



**CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL
CLARK COUNTY, INDIANA**
Regular Meeting of December 08, 2025

Roll call showed members present and absent as follows:

Present:

Councilperson Williams-Hampton
Councilperson Grooms
Councilperson Lenfert
Councilperson Doherty
Councilperson Fox
Councilperson Snelling Jr.
Councilperson Blevins

Absent:

1. Open Meeting-

Councilperson Lenfert opened the Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting at 6:00pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Invocation

Those in attendance remained standing for the invocation.

4. Proof of Publication

Council Attorney Max McCrite confirmed proof of publication.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Moved By Councilperson Snelling Jr.
Seconded By Councilperson Fox
Motion to approve meeting minutes

Conflict (1): Councilperson Doherty

Carried (6 to 0)

6. Agenda Amendments and Approval

Councilperson Fox stated that he would like to item H, Utica Fire District, to the top of the agenda.

Moved By Councilperson Fox
Seconded By Councilperson Blevins
Motion to move item H, Utica Fire District, to the top of the agenda and to approve agenda as amended.

Carried (7 to 0)

7. Acknowledge Receipt of Funds Report

The council acknowledged the receipt of the funds report.

8. Public Comment by Sign-In Sheet, 3 Minute Limit

There was no one signed up for public comment.

9. New Business

a. Clark County Council

a.a 2026 Salary Ordinance

Councilperson Blevins asked about the two positions in the Sheriff's Office.

Moved By Councilperson Snelling Jr.
Seconded By Councilperson Fox
Motion to approve the Ordinance 34-2025, the 2026 Salary Ordinance as

presented.

Carried (7 to 0)

a.b Riverboat Revenue Fund Interfund Loan

Councilperson Lenfert explained that the Riverboat Fund revenue was estimated at \$208,206. The actual revenue in that fund was \$175,265.93. This caused the fund to be in the red. An interfund loan has been presented from Rainy Day to Riverboat in the amount of \$36,880.34. This loan will be repaid with 2026 revenue.

Moved By Councilperson Grooms

Seconded By Councilperson Doherty

Motion to approve Ordinance 35-2025, the Riverboat Revenue Fund Interfund Loan as requested.

Carried (7 to 0)

b. Clark County Sheriff's Office, Randy Thomas

b.a Sheriff Pension Presentation by Elaine Beaty with Goelzer Investment Management

Elaine Beaty presented the Clark County Police Retirement and Benefit Plans Pension Reporting for 2025 as required by statute.

Councilperson Grooms asked about the contribution rates shown on page 4 of the report. Elaine Beaty explained that this is the total amount paid for the benefit divided by the total payroll.

b.b Request for additional appropriations in County General

1000-30046-032 Utilities \$45,000.00

Randy Thomas explained that b.b and b.c are the same request, the Sheriff's Office is giving the council the option to approve this in either County General or LIT Public Safety.

Moved By Councilperson Fox

Seconded By Councilperson Grooms

Motion to approve the Request for additional appropriations in County General as requested and to deny the request for additional appropriations in LIT Public Safety-County Share listed under b.c.

Carried

b.c Request for additional appropriations in LIT Public Safety-County Share

1170-30046-032 Utilities \$45,000.00

c. Clark County Drainage Board

This request was withdrawn by the Drainage Board.

c.a Request for additional appropriations in Drainage Board N/R Fee

2700-30051-026 Contract Services \$3,000.00

d. Clark County Commissioners, Bryan Glover

Moved By Councilperson Blevins

Seconded By Councilperson Snelling Jr.

Motion to approve all requests listed under Clark County Commissioners as detailed below.

Carried (7 to 0)

d.a Request for additional appropriations in MVH Restricted

1173-20080-062 Bituminous \$475,000.00

This will catch up on paving bills for 2025. A majority of the paving in 2025 was in District 3.

d.b Request for additional appropriations in Enhanced GIS Access Services

4964-30051-030 Contract Services \$700.00

This will allow Highway Superintendent David Jones to have a creator status in the GIS software.

d.c Request for additional appropriations in LIT-Economic Development

1112-11173-030 Group Insurance \$152,000.00

This will bring the appropriation for Group Insurance to good standing for the rest of the year based off of projected Group Insurance costs.

d.d Request for additional appropriations in Railroad Grade Crossing Fund

9143-30051-030 Contract Services \$34,750.00

The county is reimbursed by the rail section of INDOT for painting railroad crossings through this grant.

Councilperson Grooms asked if the county has to pay for maintenance of railroad signals or railroad signage. Commissioner Glover stated that the county does not pay for the maintenance of railroad signals and if the county has any cost associated with signage it would be reimbursed. The County has very little cost related to railroads. Any maintenance would be done by the railroad if the item being maintained is on railroad property.

d.e Request for a transfer of appropriation in Cum Bridge

From 1135-40014-064 Equipment \$80,000.00

To 1135-31028-064 Waste Disposal \$80,000.00

This expense will be used for costs related to cleaning up Murphy Road and Appleleaf Lane.

e. Clark County Recorder, Steve Gill

e.a Sworn Statement

State statute requires the County Recorder to file a sworn statement stating that the County Recorder's Record Perpetuation Fund will be used to fund operating expenses in the amount not to exceed \$490,000.00 in 2026. This also must be approved via ordinance.

Moved By Councilperson Fox

Seconded By Councilperson Doherty

Motion to approve the Sworn Statement as requested by the Recorder.

Carried (7 to 0)

Moved By Councilperson Snelling Jr.
Seconded By Councilperson Doherty
Motion to approve Ordinance 36-2025, an Ordinance approving Recorder's request to use the County Recorder's Records Perpetuation Fund to support all operating expenses for 2026.

Carried (7 to 0)

f. Tri-Township Fire Protection District, Amir Mousavi and Dale Cook

f.a Request for additional appropriation

Special Fire General Fund \$200,000.00

This expense is due to scaling up EMS operations which has been functioning since the beginning of the year.

Councilperson Fox thanked the Chief of Tri-Township Fire Department for what the department is doing with EMS services.

Moved By Councilperson Fox

Seconded By Councilperson Grooms

Motion to approve the Request for additional appropriation as requested.

Carried (7 to 0)

g. Clark County Clerk, Ryan Lynch

g.a Request for additional appropriations in County General

1000-30012-001 Postage \$8,000.00

This will finish out the year in postage for the Judicial Center.

Moved By Councilperson Grooms

Seconded By Councilperson Blevins

Motion to approve the Request for additional appropriations in County General as requested.

Carried (7 to 0)

h. Utica Fire District

h.a Request for additional appropriations

Special Cumulative Fire \$160,060.00

Special Fire General \$1,386,415.00

Kelly Khuri and Chief Joe Jarles presented the additional appropriation request which are necessary due to starting a new fire department. Joe Jarles presented the Utica Fire and Rescue annual report. With the additional appropriation requested tonight, Utica Fire will be effectively debt free.

Councilperson Snelling thanked Utica Fire.

Councilperson Fox asked if there were mutual aid agreements. Joe Jarles confirmed that there is a county-wide mutual aid agreement that Utica Fire is a party to. In addition, there will be a new mutual aid agreement signed with Anchorage Middletown. Councilperson Fox seconded Councilperson Snelling's thanks.

Moved By Councilperson Fox

Seconded By Councilperson Grooms

Motion to approve the Request for additional appropriations as requested.

Carried (7 to 0)

i. Clark County Treasurer, Monty Snelling

i.a Request for additional appropriations in Treasurer Fees Fund N/R

4954-30086-003 Tax Sale Expense \$3,000.00

The Treasurer's office must pay SRI, their third party administrator for tax sale

through fees that were collected during tax sale.

Moved By Councilperson Fox

Seconded By Councilperson Teah Williams-Hampton

Motion to approve the Request for additional appropriations in Treasurer Fees Fund N/R as requested.

Carried (7 to 0)

j. Clark County Assessor, Butch Love

j.a Request for additional appropriations in Reassessment

1224-30051-076 Contract Services \$15,000.00

This request was withdrawn by the Assessor.

k. Clark County Courts, Adrian Anderson and Tom Lowe

Motion to approve all requests listed under Clark County Courts as detailed below.

Carried

k.a Request for a transfer of appropriation in CCATS Project Income #2

From 1128-20060-302 Supplies \$250.00

To 1128-40011-302 Furniture/Fixtures \$250.00

This request was withdrawn by the Courts.

k.b Request for a transfer of appropriation in County General

From 1000-30129-100-302 Jury Meals \$5,000.00

To 1000-40014-000-302 Equipment \$5,000.00

This request was withdrawn by the courts.

k.c Request for a transfer of appropriations in CCATS Problem Solving Ct #2

From 9149-30115-302 Drug Screening \$2,921.00

From 9149-30013-302 Travel \$4,875.97

To 9149-20060-302 Supplies \$7,796.97

This is grant money that needs to be spent before the end of the year. It will be used to purchase drug screening kits.

Moved By Councilperson Snelling Jr.

Seconded By Councilperson Fox

Motion to approve the Request for a transfer of appropriations in CCATS Problem Solving Ct #2 as requested.

Carried (7 to 0)

I. Clark County Prosecutor, Sunshine Fox and Tim Gray

The requests for additional appropriations under I.a and I.b are for employees who have elected to use the flexible PTO plan as detailed in the handbook.

Councilperson Grooms asked what the requests will specifically pay for. Sunshine Fox explained the flexible PTO plan.

Moved By Councilperson Fox

Seconded By Councilperson Teah Williams-Hampton

Motion to approve all requests listed under Clark County Prosecutor as detailed below.

Carried (7 to 0)

I.a Request for additional appropriations in County General

Pros. IV-D

1000-11107-034 Personal Services \$6,986.00

1000-11171-034 FICA/Medicare \$535.00

1000-11176-034 PERF \$888.00

Prosecutor

1000-11107-008 Personal Services \$22,282.00

1000-11171-008 FICA/Medicare \$1,705.00

1000-11176-008 PERF \$2,830.00

I.b Request for additional appropriations in 16.575 ICJG Victim Asst/Pros#1

8107-11107-008 Personal Services \$19,932.00
8107-11171-008 FICA/Medicare \$1,525.00
8107-11176-008 PERF \$2,532.00

l.c Request for a transfer of appropriation in County General

From 1000-30013-034 Travel \$750.00
To 1000-20060-034 Supplies \$750.00

m. Weights & Measures

Commissioner Coffman presented on behalf of Weights and Measures.

m.a Request for additional appropriations in County General

From 1000-20021-028 Gas & Oil \$98.83
To 1000-30013-028 Travel \$98.83

Moved By Councilperson Doherty

Seconded By Councilperson Grooms

Motion to approve the Request for additional appropriations in County General as requested.

Carried

n. Clark County Auditor, Danny Yost

n.a Request for a salary ordinance amendment in Auditors Ineligible Deductions

1216-002 Payroll Deputy-Temporary for Training

Effective 12/01/2025 \$26.62/hour

Effective 01/01/2026-02/28/2026 \$27.23/hour

The request for a Payroll Deputy-Temporary Training position that would be effective 01/01/2026-02/28/2026 was withdrawn due to this position being included in the salary ordinance.

The request for a Payroll Deputy-Temporary Training position that would be effective 12/01/2025 is being requested due to the previous payroll deputy taking another position within the county. This salary ordinance amendment would allow the Auditor's Office to compensate the previous deputy for time spent training, separate from hours worked in her new role.

Moved By Councilperson Doherty

Seconded By Councilperson Teah Williams-Hampton

Motion to approve the Request for a salary ordinance amendment in Auditors Ineligible Deductions for Payroll Deputy-Temporary Training effective 12/01/2025.

Carried (7 to 0)

o. Public Defender's Office, Vicki Carmichael and Jen Harmeyer

o.a Request for a transfer of appropriations in SPDSF

From 4906-30013-040 Travel \$60.00

To 4906-20067-040 Subscriptions & Publications \$60.00

Moved By Councilperson Fox

Seconded By Councilperson Blevins

Motion to approve the Request for a transfer of appropriations in SPDSF as requested.

Carried (7 to 0)

10. Old Business

a. Clark County Public Defender, Vicki Carmichael and Jen Harmeyer

The requests below are the requests that were tabled at the previous meeting. This includes a new Deputy Public Defender position, a new Administrative Assistant position, and the additional appropriations to cover this through the end of the year. These requests are to help get the Public Defender's Office into compliance.

Councilperson Lenfert clarified that the additional appropriation would be for 2025.

a.a Request for additional appropriations in SPDSF

4906-11107-040 Personal Services \$15,848.10

4906-11171-040 FICA/Medicare \$1,212.38

4906-11173-040 Group Insurance \$15,000.00

4906-11176-040 PERF \$2,012.71

Moved By Councilperson Blevins

Seconded By Councilperson Teah Williams-Hampton

Motion to approve the Request for additional appropriations in SPDSF as requested.

Against (2): Councilperson Lenfert, and Councilperson Doherty

Carried (5 to 2)

a.b Request for a salary ordinance amendment in SPDSF

New Position- Deputy Public Defender \$95,000.00

New Position- Administrative Assistant \$42,350.00

Councilperson Blevins asked if the two positions were added to the Sheriff's salary ordinance. Councilperson Lenfert stated that they are on the salary ordinance, but the budget has not been adjusted for them. Councilperson Blevins asked about the 40% reimbursement. It was explained that the Public Defender's office is reimbursed 40% for each eligible dollar that is spent. Vicki Carmichael stated that the total amount reimbursed for all operations is more than the requested positions. Councilperson Fox stated that the total cost of a new Public Defender is actually around \$115,000 when PERF, FICA, and Group Insurance is considered. Councilperson Snelling asked if this means the county would be paying \$60-70,000 out of county general. Jen Harmeyer stated that they have requested the position out of SPDSF. Councilperson Fox clarified that county money is still paid for the revenue in 4906 to be reimbursed.

Councilperson Fox asked how the Public Defender's Office is doing as far as compliance. Vicki Carmichael stated that there are 10 PD's who were out of compliance in the 3rd quarter. The PD's office told the PD Commission that they have been requesting new positions from the council for several months to try to get into compliance. Vicki Carmichael stated that they will not need additional personnel in 2026. Around mid-2026, they will know how the Misdemeanor Project is helping with compliance. They have hired contract attorneys using the Opioid Funds appropriated in November to help with 2.6. Vicki stated that the dialog between the Prosecutor and the Public Defender seems to be going well. Councilperson Fox state that two new Prosecutors were added in the salary ordinance for 2026 and the council is hoping that the Prosecutor and Public Defender will work together to get cases resolved quickly.

Councilperson Fox clarified that if the Public Defender's office was approved for the additional public defender and administrative assistant, they would be able to get into compliance in 2026 and not come back in 2026 asking for another public defender in 2026. Vicki Carmichael confirmed.

Moved By Councilperson Grooms

Seconded By Councilperson Teah Williams-Hampton

Motion to approve the Request for a salary ordinance amendment in SPDSF as requested.

Councilperson Snelling stated that he would prefer to separate the two positions for approval. Councilperson Grooms withdrew his motion.

Moved By Councilperson Fox

Seconded By Councilperson Teah Williams-Hampton

Motion to approve the request for a salary ordinance amendment in SPDSF for Public Defender and to deny the request for a salary ordinance amendment in SPDSF for Administrative Assistant.

Against (2): Councilperson Lenfert, and Councilperson Doherty

Carried (5 to 2)

Councilperson Blevins asked how effective the Public Defender would be without the additional Administrative Assistant. Vicki Carmichael stated that it would still be effective, it just would not do everything they need for compliance.

Councilperson Blevins suggested that they see how the Public Defender does towards compliance and the Public Defender's Office could come back to request an administrative assistant if needed. Vicki Carmichael stated that this would change her previous statement for not needing new personnel in 2026, however she would not come back for a new Public Defender.

b. Clark County Council

b.a Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals

Term ending December of 2026

Councilperson Lenfert explained that the council's appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals is open due to John Eurton resigning. There were three names submitted and shared with the council. Two of the three submitted a biography about themselves.

Councilperson Snelling Jr. stated that Bob Ellison has been a resident of Clark County for over 50 years. His wife has been a teacher at New Washington for 28 years. He meets all of the requirements for the appointment.

Moved By Councilperson Snelling Jr.

Seconded By Councilperson Fox

Motion to appoint to Bob Ellison to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Carried (7 to 0)

Councilperson Blevins asked Mr. Ellison about his views on solar and agriculture. Mr. Ellison stated that he needs to learn more about solar and how it applies to the county. Councilperson Blevins stated that he would like to see farm land remain farm land. Mr. Ellison stated that he would agree with that, but he thinks farm land is already being used for other purposes.

b.b 2026 Council Meeting Schedule

Councilperson Fox asked about moving the January meeting to the 19th as he will be traveling on the 12th. Councilperson Williams-Hampton stated that she is not available on the 19th. The council asked the Auditor's office to check meeting room availability in January. Attorney Max McCrite stated that the Council schedule did not need to be voted on.

11. Reports and Comments

a. Council

Councilperson Lenfert stated that the salary ordinance that was printed out for approval at the beginning of the meeting was incorrect. It was not the same as the finalized draft the council reviewed previously, due to a formatting error. The correct version has been printed out and presented to the council.

Moved By Councilperson Snelling Jr.

Seconded By Councilperson Fox

Motion to reaffirm Ordinance 34-2025, the 2026 Salary Ordinance.

Carried (7 to 0)

Councilperson Doherty thanked Brian Lenfert for his leadership and the new council members for their efforts.

Councilperson Snelling seconded this and thanked members in the public for showing up.

Councilperson Blevins agreed with the first two statements and said his first year has been a really good experience.

Councilperson Williams-Hampton shared her appreciation for being included by the council as the only democrat. She thanked those in the audience for coming.

Councilperson Lenfert stated that he would like to see an ordinance to close out fund 1229 to Rainy Day. He would also like the Auditor's Office to calculate the total dollar amount for PTO payouts in 2025. He stated the 1782 notice should be coming soon and he will let the council know the county general cash balance.

Councilperson Fox thanked the department heads and their staff for their work on the budget.

b. Attorney

Attorney Max McCrite congratulated the council for a successful budget season and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

c. Auditor

Danny Yost stated that the Auditor's Office will work hard on getting the salaries from the salary ordinance entered.

12. Adjournment

Moved By Councilperson Snelling Jr.

Seconded By Councilperson Fox

Motion to adjourn.

Carried (7 to 0)

Members of the Clark County Council

AYES

NAYS

<u>Tom Bell</u>	_____
<u>R. Bell</u>	_____
<u>John W. Bell</u>	_____
<u>Brian Lanfest</u>	_____
<u>Star Roberts</u>	_____
<u>Christopher A. Bell</u>	_____
<u>Roy Brown</u>	_____

Attest: Danny Yost

Danny Yost - Clark County Auditor

Approved this 5th day of January, 2026.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL CONCERNING
 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
 FOR THOSE FUNDS WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE
 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
 ORDINANCE NO. 29-2025

WHEREAS, certain extraordinary conditions have developed since the adoption of the existing annual budget so that it is necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget.

Section I. BE IT ORDAINED by the Clark County Council of Clark County, Indiana that for expenses of Clark County government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2025, the following sums of money are herein specified subject to the law governing the same, such sum herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures provided by law.

Section II. THAT for the fiscal year there is hereby appropriated out of the various funds herein for the following specified amounts to meet such extraordinary emergencies which are declared to exist.

Fund	Acct.	Obj.	Loc.	Acct. Desc.	Allowed	Vote
County General						
1000	11107	0000	008	Personal Services	\$22,282.00	7-0
			034	Personal Services	\$6,986.00	7-0
	11171	0000	008	FICA / Medicare	\$1,705.00	7-0
			034	FICA / Medicare	\$535.00	7-0
	11176	0000	008	PERF	\$2,830.00	7-0
			034	PERF	\$888.00	7-0
	30046	0000	032	Utilities	\$45,000.00	7-0
	30012	0000	001	Postage	\$8,000.00	7-0
Enhanced GIS Access Services						
4964	30051	0000	030	Contract Services	\$700.00	7-0
LIT Public Safety-County Share						
1170	30046	0000	032	Utilities	DENY	7-0
MVH Restricted						
1173	20080	0000	062	Bituminous	\$475,000.00	7-0
Reassessment						
1224	30051	0000	076	Contract Services	Withdrawn	-
SPDSF						
4906	11107	0000	040	Personal Services	\$15,848.10	5-2
			040	FICA / Medicare	\$1,212.38	5-2
			040	Group Insurance	\$15,000.00	5-2
			040	PERF	\$2,012.71	5-2
Treasurer Fees Fund N/R						
4954	30086	0000	003	Tax Sale Expense	\$3,000.00	7-0
Drainage Board N/R Fee						
2700	30051	0000	026	Contract Services	Withdrawn	-
LIT-Economic Development						
1112	11173	0000	030	Group Insurance	\$152,000.00	7-0
Railroad Grade Crossing fund						
9143	30051	0000	030	Contract Services	\$34,750.00	7-0
16.575 ICJG Victim Asst/Pros#1						
8107	11107	0000	008	Personal Services	\$19,932.00	7-0
			008	FICA / Medicare	\$1,525.00	7-0
			008	PERF	\$2,532.00	7-0
Grand Total						

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL CONCERNING
TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE NO. 40-2025

Fund	Loc.	Acct.	Obj.	Acct. Desc.	Allowed	Vote
CCATS Project Income #2						
1128	302	20060	0000	Supplies	Withdrawn	7-0
		40011	0000	Furniture Fixtures	Withdrawn	7-0
County General						
1000	034	20060	0000	Supplies	\$750.00	7-0
		30013	0000	Travel	-\$750.00	7-0
	302	40014	0000	Equipment	Withdrawn	7-0
		30129	0100	Jury Meals	Withdrawn	7-0
	028	30013	0000	Travel	\$98.83	7-0
		20021	0000	Gas & Oil	-\$98.83	7-0
Cum Bridge						
1135	064	40014	0000	Equipment	-\$80,000.00	7-0
		31028	0000	Waste Disposal	\$80,000.00	7-0
SPDSF						
4906	040	30013	0000	Travel	-\$60.00	7-0
		20067	0000	Subscriptions & Publications	\$60.00	7-0
CCATS Problem Solving Ct #2						
9149	302	20060	0000	Supplies	\$7,796.97	7-0
		30013	0000	Travel	-\$4,875.97	7-0
		30115	0000	Drug Screening	-\$2,921.00	7-0

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL CONCERNING SALARY AND WAGES TO BE PAID TO OFFICERS AND
 EMPLOYEES
 FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2025
 AMENDMENT NO. 11

Fund	Fund	Loc.	Position	Allowed	Vote
Auditors Ineligible Deductions					
New Position	1216	002	Temporary Payroll Training	Withdrawn	-
			Temporary Payroll Training	\$26.62 per hour	7-0
SPDSF					
New Position	4906	040	Deputy Public Defender	\$95,000.00	5-2
			Administrative Assistant	DENY	5-2