WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM
107 W. Locust Street
Boonville, Indiana
April 13, 2017
6:00 PM

The Warrick County Council met in regular session in the Warrick County Courthouse, 107 W. Locust Street, Boonville, Indiana.

Attorney Cliff Whitehead was in attendance.

County Auditor Debbie Stevens and Chief Deputy BJ Farrell attended and recorded the minutes.

Council President, Gary Meyer, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Gary Meyer: Roll call.

Krystal Powless: Gary Meyer?

Gary Meyer: Here.

Krystal Powless: Charlie Christmas?

Charlie Christmas: Yes.

Krystal Powless: David Hachmeister?

David Hachmeister: Here.

Krystal Powless: Ted Metzger?

Ted Metzger: Present.

Krystal Powless: Brad Overton?

Brad Overton: Here.

Krystal Powless: Greg Richmond?

Greg Richmond: Here.

Krystal Powless: Paul Rudolph?

Paul Rudolph: *(Arrived at 6:07 PM)*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2017

Gary Meyer: Okay. Approve Minutes, Regular Meeting, March 2nd.

Greg Richmond: I have one (1) question. Let's see, what page it is. Page 12, midway down. Gary Meyer reads motion made by Greg to approve, is there a second? Charlie Christmas, second. In reading, I could be blind in reading all this but nowhere could I find the motion listed in the minutes that was made by me. I mean I'm okay. I made the motion. I guess it needs to be in the minutes somewhere?

Gary Meyer: Somewhere.

Greg Richmond: So, somewhere in front of that, I don't carewhere it goes. But it needs to be in there.

Gary Meyer: What was the motion, Greg?

Greg Richmond: It was to approve the Commissioner's purchase.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Greg Richmond: The highway, the new property down there.

Gary Meyer: So that motion needs to be added to it?

Greg Richmond: My name needs to be on that motion somewhere here.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Greg Richmond: I couldn't find it.

Gary Meyer: Okay, anybody else?

Brad Overton: Motion to approve with amendment.

Charlie Christmas: (Inaudible).

Gary Meyer: Motion make by Brad and seconded by Charlie to approve with the addition. All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries six, zero (6-0).

TABLED ITEMS
4-H BUSINESS

Gary Meyer: Tabled Items, 4-H Business, 4-H Ambassadors. Welcome.

Andrew Clark: Hello, I'm Andrew Clark. This is my ninth year in 4-H and I'm with the Warrick County 4-H Ambassadors. This is the blue shirts. And so the office of Ambassador is an honorary leadership position. We kind of help with the promotion, help with some different things throughout the year. And so they're going to tell you a little bit about 4-H as a whole and what it's done for them. So I'm going to turn it over to Jessica.

Gary Meyer: Did you say your, you've been in for nine (9) years?

Andrew Clark: Nine (9) years, yes.

Gary Meyer: Did you join when you were one (1)?

Andrew Clark: Just about.

Brad Overton: Wow. Geesh. Got the kid off on his knees.

Jessica Bradford: Hello, thank you for letting us Ambassadors come speak with you this evening. My name is Jessica Bradford. I am a freshman and currently working on my seventh year in 4-H. If any of you were to ask me how I was confident enough to come this evening and speak with you the answer would be simple, 4-H. 4-H has benefitted me in every aspect of life. In 4-H, in the 4-H Pledge that 4-H'ers have been saying for almost a hundred (100) years, the Pledge states, 'I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living.' I pursued to live off this pledge, because with our 4-H, 4 H's, head, heart, hands, and health leading us through life, there is no way we can fail. My favorite part about this Pledge is as follows, 'For my club, my community, my country, and my world.' Now why I'm so intrigued by this? It's because it reminds me that all the community service projects I take part of, including many other 4-H'ers, it really can change the world. 4-H has taught me how to work hard for something I want and put all I have into it. But it's also taught me how to lose graciously. With all the amazing opportunities 4-H has offered, students can gain a much broader appreciation for their education. This being the first year I can apply, I applied for five (5) scholarship trips and won four (4) out of five (5) of these. 4-H has given me the opportunity to visit Purdue to further gain knowledge (inaudible) finances, health, managing, and just too many to list, but in a more fun and entertaining way. 4-H has been my life for seven (7) years now and I wouldn't have wanted it any other way.

Gary Meyer: Thank you.

Brad Overton: Wanna strike that Purdue comment from the Minutes.

Gary Meyer: I know, (inaudible) too.

Lydia Pryor: Hi, my name is Lydia Pryor. It's my fifth year in 4-H and I will be telling you guys about what 4-H is as an organization and how it has helped me grow. 4-H is an organization for youth. It offers a wide variety of programs for elementary schoolers through high schoolers. By offering these programs 4-H can help to teach kids real life skills while having fun. 4-H is a USDA and NIFA's Flagship Positive Youth Development and Educational Program. The unique partnership with Cooperative Extension System through the Land Grant Universities and National 4-H Council empowers young people to lead for a lifetime. The Warrick County 4-H has over five hundred (500) youth involved. In the US, we have over five hundred thousand (500,000) volunteers and thirty-five hundred (3,500) 4-H professionals providing care and support for six million (6,000,000) 4-h'ers. 4-H is a program that has helped me grow, from making friends to getting up incredibly early, being gone all day long, and coming home to your mom, to here. We have a 4-H Meeting tonight and then you being so excited to go and do community service projects together. 4-H has helped me grow in the way of learning how to do more things and learning that you have to start preparing your projects months in advance. Because you know when Fair comes around, you need to be really prepared because what will you be doing all week? Learning how to use the cash register in the Jr. Leader's stand. 4-H has helped me grow in the way of planning all day workshops for the Ambassadors. 4-H has taught me how to introduce myself to people at 4-H dances and make those people great friends. Here is a little quote I think applies to 4-H. 'A good friend is like a four (4) leaf clover. Hard to find and lucky to have.'

Andrew Clark: So we just want to thank you guys for your support of the 4-H Program and for giving us these opportunities through 4-H.

Gary Meyer: Thank you. Thanks for coming. We appreciate that.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS
PROSPECT SALT STORAGE

Gary Meyer: Okay, Item 3, Highway Business. Paul Rudolph has arrived (6:07 PM). You might put that in.

Paul Rudolph: Sorry, I'm late everyone.

Gary Meyer: He's sick. Bobby is. Additional Appropriation, Highway, Prospect Salt Storage, eighty-five thousand dollars ($85,000.00).

Marlin Weisheit: Hello, Marlin Weisheit, Commissioner. Bobby Howard is sick tonight but I have Steve here with me tonight.

Steve Sherwood: I'll be his stand in.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Marlin Weisheit: Last meeting we was asked to kind of put this in perspective and we did. And so it kind of gets you an outline of what the proposed site would be. And it would benefit really about four (4) departments. I think I can speak basically not only for the Highway Department. Steve is the Director of our Storm Water Department. It would be utilized greatly by them and then the Solid Waste Management District. You know it would be an alternate site if we need one (1) someday and obviously someday we're going to be faced with that challenge as well. And then the fourth department that would benefit from this would be Emergency Management. Because you know we utilize the barn out there now for that. So this would basically help and assist four (4) of our departments. And I think I can speak for all four (4) of them tonight that we're requesting full consideration of this tonight.

Brad Overton: Hey, Marlin. On the diagram, those two (2) buildings that are inside like the little half thing, could you read, I'm trying to read those but they're really small.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah, I know. The one (1) is Highway. The one (1) there, the first...

Brad Overton: Yeah, the one's right inside that little...

Steve Sherwood: Those are all dedicated to future Solid Waste (inaudible).

Brad Overton: Oh, (inaudible).

Marlin Weisheit: Those are little dumpsters (inaudible).

Brad Overton: Okay, so that's Solid Waste there.

Marlin Weisheit: That's, this is all Solid Waste over here. And this is the fence, the way I take it, entrance and exits.

Brad Overton: Gotcha.

Marlin Weisheit: And this would be the Storm Water here. And this is the Highway Department over here.

Brad Overton: Okay.

Marlin Weisheit: You know we talked about the Storm Water crew that works basically down in that area. You know it could be a site that we just move the Storm Water Department down there and save a lot of driving time. But not only that, you know, when we think about the Highway Department, you know, split up into three (3) Districts, we could actually put a time clock down there and we can have that one (1) District report down there the majority of the time as well. Save some driving time.

Gary Meyer: That was one thing I was going to ask you.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah.

Gary Meyer: If you put a time clock down there so they don't have to come to Boonville to...

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah.

Gary Meyer: Check in and go back down there.

Marlin Weisheit: You know, we're split up into three (3) crews and that, that District, Ohio District down there could report right there, save some time, keep some equipment right there.

Gary Meyer: Um hum.

Marlin Weisheit: So, it does give us a lot of different options.

Steve Sherwood: That is the intent. And if the Storm Water, that's the largest building you see on there, if we were in the future to relocate there, like Marlin said, a lot of our activates in Ohio Township are around the Newburgh area. And I believe the intent on the Emergency Management, if we were to leave that building out there on Roth Road, we would turn it over to Emergency Management for their use exclusively, if we were in the future to relocate to this potential site.

Marlin Weisheit: And you know, eighty-five thousand ($85,000.00), that is considerably lower than what both appraisals come in. So we feel it's a good purchase for the benefit to the County.

David Hachmeister: How many, or how much more in improvements are you going to need?

Steve Sherwood: Depending on how this is developed, each of the different buildings will have associated costs with them. Somewhere what the Storm Water spent out there for that building on Roth Road. Would be a similar investment down here.

Marlin Weisheit: That was around eighty thousand ($80,000.00) wasn't it?

Steve Sherwood: At that time. And then the proposed building for the rest of the District I, Highway Department, would become a satellite office. We wouldn't have any large equipment area building for them, they would utilize the Storm Water building if they needed to store a truck or two (2) or some equipment inside. We would probably share the main building in that capacity.

David Hachmeister: You know, yeah, I've thought for years that you ought to have something closer in that area. But like I mentioned before I wished you'd turned loose of some of the other ground that you're not in use of. And also, where's it going to stop on the expense out there? It's going to be a, you know, you can control it, two hundred thousand ($200,000.00) or two hundred fifty thousand ($250,000.00) or something, that way

Marlin Weisheit: Well, it doesn't have to be done all at once. But at least we have some options.

David Hachmeister: It will take several years 'fore it saves any money I guess, but...

Marlin Weisheit: I don't know, you figure what it costs an extra hour a day each way you know I think it could pay off pretty quickly. You know, it could gradually be phased in. It won't all happen at once as far as buildings and this and that. At least we have some options to plan for the future and have a location for the future. And we know that area's going to continue to grow. I mean, my gosh, it's going to get tighter to find property like that down there. And my big concern is when we eventually someday lose that Casey Road site which we lease from Cornell for four hundred dollars ($400.00) a month. And it is a bad spot there by the schools. So heavily traveled in there. The traffic, it's going to get more congested. Where's that site going to go? I mean you tell me. It's gonna be hard to replace that site down there that works. This site in my opinion would work very well. And nobody's going to want them in their back yard. But this would be a very convenient site for Solid Waste to keep recycling, have a drop off site. It lays out pretty good here. I'm pretty impressed here with the room that we was able to work out with the ground we got there to benefit like I say, not only Highway, but it would benefit Storm Water, benefit Solid Waste, and Emergency Management, you know, by freeing space up here. We've got some equipment sitting out right now. Emergency Management as you well know, Charlie, they've got one (1) trailer sitting out again.

Charlie Christmas: Yes, I do know.

Marlin Weisheit: Storm Water's grew, Emergency Management. I mean it worked for a while, but it's been very beneficial to Emergency Management.

Charlie Christmas: Emergency Management's grown too.

Steve Sherwood: As you see, the two (2) parcels on the extreme east end of tax parcels already written in. Those are two (2) existing parcels that we do own down there. And the one (1) building, the current salt storage building, I'm (inaudible) that's (inaudible).

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah. Glad you mentioned that.

Charlie Christmas: You got in place (inaudible) they going to be assigned in that area, are they going to be, say (inaudible)...

Marlin Weisheit: They can just report to work there. The ones that worked on that, you know we have three (3) Districts and three Foremen. And that District could eventually just report there. You know, I mean, think about the drive time. You know, they work down in that District every. Well, four (4) days a week. But...

Charlie Christmas: Yeah.

Steve Sherwood: Any other questions we may answer for the Board?

Gary Meyer: Doesn't sound like it.

Steve Sherwood: Thank you for your time.

Gary Meyer: Thank you. Anybody else have any comments? Motions?

David Hachmeister: Well, you do have the money for it. The thing is you use the money for that, it's not going to be used for something else. So, but, that's your discretion. I make a motion to approve.

Charlie Christmas: Second.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by David to approve and seconded by Charlie. Any further discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries six, one (6-1 with Ted Metzger opposing).

Krystal Powless: And the one (1)?

Gary Meyer: Ted.

Marlin Weisheit: Thank you very much.

Gary Meyer: Thank you.

Charlie Christmas: Thank you, Gentlemen.

Marlin Weisheit: It is good to see the 4-H here. I'm sixty-five (65) years old. I remember being in 4-H. I made a lot of friends through 4-H and Jr. Leaders and going to camp. And it's still, still have friends that we talk about old times. So it's just good to see them here.

Gary Meyer: It is, isn't it?

Marlin Weisheit: What a fine group.

Gary Meyer: Enjoyed it, thank you.

Steve Sherwood: I say he had to be twenty-two (22), twenty-three (23) before he got those nine (9) years in.

Gary Meyer: Yeah, maybe.

NEW BUSINESS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
URBAN TRANSIT

Gary Meyer: Okay, Item 4, Economic Development Business, Additional Appropriation, Urban Transit. Five thousand dollars ($5,000.00); Courthouse Renovation, one hundred fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00); BEP Program, fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00); for a total of two hundred five thousand dollars ($205,000.00). Good evening.

Larry Taylor: I can...good evening, Larry Taylor, Economic Development Director. I can speak to the first one (1) of these. It's Urban Transit. That's the MPO annual dues. It's twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00). I had submitted in my budget for twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00), but as you know the budgets were frozen. And I was here two (2) months ago I believe and we, we, I had asked for twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00). But that was by mistake. It was actually, the bill this year was twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00). So we had to put in and advertise for an additional appropriation of five thousand dollars ($5,000.00). And what that goes for is the MPO, so all the Federal Grants and the State Highway Funds and things, the matching funds that we get have to go through and be, be approved and recommended by the Evansville MPO. That we have some, we have sitting members of that. I believe it's a Commissioner; Bobby Howard sits on that as well.

Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

David Hachmeister: Second.

Gary Meyer: To approve what?

Brad Overton: The first, Urban Transit.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Brad and seconded by David to approve the five thousand dollars ($5,000.00), Urban Transit. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries seven, zero (7-0).

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

Gary Meyer: Okay, Courthouse Renovation, a hundred fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00).

Larry Taylor: Okay, I'll start with this one (1) then maybe Commissioner Weisheit would like to finish up with it. But a while ago, Greg Richmond had come to me on behalf the Council to talk about the Courthouse Renovation Projects. The first part of that, you know, has to do with some walls being moved and things around the Courthouse that's going to allow some street work to be done. And as I understand it, there's a lot of benefit to that, because then Boonville has been working with Vectren to get grants for street lights and everything else. But this is part of what the County can do to benefit that. And you say, well why would we use Economic Development money for that? Well, in my opinion and my recommendation to the EDAC Board, that anything we can do to spruce up this Courthouse and you know maintain it. Because everybody that comes in here will come up here for, to the Area Plan Commission to get permits and site reviews and that sort of thing. So the better we can make the Courthouse look and everything else, I think it's good. Just leaves a good impression, a better impression of Warrick County. And I presented this to the EDAC Board and they recommended you know spending up to a hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00) to go towards that out of the Economic Development portion of EDIT. I'm sure that there are greater plans coming about on that. And there'll be other funding sources. But that's one (1) that we would recommend taking. The Commissioners have included it in their CIP and then they have some other recommendations I believe.

Marlin Weisheit: Marlin Weisheit, Commissioner. I want to thank David and Greg and Krystal for sitting on this committee. You know we've had a couple of meetings and planning things out. As far as Boonville City, their engineering should be finished up within a week or so.

Charlie Christmas: Yeah, they're almost done.

Marlin Weisheit: And then, and then we'll have some plans presented to us, and we'll be ready to put the sidewalks out for bid at that time. And you know, we, we think the hundred and fifty thousand's ($150,000.00) pretty well's going to do the sidewalks and hopefully the footers that'll be needed inside for the light poles and stuff. The complete plans should be ready to go by then. And getting the electric down here and you know buried underground. The vault right up next to the old Courthouse here, we can move it in. Also the committee, we're ready to have a, Joe Grassman our Purchasing Agent, he sits on the committee as well, start getting bids so we can put some proposals together to present to the Council. To figure out, we talked about this at our last meeting, you know, on our heating and air, electric, lighting, bricks an mortar, some cosmetic work in here. You know, we'll be getting some bids so we'll know how to handle that project as well. But my first focus is on sidewalks, because I knew the City was wanting to get this plan together. So I appreciate Larry working with his budget and you guys consider whether to use this on getting the funding in place for the sidewalks so we can go to bid.

Charlie Christmas: Marlin, on these sidewalks, what sidewalks are we talking about out there? We've got four (4) or five (5) different...

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah. Actually, Charlie...

Charlie Christmas: Way down (inaudible).

Marlin Weisheit: We've all agreed, and after many meetings with the City, they've done a request for us to move them in three (3) feet. Now this is about the inside Courthouse sidewalks.

Charlie Christmas: That's what I'm trying (inaudible).

Marlin Weisheit: Now the City is working their plan out for the outside too. They're going to replace every sidewalk, and the City's counting on going a block each way.

Marlin Weisheit: But this here, this money will only be used as far as the County for the inside sidewalks, other than over here at the Harold Gunn Pavilion. You know we own that lot, we're going to have to pay our part there to do the sidewalks around there. That's just on the corner there. So some of that might be used there.

Charlie Christmas: Right. (Inaudible).

Marlin Weisheit: We're actually going to move it in three (3) feet. We haven't decided what type wall to put back. And then basically, hopefully the City will do the blacktopping around you know to fill in the difference if they want us to move it in three (3) feet. We're not going to interfere with any of the historical markers on the corners. You know the walls will be brought in. I know it's kind of controversial, we go move it in, but it will help with the parking and vehicles sticking out. Especially on the one (1) ways. It will be safer. So, but...

Gary Meyer: Are we going to be responsible for the sidewalks around the Judicial Center too?

Marlin Weisheit: You know my plan, and my plan as one (1) Commissioner, I think the other Commissioners agree with me, those sidewalks are in perfect shape. They was replaced then, and even over around the Elks building and all that, I mean, and around our parking lot down there. Those sidewalks are good. You know, and our parking lot there across from the Judicial Center, those was replaced at that time. You know there was some controversy and meetings and the Mayor really was set, die hard set on putting heated sidewalks in and tearing everything out. He, the Commissioners haven't budged on that. We're not in favor of tearing out our sidewalks right up to our Judicial Building. They're in perfect shape. You know we've got other sidewalks we need to...

Gary Meyer: Yeah.

Marlin Weisheit: There's better ways to spend our resources, Gary.

Gary Meyer: Right.

Marlin Weisheit: That's a good question. I'm glad you asked that.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Marlin Weisheit: We haven't budged on that. And I think he's backed off on the heated sidewalks at this point. But we'll have a few meetings before we do. You know they're doing the engineering. United Consultants was hired to do the engineering. Those plans should be presented to us here anytime. We've been having some parking meetings with the City as well about asking our employees to park off-site here. And I think that's going to happen maybe around the first of June. I won't be a very popular Commissioner, but it really needs to happen. You know used to the County employees had respect for the businesses around the square. And I think we're probably going to impose an Ordinance that you know that requires our employees to park off the inside the square here so that the businesses can function, the Courthouse can function, and you can find a place to park if you have to do County business in this building. We have adequate parking. If we don't, we'll find it. So just to give you a heads up on that as well.

Paul Rudolph: Marlin, on moving the sidewalks in, so there's the potential that we might be doing a bond for the Courthouse Renovation, correct?

Marlin Weisheit: Um hum.

Paul Rudolph: Would it make sense to do this as part of that bond? Or would it make more sense to, now as a particular payment and why?

Marlin Weisheit: I think if we come out of this with using Larry's budget to do the sidewalks, we'll have that out of the way and that will give us time, because it'll take time to do the bids. And when Joe does these bids on the rest of the renovation, we're asking these bids to be good for one (1) year. Cause it'll take time to get all the estimates in and then we prioritize and decide how big a project we want to do. You know, we feel that our top priority is gonna be heating and air and electrical. Maybe some bricks and mortar then some cosmetic stuff inside. You know, the windows and doors, that'd be before the cosmetic stuff inside. You know get some energy efficient windows and doors.

Paul Rudolph: And where are we on the sidewalk bids?

Marlin Weisheit: We haven't...

David Hachmeister: Uh...

Marlin Weisheit: Sent it out. We got some rough estimates. We think the hundred and fifty thousand ($150,000.00) will do the wall and sidewalks. We hope it does it. From our rough estimates we've had now it will easily cover the sidewalks and the wall.

Paul Rudolph: So why are we doing the expense approval before we get the bids? Wouldn't it be easier to do the bids and then do the expense approval?

Marlin Weisheit: Well, if we've got the money in place, we can do bids and have funding in place.

David Hachmeister: I guess, precede with what Joe was telling us, the contractors would like to know the money's in place before they go to all the money, or the expense to turn in bids.

Marlin Weisheit: Yes, yes, the contractors give us the estimates so we pretty well knew what to expect. But once we get the engineering plan then they can give us a, you know, a good solid bid. But no need in putting it out for bid if we don't have the money in place. And you know, we're all in agreement. It needs to be done. Sidewalks been needing replaced for years. And the City's doing, they've got a great plan, and I hope it all works out. All the sidewalks on the square needs it. You know, I mean like the Judicial Center's good. People's Bank's good. But the rest of them pretty well need replaced.

David Hachmeister: Did everyone on the Council get the estimates on the different walls and the walks?

Krystal Powless: I sent them to you.

David Hachmeister: Okay.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah.

David Hachmeister: I'm not so much as far as the cosmetics, but we've got a lot of broken sidewalks that need repaired. So I make a motion to approve the hundred and fifty thousand ($150,000.00).

Gary Meyer: Motion made by David to approve the hundred fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00). Is there a second?

Greg Richmond: Second.

Gary Meyer: And seconded by Greg. Any further discussion?

Ted Metzger: I have a discussion. Where are we at with this agreement with Boonville where they're on the hook for half the cost to replacing the sidewalks? I know they're playing this agreement to their benefit constantly, but we did settle on an agreement and it was read into the minutes where the city agrees to replace all sidewalks on the inner Courthouse square within one (1) year to the due date of this agreement.

Marlin Weisheit: Are you talking about the twenty (20) year contract?

Ted Metzger: Yeah.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah.

Ted Metzger: And that never was done.

Marlin Weisheit: A lot of things wasn't done in that contract, you're right.

Ted Metzger: Right, so I think if we approve this hundred and fifty thousand ($150,000.00), we're costing our constituents seventy-five thousand ($75,000.00) too much.

Marlin Weisheit: Well, we haven't negotiated out who's going to pay for what. I mean, the City going to approach us, the County Commissioners, to help pay for some of the engineering and these engineering fees get pretty expensive doing these projects like that. My thought is you know from the bids on the concrete and then the sidewalks and the walls, it wasn't as bad as I thought it was gonna be. Maybe the City will meet the engineering costs and let us just do the sidewalks. Then they pay for the blacktop. I mean we'll renegotiate out some things in that contract. We hope to keep all of our parking spots. We're gonna demand we keep all of our parking spots.

Charlie Christmas: Yeah.

Ted Metzger: They are working on a Parking Ordinance, but they also agreed to maintain the city sidewalks and parking areas and do it in according to State and Local standards and regulations of the County.

Marlin Weisheit: Um hum.

Ted Metzger: And agree to be responsible for the ice and snow remove...or that's the County. The County, we've been doing that.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah.

Ted Metzger: We've been doing everything in this agreement, the County has to stand by it. But every time it comes up for the City to do something, they're kind of remittent. They're kind of backing out.

Marlin Weisheit: That was drawn up seventeen (17) years ago. And there's been a lot of things on both sides reneged over the years.

Greg Richmond: In that...

Ted Metzger: Yes, but this is seventy-five thousand dollars ($75,000.00).

Greg Richmond: There also was an agreement on Rockport Road, wasn't there?

Marlin Weisheit: Rockport Road, we paid half of that.

Greg Richmond: (Inaudible) our part of that.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah. Yeah.

Ted Metzger: We did it originally though. When the agreement was first done, called for us to do it within a one (1) year, it was done.

Marlin Weisheit: That was before my time. I really can't answer that. It looks like it's pretty rough out there right now.

Ted Metzger: He talked about it in the minutes. The bill was too high. The City went in and jumped the gun and they got outside private contractors. But we could have done it in-house much cheaper...

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah.

Ted Metzger: And there was a long argument in the minutes.

cause our bids wasn't quite that high or rough estimates weren't that high.

Ted Metzger: Yeah.

Marlin Weisheit: 'Til we actually bid...

Ted Metzger: Well even if it was fifty thousand ($50,000.00). If I save my constituents, would have been Tennyson, Lynnville, and Elberfeld, you know, the money, that's what I'm going to do. Because we have an agreement, if it's no good then maybe there's something legally we should do to the City to reimburse some of this money that's owed these other communities that don't use the sidewalks and the parking areas every day.

Marlin Weisheit: And I've talked to the City about helping us locate some parking for employees, they have a lot down one (1) block off-site that they used to let us use. And they're willing to let us use that again. Working with the school corporation, half a block from our other lot, so I mean we're all trying to work together to make it work. So...

Ted Metzger: Yeah, I think that...

Marlin Weisheit: But I understand your point.

Ted Metzger: That seventy-five thousand dollars ($75,000.00) would be better used in the future to acquire permanent parking places for our County employees. We may need seventy-five thousand ($75,000.00) here in the very near future for parking. I would say get with the City. Find out what the City's going to pay.

Marlin Weisheit: We've had many meetings with the City, Ted. Many meetings.

Ted Metzger: Yeah.

Marlin Weisheit: And I come to work every day and I have probably two (2) meetings a week with the Mayor. And I've brought those things up. He wasn't the one (1) that done that contract, I wasn't the one (1) that done that contract.

Ted Metzger: But it is a contract.

Marlin Weisheit: It is a contract.

Ted Metzger: It's in force. It's a legal document and we're gonna have to, I feel like we need to recoup part of that seventy five thousand dollars ($75,000.00). Like I said, there's people in Newburgh that don't want to do anything in Boonville.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah, and we might get 'em to pay for part of it. I don't know at this point.

Ted Metzger: Well.

Marlin Weisheit: Me and the other two (2) Commissioners will do our best.

Paul Rudolph: But to Ted's point, he does bring up a good one (1) here, that if we vote to approve the money before this is settled, that, that seems early.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah.

Paul Rudolph: Right?

Ted Metzger: There's no incentive for the City to pay.

Paul Rudolph: And to touch point, that's a valid concern.

David Hachmeister: But the County is responsible for the sidewalks on the inner square. Correct?

Marlin Weisheit: I feel we are.

David Hachmeister: Liability wise.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah, I feel we are. That contract states that the City will help pay half or whatever, but I feel that we'd be better off probably if we put it back the way we want to. Let them give us an engineered plan and let them pay for the engineering costs and then let us just put the sidewalks in and work with them on some other things. You know we've come to an agreement and you're on a committee and Greg's on the committee. We can sit down with the Mayor and try to work these things out. You guys, that's why I wanted you guys from the Council on this committee so we make these decisions together and know what we're dealing with. Yeah.

Ted Metzger: Well let me ask, Cliff. Do we have some type of recourse to force our agreement to get seventy-five thousand ($75,000.00) back from the City?

Cliff Whitehead: Without looking at the agreement I can't speak to that. I can look at the agreement. I can get a legal recourse. But it would be up to the County Attorney to make a determination and, and the Commissioners to direct him to do whatever he can. But I can give an opinion to you?

Marlin Weisheit: Todd has looked that agreement over, so has Mark Phillips the City Attorney. And we're just trying to work through it. (Inaudible) work to fix this square up and get everything up.

Ted Metzger: It's, it's kind of, they've held us over a barrel. They forced us to sign this agreement or they were going to sue us in Gibson County Superior Court. So we've been doing everything in the agreement faithfully.

Marlin Weisheit: Well for years the County and the City didn't play well together and I'm trying to play fair.

Ted Metzger: Well, don't get me wrong. I believe the walks need to be replaced. We need a wall. The Court, the Square needs to be shined up. I agree with that. But if I can save my constituents a few thousand dollars in the process, I'm going to do it.

Marlin Weisheit: Yep.

Ted Metzger: And if we approve this hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00) tonight there's no incentive for anybody to do anything.

Marlin Weisheit: I think there's incentive for us to spend every dollar as wisely as we can, to get the City to do what they will, and I'm sure Greg and Dave serving on the committee along with Krystal, we'll have meetings with Charlie. I mean we're getting ready to sit down with meetings. We're going to bid this out. But if we don't have any money to put in place, setting here, we're on hold. We're on hold. And you know, we can sit here and argue about it forever, but...

Ted Metzger: But it's not our fault. It's not our fault.

Marlin Weisheit: Well if there's no money put in place by this Council, there's no need in me having all these many, many meetings to try to work this out, to try and get something accomplished. So that's just how I feel, Ted. You know, I mean I assure you just because you're approving this money, I'm not going to, every day I'll fight for the County to do what's right and work with the City and I'll continue to do that. And I'm sure Dave and Greg will too serving on this committee. That's why wanted...

Ted Metzger: I'm not too interested in the City, I'm interested in my constituents. So...

Greg Richmond: Which the City is a part of.

Charlie Christmas: That's right.

Greg Richmond: You serve at-large. Okay.

Ted Metzger: Yes, just a small portion.

Paul Rudolph: On that notion...

Ted Metzger: And those are my constituents.

Paul Rudolph: As a compromise solution, if a contract said is that it should be fifty-fifty (50-50) and contractors are worried that not a vote to give funding, I would suggest is what we do is we vote to fund up to seventy-five thousand ($75,000.00), which would give the contractors a comfort level that there is a bid. And it will let both the Town and City of Boonville know that perhaps they also need to bring some money to the table too. And that would follow the contract, which I've not read, but following Ted's advice. So to me, to fund this fully, when the City has a legal responsibility, would A) lose us position regarding that and secondly, it'd be a little on the fast side. So my suggestion to the Council be that we vote to fund this up to seventy-five thousand ($75,000.00). And if we decide to pay another seventy-five thousand, we will, but I'm sure that there's not many contractors that would be concerned about giving us a bid based on the fact we've already partially funded the, the sidewalk modification.

Gary Meyer: We have...

Paul Rudolph: What do you think about that, Ted?

Ted Metzger: I can go with that.

Gary Meyer: We have a motion right now for the hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00) right now.

Paul Rudolph: I'm advocating the people deny that motion and vote for seventy-five thousand dollars ($75,000.00) is what I'm saying as part...

Gary Meyer: Don't we need to vote on it first?

Paul Rudolph: I'm suggesting, how I am voting on that. But yes, you're absolutely right.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Paul Rudolph: There's no motion on the table.

Gary Meyer: Yes, there is.

Charlie Christmas: There is a motion.

Paul Rudolph: I'm not motioning.

Gary Meyer: Okay, I know. I understand. Okay.

Paul Rudolph: I'm not motioning.

Gary Meyer: The motion is for a hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00) made by David and seconded by Greg.

Brad Overton: I did have one (1) question. Didn't we just, maybe it was two (2) months ago receive the bill from the Area Planning Commission for the work that's being done for the lawsuit with the chicken, or we got some notice about that? I believe that was up to sixty-four (64), wasn't that around sixty-four thousand dollars ($64,000.00) additional work that's already been billed for that. So I mean, my biggest concern is that if we draw this out into some big giant litigated

us and the City. So that's my two cents ($0.02) worth. Cause I know that bill's going to be coming in. That's not even, that's not even scratched the surface for that litigation.

Marlin Weisheit: It is unfortunate to see that expense.

Brad Overton: Yeah, so I mean, I know that's, at least that's my input.

Gary Meyer: Okay, Gentlemen, we've got a motion by David and seconded by Greg for a hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00). Any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion? Opposed? Motion carries five to two (5-2 with Ted Metzger and Paul Rudolph opposing).

Marlin Weisheit: Thank you, Gentlemen.

Gary Meyer: Ted and Paul. Thank you.

BEP PROGRAM

Gary Meyer: Okay, Building Department Business, Additional Appropriation.

Brad Overton: Oh, you jumped ahead.

Gary Meyer: I did?

Brad Overton: (Inaudible).

Gary Meyer: Oh, we got one (1) more. I'm sorry. BEP Program.

Larry Taylor: Thank you, Marlin, for warming everybody up. Larry Taylor, Economic Development Department. This is a project that normally...

Gary Meyer: Thank you guys for coming. Thank you.

Larry Taylor: Normally in Economic Development we like to build things. But this is a case where we would suggest tearing things down. The Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana that we're a part of has been very forthright in gathering some of these loans that goes into a Blight Elimination Program. And basically what it does is it takes houses that are falling down in disrepair, and they're falling off the tax rolls, and it provides some funds to tear them down. And they manage pretty much the whole process. There's, there's additional funds that are available to Warrick County that if we don't come up with some way to utilize them, they'll be, they'll be lost and we won't get the benefit of it. And what we came up with is, this again would be a Commissioner's project but I'm, we're supporting it because getting rid of some of the blight, just cleans it up and it creates some other building spots. But the Cliff Notes version, what we're suggesting, is there's twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00) per house that's available from this, on this grant, and Debbie Bennett-Stearsman will explain a little bit more on that for up to twenty-five (25) houses that have been identified. So a maximum of six hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars ($625,000.00) is what we're talking about. And to do that you have to have an organization that takes that over and kind of administers the process and works with the Coalition to get that done. Boonville NOW has done some of that. And what we suggest is to work with Boonville NOW to let them administer tearing down these houses because the majority of them are in Boonville. Although it's not limited to just houses in Boonville. So there's others that would qualify that they would manage. Basically we're back, we're suggesting to back-stop those twenty-five (25) potential houses of up to two thousand dollars ($2,000.00), which two thousand dollars ($2,000.00) is the maximum they can spend on doing title work, environmental work, and everything. And if they, if they put it into the program and all the sudden they do the title work, and it shows that, 'Gee, there's all these outstanding liens against it and everything else,' that it doesn't make sense to spend the twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00) to clear off the lot. Cause you're going to be tied up in that. Then you may want to say, 'Now we don't want that one (1), we don't want to put that one (1) into the program.' In that case, you have to pay the up to two thousand dollars ($2,000.00) per property. So what we're suggesting so the County can take advantage of this program, is to back-stop each property up to twenty-five (25), a maximum of two thousand dollars ($2,000.00). Now do we think it's going to be fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00) that is going to go out? You know there may be three (3) out of the twenty-five (25). But I mean potentially, it could be all twenty-five (25) for a maximum of fifty ($50,000.00). But it's a back-stop of the potential exposure that we have so we can get an organization that will administer tearing these down. Now Debbie Bennett-Stearsman would be able to maybe add some more to that, answer any questions.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Debbie Bennett-Stearsman with Economic Development Coalition. I can see that you're already confused. It is a confusing program. The program's been going on for three (3) years. It's going on in all four (4) Counties: Vanderburgh, Warrick, Posey, and Gibson. Our organization is helping Gibson, Posey, and Warrick on their portion of the funding that the State awarded to those Counties be able to identify and help tear down blighted homes. All the money that we're working with is considered loan money. The money was given to the County and the County then in fact turns around and loans it to the participant or home owner or a non-profit organization. The deal in this is the County cannot be an owner. A City or Town cannot be an owner of the property. These were, if you remember when the stimulus came out, they gave the hardest hit funds out to the States. That money was used to help people supplement their mortgages if they were behind. People did not take advantage of that. So in 2014, the Indiana Housing Community Development Authority went back to HARP and said, 'We would like to now take this money and do a modification and give it out to Counties by population to allow them to tear down blighted homes in the Counties. But we don't want the Counties to own them, they want them to help the homeowners." So that's kind of the process of how, how the money came down. Warrick County was given in two (2) separate rounds, one point three two million dollars ($1,320,000.00). And in that funding they can loan up to, through ITDA, the loan is not coming from the County. It's being channeled through the County to property owners who could not afford to tear their houses down or to allow somebody else the funding to buy that property to tear it down, redevelopment with the goal of rebuilding on it, and getting it back on the tax roll so that the community can start having taxes come back into the properties. To date, Warrick County was awarded sixty (60) homes. To date we've taken down thirty nine (39). We have from just different process, had twenty-three (23) people come to the program that didn't, we couldn't follow through with them. So we're getting to the last year of the program. And the County and recaptured money, and when I say recaptured money, each property gets twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00). We bid it out through the County Commissioners in bulks of ten (10) to twelve (12) houses. And after we tear them down and go through the process of the budget for each house, and there's money left over, we recapture it and close that house down put it back in your account. So it just keeps accumulating. Or if

someone sells a property and they owe money back, it goes back into that account. So now we're down to the last year. We have six hundred fifty thousand dollars ($650,000.00) we can loan out to people. We've identified eighteen (18) potential property owners that we just had a public hearing on that we'll probably be doing in a bid set of eighteen (18), I would say. They are into the State for final approval, so maybe in June we'll be taking down eighteen (18) more houses in addition to the thirty-nine (39) we've already taken down. We're still going to have a surplus of funds. So I, we're not having people come forward. It's a voluntary program. We can't condemn a house and tear it down. And people have to qualify. We're not getting enough applicants. And I hated to see the County lose the money that was left. Because the other Counties have spent their money. In fact they've asked for more. One (1) thing I saw in other Counties that seemed to be successful was people or organizations like Habitat or different non-profits were able to go to tax sale houses and ask the Commissioners to assign the tax sale houses to them. The problem we've been running into is during that six (6) months of getting the tax title deed, they have to go through the process of getting an attorney on board to do the title search, make sure that's the person that owns it. See how many liens there are. And determine if we go through with this and get it in the program, do we really want this house? There are too many liens, we can't satisfy against it. So people started dropping out because they couldn't afford to pay that portion of making sure that they wanted those houses. And I can understand that. Well I went to Larry and talked to him because in talking to the Commissioners, I said, 'Have you ever done this type where you assigned it to a non-profit? Because Gibson and Posey are using it and it's working very well.' And he said, 'No, that he didn't thing that had happened.' So I had Todd Glass check into it. He said yes we can in fact do that. I thought, my first thought was to try to find a County Organization that maybe wanted the properties, but they're scattered sites. So we went through the list and looked, started focusing on Boonville, because we knew we had an organization in Boonville that would be willing to take the task on. Because they've done a lot of these houses already. When I say, take the task on, they become what's called a program partner or the owner of the property. Because somebody has to have ownership of that property and take responsibility for it after it's tore down and cleaned up. And I met with Larry and I said, 'First I wanted to go to Redevelopment, do you have any interest in any of these houses, because they are scattered, they are houses, they're not together.' He said that he didn't feel like there was any, you know, that he would rather have an area to develop than just a lot sitting in various places. So I suggested that we find a non-profit. And I've been trying to. One (1) that I found that would be willing to participate was Boonville NOW. The problem was they did not have the funding if a house had to drop out. And that they couldn't pay for the attorney's fees to do the title search. If the property is, if the twenty-five (25) properties we've looked at, which again, we don't know that all twenty-five (25) were going to go. We went through them Tuesday night. There's a few we've already filtered. But we wanted to keep it up to twenty-five (25) properties. If we don't need the money, we're not going to use the money. Because if the property is qualified and they do take it, the program pays the attorney's fees. So we wouldn't tap into the money. But the problem is, we don't know if all of them are going to have liens against them or not. We have to go to the title search part. So even if we go to the title search part, we may not even use the whole two hundred (200)...two thousand dollars ($2,000.00) for that house. We may just use as much as three hundred dollars ($300.00) to do the title search. But we have, we have to do it in order for them to take it. So I, now that I've thoroughly confused you, do you have any questions? It has been a very detailed (inaudible), but it has been very successful. I don't know if any of you have seen any of the places that are now down. A lot of them, we've sold them after they're down where people are building. I know Habitat is doing three (3) in Boonville right now that we turned the properties over to them.

David Hachmeister: But you mentioned a six hundred fifty thousand dollar ($650,000.00) loan?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: That's what's sitting in your pot right now. The County's pot.

David Hachmeister: Not the individuals?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: The County, it's not a loan to the County. If you don't use the money, it just goes back to the State. The loan goes to the individual. So if an individual, if you got a house and you want to get in the program, you're going to borrow twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00) to tear your house down. So you, property owner, are going to take a demand note, mortgage, promissory note against that property. It will be a lien from the State of Indiana against that property and Warrick County.

David Hachmeister: Okay.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: And if they sell it, they have to come back to the State and say, 'What is the balance owed.' And if they make a profit on it, they have to turn anything over the profit back into the program. Cause we've been selling them. There is a process for that.

Gary Meyer: What did you say a while ago? That Boonville NOW, if they become a partner, they will own the property?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Yes. We're asking the Commissioners to assign it to Boonville NOW.

Gary Meyer: Okay, this, then, then this loan goes to Boonville NOW from the State?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: They will, for each property, they will take out a mortgage, demand note, and promissory note for twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00) on that property. Now...

Gary Meyer: But they don't have the money to do it. That's what you told me, right?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: No, they're borrowing from the county. They're borrowing twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00) from that six hundred fifty thousand ($650,000.00) pot.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: From the County, taking a mortgage, demand note, and promissory note. Now that mortgage is a forgivable mortgage by one-third (1/3) per year. There's no repayment or percent interest. The only thing is, if they sell it. They have to come back and ask me for a payoff and then, well I ask the State personally, but they do ask me. And the State gives them a payoff. If they're making, we fill out a settlement statement that I send to the State, if they're making a profit over and above what their balance is in any given year then they have to put that money back into the program.

Paul Rudolph: So if they sell the house for thirty thousand ($30,000.00), that extra five (5)...

Paul Rudolph: Goes back into the program as well.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Correct.

Paul Rudolph: What happens if they sell it for twenty thousand ($20,000.00)?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Then they keep it.

Paul Rudolph: They keep...?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: They keep what they make. But I can tell you, we're in the third year, so the third year owing right now is eight thousand one hundred thirty-three dollars ($8,133.00) or something like that. Cause I've done a lot of them lately. If you sell in your first year, that was the high year cause your twenty-five thousand ($25,000.00) was divided by three (3). You can do the math. That's what it is.

Paul Rudolph: Is there any way the County is actually on the hook for this as far as from the six-fifty ($650,000.00)? Like are we ever...

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: The County does not have a contract with the State.

Paul Rudolph: Right.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: This is a, again it's a created program, one (1) time, will never happen again. And it has been good. I can tell you right now, in three (3) Counties, we are at a hundred and fifteen (115) houses and down. And it's made a big difference in a lot of places. Not just in Cities and Towns, but there's properties on farms and in Counties that we're doing. We just want to help the Counties spend the money. We're not getting anything out of it. It's just in the past I've heard millions of times from Cities and Towns, we have houses that we can't get them down. We don't have any money. And this program came out. And I think they did the right thing doing what they did. And I think that it's made great improvements in many of the Towns. I just didn't want the County to lose the Opportunity to spend the balance. And I tried to creatively think of everything I can to get somebody to participate.

Paul Rudolph: And this fifty thousand ($50,000.00) is going to Boonville NOW to actually make that acquisition. The fifty thousand ($50,000.00) is going from us to Boonville NOW to them?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: No, it is not.

Paul Rudolph: Okay, (inaudible).

Cliff Whitehead: So let me, let me make sure I understand this. The fifty thousand ($50,000.00) is in case one (1) up to twenty-five (25) of the homes, they decide not to take because of title liens, issues like that. If they decide not to take it, their money that they spent to determine 'we don't want to take it' is a loss to them they cannot recoup through this program.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: They don't have the money to pay it.

Cliff Whitehead: And they don't have the money.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: And I couldn't ask an attorney to do title work knowing that I might not be able to pay them.

Cliff Whitehead: So you are allocating fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00) into a pot that may never be used or only a portion is to be used based on how many homes they decide not to take after their title search.

Paul Rudolph: Understood. So then I guess my one (1) last question is, and this goes back to our previous conversation, is this a County, why is this County and not City? Cause I mean this is a program that's for the City of Boonville.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: This is a County application. It was a County wide application when it was applied for. Each of the Cities and Towns went together. We had numerous meetings. We could have done a lot of little applications. And it was best to do, each County did one (1) application for all of its Cities and Towns, and the County areas. So the County is basically the responsible party for it. They are administering the funds. They all come through the County.

Cliff Whitehead: Yeah, I think that's the more correct term. The County is the administrator of the program. I dealt with this, City of Evansville side, and so they are, legally on the loan documents, other than they are the administrator for the loan, the funds they receive from the State. But the City is never liable for any funds that, that go out to theses program participants.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Yeah.

Gary Meyer: Is there...?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: In the event, excuse me...

Gary Meyer: Go ahead.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: In the event of default, for instance, if we tore your house down. The only thing we ask you to do is sign a demand note, promissory note, and mortgage. And then we ask after it's done, that you keep it clean. That you keep it mowed, that you take care of it. We have inspectors looking where we turn, if you didn't mow, we turned you in. Well what's that going to do? If we turn you in three (3) times, and the County doesn't take any action to make you mow it. The County doesn't get any more of its money. There isn't, like you pay it back, like you get no more money.

Cliff Whitehead: That program is going, this doesn't really stop or start that program. It just helps facilitate these twenty-five (25) homes to give Boonville NOW a little, not a little, but a safety net in case they decide to not take one (1) of twenty-five (25) homes.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Or it doesn't qualify for some reason. Yes.

Gary Meyer: Is there any way that we can, once the house or property sells, let's say resells, and they get whatever it is, do we get money back?

Larry Taylor: I was just going to say, the way the, I work with Todd Glass, the County Attorney, to put a contract together with Boonville NOW that the Commissioners have approved, we've approved. So if any profit is made off these properties the County and Boonville NOW splits it. So if they ultimately sell it, then after it gets cleaned up and the State pays for it and everything else, and then they make any profit, we split it fifty-fifty (50-50).

Gary Meyer: So that would pay the fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00) back? Eventually? Maybe?

David Hachmeister: (Inaudible).

Gary Meyer: Maybe

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: If they sell it.

Gary Meyer: Yeah, I know.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: I mean, you know, they've sold a couple of them.

Gary Meyer: Yeah.

Larry Taylor: I doubt that we would spend the fifty ($50,000.00). What do you think?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: I don't really think that you will spend fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00). My, and I...

Marlin Weisheit: I look, I think it maybe best, maybe fifteen (15) homes and seventeen ($1,700.00), eighteen ($1,800.00) hundred dollars apiece probably in legal fees. That's the best, that's what I'm thinking at this point. But it's be great if we could get twenty-five (25) additional homes on here where we could use up most of our BEP money that's available.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: And if you know of any other homes, please tell me. Or if any of you all want to get some of the homes, please tell me cause we have the money.

Marlin Weisheit: I have to say, Boonville NOW is doing a lot of volunteer work. We wouldn't have got this grant without them. And they're going out in the County and doing these inspections on a volunteer basis. And there's homes out there that need to be tore down. We can't get people to sign up for it. They just don't want 'em tore down. And one (1) thing, and I know me and Dave's talked about this in the past too, there's no financial, I mean it don't matter if you're poor or a millionaire, you qualify. There's no financial...

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Yeah, the house prequalifies itself.

Marlin Weisheit: It does.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: The matrix is a scoring on what the house looks like.

Marlin Weisheit: And we've tore 'em down (inaudible) the City, the Town of Newburgh had three (3) that we tore down in the Town of Newburgh. One (1) in Elberfeld. Twenty-nine (29) or twenty-six (26) in Boonville. Three (3) right at the edge of Boonville.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: And we took some down in the County.

Marlin Weisheit: And two (2) in the County and Elberfeld area. So I mean it's been all over. We've got some more coming up out in the County. But these members of Boonville NOW, a couple of them, they go out and they do this scoring on them. Each one (1) of these houses has its own folder. It takes a lot of work, and Debbie who's great to work with as always. But this grant has just about put her over the edge. She's handled many grants for us over the last twenty (20) years. But this one (1) is so much work. And when she explained that over in City Hall over three (3) years ago, I mean everybody threw their arms in the air. Nobody wanted to help. I mean this was a lot of work. Boonville NOW stepped up to the plate and said, 'We'll do it.' That's what we've been working for. We've been trying to get some of these houses down. So thanks to them we were awarded a million three ($1,300,000.00) and we're, we're at over seven hundred thousand ($700,000.00). It stops the end of this year. It'd be great to spend that other six hundred thousand ($600.000.00). And this would just be a way to get some of these properties...

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: I think it's also important to know, Boonville NOW does not own those other properties. They have very few for the work they've done.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: The people still own the property. The people that actually own the houses. They took the mortgages out, they're tied into it, and they're still the home owner. There were a lot of grateful people that had houses they had been told to take down but they just didn't have the resources to take them down.

Gary Meyer: Is this the last year of the program?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Yes, it is.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah, (inaudible) to the end of this year, doesn't it?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: For Warrick County, yeah. Gibson has one (1) more year cause they got additional funding, they've been through, we're doing sixty-four (64) right now and still counting. We'll probably get up to a hundred (100) in Gibson down

Marlin Weisheit: Am I right that the end, December 31st, of this year the loan's going away.

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: This, for Warrick County, the money goes away the end of this year. The Program goes away for Warrick County at the end of 2017.

Marlin Weisheit: And the people that sign up now, their loan...

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Their loan goes away at the end of '17.

Marlin Weisheit: Their loan goes away at the end of the year. Where if you signed up the first year, it was a third each year. But this year, you jump on the bandwagon now at December 31st, you're free and clear of the grant the way I understand it, or the loan.

Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Brad to approve. Is there a second?

Greg Richmond: Second.

Gary Meyer: Seconded by Greg. Any further discussion? All those in favor? I'm sorry, three (3), four (4). Opposed? That motion passes four to three (4-3 with David Hachmeister, Ted Metzger, and Gary Meyer opposing).

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: Thank you for your time.

Gary Meyer: Thank you.

Paul Rudolph: I would like to thank you for your patience with explaining all of this to us.

Krystal Powless: And the three (3)?

Debbie Bennett-Stearsman: (Inaudible) thank you for your patience in listening.

Gary Meyer: Ted, David, and me.

Krystal Powless: Ted, David...

David Hachmeister: You said Ted?

Gary Meyer: Ted, you, and me.

David Hachmeister: You and me.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT BUSINESS
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Gary Meyer: Okay, Building Department, Additional Appropriation, Equipment Maintenance, twenty-eight thousand dollars ($28,000.00).

Dennis Lockhart: Dennis Lockhart, I'm the Warrick County Building Inspector and I'm here to request a transfer of twenty-eight thousand dollars ($28,000.00) from the Building Fund into the Equipment Maintenance Fund for the purchase of a new vehicle for that department. I'm currently driving a 2006 Ford Explorer with a hundred and sixty-five thousand (165,000) miles on it. I've been averaging thirty thousand (30,000) miles a year and I've put ninety thousand (90,000) miles on this vehicle. In January we had our biggest month ever in the Building Department. In February, it was bigger than January. So it just keeps getting bigger and bigger. This money does not come out of the General Fund. It comes out of the Building Department Fund, which is generated from people purchasing permits on buildings and from projects. By buying this vehicle, it solves the problems of the Building Department of where you're going to find a vehicle for the Building Department every time you turn around. It also frees up a vehicle for you to give to somebody else that don't have the ability to buy another vehicle. This program, Commissioner Weisheit's worked hard on this. He, it's the same program that the Sheriff's Department is using. You buy the initial vehicle for a year or two (2) years, whichever you decide you're going to do. I'd like to do it every year because I'm putting thirty thousand (30,000) miles a year on a vehicle. I don't want to buy a set of tires. I can trade it in for a thousand dollars ($1,000.00) and get a new vehicle instead of a set of tires. So that's pretty much the deal.

Gary Meyer: How much do you have in your fund right now?

Dennis Lockhart: About...

David Hachmeister: Two hundred (200) and...

Marlin Weisheit: About two hundred forty thousand ($240,000.00) I think in their account. This year in fees only, he's took in right at a hundred twenty thousand dollars ($120,000.00), this year. In January, it was thirty (30), right at thirty-six thousand ($36,000.00). Right at forty-nine thousand ($49,000.00) in February. March was twelve thousand two ($12,200.00). And I checked today, in April, in half a month here, twenty-two thousand dollars ($22,000.00). This guy is spreading his self so thin. Now he'll be coming to the personnel committee in, in August because we're trying to find him some help now, because when he's off. These permits, he's just running himself ragged. He's just one (1) of the County employees that are just spread way too thin. And he really puts the hours in, and he's doing a great job. We never get no complaints. Everybody's happy, all the contractors and builders. I just want to take a second to brag on Dennis.

Dennis Lockhart: Thank you.

Marlin Weisheit: But it, Gary, I know you like to eliminate vehicles. My goal, we've got those two (2) old Crown Vics that's way past their presence over in the lot. My goal is to rebuild this one (1), and use it over there and get rid of those

two (2). And you know the engineers use one (1), Commissioners, we use one (1) too. But we can get by with one (1). So my goal is to get rid of those two (2) Crown Vics that's way past their, their prime. And you know the last one (1) we used, we sent it down and got the transmission rebuilt. Don drove it a couple of years. We all drove it a little bit. And it's out at Drug, Drug Court now. So their vehicle's got two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) miles on it and still going. So it's got a little life yet in it. You talk about going every day, the transmission's getting weak in it so that'd be the big thing. So we'll have to assess the situation to see if it's worth rebuilding. But I think it probably will be.

Paul Rudolph: Dennis, did you…?

Marlin Weisheit: That's my goal, to eliminate two (2), and get one (1).

Paul Rudolph: Did you request a vehicle at budget time?

Dennis Lockhart: No.

Paul Rudolph: No.

Marlin Weisheit: We probably dropped the ball on that.

David Hachmeister: I believe you did.

Marlin Weisheit: We should have been on top of that at that time. But this does come out of his account. I mean you know he's got the money there. And the thing of it is, the Sheriff's Department just ordered their vehicle. So we'd like to order one (1). Like he was saying, you know, we bought one (1) of the Dodges out at the, like they use at the Highway Department. The salesman told us then if you trade every year you can just about trade even cause they get them right back on the market. Just once we make the initial purchase, whether it's ever one (1) or two (2) years, but probably be the best as many miles as he runs just to trade it every year and never have to buy a set of tires. You know and trade for a thousand dollars ($1,000.00) or whatever to keep it going. It would be a good investment for the County and give him a very needed vehicle.

David Hachmeister: Do you take this vehicle home?

Dennis Lockhart: Yes, I take it home.

Marlin Weisheit: You start from home, don't you?

Dennis Lockhart: I start from home.

Marlin Weisheit: (Inaudible) yeah, he probably heads south ninety percent (90%) of the time.

Dennis Lockhart: The only time I drive it on the weekends is if I'm working on the weekends. Which I work quite a few Saturdays.

Marlin Weisheit: But we can't keep up right now and it's amazing to check and see the building (inaudible) tell you how much building's going on here. He's got to be here. One (1) of these footer inspections, many times at each one (1) of these building sites.

Paul Rudolph: Did you go to the purchasing agent to, to…?

Dennis Lockhart: He can't touch this program. I've asked him.

Paul Rudolph: He can't touch it?

Dennis Lockhart: (Inaudible).

Marlin Weisheit: The Sheriff's Department buys them on State bids, so it's a State bid purchasing is what we're asking for. And I think the Sheriff told me earlier, I mean they're a little over twenty-seven thousand ($27,000.00) or around twenty-seven thousand ($27,000.00) this year for a new truck. So…

Dennis Lockhart: I did go to the Purchasing Agent. He told me he couldn't.

Marlin Weisheit: The best bet is just to go…

Dennis Lockhart: Yeah.

Marlin Weisheit: Where the Sheriff's Department gets them. I mean we could, we could put it out for bid. But you're not going to buy them any cheaper than that. I mean…

Dennis Lockhart: The, the, the beauty part of this is the trade in every year. You know for a thousand dollars ($1,000.00) you get a new truck every year. And that's about the cost of a set of tires. And you'll never have maintenance, because it's under warranty.

Charlie Christmas: (Inaudible) oil changes anymore.

Marlin Weisheit: And you know to brag on the Sheriff just a little bit, he's got a Lieutenant out there that's been in the car business for years. Lieutenant Weinzapfel, he probably knows more about buying and selling cars and how these programs work and he stays on top of it. So, it's just about as easy to call Lieutenant Weinzapfel and say, 'Will you help him purchase.' He'll call, he'll get his contacts, and then we'll get the State bid. Cause he puts it out for bid every year for the Sheriff's Department. We can jump on that.

Paul Rudolph: And I don't mind spending it. I just really think this should generally be part of the budget conversation is my only concern.

Dennis Lockhart: Well, the problem with that is I don't know how long this car is going to last.

Marlin Weisheit: Yeah, he's been having transmission trouble is the reason we started pursuing it about two (2) months ago.

Dennis Lockhart: The reason I didn't put it in the budget was we hadn't have this growth that we've had in the last six (6) months. And I didn't want to take that kind of money out of the Building Department. And now that we've got a lot of money in the Building Department. (Inaudible) Marlin started working this about six (6) months ago.

Charlie Christmas: (Inaudible) user fees.

Greg Richmond: It's all fees, so I'll make a motion...

Dennis Lockhart: This is all fees. That doesn't come out of the County budget at all.

Greg Richmond: That we purchase this vehicle.

Dennis Lockhart: We're self (inaudible). We don't ask money from you guys...

Gary Meyer: Motion...

Dennis Lockhart: On anything.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Greg to approve. Is there a second?

Charlie Christmas: I second it.

Gary Meyer: Seconded by Charlie. Any further discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carried five (5), two (2).

Marlin Weisheit: Thank you, Gentlemen.

Dennis Lockhart: Thank you.

Gary Meyer: Thank you. Ted and Paul.

Gary Meyer: Circuit Court Business, Additional Appropriation, Juvenile

Ted Metzger: Six (6), one (1).

Cliff Whitehead: Hang on.

Ted Metzger: I voted for it.

Gary Meyer: I'm sorry. I'm sorry, six, one (6-1 with Paul Rudolph opposing). I'm sorry, Ted.

Cliff Whitehead: Paul was the one (1).

Gary Meyer: Keep...Paul, yeah. Keep me in line here, guys.

CIRCUIT COURT BUSINESS
JUVENILE PROBATION CIRCUIT

Gary Meyer: Okay, Item 6, Circuit Court Business, Additional Appropriation, Juvenile Probation, Circuit. Supplies, one thousand dollars ($1,000.00), and Travel, one thousand dollars ($1,000.00). This is a user fee, correct?

Krystal Powless: Correct. And he did call today, wasn't going to be able to make it. I mean (inaudible) user fee and there's plenty of money in there.

Paul Rudolph: Motion.

Brad Overton: Second.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Paul. Seconded by Brad to approve. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries seven, zero (7-0).

TREASURER BUSINESS
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Gary Meyer: Treasurer Business, Additional Appropriation, Equipment Maintenance, four hundred seventy-five dollars ($475.00).

Judy Beem: Hello, I'm Judy Beem, the Warrick County Treasurer. This is for a short pay on an annual contract. The annual contract is nineteen seventy-five ($1,975.00). The vendor agreed to take a short payment of fifteen hundred dollars ($1,500.00) until the additional four-seventy-five ($475.00) could be appropriated.

Brad Overton: Do you have anywhere that you could possibly transfer this money?

Judy Beem: No, we do not. The budget is pretty limited for the Treasurer and the funds are already allocated for those expenses for the appropriate line items.

Charlie Christmas: What kind of equipment is it?

Judy Beem: It's for processing payments.

Charlie Christmas: Okay, oh, okay.

Gary Meyer: Was this shorter than the budget? Or was it, or did they raise their price? What?

Judy Beem: It, the budget was, this contract was about the same amount as the budget. The budget was initially, I think nineteen (19), no it actually, the budget was less than the annual contract. So the budget was short.

Gary Meyer: It would be nice if you could find a place to transfer it.

Charlie Christmas: Yeah.

Judy Beem: I did look prior to that. This invoice goes back to January. And I spoke with the vendor and I also looked at the limited line items that the Treasurer has. And there really isn't any other line item that can be taken out of without shorting one (1) of the other expenses.

Paul Rudolph: Motion to approve.

Ted Metzger: I'll second it.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Paul and seconded by Ted to approve. Any further discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carried five to two (5-2 with Gary Meyer and Brad Overton opposing).

Judy Beem: Thank you.

Gary Meyer: Thank you.

Krystal Powless: And the two (2)?

Gary Meyer: Brad and me.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUSINESS
ANIMAL CONTROL EXPENSE

Gary Meyer: Health Department Business, Additional Appropriation, Health Department, Animal Control Expense, two thousand thirteen dollars ($2,013.00). That's a reimbursement, correct?

Krystal Powless: Yes.

Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

Paul Rudolph: Second.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Brad and seconded by Paul to approve. All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries seven, zero (7-0).

PARK DEPARTMENT BUSINESS
EQUIPMENT

Gary Meyer: Park Department Business, Additional Appropriation, Parks and Recreation, Equipment, nine thousand six hundred thirty dollars and fifteen cents ($9,630.15).

Krystal Powless: This is also a reimbursement, well, not a reimbursement but a sale of some equipment that he had and he's just wanting to put back in the line item. He was planning to purchase, I think he said furniture for the cabins is what he's wanting to do.

Brad Overton: Well, I guess it's his money and we can't hold it 'til the end of the year. Then I guess we could.

David Hachmeister: I didn't know he sold anything else.

Krystal Powless: Yeah, it's a...

David Hachmeister: He done (inaudible) the money...

Krystal Powless: (Inaudible), there's a bunch of things on here. A lawnmower...

David Hachmeister: Where did he sell them at? Oh...

Greg Richmond: Dimmitt Auction.

David Hachmeister: Dimmitt Auction, that's great. Okay. That's great.

Paul Rudolph: Motion to approve.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Paul to approve.

Brad Overton: Second.

Gary Meyer: And seconded by Brad. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries seven, zero (7-0).

SHERIFF BUSINESS
AMENDED SALARY ORDINANCE
FOOD SERVICE MANAGER

Gary Meyer: Sheriff Business, Amended Salary Ordinance, Food Service Manager, eleven thousand five hundred fifty-two dollars and eighty-seven cents ($11,552.87).

Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

Paul Rudolph: Second.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Brad and seconded by, I'm sorry, someone down here. You?

Paul Rudolph: Paul.

Gary Meyer: Paul? To approve. All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carried seven, zero (7-0).

Charlie Christmas: (Inaudible)

JAIL
FOOD SERVICE MANAGER

Gary Meyer: Okay, Additional Appropriation, Jail, Food Service Manager, eleven thousand five hundred fifty-two dollars and eighty-seven cents ($11,552.87)

Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

Paul Rudolph: Second.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Brad and seconded by Paul to approve. All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries seven, zero (7-0). Thank you for the explanation Sheriff.

Brett Kruse: No problem

Brad Overton: Motion to approve Sheriff's explanation.

E911 UPDATE

Marlin Weisheit: Marlin Weisheit, Warrick County Commissioner, I did want to advise you, we're, we've got this on the agenda for his AT&T 911 Public Safety Contract cause it has to be renewed next month. So we're probably going to take care of that at the next Commissioner Meeting. Unless you tell us different, we'll probably just pay that quarterly. You know it's a ten (10) year contract. Went up a little bit it's twenty-nine thousand one-thirty-eight-forty ($29,138.40). Or we could pay a lump sum for ten (10) years of eight hundred and fifty-two thousand dollars ($852,000.00), which will save you about thirty thousand dollars ($30,000.00) a year. But I think Krystal says there's four hundred thousand ($400,000.00) in the E911 account. So...

Brad Overton: I like quarterly.

Marlin Weisheit: I think that's what we'll do unless you'd just advise us different. But I just, I've been keeping you posted on that the last few months cause it's time to do it cause it's got to be redone for May. And it'll be all due, E911 equipment, (inaudible) dispatch...

Brett Kruse: Phones. Phones, E911 equipment, and that is the maintenance agreement also.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Marlin Weisheit: So we'll take care of that unless you'ens have anything to question. So I just want to let you know...

Gary Meyer: Okay. Thank you.

Marlin Weisheit: Thank you.

Gary Meyer: And the pension thing, you want to hold off?

Brett Kruse: I'll get with you and we'll...

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Brett Kruse: (Inaudible).

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Krystal Powless: Should I put it on the May agenda, or, no? Wait to hear from you?

Brett Kruse: No just, wait 'til you hear from us.

Krystal Powless: Okay.

Brett Kruse: I want to (Inaudible).

Krystal Powless: Okay.

Brett Kruse: Thank you.

AUDITOR BUSINESS
ELECTED OFFICIAL TRAINING

Gary Meyer: Okay, Auditor Business, Additional Appropriation, Elected Official Training, Assessor, three thousand dollars ($3,000.00); Treasurer, twenty-five hundred dollars ($2,500.00); Recorder, twenty-five hundred dollars ($2,500.00); Auditor twenty-five hundred dollars ($2,500.00); Clerk, twenty-five hundred dollars ($2,500.00); for a total of thirteen thousand dollars ($13,000.00).

Debbie Stevens: It's kind of all of the Office Holders. This is to address the Elected Officials Training Fund. It's a fee that's collected through the Recorder's Office for each recording and that money is, is, it's fifty cents ($0.50) on each recording that goes into the Elected Officials Training Fund. It is, it does require appropriation by the Council to fund for training purposes for Elected Officials. So I'll just speak for myself, I would, unless you have some questions to start off with before we, if you want to hear from each one (1) of us on the education that we're required to have and also the education for our Association Conferences.

Gary Meyer: I've just been told that the Clerk said she doesn't need it.

Debbie Stevens: Oh, okay.

Gary Meyer: So I guess we can take that off.

Debbie Stevens: That was a surprise to me.

Gary Meyer: Yeah.

Debbie Stevens: Cause she communicated by email, and I think I had I actually forwarded that on to Krystal that she requested the twenty-five hundred dollars ($2,500.00).

Krystal Powless: (Inaudible) saying she didn't think she needed it. So I told her, well I guess we can take her portion off.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Debbie Stevens: Great. It just stays in the fund. If it's not used it stays in the fund.

Greg Richmond: It's for training only, not conferences?

Debbie Stevens: It's for education. Some of the conferences we do have regional and we have district conferences that do include education. As an example, next month there's a Spring District Conference in Huntingburg. There's a four (4) hour trainings education prior to that. So that is, that would be something that I would be able to use those funds for. As well as, now that's a conference for all Office Holders. So there may be opportunity, training opportunities, I'm guessing it would be for other Office Holders as well. Perhaps the Assessor would attend, the Recorder, the Treasurer and it's specifically for budget and finance.

David Hachmeister: Why are they so expensive?

Debbie Stevens: Pardon?

David Hachmeister: Why is it so expensive?

Debbie Stevens: Well that, that conference alone would be a sixty dollar ($60.00) registration fee and then there's a thirty dollars ($30.00) registration fee for the meeting in the evening where we do get some legislative updates from the AIC. It's for you as well. It's for all Elected Officials to attend, some of the education opportunities that they provide. But I mean, as you know every one (1) of our jobs are completely driven by law and code. And that changes with each legislative session.

Gary Meyer: Is this over and above what we fund right now in the budget?

Debbie Stevens: You fund it some in, to our Travel Line.

Gary Meyer: Yeah.

Debbie Stevens: Which you know one (1) education opportunity outside of our State Called Meetings which does come from Unappropriated, it doesn't go very far. I can tell you that. You know a conference that's maybe a day or two (2), those dollars don't go very far. So I mean, this is Elected Officials, and I don't know if you've checked into the fund but Indiana Code does say that money in the fund shall be used solely to provide for the training of Elected Officials. And it also, part of the Code says the County Fiscal Body shall appropriate money for the fund. It serves absolutely no purpose and cannot be used for anything other than training and education for the Elected Officials. And you may want to hear from, I don't, you tell me. Do you want to hear from any of the other Office Holders and some of the education that's appropriate to their jobs and opportunities for them to receive training and education?

Gary Meyer: Is this an annual amount? This amount?

Debbie Stevens: Well, if you appropriate, the fund itself, the money doesn't go anywhere except the fund. We're just accumulating money that is not being used for the purpose of, of what it was collected for.

Greg Richmond: The way I read the statute, we can't use it any other way. Is that correct?

Debbie Stevens: That's, that's correct. And you know, I'll just, there's probably Counties where money would never be

Gary Meyer: Let me ask you this then, can we save in our budget by cutting out the education funds we have, the travel funds there and just provided it here?

Debbie Stevens: I suppose that you could do that. You know year over year over year, our County is not getting smaller, and so all of the situations and all of the, the things we have to check into every single day that's new or has never happened in our County. We have new situations that come up all the time. And it's going to continue that way because we're never going to be smaller than we are today. And so more and more and more is required of every single Office Holder in regards to their jobs. And what, when we have a fund that's never been used before, what are the laws around that? We have to research, we have to make sure we set those funds up correctly to begin with. Or we could, I mean a lot of the funds are statutory. And all of them, practically all of them have IC that tells us how we must use them. And for me personally...

Greg Richmond: I've been to some of those trainings.

Debbie Stevens: None of it, my job is not less than it was two (2) years ago.

Paul Rudolph: So...

Debbie Stevens: It's more. And I have to constantly learn and research.

Paul Rudolph: Tell me if I'm misunderstanding any of this. So I believe you're telling us, so this fund has a balance of twenty-four thousand six hundred and eighteen dollars ($24,618.00) and brings in forty-five hundred dollars ($4,500.00) a year. And you're asking for an additional appropriation of thirteen thousand dollars ($13,000.00) from that twenty-four-six ($24,600.00). That thirteen ($13,000.00) is being split among five (5) Officer Holders. With three thousand ($3,000.00) going to the Assessor, twenty-five hundred ($2,500.00) each to the Treasurer, Recorder, Auditor, and Clerk. How are we coming up with the break outs of three thousand ($3,000.00) for the Assessor, and twenty-five hundred ($2,500.00) for, and why are we only limiting it to these five (5) offices?

Debbie Stevens: Any one can come to you and ask you to appropriate for them.

Paul Rudolph: And see that's the part where I am a little confused. Cause, per the statute that you provided, it says that we have to. So to me it's, but your, but the request is that we have the option to. We're being asked to. To me what it sounds like we need to do, is we need to take that twenty-four-six-one-eight ($24,618.00) and, and we're holding it. So the statute says fifty cents ($0.50) shall be deposited in the County Elected Officials Training Fund established. So how's that fifty cents ($0.50) become the thirteen thousand ($13,000.00). And I'm not trying to give you a hard time, I'm just really trying to understand the mechanics of what we're being asked to do here today.

Debbie Stevens: If in our Travel Line and budget, we're either cut year over year or frozen. Nothing, nothing stays the same when it comes to costs. If a contract fee goes up, well we were allocated the year before does not cover those costs, obviously. Or, and we come back and tell you. Well our annual fee went up or some of our costs went up. And, and that's true of everything. If we travel or go to a conference or need education on a certain subject, subject matter, then whatever it costs us last year, it's going to cost us more this year.

Paul Rudolph: So maybe my question wasn't precise. I guess the question I'm trying to ask, the statute says fifty cents ($0.50) shall be deposited in the County Elected Officials Training Fund for every two ($2.00) charged for the County Identification Security Protection Fee. How much money is that precisely? Is that the thirteen thousand dollars ($13,000.00)? Or is that three thousand dollars ($3,000.00) or it that twenty-thousand dollars ($20,000.00)? Do we know how much that is? Because we want to comply with the Statute.

Debbie Stevens: They deposit annually? Annually? Is that what you're asking me? It's fifty cents ($0.50) for (inaudible).

Paul Rudolph: So that's the forty-five hundred dollars ($4,500.00) annually is that fifty cents ($0.50)?

Krystal Powless: That's an estimate.

Debbie Stevens: Um hum.

Krystal Powless: That's just an estimate. I mean, that's kind of based on what it had brought in.

Debbie Stevens: Right. It's per document. It's per recording.

Krystal Powless: So you know, it's not set in stone. It's gonna be, it's gonna depend on how many documents recorded and...

Paul Rudolph: So that forty-five hundred dollars ($4,500.00) a year times whatever from the beginning is the twenty-four thousand six hundred and eighteen ($24,618.00).

Krystal Powless: Correct.

Paul Rudolph: So long story short, that whole twenty-four thousand six hundred and eighteen dollars ($24,618.00) belongs to the Office Holders for training?

Debbie Stevens: Correct.

Paul Rudolph: So that's a special fund for the Officer Holders, and now I think I understand. Meanwhile, so what happened is that it was five (5) and now four (4) Office Holders are now asking to pull from that twenty-four thousand dollars ($24,000.00) to their current training needs?

Debbie Stevens: Correct.

Paul Rudolph: My recommendation, now that I fully understand this, is that if we're getting forty-five hundred ($4,500.00) a year. We probably don't want to spend much more than forty-five hundred dollars ($4,500.00) a year cause we've got to

pay for next year. Right? If we pay thirteen thousand dollars ($13,000.00) this year and we pay thirteen thousand dollars ($13,000.00) next year, we're going to have zero (0) money in 2019. If I'm doing the math correctly, forty (40) officers elected in 2018. So my recommendation based on that to the fellow esteemed Council Members would be that we certainly fund or that we give money to the Office Holders, but probably not in excess of our annual or significantly in excess of the annual amount we're bringing in. That would be my recommendation. Now I don't know what everyone wants to use it for, but with a limit of forty-five hundred dollars ($4,500.00) I mean we can give money to whomever but we're being requested for eleven thousand dollars ($11,000.00), ten-five ($10,500.00) to be exact if we don't count the Clerk. Does that make sense to everyone?

Krystal Powless: I got it, yeah. I don't know if anybody else did.

Greg Richmond: My only objection is, I still have a problem with conferences. The trainings are good and training is necessary and we've all got to have it. But outside of that, the rest of that stuff that the AIC does, the conferences a lot of times are just meeting together with groups and socializing. The training is very, very important.

Debbie Stevens: How do you know that Mr. Richmond? I've attended those conferences.

Greg Richmond: So did I.

Charlie Christmas: We all have.

Debbie Stevens: I don't know what you did at the conferences, but I get educated. And I am there to learn and be trained and be educated in what my duties are.

Greg Richmond: I went to the meetings. I was also invited to go out and wine and dine by the vendors and things like that. Which I didn't. So...

Debbie Stevens: Neither do I.

Greg Richmond: Okay. But I'm just saying that I think that it's a little bit, at some of these conferences, when I look at it, one (1) day is meeting and training. The rest is kind of socializing.

Debbie Stevens: Well, I...

Greg Richmond: Cause I look at their agendas every year to see if there's anything I'm interested in going to see.

Gary Meyer: Yeah (inaudible).

Brad Overton: (Inaudible) training.

Greg Richmond: If I'm going to learn from something. Anyways, we've taken this long enough, I just want to let you know that I'm not against training. I'm okay with training.

Gary Meyer: (Inaudible).

Greg Richmond: And I like Paul's idea very much so. And would vote for Paul's idea if it comes up for a vote.

Cliff Whitehead: And I do want to clarify one (1) thing, there's been some discussion on what the Council has to do. Council doesn't have to approve this or appropriate this. They have to pay Claims that are for training and comply with this section. So it, it, they don't have to do this. But I heard that but I heard that being said.

Gary Meyer: So we just have to appropriate money for our training?

Cliff Whitehead: Per Claim.

Gary Meyer: Per Claim.

Cliff Whitehead: Um hum.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Greg Richmond: Do we wait 'til Claims come in?

Cliff Whitehead: I'm not saying you should or shouldn't, I'm just saying that's when you're obligated to make an appropriation. The Claim comes in on a training and training can include travel, room and board. You are obligated if it complies to appropriate at that point. You're not obligated to appropriate prior to a Claim coming in.

Greg Richmond: If the fund becomes zero (0), do we still have that obligation?

Cliff Whitehead: I don't know the answer to that.

Paul Rudolph: Let's, why don't we table this, get a little more legal advice from our attorney and discuss again next month. If that's okay?

Gary Meyer: I'd like to ask one (1) question before you table it.

Paul Rudolph: I would, I would motion to table it, but, but by all means go ahead.

Gary Meyer: I'm just curious, the Treasurer, Recorder, and Auditor have the exact same amount of money. How do you know you're going to use that amount of money?

Debbie Stevens: I can't

Gary Meyer: Are you all going to the same conference?

Debbie Stevens: Well, we do have similar training, yes. I can only tell you that I have a district meeting, spring and fall. I have a regional district meeting and I'm at twenty-five-ninety ($2,590.00) if I'm able to take advantage of those education opportunities. I'm at twenty-five ninety ($2,590.00) just, just for me.

Gary Meyer: So you just, (inaudible), okay.

Debbie Stevens: Now, you may want to hear from the other Office Holders. And perhaps their needs aren't that much, or perhaps they're more. But you know in fairness, I think you should hear from them too.

Ted Metzger: Are there any other Office Holders that would like to address the Council?

Sarah Redman: Good evening, Sarah Redman, Assessor. I'm sure you're curious as to why mine is the most. And you know to address you concerns, I think, sorry I don't remember who was saying something about that, do I think I'd need three thousand ($3,000.00) again next year? No. I have three (3) classes to attain my Level III Certification. I have to take those this year. That's fifteen (15) overnights away from home. I'm not looking forward to that. But that's fifteen (15) overnights right there. And when I kind of just figured the State rate on the hotel, it's about eighteen hundred dollars ($1,800.00) plus I'm going to eat out. I'm not cooking at home. I'm away from my family. And then I also have a January conference that's required and it's about June. I'm still learning when all my conferences are, where we get a lot of information that's actually the Assessor's conference. That's not including any of the districts, anything like that. I'm just kind of asking for the stuff that I have to take for my classes, for my certification. Anything else, I had a district a day long not too long ago. I have the money for travel in my budget but you also need to keep in mind we don't have a lot for travel in our budget and I have a staff that has to maintain their certifications as well. They also have forty-five (45) credit hours that they have to maintain. Thirty (30) credit hours if they're Level I or II. So that's why mine is a little higher, if you have any questions.

Paul Rudolph: And just an FYI, Ms. Assessor, your, you've been in office how long again?

Sarah Redman: Since the end of '15.

Paul Rudolph: So about a year. A little over a year.

Sarah Redman: Which is why I'm struggling so to quickly attain my Level III I have to have.

Paul Rudolph: And to me the, the best time for training is when someone's still new in office, right? So that's...

Sarah Redman: Absolutely. When we get the most.

Paul Rudolph: Where we get the most bang for our buck. That being said, would it cause you any pains if we were to table this for a month then sort of figure this out?

Sarah Redman: Absolutely not. I actually just received our schedule for Level III. The State's really on top of things. They released it about two (2) weeks ago for this entire year. So we're almost into the end of April and we just found out when that is. So I don't think my first training is until June, as far as going away for a week.

Paul Rudolph: And the Treasurer and Auditor are also here. Any concerns if we just table this for a month? Would that be? Okay. I motion to table it then.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Paul...

Paul Rudolph: Until next month.

Gary Meyer: For, until the next meeting.

Ted Metzger: I'll second that.

Paul Rudolph: (Inaudible).

Gary Meyer: And seconded by, I'm sorry, Ted, did you?

Ted Metzger: (Inaudible).

Gary Meyer: And seconded by Ted to table it to the next meeting, Apr...the May meeting. All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries seven, zero (7-0).

COUNCIL BUSINESS
DISCUSSION
CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Gary Meyer: Council Business, Discussion, Conflict of Interest Statements.

Krystal Powless: Oh, you want me?

Gary Meyer: You're on.

Krystal Powless: Okay, so we have a Conflict of Interest Statement from, for Howard Nevins and Al Holweger. And they have asked you to approve these. It's something they do every year there's a conflict of interest.

Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

David Hachmeister: Second.

Gary Meyer: Motion made by Brad and seconded by David to approve. Any discussion?

Ted Metzger: On both of them?

Krystal Powless: Yes.

Gary Meyer: Yes.

Paul Rudolph: Unless you want to take them separately? Do you have any concerns?

Gary Meyer: Did you second?

David Hachmeister: Yes.

Ted Metzger: I'm just making sure.

Gary Meyer: And seconded by David. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed?

Paul Rudolph: Were you in favor or opposed?

Gary Meyer: Were you in favor or opposed?

Paul Rudolph: You were...

Ted Metzger: Opposed.

Gary Meyer: Opposed. Okay, motion carries seven (7), one (1).

Krystal Powless: Six (6), one (1).

Gary Meyer: Six (6), one (1). Sorry. Six, one (6-1 with Ted Metzger opposing). And Ted opposed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Gary Meyer: Okay. Anybody from the audience like to address the Council.

Paul Rudolph: I would like to apologize again to everyone for being a few minutes late. Work called and just called a little later than I hoped they would. So I apologize it won't happen again.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Debbie Stevens: Mine's quick. I just wanted to mention. Next month on the 4th, the first Thursday of the month, it's National/Warrick County Day of Prayer out on the Courthouse lawn at 6:00 (PM). So...

Charlie Christmas: We've dealt with this before.

Krystal Powless: (Inaudible) for advertising.

Gary Meyer: Advertising, we can't change it.

Paul Rudolph: Uh oh.

Krystal Powless: (Inaudible).

David Hachmeister: Yeah, um hum.

Krystal Powless: (Inaudible).

Debbie Stevens: What day is this? Thursday. We send our publications in as late as Monday. You think you can change it?

Krystal Powless: I can try to get them to change it. But (inaudible).

Gary Meyer: (Inaudible).

Paul Rudolph: Well can we even approve it if we don't know we can?

Ted Metzger: (Inaudible). Just delay the meeting?

Paul Rudolph: That's what we do normally every year. We delay it to 7:00 (PM).

Gary Meyer: That's what we're talking about. We've already advertised it for 6:00 (PM).

Ted Metzger: (Inaudible).

Paul Rudolph: But we...

Krystal Powless: See normally we've already had our meeting (inaudible).

Gary Meyer: This is, this is a delayed meeting.

Gary Meyer: (Inaudible) out.

David Hachmeister: (Inaudible).

Paul Rudolph: Can we approve a maybe? That if we're able to change...?

Gary Meyer: I don't want to do that.

Paul Rudolph: Well I guess we're stuck then.

Gary Meyer: I think we're stuck this year.

Charlie Christmas: Just leave it like it is.

David Hachmeister: 6:00 (PM) and we'll go with the music.

Gary Meyer: Yeah.

Debbie Stevens: Okay.

INNKEEPER'S TAX DISCUSSION

Gary Meyer: Yes ma'am.

Shari Sherman: Shari Sherman, Chamber of Commerce and I'm asking that the Council revisit the Warrick County or create a Warrick County Uniform Innkeeper's Tax and add it to the May agenda.

Gary Meyer: Okay, (inaudible). I did get communication from our State Rep. Mr. Bacon that the State is not going to look at what we send in.

Paul Rudolph: Did he explain why?

Gary Meyer: I can read it to you. "This email is to inform you that Warrick County Innkeeper's Tax filed this year in the General Assembly is essentially dead. It did not receive a committee hearing and the Second Reading Amendment deadline is today." This is dated April 5th. "The only possible chance for it is to be amended to the budget bill. Since the Ways and Means Chairman chose not to hear any Innkeeper's Tax Bills, this session is highly improbable that he would amend it." So I understand what that means then is either one (1) of two (2) things I guess. I guess we either go back and have our Attorney draw up what the State Statute states and then we can look at that. Cause we haven't voted on anything. We have a Statute now, not a Statute, a proposal that we sent out to the State. We didn't vote on it. But we just sent it up to have it looked at. So I guess we can inform him to draw up what the State says and then we can address that at that meeting, correct?

Cliff Whitehead: Yes.

Gary Meyer: Okay. I will say this. That the State Statute, from what, from what I read it, takes all the...

Paul Rudolph: Discretion?

Gary Meyer: Out of us.

Brad Overton: Yeah.

Gary Meyer: Even though we pass the tax. We have nothing to say about it, is what really bothered me. But at this point, I guess we could either pass it or delay it to next year and try the State again. I don't know what you all want to do. But we need to do something to get off of first base here.

Cliff Whitehead: I want to clarify that though. I'm sorry to interrupt. I do think, and I'll look at it again real quickly if I can pull it up, you, you, the Council still must appropriate any funds from it. So you, you still have the ultimate discretion on what funds are used. Or I guess rather, what funds are used for a brought about purpose. But you do not have any power to appoint members to the group...

Gary Meyer: Board.

Cliff Whitehead: Board.

Gary Meyer: Right.

Cliff Whitehead: So you do have some discretion.

Gary Meyer: Okay.

Cliff Whitehead: But that's (inaudible).

Gary Meyer: Now let me ask you this, then. Are you telling me we have discretion over their budget? Or each item they would spend the money on?

Cliff Whitehead: I know each item they would spend money on. But I don't know about their budget. I would assume...

Paul Rudolph: Like staffing?

Cliff Whitehead: Cause...yeah?

Paul Rudolph: Would we be able to decide staffing?

Cliff Whitehead: I don't know the answer to that. I mean you'd be able to decide if, how they, if they pay for staffing. But I don't know as far as personnel committee have a, I don't know the role of that.

Gary Meyer: Okay. Well...

Cliff Whitehead: But I can look into it.

Gary Meyer: Does anybody have any problem with having him draw up something for next meeting? And then we can discuss it?

Greg Richmond: And look into those questions, please.

Cliff Whitehead: Yes, and if any member of the Council has any additional questions other than those raised here.

Gary Meyer: I like the, we've been talking about this for a couple of years. Either you'd like to approve it or not approve it. Let's just do something.

Paul Rudolph: With the idea of not drawing this out because we've spent a lot of effort on...

Gary Meyer: Yes, we have.

Paul Rudolph: My one (1) recommendation is, and I actually might vote for it this time, I might, but we should have all the facts at our disposal when we're making this decision. There is currently, I believe, one (1) hotel that may have broken ground. There might be a second hotel breaking ground. I would really, really, really like to get their opinion before we make a decision. Any decision we make today, and even if we make next month, any decision we make in July, September, December, doesn't take effect if I'm correct until 2018. So with that being said, I'm only am thinking, why don't, there's no emergency. Why don't we wait three (3) months, four (4) months, five (5) months. Have more information about who's in favor, who's not. If hotels say, it's really important to me that we have a hotel board. If we have hotel that says I don't want it. Or if we have a hotel that says we do want it? That is very pertinent information to me. That would swing my vote.

Gary Meyer: Why would the hotel not want it?

Paul Rudolph: Why would a hotel not want it? Because it's an additional tax and makes them less competitive with other hotels.

Gary Meyer: Where?

Charlie Christmas: Where?

Paul Rudolph: It would make them less competitive, so right now...

Gary Meyer: Not in Vanderburgh County.

Paul Rudolph: Well, let me finish. Let me finish. So right now if a hotel in Evansville is eighty dollars ($80.00) and a hotel in Warrick County's eighty dollars ($80.00). The hotel in Evansville is really eighty seven ($87.00) eighty-eight dollars ($88.00) because of, so it's competitively more expensive because of the Innkeeper's Tax they have in Vanderburgh County. If we raise ours and that same hotel is now eighty-seven dollars ($87.00) in Vanderburgh and it's eighty-four ($84.00) or eighty-five dollars ($85.00) in Warrick County. It might be considered basically neutral. Right? So right now they would have a cost advantage against a Vanderburgh County hotel. So I can see and there are some people in the lodging industry aren't as crazy about lodging taxes and some people really like it. So rather than make our decision before they build ground, before they've had a chance to weigh in on it or to say, 'Really we don't want this tax..' I would really, really think that there's no urgency. What's the harm in waiting?

Gary Meyer: No, I understand that, Paul. But my question is then, if this is a Marriott, who do you want to get the opinion from? Mr. Marriot himself or the manager of this hotel?

Paul Rudolph: The manager of this hotel is fine. Of if some at the Marriott are saying we don't care.

Gary Meyer: (Inaudible).

Ted Metzger: District manager.

Gary Meyer: District manager, I mean who do we get the opinion from?

Paul Rudolph: I would weigh them all separately. If a manager says yes and a district manager says no, then I take it as, 'I don't really care.' But if they all say, yes or they all say no I'd probably listen. It's just a thought.

Gary Meyer: I think, well...

Paul Rudolph: Cause there's no urgency right now cause we're stuck 'til next year regardless.

Gary Meyer: I didn't say there was urgency.

Greg Richmond: I've got a question about that. So taxes require decision by July 1. Is this one (1) require any deadline?

Cliff Whitehead: No. We've kind of looked into that. I do think there is some discretion on the Council, if you pass the Innkeeper's Tax Uniform Version on the time table for implementation. So you could allow a year build up but I don't believe, the Statute is not clear. It says that you must, they must appoint the members to the Board by February 1st, but then it says if you don't there are other alternatives. So to answer your question, no I don't believe there's any specific hard deadline of the Council passing the Innkeeper's Tax Uniform Version. But there is a delay in actual implementation

David Hachmeister: I thought when we sent this to the State that we would get their version sent back to us and then we would vote on it.

Gary Meyer: That's essentially where we are.

David Hachmeister: And...

Gary Meyer: Because they didn't look at our version so it's their version or no version. That's where we are.

David Hachmeister: And that's where I'm looking at it. Is wait until we...

Ted Metzger: I didn't interpret it that way. I understood the Speaker of the House didn't hear any Innkeeper Tax Bills.

Gary Meyer: Right. That's right.

Ted Metzger: He didn't say it was his way or the highway.

Gary Meyer: Well, that's essentially what they said.

Paul Rudolph: And this is a shorter session this year because we had no budget, right? So there is, I mean, even if we want to really open this up. There's a chance that next year because it's a month long session, they could hear Innkeeper Tax Bills next year. And we can get the one (1) we've already passed.

Gary Meyer: And that's an election year.

Paul Rudolph: And that's an election year.

Ted Metzger: I think this was a blessing in disguise for the Council. Because this is going to be a campaign issue.

Paul Rudolph: So it sounded like there was going to be fair amount of discussion and debate and with that I might recommend we push it off a few months 'til we have more facts.

Gary Meyer: Now is that a recommendation or...?

Paul Rudolph: That's just a thought.

Shari Sherman: Mr. Meyer...

Paul Rudolph: Well right now there's no motion on...

Gary Meyer: That's right.

Paul Rudolph: The, I'm not motioning anything because I don't know what I want to put on it. I'm thinking we keep this in our back pocket for right now. Get some more information and then when the time is right and I will be the one (1) to make the motion. In two (2), three (3) look at July, August that we talk about this.

Gary Meyer: Go ahead, Shari.

Shari Sherman: Yeah, I want to address Mr. Rudolph's question about the hotel industry and whether or not they, they want that. And we have information and I can bring that back to you. But the majority and the hotel industry as a whole is very supportive of the Innkeeper's Tax because when they come in to a County, there is one (1), they know that purpose of that Innkeeper's Tax and user fee is to bring people in and to help fill their beds. And they want somebody that helps fill their beds that is out there promoting the County. That is out there bringing in visitors and helping to promote multi-day events so that there is a reason to stay in the hotel. They want someone there that is their advocate that brings that expertise that can help fill those beds. Because that's what it's about. They want their occupancy rate up and they know that there is an entity in that County that is helping to fill those beds. So...

Ted Metzger: Wouldn't the lowest hotel rates in the area be an incentive to the hotel?

Greg Richmond: You think they'd lower their rates?

Ted Metzger: Yeah.

Greg Richmond: They'll charge the same amount.

Gary Meyer: I will say this...

Ted Metzger: They tack on the tax, if they don't tack on the tax...

Gary Meyer: Every business in the County now, I've never heard anybody opposed to it. Victoria's Place's Bed and Breakfast, everybody has been in favor of it. So...

Shari Sherman: Yeah.

Gary Meyer: The hotels, cottages, cabins we have today are not opposed to it. At least I haven't heard of any.

Shari Sherman: No.

Gary Meyer: That's all I'm saying. The new ones coming in, I don't know.

Paul Rudolph: I'm not voting on the merits (inaudible).

Gary Meyer: My point is, I guess each Council Member has to find out how long they need to find out the information.

I've found enough information for myself. If you want to hear from the two (2) new hotels, that's fine. You make a motion to put it off however long you want to put it off. But we need to move somewhere here. It sounds like you have two (2) in favor of bringing it up in May.

Paul Rudolph: That's correct, with the reminder that...

Gary Meyer: (Inaudible).

Paul Rudolph: In September or October in issue came in front of the Council where we were told that overtime was going to be due to certain employees based upon certain restrictions. And the Council acted quickly on that dispute urgings from some Council Members that we not act any early than we need to. This is another situation...

Gary Meyer: No.

Paul Rudolph: Where we are being asked to act a little earlier without all the information. And I again....

Gary Meyer: This is a user fee, Paul.

Paul Rudolph: I...

Gary Meyer: Which is different than the overtime payment we made.

Ted Metzger: (Inaudible).

Paul Rudolph: I understand it's a different issue, again why rush into a decision. That's my only point.

Shari Sherman: I will tell you that this was addressed, and I think it was created in 1999 and then it was repealed shortly thereafter. It was brought up in 2011. It failed by one (1) vote. So this has been discussed multiple times. I'd be happy to bring any information that you want forward. That we can answer any questions that you might have and address those, those needs and issues. But I, you know, I would encourage you, we would like to have it, if possible, to have it in place so that we're not waiting 'til the hotel is here and then oh we didn't have it, now we're going to have it now that you're here. We do know one (1) hotel is breaking ground. That conservatively is going to bring in a hundred and twenty ($120,000.00) to a hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00) per year. We have heard from multiple sources that there's a second hotel getting ready to move forward on it. So we're talking about three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000.00) a year that can be used to promote and benefit Warrick County. Currently we're using EDIT dollars that are yours and mine tax dollars. But we can be using the user fee that would provide a much larger source to promote really to promote Warrick County.

Greg Richmond: I'd like to address this, and I don't want to carry this out too long but I want to address this form of how it can benefit everybody. I as a citizen of Warrick County and have my home here and live here, am not going to be paying that tax. People who come from everywhere else around are going to be paying that. And we have a lot of tournaments going on here in the County. And they go and stay in Evansville. And they're paying Evansville taxes down there, where we'd get that same money and use it up here to promote Warrick County. We bring in visitors, we bring in more people, we bring in jobs, we help increase the community's appearance. Overall it can, it's, since it's a user fee rather than a tax and it's not going to hurt me any at all, I think it's the right thing to do.

Ted Metzger: If I may address this user fee term. It's a masquerade. You can call it a user fee but it's a tax. It's taken from the people. Nobody volunteers to give you the user fee. It's a tax. And calling it a user fee doesn't help a bit. And the biggest incentive, like I said, to fill a hotel in Warrick County is they're cheaper. If they stay here, they might eat here.

Paul Rudolph: And again we're getting into the merits of the conversation which is really what we shouldn't do. I do want to just quickly say that yes, it is a tax. There's no doubt it's a tax.

Ted Metzger: It's a tax.

Paul Rudolph: It's a tax, cause they're not using County resources while they're staying at the hotel. They're not using any kind of resource. So it's not a fee for use of a County resource. It's a tax. Regardless of that, we're getting into the particulars of the subject. Rather than a discussion of when we want to bring it up. My recommendation, I'm going to go ahead and motion, that we table this until the second half of the year. So we put it on the August agenda which give us four (4), five (5) months to discuss it at that time.

Gary Meyer: Okay, we have a motion made by Paul to...

Ted Metzger: I'll second it.

Gary Meyer: And seconded by Ted to table this until the August meeting.

Brad Overton: I do have just a question. So if that's tabled does that mean nobody's going to be coming up here and discussing this at all with us.

Gary Meyer: I don't know.

Brad Overton: I'm just saying, if it's tabled.

Gary Meyer: Tabled is tabled.

Brad Overton: So that means we have zero (0) discussion. If somebody was to come up here...

Gary Meyer: Exactly right. Tabled 'til the August meeting.

Cliff Whitehead: They'd be out of order.

Cliff Whitehead: Yes. Anybody would in trying to discuss it would be out of order.

Gary Meyer: Yeah, out of order. It's tabled until August.

Brad Overton: I just didn't know if somebody…

Paul Rudolph: And I'm purely suggesting to be efficient with County resources.

Gary Meyer: There's no discussion with a tabled motion. Motion's been made by Paul and seconded by Ted to table until the August meeting. All those in favor of that motion? Opposed? Motion fails two to five (2-5 with Charlie Christmas, David Hachmeister, Gary Meyer, Brad Overton, and Greg Richmond opposing)

Krystal Powless: And the two (2) for?

Gary Meyer: Paul and Ted.

Charlie Christmas: Paul and Ted.

Gary Meyer: Okay, do we have any other motions? Suggestions? I was just, I really didn't think it was going to go to a motion. But I was just thinking about putting it on the agenda. It sounds like it's going to be a hot, a pretty hot topic. Which it has been for two (2) years. So maybe we should…

Greg Richmond: Motion to put it on the next meeting.

Charlie Christmas: I'll second that.

Gary Meyer: Motion, motion made by Greg and seconded by Charlie to table it until the May meeting.

Charlie Christmas: Yes.

Gary Meyer: Table 'til May meeting.

Krystal Powless: Well actually technically we'd be putting it on.

Greg Richmond: Just to put it on.

Gary Meyer: To put it on the May meeting. Yeah.

Charlie Christmas: Just to put it on. Don't need to table.

Gary Meyer: Okay, all those in favor of that motion? Opposed? Motion carries five to two (5-2 with Ted Metzger and Paul Rudolph opposing). Paul and Ted. Okay, so it will be on the May 4th Meeting.

Shari Sherman: Thank you.

Gary Meyer: Thank you. Without talking about May 4th, we, our next meeting will be May 4th at 6:00 (PM).

Debbie Stevens: (Inaudible).

Gary Meyer: Yes, Ma'am?

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER CONTINUED DISCUSSION

Debbie Stevens: First of all I want to thank you all, because in your past you've always been respectful of the event on the County Square. The appropriation…

Cliff Whitehead: Debbie Stevens, Warrick County Auditor.

Debbie Stevens: Advertisement, Debbie Stevens, County Auditor. The appropriation advertisement really has nothing to do with the time or the day of your meeting, because you can change that with notice. You have by giving I believe it's a forty-eight (48) hour notice you can always change the day and the time of the meeting. I'm not saying change the day, but it's up to you all. I'd thought I'd mention that.

Gary Meyer: Thank you. Okay, thank you.

Debbie Stevens: The appropriation and the time and the day are two (2) different things.

Gary Meyer: Any other Council Member have anything to bring up?

Charlie Christmas: I think we already brought everything up, Gary.

Gary Meyer: Looking for a motion.

Paul Rudolph: Motion.

Gary Meyer: Meeting's adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL

Gary Meyer, D.D.S., President

Greg Richmond, Vice President

David Hachmeister

Brad Overton

Ted Metzger

Charles R. Christmas

Paul Rudolph

ATTEST:

Deborah K. Stevens, Auditor
Warrick County, IN

Minutes transcribed by Kristine Georges

TABLED
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE

Whereas, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; now, therefore

Sec. 1 Be it ordained (resolved) by the Warrick County Council, Warrick 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 proposed specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

FUND	APPROPRIATION NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT REQUIRED	AMOUNT REQUIRED
Highway	1176-103-4352.00	Prospect Salt Storage	$85,000.00	85,000
Total Highway			$85,000.00	

Taxpayers appearing in the meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the State Board of Tax Commissioners. The Board 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.

Adopted this 13 day of April, 2017.

AYE

NAY

ATTEST:

Deborah Stevens
Auditor, Warrick County