

Be it Remembered that the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana, met in regular session on April 22, 2024. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers, on the second floor of the City Building, 124 N. Michigan St., Plymouth, Indiana and was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Councilman Ecker offered prayer and Mayor Listenberger introduced Xander Sieh, an eighth-grade student, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Listenberger presided for Council Members Duane Culp, Don Ecker Jr, Kayla Krathwohl, Randy Longanecker, Shiloh Carothers Milner, Dave Morrow, and Linda Starr who were physically present. City Attorney Houin and Clerk-Treasurer Gorski were also present. The public was able to see and hear the meeting through Microsoft Teams.

Council Members Starr and Ecker moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the regular session of the Common Council on April 8, 2024 as presented. The motion carried.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING**

Notice is hereby given to the citizens of Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana, that a public hearing will be conducted by the Common Council of the City of Plymouth on a request for tax abatement on personal property by Viking Paper Corporation, located at 1001 Pidco Drive, Plymouth, IN. A statement of benefits is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's office, 124 N. Michigan St., Plymouth, IN. The real estate has been designated within an Economic Revi-

talization Area pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-1 on April 8, 2024. A description of the affected area is available and can be inspected in the County Assessor's Office.

Said hearing will be held on Monday, April 22, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the City Building, 124 N. Michigan St., (Garro Street entrance), Plymouth, IN at the Common Council meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Persons appearing at such public hearing shall have the right to be heard on the proposed project.

Disabled persons needing special accommodations, please contact the ADA Coordinator at 574-936-2948.

Dated this 9th day of April, 2024.

Lynn M. Gorski
Clerk-Treasurer
City of Plymouth, Indiana

April 11, 2024 PN355439

Public Hearing – Confirmatory Tax Abatement for Viking Paper Corporation

Council Members Ecker and Morrow moved and seconded to open the public hearing. The motion carried.

Houin stated that at the last meeting they passed a declaratory resolution declaring property to be within an "Economic Revitalization Area" and that triggered this public hearing tonight. He stated that this was an opportunity for them to hear testimony regarding the tax abatement before they consider the confirmatory resolution later on. He added that CEO Justin Mooter from Viking Paper and Greg Hildebrand from MCEDC were present.

Hildebrand reminded the council that this was a \$7.8 million investment in equipment for the current facility at Viking Paper. He stated several years ago they went through the same process with some other equipment and traditionally they are very conservative about the number of jobs these are going to create. He explained last time they were here, they said they were not going to be adding any new jobs and they planned on retaining the 28 employees they had. He stated that they are now at 43 jobs that they will be retaining with this new investment. He stated that this time they predicted one new job on their application but he is predicting more. He explained that payroll had a huge change from several years ago as it was about \$478,000 with the average wage of \$15.75/ hr.

and now that average wage is going up to \$24/ hr. with 43 jobs. He added it is a very great track record for growth.

Mooter stated that last time he was before the council was several years ago when they put a 40,000 square foot addition onto their building with a rail spur so they could accommodate train cars into their building. They are now able to spot four train cars at a time. He explained that one train car is equal to about four trucks so they can get 12 trucks worth of stock in at a time. He explained the good part about that is that they are allowed to unload the train car over multiple shifts so it is not a live unload. He stated that the rail spur is an important piece to Plymouth as well because they run on the same line as Pregis. He explained that half of the machine would be brand new, the stacker bays will be longer and they will have the longest triple wall stacking machine in North America. It will enable them to produce the longest sheets of anyone in North America. He stated that there are a lot of new machines out there that can take a 200-300-inch-long sheet and put it through a machine that can slot, score, die-cut, and print so people who do not have large equipment can run these and convert them. He stated there are not a lot of people out there who can produce sheets that long as there are only 150 of these machines in North America. He stated that this would provide them with another entrée into all of those accounts that they currently cannot service. He said that they have about four to five truckloads per month that customers are asking them to run because the longest sheet they can run is 204 inches. He explained that the new machine will be 315 inches lengthwise and their bottom stacker bay will now be 200 inches so they can now run sheets side by side for a wider footprint. He added that it would be multiple out, better efficiencies, and down the road they have plans to do the rest of the corrugator for the wider version that they do now. He explained that this is going to help increase run speeds, efficiencies, throughput, add more truck drivers, train cars, delivery people and drivers. He stated he cannot give an exact number as to how many jobs that will entail but they have done a great job reinvesting and growing the business and would like to continue to grow in Plymouth.

Ecker stated with the increased throughput he is referring to that they will need more material handlers from raw to finished goods.

Mooter explained they had several full-time truck drivers seven years ago and now they have between 11 and 13 drivers dependent on who quits or who gets hired. He expressed that those are full-time drivers and they have had to buy more rigs, trailers, trucks, and "grab" trucks that pick-up rolls 100 inches tall that are 10,000-12,000 lbs. and it can turn them sideways so they can run them. He stated there will be more material handling to Ecker's point that they will have to increase.

Ecker stated that he remembered the samples that were brought in several years ago and he understands that there are competitors out there; however, he has seen nothing from them that he has seen from Viking Paper. He expressed that they fill a niche to the market.

Mooter explained that was the idea, if they plan on competing with the guys who are knocking the trees down and creating the paper at the paper mills. He expressed that Westrock across the street from them do that and they are very good at it. He explained that Viking Paper is another major supplier to another Plymouth company and that is American Packing near the airport.

Hildebrand stated that he failed to mention that Viking Paper's Plymouth location is one of many locations they have in the Midwest so this truly is a retention of jobs as they could invest in other locations.

Ecker asked for clarification on when he and Hildebrand spoke and he referenced that this would replace equipment. He asked for clarification that this equipment will not be replacing anything but rather it will be additional equipment. Hildebrand agreed.

Council Members Ecker and Longanecker moved and seconded to close the public hearing. The motion carried.

Starr explained that she participated in a city clean up this past weekend with the Rees Theatre and shared that her job with her husband was to clean the corridor underneath the overpass. She stated that she would not go into detail but it was very humbling. She said at first it was disgusting but then she got to thinking about the people who probably have to stay there. She stated she has a lot more compassion for those people. She thinks that people see these things and express that someone else should clean this up, but she said she is somebody and you are somebody so when we all take it on, we can make a difference.

Longanecker stated a few months ago that he brought up fiber in his yard. He explained that the fiber was still there and asked Utility Superintendent Davidson if he had heard anything else about it.

Davidson responded by explaining that they are back in the city and have gotten most of their permits completed. He explained that they have several different contractors who they are using and they are making progress. He stated hopefully they are done fairly soon.

City Attorney Houin presented CF-1's for tax abatements submitted as followed:

- CF-1 RP AK Industries 2019
- CF-1 PP AK Industries 2019
- CF-1 PP AK Industries 2020

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- CF-1 PP AK Industries 2023
- CF-1 RP DAC Enterprise LLC
- CF-1 PP DAC Enterprise LLC
- CF-1 RP Harrington Noodles / Vigilant Holdings
- CF-1 PP Harrington Noodles / Vigilant Holdings
- CF-1 RP Oasis Lifestyle, LLC 2018 / Composite Technology
- CF-1 PP Oasis Lifestyle, LLC 2018 / Composite Technology
- CF-1 RP Oasis Lifestyle, LLC 2022
- CF-1 PP Oasis Lifestyle, LLC 2022
- CF-1 PP Hoosier Tire
- CF-1 RP Bomarko, Inc.
- CF-1 PP Bomarko, Inc.
- CF-1 RP Culver Tool & Engineering, LLC 2019
- CF-1 PP Culver Tool & Engineering, LLC 2019
- CF-1 RP Culver Tool & Engineering, LLC 2020-898
- CF-1 PP Culver Tool & Engineering, LLC 2020-898
- CF-1 RP Culver Tool & Engineering, LLC 2020-899
- CF-1 PP Culver Tool & Engineering, LLC 2020-899

Longanecker expressed his thanks to the Clerk-Treasurer in providing a list of CF-1's still needed to be received by the Common Council.

Houin stated he spoke to Greg Hildebrand at MCEDC and expressed that they have done a great job in helping applicants put together the initial applications. He wanted to thank them for their reminders and all the work that the Clerk-Treasurer does to ensure these companies get their CF-1's turned in. He stated it was discussed possibly in the future to do an educational program on how to fill out the CF-1's as there are some inconsistencies on how they are completed. He stated that he has done a lot of digging and confirming numbers to piece together what they are trying to say on the form. He said that he is confident that they are all accurate and in good shape but it is not always easy looking at them the first time.

Council Members Culp and Longanecker moved and seconded to approve all CF-1's as presented. The motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Gorski informed the council that the City received a donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from VS Engineering to be used for the Mayor's Summer of Music. She informed them

that the donation is to be receipted into the City Monetary Gift Fund and be used for the Mayor's Summer of Music. She requested approval to accept these donations.

Council Members Ecker and Krathwohl moved and seconded to accept the donation as received. The motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Gorski presented an Application for Exemption from Licensing Requirements of Ordinance No. 1309 from the Kiwanis Club of Plymouth. John Oliver, III was present to speak on behalf of this request.

Oliver stated that the request is for the Plymouth Kiwanis Club's annual fundraiser for scholarships and for Riley Hospital. He explained this would be Friday May 17th and Saturday May 18th and they would be at the four corners of Michigan and Jefferson Streets from 2-6 PM on Friday and 8 AM – 12 PM on Saturday rain or shine.

Council Members Culp and Longanecker moved and seconded to approve the application of exemption for licensing requirements of Ordinance #1309 from the Plymouth Kiwanis Club as submitted. The motion carried.

City Attorney Houin introduced Ordinance No. 2024-2224, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 2023-2215R, The 2024 Salary Ordinance on first reading.

City Attorney Houin introduced Resolution No. 2024-1105, A Resolution of the City of Plymouth Confirming the Adoption of a Declaratory Resolution Designating Certain Real Estate Within the City of Plymouth to be Within an "Economic Revitalization Area" for Purposes of Personal Property Tax Abatement Pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1 et. seq. (Viking Paper Corporation).

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REGULAR SESSION, COMMON COUNCIL, April 22, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-1105

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH
CONFIRMING THE ADOPTION OF A DECLARATORY RESOLUTION
DESIGNATING CERTAIN REAL ESTATE
WITHIN THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH TO BE WITHIN AN
"ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA" FOR PURPOSES OF
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT
PURSUANT TO I.C. 6-1.1-12.1 *et. seq.*
(VIKING PAPER CORPORATION)

WHEREAS, on April 8, 2024, the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, adopted Resolution No. 2024-1103, entitled a "Resolution of the City of Plymouth Declaring Certain Real Estate to be within an 'Economic Revitalization Area' Pursuant to I.C. § 6-1.1-12.1 *et seq.*," and,

WHEREAS, the Declaratory Resolution found that a certain area in the City of Plymouth was an economic revitalization area within the meaning of I.C. § 6-1.1-12.1, (the Act) as amended, for the purpose of allowing deductions from the assessed value of real property improvements and the personal property acquisitions; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 2.5(b) and 2.5(c)(2) of the Act, the Clerk-Treasurer has filed the Declaratory Resolution, and related documents with other appropriate taxing units and the Marshall County Assessor, and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2.5(c)(1) of the Act, notice of the adoption and substance of the Declaratory Resolution has been published in accordance with I.C. § 5-3-1, and,

WHEREAS, at a public hearing held by the Common Council on the 22nd day of April, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 124 N. Michigan St. (Garro St. Entrance, Second Floor), Plymouth, Indiana, the Council heard all persons interested in the proceedings and received any written remonstrance and objections, and considered the same, if any, and all other evidence presented; and,

WHEREAS, the Common Council now desires to take final action and make the necessary findings in accordance with Section 3 and Section 4.5 of the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana, as follows:

Section 1. After consideration of the evidence presented at the public hearing on the 22nd day of April, 2024, the Common Council finds the qualifications for an economic revitalization area have been met, and waives any noncompliance for failing to designate the area as an economic revitalization area before the initiation of the eligible improvements.

Section 2. Accordingly, the Common Council hereby confirms the Declaratory Resolution designating the area described as an economic revitalization area for the purposes of tax abatement. This designation is for personal property tax abatement and is limited to two (2) calendar years from April 8, 2024, the date of the adoption of the Declaratory Resolution.

Section 3. Based upon the totality of benefits of this project, as evidenced in the currently submitted Statement of Benefits, and pursuant to Section 17 of the Act, the Common Council hereby determines the property owner is qualified for and is granted personal property tax abatement for a period of seven (7) years, according to the following schedule:

YEAR OF DEDUCTION	PERCENTAGE
1 st	100%
2 nd	85%
3 rd	71%
4 th	57%
5 th	43%
6 th	29%
7 th	14%

Section 4. By the Common Council determining the public utility and benefit of the proposed real and personal property improvements in the revitalization area, this resolution constitutes final action pursuant to Section 2.5(c) of the Act. Further, this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption by the Common Council, approval by the Mayor, and due attestation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council this 22nd day of April, 2024.


Robert Listenberger, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


Lynn M. Gorski, Clerk-Treasurer

Kathy Bottorf with WTCA asked if this will be a seven-year phase in. Gorski agreed.

Council Members Ecker and Krathwohl moved and seconded to approve Resolution No. 2024-1105, A Resolution of the City of Plymouth Confirming the Adoption of a Declaratory Resolution Designating Certain Real Estate Within the City of Plymouth to be Within an "Economic Revitalization Area" for Purposes of Personal Property Tax Abatement Pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1 *et. seq.* (Viking Paper Corporation) as presented. The motion carried.

City Attorney Houin introduced Resolution No. 2024-1106, A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Plymouth to Adopt a Revised Plan for Expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funds.

Houin explained that this was a correction to the resolution passed at the prior meeting. He stated when he prepared that resolution, he was using the previous resolution and the total amount of

funds received was incorrect and not verified. He stated it was after that passing that the Clerk-Treasurer discovered the error and pointed out that there was about \$4,500 more than what was stated in that resolution. He stated the proposal in this resolution is to add that amount to the funds for the Harrison Street Trail Project.

Culp asked if this was an amended resolution.

Houin responded by stating that it is to replace the one that was adopted at the last meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-1106

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH TO ADOPT A REVISED PLAN FOR
EXPENDITURE OF
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City has received \$2,262,101.02 through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA or the Act"), federal legislation designed to address various adverse impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. Under the U.S. Department of Treasury's Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule, effective April 1, 2022, and other applicable rules, the City has elected to take the standard allowance for pandemic-related revenue replacement. Accordingly, the entirety of the ARPA funds the City received may be used for general government services. The Act requires a recipient of ARPA funds to adopt a plan for expenditure of the funds. The first adopted such a plan with Resolution No. 2022-1028, with subsequent revisions. The most recent revision, adopted as Resolution No. 2024-1104, contained the incorrect total of funds received. At this time, the City wishes to revise its plan to correct that error. The purpose and intent of this resolution is to make that correction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Plymouth as follows:

Section 1. The City shall expend its funds received under ARPA for the following purposes encompassing general government services:

- a. \$233,643.13 – Support for design and construction of a solar field installation, of up to 2,880 panels, at the Plymouth Wastewater Treatment Plant located at 900 Oakhill Avenue, Plymouth, IN 46563;
- b. \$600,000.00 – Support for the Lifelong Learning Network's Marshall County Career Innovation Center career and technical education project;
- c. \$450,000.00 – Support for the Plymouth Fire Department's purchase of a new fire truck (Pierce Velocity Top Mount Pumper and associated equipment) and a new ambulance (as mounted on a 2023 Ram 5500 chassis and associated equipment);
- d. \$326,552.10 – Support for design and construction of the City's Harrison Street Trail project;
- e. \$430,026.69 – Support for design and construction of sidewalks, including repair/replacement of existing sidewalks as well as development of new sidewalks in areas where none previously existed, throughout the City;
- f. \$75,000.00 – Support for the Marshall County United Way's annual campaign;
- g. \$102,900.00 – Support for design of the City's Price's Pond Trail project;
- h. \$29,970.00 – Repairs and pavement to the Southeast portion of the LaPorte Street parking lot along with crack sealing and seal coating the entire parking lot.
- i. \$14,100.00 – Support design of a Corridor Plan for Oak Road to calm vehicular traffic flow and provide pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of April, 2024.


Robert Listenberger, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


Lynn M. Gorski, Clerk-Treasurer

Council Members Culp and Starr moved and seconded to approve Resolution No. 2024-1106, A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Plymouth to Adopt a Revised Plan for Expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funds as presented. The motion carried.

Mayor Listenberger introduced Thomas Kinnaird for the Marshall County Hope discussion.

Kinnaird stated that he works at the Bowen Center here in Plymouth and explained that it is a real exciting time working at the substance use care prevention treatment realm in Marshall County. He also explained that Project Hope was a four-year journey starting back in 2019 with the funding

and work plan ending in December of 2023. He explained that they have been in a time of transition figuring out what they want to keep from Project Hope and how they are going to continue Marshall County Hope, which was born out of that process. He stated his first order of business as the Coordinator for Marshall County Hope is to reenergize the consortium. He stated they had their first meeting previously this month with 26 people in attendance from all different sectors of the community from social services, medical services, criminal justice, and many more. He commented that there is a lot of passion in Marshall County about caring for people who are struggling with substance use and addiction. He thanked the Council for trusting Marshall County Hope with the restricted and unrestricted Opioid Settlement dollars and is excited on how that will help them have bigger discussions and bigger dreams on addressing the needs they are finding in Marshall County in regards to substance use, care and treatment. He asked if they would continue to entrust them with those dollars for both the restricted and unrestricted opioid settlement dollars. He stated that financially they are aware of the pieces they want to keep from Project Hope, their two Peer Recovery Coaches who are giving person to person, boots on the ground services to individuals who are struggling with substance abuse. Continuing those positions is of utmost importance. He stated that they purchase vouchers from Marshall County Council on Aging to provide transportation for individuals who cannot get their license or are working on getting their license, to take them to appointments for mental health and substance use treatments, probation meetings, and so forth.

Mayor Listenberger stated that when they last talked about this, he remembered that they were all 100% on board with the Opioid funds so he believes they are still all on board with it.

Houin stated that ONE Marshall County held their first board meeting recently with a new Board of Directors and a lot of the discussion was around administrative issues such as finalizing bi-laws and moving toward electing officers. He stated there was a strong sense of urgency around the READI 2.0 grant process. He stated that the South Bend Elkhart Region was awarded the maximum \$45,000,000 for READI 2.0 grants. He explained that they still do not know the details on what that grant process will look like but there will be money available for many projects to apply for that. He stated they are hopeful that there will be some very strong projects out of Plymouth and Marshall County that can be competitive in that process. He explained that the primary focus for ONE Marshall County in addition to the structuring questions will be trying to come together with the communities across Marshall County and prepare applications for those READI 2.0 grants.

Mayor Listenberger asked if Houin could elaborate more on the outreach for the READI 2.0.

Houin explained that it is separate from ONE Marshall County, because at some point ONE Marshall County was envisioned to coordinate efforts throughout the county for those READI 2.0 applications but the restructuring process has taken longer than anticipated to get the organization functioning. He expressed that they would not want to wait for someone to tell them what to do and how to do it so at the Mayor's request, he and Laura Mann reached out to every community in Marshall County, every Town Board, County Commissioners, and County Council so a meeting could be coordinated. He stated it has been scheduled for May 1st and they have asked one or two representatives from each community to come. He stated there is no overarching organization or anyone leading the discussion but this is an opportunity to get together and talk about what collaboration across the county might look like and how we can work together. He expressed that if it folds over into ONE Marshall County and their efforts, then that is great, but they are not waiting for someone to lead that effort and instead get started. He explained that he was very impressed with the almost immediate response from every community in the county that said yes to getting together and being a part of this effort to be competitive and help one another.

Starr asked if that meeting will be open or just for invitees.

Houin explained that at this time it is just for invitees and they are trying to limit it to one to two representatives from each community. He stated that he and the Mayor will be there and it will be a preliminary discussion so they are unsure what will come out of it. He expressed for open meeting, quorum purposes, and space that they are wanting to limit it. He stated that they will start out small with the invitees and possibly grow from there. He stated he reached out to Board Presidents and Town Managers and asked for someone from their community to participate so they can decide amongst themselves on who that will be.

Houin stated that for the Comprehensive Plan update, the Advisory Committee continues to meet with great progress. He stated that they will be coming to the Plan Commission meeting with a recommendation for a minor update to the zoning ordinance that will streamline some of the processes. He stated they have a marketing committee that is very active with ideas and plans for marketing the city. He explained that it isn't limited to just the city but residents and businesses within the city. He stated the other committees are making some good progress and formulating some recommendations that will be coming forth in the very near future. He stated that they have received confirmation that their Americorp volunteer will be joining them and that she has her orientation through Americorp on May 15th. He stated once she has completed that she will be joining them in the Mayor's Office over the Summer.

Gorski stated she would like to go back to the discussion about Marshall County Hope. She explained that in the minutes from 2023 it was approved to support them for 2022 and 2023 with a motion and roll call vote to support that. She explained that this discussion tonight had not supported Marshall County Hope any further than 2023.

Houin suggested that they take the recommendation and have some more planning unless the Council had a specific recommendation tonight. He explained that he was confused but he believes he is understanding it. He explained that when they got the original projections for the Opioid Settlement that it spread out over many years, up to 2038. He stated for those who are unaware that there are two separate distributions with one being restricted and the other being unrestricted. He explained the restricted funds can only be used for very specific purposes related to Opioid treatment and mitigation while the other unrestricted funds are up to the discretion of the Council to use as they wish. He stated the amount that was received has been different from the projections and has been confusing because what the State considers funds from one year are sometimes spread out over multiple years so it is not received in the year that the State counts them. He stated historically the original action by the council was stated to transfer the 2022 and 2023 funds for both the restricted and unrestricted opioid settlement funds to Project Hope. He stated it was estimated at that time to be a little over \$85,000 and his understanding is that in the year 2022 and 2023 that what was actually received by the city was a little over \$90,000 and that was all admitted to Project Hope, a little more than expected. He explained that he is not sure if he has a clear picture on what the 2024 funds are so his recommendation would be not to take any action until it is sorted out what it would mean to contribute funds. They could decide to contribute both restricted and unrestricted or decide whether they have another purpose for the unrestricted funds going forward. He asked Ecker if he was confused.

Morrow responded by stating he was confused. He asked for clarification if the unrestricted funds were still intended to be used for the Opioid purposes.

Houin explained that the idea behind the unrestricted funds is that there is an assumption that the city spent money out of their general fund for efforts that were exacerbated due to Opioid use. He provided the example of potentially spending money on Police Department efforts to combat Opioid use in the community and they had to pay those funds out of their general fund. He stated the unrestricted portion of this Opioid settlement was meant to reimburse the city for the money they already spent over the years. He explained that is why it is unrestricted as it can be used for anything that is decided. He also explained that the restricted funds are also called abatement funds by the

State as they are intended to abate future problems due to Opioid use. That is why there are very strict guidelines on what those funds can be used for. He explained why Project Hope was a really good fit for those funds. Instead of the City trying to create a program to address those limited authorized uses, Project Hope already did that so it made more sense to fund their efforts on behalf of the city and the county.

Morrow asked if what was appropriated last year is what was anticipated they would receive that would be payable in 2024. Gorski agreed. He asked for clarification that they received more than what was anticipated.

Houin responded in agreement and stated that the actual motion and approval by the council was to contribute all of the city's restricted and unrestricted Opioid funds from 2022 and 2023. He explained that they estimated at the time that it would be \$85,000 and it turned out to be more than that. He stated because of what was agreed to do and intended to do was to turn over everything that was received in those two years.

Mayor Listenberger asked if more would be received this year.

Houin explained that more would be received every year through the year 2038. Even though the funds were distributed and received in March of 2024, the State counted it in their 2023 money because they received it in late December of 2023.

Mayor Listenberger asked for clarification that settlement amounts would go down each year.

Houin responded by stating that is what is anticipated. He explained that there is a schedule with the projections through 2038 and he was able to confirm on the Attorney General's website and see an updated schedule. He stated it has been updated to reflect the actual amounts that the State considers 2022 and 2023 but do not match what we actually received in 2022 and 2023.

Mayor Listenberger asked if they will receive any more in the year 2024.

Gorski responded by stating they potentially could.

Houin stated he believed there were distributions later in the year in 2022 and 2023 so they could receive distributions in late 2024.

Gorski stated that the first distribution for 2023 was received at the end of August, a little bit more was received on December 22, 2023, and a final distribution for the year 2023 was received in March of 2024.

Houin stated his recommendation would be if they wished to contribute all of the restricted funds, then by all means, it could be decided to do so that night. He recommended not making a

commitment for the unrestricted funds until they have a better picture of what those are, what year they apply to and how they will be handled going forward. He stated that they also have to take into consideration that whatever is pledged has to be appropriated. He stated the Clerk-Treasurer's recommendation is that they not make a pledge right now but rather through the 2025 budget process.

Ecker asked for clarification that the restricted funds are fixed or if they could fluctuate as well.

Houin replied that they have estimates of how much would be received this year, but not an exact amount. He explained that this is coming from a settlement of a lawsuit so the lawyers are going to take their cut first.

Mayor Listenberger asked if there are any timeframe restrictions on either restricted or unrestricted Opioid funds.

Gorski replied that there are no timeframe restrictions and it would sit in the Opioid fund.

Houin stated that the Clerk-Treasurer is recommending that they wait until the budget process to make the decision as part of the budget appropriation for next year.

Gorski stated otherwise she will have to do an additional appropriation.

Council Members Culp and Starr moved and seconded to wait for the 2025 budget process to appropriate additional funds received in 2023 to be paid to Marshall County Hope in 2025. The motion was not voted on due to a lengthier discussion.

Morrow asked Kinnaird how the restricted money he received is used to benefit the community.

Kinnaird replied that they received a document that is very detailed as far as what the restricted funds can be used for so that will be a guiding document. He stated that they have the consortium that meets monthly so they will be talking about the needs that are being seen. He explained that they are partnering with Purdue Extension to implement a tool called Task. It will help them map out what the resources, agencies, and organizations are involved with substance use treatment prevention and recovery in Marshall County. He stated that it maps out the journey that individuals can take to see what work they have already done and what they are missing. He explained that the maps tool will help them develop projects to fill in gaps they identify. He stated that they are also a little over a year into a suicide overdose fatality review team and he is the coordinator for that team as well. He stated it is a cross sector group of people who review individuals with the help of the State Department of Health who have died from suicide or overdose.

He explained they create a timeline of their life, have a deep discussion of what they are missing, and how to prevent further loss of life in this manner. He explained that they then develop recommendations about every six months to a year where they look at their previous recommendations from six months to a year and see what themes they have. He explained it is very much going to be a data driven decision making process as far as identifying what those gaps are. He also explained another one of the projects he is working on is making sure they have representation on the different committees for individuals who are going through recovery. He listed 20 years in recovery, 2 years in recovery, and currently using or in recovery for however long, to have their voices represented as well as their lived experience. It will be a great help to them as they make educated decisions on how to use those funds.

Morrow asked if Marshall County Hope is a not-for-profit organization.

Kinnaird responded by stating they are not officially a not-for-profit organization but that is one of the many projects they are working on.

Morrow asked if this is a part of the Bowen Center.

Kinnaird responded by stating Beacon Health System is the holder/custodian of the funds. He explained that the Bowen Center is involved and all sorts of other agencies are involved but Marshall County Hope was their own thing. He stated Marshall County Hope is very tightly tied to the Bowen Center, the Community Foundation, and United Way. He explained applying to be their own Federal National Certified Counselor (NCC) is one of his early projects that he is working on so they can have a Board of Directors and governance for themselves using their resources wisely with the input of lots of different people.

Lindie Leary, who is the Director at the Bowen Center, explained that the money is currently being utilized to pay for their Peer Recovery Coaches. She stated they provide services 100% free to anyone who needs them and they do not need to be one of their patients. She explained that one could call and they could get them set up. She stated that it was very important moving forward into Marshall County Hope to continue using that model. She added that this is also paying for Kinnaird's salary to conduct all of this coordination and to run the consortium. She stated that they still have money left from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant for transportation but they will run out. It is something huge here in rural Marshall County. She stated it would be to continue to purchase those and for other big dreams they have once more of the foundation work, they are working on is complete.

Annette Haining, who is the Tobacco Education Coordinator for Marshall County, explained that she had started back on Project Hope four years ago at the groundbreaking of it. She stated one of the things they get to do with this is that they get to work together. She provided the example that she goes into the schools and teaches about prevention. She emphasized that they need to continue this education for the elementary schools, high schools, and they are looking at more because they have very strict guidelines. She stated one of the things they are looking at is pregnant women and working with the Woman's Care Center on the substance abuse. She stated they are also looking at a 501(c)(3) to receive their own payment because currently all the funds are going through the Community Foundation in aiding Marshall County Hope. She stated she would at least try to still receive the restricted funds so they can continue the services and look at future needs to work with other entities.

Houin asked if the motion referenced the funds received in 2023 or 2024.

Gorski responded by stating 2023. She explained currently the appropriated funds for 2024's budget in restricted is \$9,120 and \$3,909 in unrestricted for a total of \$13,029. She expressed that it is what was anticipated to be received in 2022 for 2023. She stated they received an additional \$2,705 that was not appropriated to spend as it was unexpected.

Ecker clarified that it was because they put a specific amount in that appropriation.

Culp explained that it is why he didn't want to run into the same issue with his current motion.

Morrow asked if the restricted funds are in the Opioid fund, then why would we not go ahead and appropriate those.

Culp responded by stating because they do not know what that number will be until it is received.

Gorski asked if he is referring to the funds that have already been received. Morrow agreed. Gorski stated in order to spend those, they would have to go to the Department of Local Government Finance and ask for an additional appropriation.

Haining asked what day they would be looking at for the future and stated that Gorski mentioned 2025. Gorski agreed. Haining asked when they would be looking at getting some restricted funds. Gorski responded by stating in 2025. She explained that it is separate from the \$13,029 as that was already approved in 2023. She stated she will just need an invoice from Marshall County Hope, the Community Foundation, or whomever this money will need to go to in order to support them. She stated they would be able to pay that as it has already been budgeted.

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Ecker stated he would like to know what that number is going to be before they proceed for 2025. He stated that they will always have that lag due to not knowing how much they are going to get.

Council Members Culp and Milner moved and seconded to wait for the 2025 budget process to appropriate additional funds received in 2023 to be paid to Marshall County Hope in 2025. The motion carried.

Kathy Bottorff with WTCA explained that this was not on the agenda but stated that the commissioners have been conducting interviews for the Tourism Board. She stated that she had not heard the Mayor mention anything about his two appointments and asked what his plans were.

Mayor Listenberger replied that he had appointed two people, Tracey Houin, Director of the Blueberry Festival and Jim Hartung.

Council Members Ecker and Starr moved and seconded to accept the following communications:

- Minutes of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting of April 8, 2024
- April 22, 2024 Check Register
- Clerk-Treasurer Financial Reports – March 2024
- Opioid Settlement Memo – Marshall County Hope
- February 20, 2024 Redevelopment Commission Minutes
- March 12, 2024 Board of Aviation Commissioners Minutes
- Plymouth First United Methodist Church Re-Opening Invitation

The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Members Longanecker and Milner moved and seconded to adjourn, Mayor Listenberger declared the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.


Lynn M. Gorski
Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED


Robert Listenberger, Mayor