and transfers have been made to accommodate those expenses.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Council, **the meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m. upon motion by Tim Harman, second by Nicole Cox. Motion carried 6-0.**

Jesse Bohannon, President

Tim Harman, Vice President

James Masterson

Deborah Johnson

Nicole Cox

Will Patterson

Adam Faulstich

Attest:

Angela C. Birchmeier, Auditor