**WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM
107 W. Locust Street
Boonville, Indiana
December 1, 2022
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 and Administrator Krystal Powless were in attendance.

Auditor Debbie Stevens and Secretary Kristine Georges attended and recorded the minutes.

Council President, Greg Richmond, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## ROLL CALL

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Now, tonight, I want to show everybody that he (Ron Bacon) is visible to me and everybody here. This is Ron Bacon. He had knee surgery and cannot be here tonight. But, this will allow him to vote but I have to do, keep me straight because I'm a creature of habit. We'll have to vote by Roll Call. Make sure I remember that.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** You don't have to remind you of something?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Yeah, all the time. That's what Vice Presidents are for.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** That and a bucket of warm spittle.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, first up, Roll Call of the members present.

**Krystal Powless:** Ron Bacon?

**Ron Bacon:** Here. (Ron Bacon was present and visible via Facetime).

**Krystal Powless:** David Hachmeister?

**David Hachmeister:** *(Councilman David Hachmeister was not present for this meeting).*

**Krystal Powless:** Ted Metzger?

**Ted Metzger:** Present.

**Krystal Powless:** Brad Overton?

**Brad Overton:** Here.

**Krystal Powless:** Richard Reid?

**Richard Reid:** Present.

**Krystal Powless:** Greg Richmond?

**Greg Richmond:** Here.

**Krystal Powless:** Chris Whetstine?

**Chris Whetstine:** Here. Getting some feedback in the speakers.

**Krystal Powless:** Yeah.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS
## EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DINNER
## CHRISTMAS DINNER/DECEMBER MEETING FOR SOLID WASTE

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, and I wanted to announce to everybody, Council members and staff, the Employee Appreciation Luncheon is tomorrow from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM right here in this room. There's, you don't have to pay anything. It's free food. So, please come. And then also, the Supervisor at Solid Waste, Freddie Rowland, has invited us out. Every December meeting, the Solid Waste Board meeting is held out there at the Recycle Center. And it's nice because the employees there like to see us and like to see Council members and Board members to come. And they're having this from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM give or take a few minutes either way

December 15th, if you want to write that down. It's again free food. Doesn't cost anything. You get to see the operation a little bit and they really do appreciate us coming out. Those are the announcements.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES
## NOVEMBER 3, 2022

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And number one (1) is the approval of the regular meeting minutes, November 3rd. I have not read and it's not on here tonight, but anyway, the, the long minutes from our Hearings. That will come up later. I did have one (1) correction and I already sent it to Kristine.

**Kristine Georges:** And already taken care of.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And it's already taken care of. It's just changing Administrative on the first page to Administrator. Anybody else have anything? Seeing none, I'm in the mood for a motion.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Motion to approve the minutes as written by Kristine.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Is there a second?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Second.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Ted. Second by Rick. I've got to have a Roll Call vote. Tell me yay or nay. Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Yay.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Rick Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And myself, yes, aye. And, or I said yay or nay, yay. Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay. That's six (6) of us. Six, zero (6-0).

## JAIL CONSTRUCTION
## DISCUSSION

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Now, we have discussion. This is only discussion. There's no motions tonight to be taken or anything like that. This is open discussion on the Jail, the proposed Jail Construction. And I guess I need somebody from the Jail Committee and Sheriff can come up if he wants, Jail Commander. Introduce yourselves. There is a schematic layout underneath the coats back here if you haven't seen them.

**Andrew Skinner:** Good after…evening, Council. Appreciate it, Mr. President. Sheriff Wilder here, Andrew Skinner, County, for the County Attorney. We've got a few other people here today as well that can help with the discussion, answer some questions, provide some information to you. But, we thought it'd be good just to start off with a brief history of kind of where, why we're here discussing this Jail Project in the first place. And this is something that Sheriff has been involved in for a long time. He can give you a little bit of history of his involvement. But, it really got, serious discussion when a committee, Jail Study Committee, was formed. It includes the Sheriff and his Jail Commander, includes a Council representative, Commissioner representative, Judge, the Prosecutor, and a member of the community as well that got together and started discussing the concept and future of our Jail and our Sheriff's facilities here in Warrick County and that we've, frankly, outgrown. The preliminary design, a feasibility study was performed by Securatech and they, that was done in April 2021. They provided not only an evaluation of our current facilities and, but what could we do in terms of remodeling the facilities, building on location, building on a different location, the different type of structures that the statutes provide for building construction projects with construction manager, build design operate structure, is all the different structures and the statute and how, what would the estimated cost be for each of those different types of design, of structures under the statute. That was reviewed for a long time by the committee and, eventually, we made it to the point where a design structure was chosen and architect was hired, RQAW, that was hired here this year. And they started working on potential design. We reviewed lots of different jails across the State that have been built. And Sheriff could talk about those as well. We kind of narrowed it down to a design and then started making changes to what, what, what do we need here in Warrick County. So, I want the Sheriff to talk a little bit about when he became involved and when this idea first started and what work they've done, a lot of time visiting different jails and talking with different designers getting to this point.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Thank you, Andrew. Sheriff Mike Wilder. Just to kind of recap, it probably goes back quite a ways when this was not just, when it was thought of, even before our Sheriff, the Sheriff's before me. If you've been out to the Jail, and I know Chris and Greg came out recently, but if you've been out there, we have stolen, it's not just the Jail, we're talking about a Sheriff's Office and our Jail. And over the years, different Sheriffs who stole from different areas to try to add to take care of as we've grown. Well, we've just done that so many times under the past administrations, we just, we're out of space. When I was running for Sheriff, I knew this was gonna have to be an issue that was going to have to be tackled. I'm sure the other Sheriffs probably knew it too. It's just, it's probably not a favorable thing to do, asking the community to fund a large thing such as we're facing now, but it's what needed to be done. I spoke with Greg and then the Council and we put a committee together, and, as soon as we became Sheriff and as Andrew mentioned, we put a committee together and did a lot of research and we did a feasibility study. And that feasibility study, I won't go over because it's been presented to you before. But, basically, it told us that we've outgrown our facility when, it was one (1) of the worst they'd seen, you know, and that was in the study and where we needed to get to. Our jail was overcrowded. We'd outgrown our Sheriff's Office, all these different things. So, that committee then made recommendations to the Council and to the Commissioners. We hired our RQAW. We've came up, we have as a committee, especially myself and Terry and Jail Commander Jeremy Holder and some others, we have visited several jails. Met with several people. What is the needs and what do we need for Warrick County? Not for tomorrow, but for next ten (10) years? Fifteen (15) years, twenty (20), thirty (30) years. The building we're in is thirty-two (32) years old. When they moved into that building, I'm sure at the time some people thought wow what are they gonna do with this? They went from that old Jail down the street here had twenty-four (24) cells and went to one hundred twenty-seven (127). So, they basically quadrupled it. And then, but we've already outgrown it. I mean, thirty (30) years later, but you know, we've outgrown it, and it's in the Sheriff's Office. Before they moved in there, they had less than twenty (20) deputies. We're gonna have fifty-eight (58) deputies next year. I think what's important when we speak about, the Sheriff's Office and the Jail, there's so many people that think you just lock a key and put the person behind the, the bars and you're done with them and you don't have to do anything but give them a meal every once in a while. It's so much different than that, what you have to do and legally is probably one (1) of our biggest liabilities in years and counsel and stuff that we do every day. So, and it's from having doctors and nurses to feed meals to putting in GED classes, doing church. It's a business. I think Chris was out there day, said he was surprised, I mean, how much it's a business. And it is. And it never stops running. It's 24/7. And people come in there with a medical problems and mental problems and addiction problems and somehow, you and me, we're gonna have to solve it for them. And that, those issues take funding and buildings and the proper stuff. So, that, those thoughts, in order, you built a jail thirty (30) years ago to how you build a jail today is much different. And it's not, once again, I don't want to dwell just on the Jail at the Sheriff's Office. I mean, you know, it's also about training new people and having those facilities. But, the thought process has definitely changed over the years when we start adding these mental parts of it, the medical and stuff. But, we've done our due diligence and I feel like with RQAW and I think Garmong has been now, you know, been approved and hired. I don't know if the contracts been signed, have worked with us to design a facility that meets the needs of Warrick County and the citizens. And not, like I said, this facility was designed not for just tomorrow but for, to hopefully last us thirty (30) to forty (40) years and also with room to grow. With that being said, the feasibility study, we stay right on target. I think the only big difference that came different in that feasibility study versus why we're kind of little bit to discuss here today is cost. And that's not so much, because we went and designed a Taj Mahal instead of a Sheriff's Office, it's just that cost with inflation and then, you know, building costs and time. It's going to cost us more money than it would have a year and a half when the study was done. Nobody could see, foresee some of that. I'm not gonna get too in depth on that. We have some better experts to hit those areas. I'll be here present to answer more questions about why we're here and if there's any questions. But, I'm going to turn it over to the other ones to kind of describe why we were hoping for one (1) cost and right now we're looking at a little bit higher. So, I'm gonna like kind of least leave that up to people understand that part of it better than me. So...

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Someone needs to explain soft costs, because that's something that drove it up higher. Because the original feasibility study did not have the soft costs in it.

**Andrew Skinner:** Sure. So, got a couple of folks here. Brad Bingham is a part of the Thornburg. He's Bond Counsel that's been retained by the County by the Commissioners. As we have mentioned Garmong has been hired as kind of a project manager for the for the County. It's good idea when you're getting into a project of this size to be sure you've got an architect to help you design a building. But, when you start designing a building, the project manager getting involved as soon as possible in that process of design, helps save the money, the County money on the project. Because they can look at a design and say wait a minute, if we do it this way, or we use this material is going to cost more. We could do it this way. And they know the construction side of it and that they provide a lot of good insight for the design process. Where we are is very preliminary in that. We have a preliminary design concept of what this Jail facility, Sheriff's facility might look like. And as mentioned, it's sitting back there for you to review. If you recall the initial feasibility study ranged from thirty-five ($35,000,000.00) to forty-five million dollars ($45,000,000.00) to build a facility was the average, right, of costs. You've got the high, you've got the low, and you've got the average. But, thirty-five ($35,000,000.00) to forty-five million dollars ($45,000,000.00) to build this facility estimated back in 2021 costs. For the construction manager as, as, as, as contractor method, under the statutes. Right? So, one (1) of the things, two (2), couple of things we want to talk about, one (1) you just mentioned, and the Sheriff mentioned, costs have gone up, right? No one really could foresee the amount of construction material costs that have increased the way it has over the last year and will increase in the next year before construction would even begin. The second thing is to point out is that feasibility study was strictly construction costs. Right? What is it going to cost to build the building? Soft costs mention and they'll get to, you've also got financing costs on top of that. You've got the cost of buying furniture. You've got the cost of an IT system that has to go into that building. You've got costs of the desks and all of those are costs that aren't construction costs, but are cost nonetheless building a facility such as this. And so, I want them to share with that. Brad is going to come in and talk about what are the current numbers? What are the current financing bonds structures that the County can use in order to finance this facility? The Council's had foresight to pass the Public Safety LIT which is a great funding mechanism for a project like this. It's really designed for this type of project. So, what that looks like and Baker Tilly has done a lot of financing work and Brad's gonna talk about that for us.

**Jeremy Kountz:** For sure, Jeremy Kountz, Garmong Construction Services. I'll answer Greg's question on soft costs. So, construction costs, that is your bricks and your sticks. That's the buildings. That's the anticipated bids that are going to come in when we take this out in the public market and follow a 36-1-12 public bid opening process. A multi-prime package is what we're hired to do. Our costs also fit with inside that construction costs as well. The soft costs, your biggest ticket soft cost item is paying for your design firm. So, you got to have the person that's creating construction documents, the specifications so the prospective bidders know what they're bidding and creating that. So, that's typically your greatest soft cost. Other items that fit into that, you know, is builder's risk insurance, geotech reports, survey. As Andrew already mentioned, you know, what we call FF&E. These are furniture, fixtures and equipment. That's the mattresses that you're going to need. You know, clothing, kitchen equipment, laundry equipment, carts. All of those things. And, and as Andrew mentioned, we're very early and our job as construction manager is to come in at this early stage, just so we don't get too far down the road, we have design progress to a hundred percent (100%) we go to bid and project and numbers come back completely off of where the expectations are. So, our job during this pre-construction phase is to help establish those expectations so we don't design something we just don't even have, even closely, remotely have the ability to afford or fund. And so, what we've done is taken that first drawing that Andrew mentioned back there, that's where we're at today. We have two (2) sheets, the two (2) floor plans of laying out all of the program of what's needed with the Sheriff's Department with Sheriff Wilder and hold….and Jeremy Holder to determine what does this facility need to look like and we determine a gross square footage. And what we're using right now is our cost history comps of where those are at to extend those kind of on a low side and a high side looking at that same range as you would have had in your feasibility study of where costs are today and in the market. But, back to Greg's point, those soft costs are something that we're also assisting with because that is, that's a cost of the project that's going to have to get paid for out of the proceeds of the project, of that as well of determining what all of those things are. Few other things is, also as Andrew mentioned, IT equipment, phone equipment, audio visual equipment, voice recorder systems, medical equipment. So, medical staff that's in the facility, body scanners, all of those things that you're going to need to operate. Break room furnishings, appliances, refrigerators, tap fees, connection fees, you know, utility connections from the utility. And then planning on an owner carry contingency as well. So, that's where those soft costs tally up. Brad, I don't know if you want to come up and start talking on, as we've looked at this initial plan and, and kind of the range where we're at from construction to soft costs and then the cost of financing that's been prepared.

**Brad Bingham:** Yeah, let me jump in here. So again, Brad Bingham with Barnes and Thornburg. And just to be clear, our role as Bond Counsel, we're hired as outside counsel to walk you through the process to make sure that the bonds that are issued are valid and enforceable and we asked to give an opinion that the interest is tax-exempt. That's a benefit to the purchase, the bond purchaser. What I am not is a registered municipal advisor. I have to make that full disclaimer and I do so because in your board packet, you should have received the Baker Tilly's financing scenarios for a couple of options. And I want to walk through that with you. Unfortunately, neither Matt or Emma could be here this evening. But, I've worked with them long enough, I think I understand their numbers and what each page sort of, sort of illustrates. So, kind of, as Jeremy mentioned, what, what Baker Tilly has done is sort of taken the amount that's needed for essentially all of the hard costs and all of the soft costs sort of with the exception of the financing costs. That's kind of how we look at it on the financing side, is we kind of look at everything else other than, I'll call it the transactional kind of costs. But, we take that number and then you sort of have to back into what the bond size would be and you have to make some, some various assumptions. So, the first assumption that's really key to all of this analysis Baker Tilly put together is, is the source of repayment for, for the bonds. And that assumption is that the bonds will be payable from Public Safety LIT with a property tax backup. This is a very common type of financing structure. We just did it in Gibson County. I know Knox County did it. There's others around here that we can, I can give you examples of but that's the financing structures that's used because, again, the part of the intent of Public Safety LIT is to finance these types of large capital projects. The benefit though of the property tax backup is bondholders know that's the most secure revenue stream and so it gets you a better rating, which translates to a lower interest cost on the financing. So, you don't have to put a property tax back up on it, but it's a way to sort of provide your own credit enhancement to the transaction. So, with that being said, I wanted to maybe just go through these pages. So, if you have these with you, I can just kind of go page by page. So, the second page on here, it's titled The Summary of Illustrative Financing Scenarios. We all want to get to that particular page. Again, what this, this Baker Tilly handout, what it does is looks at really two (2) options, Scenarios One (1) and Two (2). The really, the only difference between those two (2) numbers is Scenario One (1) assumes that there's a cash contribution of the county to the project. In other words, you know what the cost is based upon Garmong's estimate. Now, you're trying to solve, how do you come up with that? And so, Scenario One (1) is, the bulk of it is bond proceeds; the balance is what they labeled a cash on hand. And if you read the disclaimers here in Baker Tilly's report, they don't make any assumption about what that source is. I mean, it could be Public Safety LIT on hand, either currently or that accumulates during the construction period. It could be something else that that you choose to, to put toward the project. The second scenario that's in here, again, it's all for that same total project fund deposit and that sort of assumes that you finance the entire balance of that and shows what the annual payment would be from, from that scenario. What, what it's not really said here, but what's implied, is you could pick anything in between or some other scenario. I mean if you wanted to put more cash toward it you could, but this is just designed to give you an idea of what the annual payments would be just under these two (2) scenarios. So again, in scenario one, where you're using some cash on hand plus bond proceeds to pay for the project costs, the annual payment would be right at five million dollars ($5,000,000.00). Scenario two (2), if you financed everything, the annual payment goes up to a little north of five point eight million dollars ($5,800,000.00). If you turn to the next page on page three (3), it's really just the same kind of scenario comparison but with more granular detail as to what's built into each, each scenario. So again, if you're looking at this page on kind of the right-hand side, those columns, the scenario one, what it's showing is if you, if you put, you know, County's money into the deal, cash in the deal along with bond proceeds, you know, what your total bonding amount is just a little north of fifty-five million ($55,000,000.00). Scenario two (2) where there's no cash being put into it, the total bond amount is about sixty-four point seven million dollars ($64,700,000.00). The other thing, that again just to kind of point out, is that you might ask what is this capitalized interest idea? What's going on there? That is important because, because of the size of this project, it's such a large project, it's you know, usually County Jails with the largest things that most communities will ever finance or they're just a very significant asset. And because of that, you have to do it through what's called a lease financing structure. That's the structure that was used when the Judicial Center was financed twenty (20) plus years ago. It was through at lease financing. And the way those are done is you create a nonprofit building corporation. Some people call it a holding corporation. They're the actual borrower of money. They construct the asset and they lease it back to the County. Well, because of that lease structure, you can't start making debt payments, you can't make lease payments until the project's completed. Because it's the theory that it's a lease and if you can't use the leased premises, you can't make lease payments. But, bondholders don't care about that. They want their interest payments every six (6) months during that construction period. So, you when you do these lease financings, you have to sort of set aside for bond proceeds, a pot of money to pay interest every six (6) months during the two (2) year or so construction period. And I point that out because it matters when you, when you look at scenario one (1) and two (2), because if you're if you're borrowing more, again, you've got more principal outstanding, your capitalized interest numbers going to go up as well. Because you're just, there's more interest accruing during that construction period. If you go to the next two (2) pages, they're really just, page, page, on page four (4) and five (5), these are just the detailed amortization schedules. Again, the tie out to Scenario One (1) and of Scenario Two (2). The only difference again is just the amount of principle is being amortized. Because one (1) assumes there is cash being put into the deal, one (1) assumes there's not. You can count just a few things to highlight here Baker Tilly has just, again, for illustrative purposes. This is not, nothing, nothing here is locked in. And this assumes the bond closing date of May 23rd. And, and they show a true interest cost of about five-point nine percent (5.9%). There's also a column of assumed interest rates. This report is dated November 16th. And so, what they did was they looked at market interest rates about that time. They added on some cushion just to allow for the possibility that rates could increase as they are tending to do between now and when you would actually sell bonds. And to give a more realistic idea of what the interest costs will be. And what I mean by that is like if you look at, say, and August 1, of (20)25 interest rate, right now, it's probably not at a four-six-five (4.65%). It's something lower. But, they've built some cushion there just to show, okay, if rates do rise, just sort of gives you a more dire scenario. Let's say it that way. Again, Scenario Two (2) on page five (5), it's just, same idea, it's just showing an amortization schedule, assumed interest rates, and assume closing rates and so forth. Page six (6), again, I think as you're probably aware of this information, Baker Tilly puts this in here just for reference purposes, so, that ease of access. It's the historical LIT Revenue Distribution to the County. So, far right-hand column is your EDIT revenue. And again, because you've had that in place for some time, there's historical information to look at and it's broken down, under, under EDIT as between what the County receives versus all other, the total to the County which of course some of that goes to other, other units within the County. Then you have the Public Safety Distribution, which again, because that's a new revenue stream, there's not history there to show what it's been prior 2022. And, again, based on DLGF Certifications for 2023, the County share of Public Safety LIT is projected to be just a little north of nine point eight million dollars ($9,800,000.00). So, just, it's just for informational purposes just so everyone understands that's the total amount of Public Safety LIT the County will receive in 2023. And everything else that we've talked about before sort of shows where the bond payment size would be somewhere in that five ($5,000,000.00) to five point eight million dollar ($5,800,000.00) range somewhere in that, that area. The last page, one (1) of the last pages, page seven (7), this, again, this is kind of standard for Baker Tilly's analysis. They show you what the County's direct debt limit is because people often ask that question, you know, what is our debt limit? And in simple formula, you take your net assessed value, you divide by three (3) and you multiply by two percent (2%). That's the limit and then you have to subtract from that any outstanding debt that you currently have. And when you do that analysis, the available amount, so, your available debt limit, if you, to borrow today would be just a little north of twenty-five million dollars ($25,000,000.00). So, just by that number alone, just seeing what your current limit on direct debt is, at versus what the estimated cost is from this, the proposal that's been put together so far, you can quickly see that you wouldn't have enough debt capacity to do direct obligation. And that's, even if that were the case, we always recommend to do a lease financing. You always want to keep your direct borrowing ability kind of in reserve in case you really needed it. In case there was something that maybe you couldn't do a lease financing for, you needed some means by which to borrow. It's always recommended to kind of do that last if you can. And finally, the last page, again, just for informational purposes only. This is, this kind of walks through control projects and patisserie remonstrance and referenda thresholds because this this question often comes up. First of all, under, under the, the assumed financing scenario, which, which is Public Safety LIT is pledged to the repayment. Property tax is the backup. That does not trigger any sort of referendum or remonstrance process, so, long as it's demonstrated at the time you would close on the bonds that you don't reasonably expect or you reasonably expect to pay debt service from something other than property tax. And we look at that by, by coverage. We sort of say, what is debt service? So, in this scenario, it's roughly five million dollars ($5,000,000.00). And we say, okay, does the pledge revenue stream exceed that number by at least a hundred and twenty-five percent (125%)? So, if you did that math, it's probably somewhere in the six million dollar ($6,000,000.00) range. You'd get nine million ($9,000,000.00) a year. So, for us, that's an easy analysis to say, yep, you'd have, you would easily be able to demonstrate that you'd have a reasonable expectation to never levy a property tax. But, we put these in here because people often ask, well, what if we did? What if we did a property tax financing? And the answer to that is, you always have to look at the cost of the project. It's not just the portion you want to finance. It's the total cost of the project. And so again, this is a very large, significant project, it would blow through the referenda threshold. And if you wanted to finance it with property taxes, you would have to run that gauntlet and potentially be asked to put it on the ballot. With that, that kind of concludes the financing side that, that Baker Tilly put together. I will just say more from the legal side. I did send out, just again, a sample calendar. I think, Krystal, you probably forwarded that along. This just shows like the legal steps. What has to happen, how do we get from start to finish on the bond side? And I won't go through that line by line. But the takeaway to remember is, it's roughly a three (3) to four (4) month process. You can do it quicker. It can be done more, more compressed timeline, but I just wanted to point that out. We're always gonna be able to get the legal approvals done more quickly than the design team would be able to get their process completed. And the last thing I'll say is, the way this typically works is, you go through all the legal approvals, and then you wait, we would not ever sell bonds until construction bids are actually received and it's confirmed they're within budget. Because you never want to be out there having sold bonds and then find out well, we didn't borrow enough and now we can't complete the project. It creates a number of issues. So, we wouldn't look to sell or close on any bonds until after you got construction bids in and it was within, within budget.

**Jeremy Kountz:** And we're in too volatile of a market even want to try to consider that right now. We want to have bids in hand.

**Brad Bingham:** So, with that, I don't know if we have any other remarks planned.

**Andrew Skinner:** So, couple things, the project, we've mentioned here, dual purpose project. Do we need more jail space? Yes. Right? But is that the primary factor that's driving this project? No, it's not. Where we're severely lacking is we have a facility that was made for a twenty (20) officer department trying to house a sixty (60) officer department now. There's no place for the Deputies to train at our current facility or even gather together as a unit to discuss anything. Right? There's, there's, bathroom facilities are completely inadequate for male and female officers at our current facility, right? It just wasn't. It's thirty (30) years old, right? And so, this new facility that's been designed, while it roughly doubles the bed size of what we currently have in the jail, it's triple, quadruple the Sheriff facilities that are desperately needed. Right? A training center, they'll finally have a training center. You look at the actual off…lieutenants, right, will have space. Right? And an office to have to sit, to sit at and do their work without having to share a desk. Right? So, there are a lot of really important parts of this project that had nothing to do with actually housing inmates. But, that's an important piece too. We learned through COVID is you have to have a place to segregate inmates who have health issues or come in with, that is sick or has diabetes, right? There are so many health, medical concerns with the inmate population. Our current Jail just isn't structured in a way to adequately handle, that the new facility can be designed to do. Mental health is a growing need in a Jail facility. There is no segregated mental health areas for, for these inmates. Right? The new design will have an area for that, designed specifically for that. Watching, the Jail Commander and the Deputies do a wonderful job of watching and making sure that the Jail population is being cared for. But, this new facility would have a perch up where you can look down and see all of the Jail cells and housing areas from one (1) locations. State of the art video cameras. Controlling of the water supply to the to the cells, right? You know, the turning it on and off allowing a certain amount of time for water usage. So, the days of faucets being turned on and plugged and river flowing out in jail cells is gone, right? Because that can all be controlled from central place up on the perch and, I mean, there are so many benefits to doing this project beyond just the Jail and the Sheriff facilities themselves.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** And I just kind of reiterate, I could go over a thousand (1,000) reasons. I'm not gonna beat you up and make you sit for an hour listen why a new Jail with modern technology, Andrew hit on a bunch. But, I think one (1) thing to point out is to look at our neighbors up in Gibson County. Not wanting to pick on them but their jail, when a jail is eighty percent (80%) full, at capacity, it's considered full. Because you might have five (5) open beds, but the five (5) open beds is in the male block and you have six (6) females come through. So, you start putting them on the floor different areas. Well, if you don't know, but Gibson County was sued, I think the ACLU, and was forced to build a jail and forced on a very tight timeline, lots of different things. So, what we've done here is taken, I think, a realistic approach. This has been a four (4) year in trying to do it. We're not being told by the Federal Government how we're going to do it, what you're going to do. We've done it as a team, and we're on a timeline that fits that. But because we're doing that, we're going to, we're able to stand up here today and talk and work things out and talk about money finance, not have someone behind us tell us how we're going to do it. So, I think that's important too. I think Jeremy can hit on a little bit. On that note, I want to hit on two (2) things. The cheapest time to build this jail was yesterday. Tomorrow's always gonna be more expensive. Hendricks County which is much, much bigger jail, did theirs around three hundred sixty dollars ($360.00) a square foot. Was that right?

**Jeremy Kountz:** Yeah. Construction costs, I think three sixty ($360.00).

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** And we're looking at just under six hundred ($600.00). And not because we're doing anything different. It's just the timeline. And those are just some things to think about. I mean, every day we put something off the cost goes up and potentially, you know, we're forced to do things. And I want to be totally honest with you, when we started this project, we have a hundred and twenty-seven (127) beds, we were sleeping probably a hundred and thirty-six (136) people, hundred and forty (140) people in our Jail. Yesterday, I think we had eighty-nine (89). We're down right now. One (1), it's the holidays and the judges are usually a little bit more lenient, let them out, and not a strict on bonds. I mean, seriously, but COVID obviously got us got our population, on the day of COVID, we had over hundred (100), we had more people in jail than we had beds. We got down to like sixty (60) something, like, because of COVID. Nobody knew. Those numbers are slowly going all the way back up and creeping and everything else. So, we are, we, our jail is crowded too. But, we don't want to be forced by some other agency or something to be forced into a project. We're doing this on our timeline. So, I just, I do want to thank you, the Council, because of your participation and listening. I mean, this is kind of boring, but it's got to be heard and got to be done and taking the time. And I real quick want to thank the committee which Greg sat on that. Terry Phillippe the Commissioner, Mike Perry the commission…the Prosecutor, Jail Commander Jeremy Holder, and Judge Winsett at the time and Steve Smith at Old National Bank, which was a community citizen. And there's been a lot of time and effort a lot of things thought of because believe me, I know as you as Councilmen are gonna face the same thing I'm gonna face. Really? Do we really need a jail? Do we really need to spend fifty ($50,000,000.00), sixty ($60,000,000.00), seventy million ($70,000,000.00) whatever, sorry, that number is. So, you know, I take it serious. I know you guys do, so we want to make sure we present the best presentation to you that we can give you the best information and knowledge to make the right decisions. And that we build something that we can be proud of and not five (5) years later, like, who made these decisions. You know? And we've seen that with some buildings here. So that's, you know, I'm here for any questions. Jeremy, you want to hit anything else before, about costs or anything?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I want to mention something that impressed me while I was out there. Impressed me on the negative side. They have two (2) computers and chair and a table facing each other in the center of their office space. And if you've ever been in that office out there, it's noisy. There's constant people, traffic, talking going on. And you've got the State police come in and have to use the detective stations to do their cases. You've got the cities and towns that have send detectives in to work there. We have our County detectives that have to work there. And just imagine yourself in a very noisy room trying to concentrate on a very serious case. And that's what they're talking about on the administrative area that we really have a need to have fixed.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Yeah, I'm glad you hit on it. I think if you haven't been there, please come. Chris, I appreciate you coming out, you and Rob Dimmett the other day, Greg. You guys have a chance, come out. We'll be glad to show you tours. I think it's an eye-opening experience a little bit. It's a 24/7. It's one of the few buildings that we're using 24/7. And it's not just the Sheriff's Office. State police are in their, DNR, Chandler police, Boonville police, all the policemen. There's just constant traffic in there. And I think one (1) thing might be important to point out too is we currently have Dispatch out there. When we did a feasibility study, there was a need for Community Correction. There's a lot of needs in this County. So, some of those discussions is what do you do with the current building? I think we've got some ideas there too. But, we kind of kept this building to what we thought was, yeah, Community Corrections was probably love to have some more space. You know, some other people, but we really kept with what we thought was the true need right now. So, this square footage of that building behind you really matches right with the feasibility study said for Sheriff's Office and Jail.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And the locks on the cells, that's another thing that impressed me. They can't get them anymore. And so, they have to have somebody jerry-rig them and it cost a lot of money to do that. Or they've been taking locks off of cells that they're not using and moving them over to work with. It's really tough getting the needs.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Yeah, I'll say a little bit, Officer Holder, Jail Commander Holder, some of the cells we put our less, they can't be locked down at night. We've had to figured out, take the lock here, the least dangerous who we think, which that could be anybody any night. But what happens is a Jailer has to walk through at night and know that the guy hasn't come out of his cell because the door don't lock. You know, I mean, it's just, it's just an old facility. I mean, it's just is what it is. It's thirty-two (32) years old.

**Andrew Skinner:** The reason for being here tonight really is to share a lot of this information, to share the financing side, the feasibility study that estimated forty ($40,000,000.00), roughly forty-five million ($45,000,000.00) to build a facility in 2021. By the time you get to construction and letting those bids in 2023, you know, it's more than that. Add soft costs and the cost of building has just gone up. The interest rates have gone up and that's only getting worse. Right? So, we wanted to, but all that being said, the timeline mentioned by Brad of a three (3) month window to do the bond side, before we get there, those two (2) pages there have to become a book of pages. Right? And as mentioned, that's expensive. It's costly to do that. And not only is it costly to create the book, but if you then try to make changes to that book, it's costly to do that. Right? So, the time to make, to decide that yes, we liked this design. Yes, we're going to move forward with this size of facility. We're okay with the costs of moving forward with this project. You're, really, the time to do that as now, rather than moving forward with grading the book of blueprints, drawings, and then say, you know what, we don't want to spend this much. You've wasted resources and time and we want to move forward in that process. Because really, as explained, the time to let these bids out for contractors is going to be in that March timeframe, February, March timeframe, I think is what I recall. And it's going to take a few months to get the book of plans together and the bid packets together to even send out to the to the contractors. And then once you get those, get those in, you got to review it. You gotta, you got to pick, select your contractors all before you can do a bond. Right? So, the timeline to do this is really right. It's time to make the decision of yes, we're going to move forward with this project because we can have, we can really hit that sweet spot of making sure we get the best prices possible out of these contractors and that spring timeframe when they're looking to fill up their books for the for the year.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Yeah, to the design point, you know, RQAW, they're at a five percent (5%) stage. That's about where we're at right now with these plans. And when you escalate that across the full set, you know, we're talking a hundred fifty grand ($150,000.00) versus the two point seven ($2,700,000.00) that the final design is going to cost. So, you know, if we get to that point, we have a smaller commitment right now to decide, alright, what direction are we heading versus, you know, burning another two point five million ($2,500,000.00) of something that we're not even going to build because we want to make sure we have the funding available for it. So.

**Andrew Skinner:** We're, the committee's looking for some direction from the Council. Same thing will be to the Commissioners of, you know, are we in the ballpark? Does Council feel comfortable with the costs? Those sorts of things before we move too much further. It's important that we get a feel from the Council and the Commissioners on, on where we are in this project to make best use of the resources and time and, of building this facility that really is desperately needed going forward. And we don't want to be in the position of Gibson County, where we're at the eighty percent (80%) and someone tells us, you know what, actually you're going to build this facility and this facility that we could have done through planning and preparation that cost sixty million ($60,000,000.00) now cost us seventy-five ($75,000,000.00) because the Federal Government's involved mandating what we build. Right? So, this is really a good timing. Sheriff has done a great job coming in, knowing this project needs to be done, planning, and getting the right team involved. So, that's where we are. It's why we're here. Any comments that Council has, we'd love to hear. Any questions you have. We'd love to try and answer for you.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** My biggest question to is, if you build it, they come. Yeah, we're gonna get prisoners; they're going to come. But, then we've got to operate it. And we have an operating budget currently out at the old jail that a lot of it would be moved out there. But then, we're going to have a bigger facility. And yes, there's going to be cost savings in some personnel where we're having the tower where they can look down and view everything. You don't have as much manpower needed there. But, it's still bigger. So, it multiplies what we have now. And that means we're going to have to have electricity and water and the things you were talking about before. Not just the hookup, but the actual expense of running it. And Krystal has been straining all day long to try to put together some different scenarios and there are some ways of working some things out and tweaking things. And I think the Sheriff really wanted to know from the Council some kind of number to work with.

**Brad Overton:** So, is this the time to ask some questions?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Yes.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Yeah.

**Brad Overton:** Alright. So, and I don't know if these are in a particular order, but and I don't want to hog everybody, so, you may have some things. So, I will stop if somebody else wants to jump in on occasion. So, with Greg's, I'll just kind of segway off of Greg's comment there. Have we, what, how many additional staff are we looking at needing and what are we estimating those costs at?

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Those feasibility studies gave you some numbers. In the beginning, we, looking at probably just one (1) additional member. Is that what you think when we were looking at the way that is the design and where people would have to be stationed, we're thinking we can get by with one (1) in the beginning. Obviously, because our population, even though it's a two hundred thirty (230) bed facility, won't be two hundred thirty (230) inmates at once. But whether there's two hundred thirty (230) or there's a hundred (100), there's certain stations that have been manned at all times. So, even if our bed count was the today, as you move in, there are certain stations of the new jail that's going to be benefited that need to be manned. I believe and Jeremy gave me the nod, yes, at the beginning, we, believing that one (1) with our current, at the beginning.

**Brad Overton:** Okay, so the reason I'm asking that question is because that's going to also impact that Public Safety LIT. So, if we're only going to need one (1) additional staff member, that's a plus. That, I mean, I don't mean to contradict what you're saying or question it, but that seems very low.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Well, I mean, you're not changing your bed population. You know, it'd stay the same.

**Brad Overton:** Yes.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** And it's, the spots we're manning, but, yeah, we feel pretty comfortable that the technology is what helps you in this. You're not moving prisoners around as much. We used to move thirty (30) prisoners every Monday. Well, I say thirty (30). That number would change. But anywhere between twenty (20) and thirty (30) prisoners sometimes on Mondays from our jail to the JC. Right now, we probably move five (5) a month because of technology where we do video arraignment and stuff. So, that, those types of things, now your jailers aren't moving inmates and handcuffing thirty (30) inmates. That takes an hour in moving and getting ready. There's lots of things that technology has helped to, within, especially in the new designed jails, that happened where certain rooms are put in one (1), they can move and you don't have, like, the same. It's kind of hard to explain unless you come out and see it. But technology and stuff has helped on that also, the movement of inmates and stuff. They no longer leave their cells. Used to, we'd have to move them up to make visitations. Now, they do it from within inside their cells and this design, this is the same way designed here, where they never leave their cell block.

**Brad Overton:** Okay, and so this next question here, I'm sure nobody really would like for me to, probably won't like this question. But, if our original cost we were thinking at thirty-five ($35,000,000.00) to forty-five million ($45,000,000.00). I mean, my first thought is, what would we get if we were looking at that projected cost? Have we looked at any other numbers beside the fifty...fifty-five ($55,000,000.00) to fifty-seven million ($57,000,000.00) that we're looking at now and where we would be at if we were, you know, because, you know, and I hate to always use analogies, but you know, if I was going to purchase, you know, a vehicle for thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00) then when I went to the dealership, and they told me now that vehicle was fifty-five thousand dollars ($55,000.00), my first thought was to probably try to find the one (1) that was, you know, still thirty-five ($35,000.00) to forty ($40,000.00) and not have to take that, that big, big a swig?

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Well, I think I still answer that. But, I don't take that personally. I think if you have an eight (8) person family, they tell you, you need to van. You don't need the punch bug Volkswagen. But, now that the van went up twenty thousand ($20,000.00), you still don't, the Volkswagen still gonna do you no good. Just, you still have an eight (8) person family. So, yeah, the van was fifty ($50,000.00). Now, it's seventy thousand ($70,000.00). That's how I would answer that to you. But, I still have an eight (8) person family. It didn't change what my need was. And if you go back into that feasibility study, we stayed with what they told us we needed, which was around eighty-three thousand (83,000) square feet. It's just now that the cost, if we would have built this years, two (2) years ago, we would have built it probably less than thirty-five million ($35,000,000.00), I think.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Yeah, I'll look at that here quick. Your feasibility study was in eighty-three thousand (83,000) square feet. The current program that's laid out behind you there's eighty-four thousand seven hundred (84,700) square feet. This had a construction projection at five-ninety-five ($595.00) a square foot on the construction costs. Our projections right now and trends we're seeing and we have economy of scale to factor in right now. We're projecting five-ninety-five ($595.00) to six-twenty ($620.00) square foot. That's what we're seeing them. So, yes, our low side is at the projection of where you're at. You do have seventeen hundred (1,700) more square feet than your feasibility study showed. I think that the big difference is, as Greg led the discussion with, is the consideration of your soft costs and cost of financing that wasn't in the feasibility report. You know, the feasibility report looked at construction costs. And, I mean, that's really where, you know, cause we're in striking distance, I think, and costs have went up. And I think this obviously did factor a little bit of escalation in it. I know, annualized, we've seen just then construction anywhere from eight (8%) to twelve percent (12%) depending on the market just within the past calendar year.

**Brad Overton:** I mean, I guess my question, though is, is there any way, I mean bottom line to, I mean, this is a lot more than we ever considered. I mean, is there any way or what can we get, you know, is there any way to cut some of these costs back? And I know that everything that we, that we have listed on there, I'm sure, not trying to diminish the need for any of it. But, I mean, have we looked at things that we could go back? Because I know when we looked at remodeling this building that we're standing in. I mean, we kind of came back and asked, hey, you know, this is X amount where we're at and what we're expecting. And you know, the Commissioners came back and trim some costs. They came back and did some different things. Maybe instead of, you know, one (1) thing they came back at something that's a little less expensive. I mean, if I had to do my house at home over again, I wouldn't have put hardwood floors throughout the whole house. I probably put some carpet somewhere. So, I mean, do we have any places where we can put some carpet and maybe not hardwood floors? Or? I mean, that's the kind of thing..

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I think that, I get what you're asking.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** I mean, I know. Yeah, I mean, that's what I'm saying.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I mean, honestly, have we done that yet? No, because this was the need and we didn't have these numbers 'til what, two (2) weeks ago? (Inaudible) Garmong. So, that was the first time we got the numbers. And I'm sure as your guys' and our jaws hit the, like, oh, what are we gonna do here? So, but have we, no, Brad. But that's why we're here to see what your opinion is. And you're telling me, if you guys tell us this is how much you gotta cut, we gotta say like this can't be done or we can. I mean, we're obviously know, it's, I can't, yeah, we're gonna get down. We haven't gotten to that point yet.

**Brad Overton:** Okay.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Because that was just two (2) weeks ago that we finally got everybody on board. And we're trying to move this. I think that's why we're meeting with you guys today and making this presentation is to get that feeling from you. And you know, you know, if you tell us, you know, I don't know what we would do if you said you only have twenty million ($20,000,000.00) million. I don't know how you do the project. But, I understand what you're saying. Can you cut too? We haven't really sat down and start, you know, what we can and we just haven't got there yet, because we're, we're going down that road though.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Sure. I just know that. This is and I know in the grand scheme of things it doesn't look like it's moving that fast. Considering how long we've been looking at this. But, you know, I mean, the Public Safety LIT, you know, it's been in effect for however many months we've had that in place now. And just, you know, when I extrapolate these numbers out, and I look and I'm thinking I'm gonna be seventy-three (73) years old before this thing is done. And not to offend anybody here, but that's moving up there in age a little bit. So, I guess that's just a couple of my questions was to see if you had looked at that at all, and it doesn't sound like this, that you have done that as of yet, which I understand why you hadn't so that's why I wanted to ask that question.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** And I think the things that's real important on this is, too, with RQAW's now here, with them, when we go back and start making changes, you know, we're looking at specific lands but you know, if we're going to now build a triangle building on squared land or vice versa. So, these things all weigh into decisions that these now are helping us. But, that's why we got to have some guidance on finance and what the Council is willing to spend. You know, things like that. That's why, and that's why none of your questions are offensive. That's why we're here to today to get the answer and make everybody understand or try to understand or ask these things and get that all answered for you.

**Brad Overton:** Let me ask one (1) more then I'll stop, at least for a moment. But are we looking at or have you thought about getting any help as far as from the Federal Government and some grants or other opportunities? Because I know, you know, they've been open with some funding here recently. And I don't know if you looked at any grant opportunities, you know, as a way, even if it's, you know, it was a million dollars ($1,000,000.00), I mean, million dollars ($1,000,000.00) is a million dollars ($1,000,000.00). And then plus any help from, you know, like the City or State because we just mentioned that, you know, you have other office, you know, areas of law enforcement, other law enforcement areas that come in and use this facility as well. And I understand that we have to share back and forth, but also, you know, it's always nice for everybody to have a little bit of skin in the game at some point in time, not to the scale that the County would necessarily.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** You won't get help from the City and the State. That's, that's just us being responsible. The Sheriff is responsible for the courts.

**Brad Overton:** Sure.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** So even though he's arrested by City patrolman, it is the Sheriff's responsibility to house just as it's the County Prosecutor's job to prosecute. It's not a City Prosecutor. So, that part is just what falls on the burden of being a County Municipality and the elected Sheriff and stuff is us to house inmates and then to come in to use our facility to make stuff. So, I don't think you're gonna get anything that way. I'm not a financial expert or anything. I don't know of any funding grants that's available to us. I don't think, they, they've done, how many jails, you're building how many jails currently?

**Jeremy Kountz:** This is number twenty (20) in the last six (6) years.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Yeah, those type things, I don't know exist. If they do, they probably will, don't know. Now, one (1) thing that we have discussed, I've discussed a little bit with the Commissioner and the Councilman is Vanderburgh County would like to sign a contract with us to house some of their prisoners. They're overcrowded. And we could generate revenue like we did back when this jail was first done with the State that created revenue that would help offset and I've talked to Jail Commander Holder. We're willing to take on some of them because our jail won't be, you know, overcrowded, the very first day we move in because we're building thirty (30) years out. So, we would have beds to fund and make money and generate that. But that would be, you know, a contract with Vanderburgh County. That's probably about the only really outside resource other than what Mr. Bingham and Mr. Eckerle, which isn't here, them, kind of discussed ways of doing funding.

**Brad Overton:** Well, one (1) thought I was just thinking as far as from a Federal perspective would be perhaps with some of the power initiatives with perhaps if we were to install some solar and use some different things like that. I mean, there's some...

**Brad Bingham:** That's the thing that came to mind. So, in the inflation, in the Inflation Reduction Act, there are certain clean energy tax credits that are starting to roll out there. You know, they are for things like solar and biomass gas. I think it's something worth looking at. I just don't think they'd gotten to that level of detail yet to say are there components of the project costs that we could apply for these credits and get, and get some offsetting (inaudible).

**Brad Overton:** I just want to make sure that we don't, you know, we were turning over every rock and we're looking under here because I mean, we've, you know, we try to be very responsible as everybody knows.

**Jeremy Kountz:** We'll look at all that. Every job we do, we'll get with the local utility company. We're doing Gibson County's jail. They're getting, you know, eighty ($80,000.00), ninety thousand dollar ($90,000.00) credit on savings when they, from the new project that they're building versus when they'll raze and move out of the old one (1) from more energy efficient systems. This is a grant program the energy company has. So, those are ones out there. I don't know if there's any funding grants that are out there other than, obviously, the energy efficient ones that are available.

**Brad Overton:** Thanks for entertaining my questions.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** What about these AARP (Clarification: ARPA) money that we got from the Fed to the County, the twelve million dollars ($12,000,000.00)? This is exactly in the guidelines what that money was intended for used for. Is any of that money available that you know of?

**Brad Bingham:** Legally yes, you could use that, you know, that's going back to the financing scenario, this, the cash contribution if that that's your source, that's one (1) option right there. So, that would be a way to kind of buy down at least how much you're financing I guess in the sense of it's not County money. It's federal government. It's still taxpayer dollars, but it's, it is less that you would have, you know, County taxpayers out of pocket or to bond for. So, yes, you could use it if you chose to.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Right. If we had any left?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Yeah, that's the question.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Do we have any left? Nobody wants to touch that?

**Jeremy Kountz:** I can't answer that or I would.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** I know.

**Krystal Powless:** About eight hundred thousand ($800,000.00) is left.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** About eight hundred thousand of the twelve million dollars ($12,000,000.00) is left?

**Krystal Powless:** That's what I was just told.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Holy moly.

**Auditor Debbie Stevens:** There's more than that that's unexpended.

**Krystal Powless:** Well, yeah, it's not, it's not been committed to be spent, that amount. Now, there's lots, there's payments that have not been made. But...

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I have a question. So, some of these numbers were, came up, I saw the Public LIT Safety went almost a million point four ($1,400,000.00) higher from twenty-two ($22,000,000.00) to twenty-three ($23,000,000.00). Is there any of that built in thinking or is that keeping that or is that a twenty-three ($23,000,000.00) number each year?

**Brad Bingham:** Great question. So, Baker Tilly's numbers are historical. They don't get into projections here, at least in terms of revenues. And normally, what they would do if you'd ask them is they would they would flatline it. But I think what you're getting at is, you know, if you look at historical part of, the EDIT side, because you've got more history there, what's the normal growth in EDIT revenue, you know, year over year, and you could come up with some, say, five (5) year average. And you would know, you know, hey, is this the trend that we're gonna see for Public Safety LIT, but you certainly could look at that. But it's not built into these numbers at all.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** So, and I guess, and I'm just throwing something, so like, if it truly grew a million ($1,000,000.00) next year, that would be potentially a ($1,000,000.00) million that could be saved as...

**Krystal Powless:** I built it into my...

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** You did build it in?

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Okay. That's why I was asking.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Guys, I'll say, you know, thank you, Sheriff, for taking us on that tour last week. And it was extremely helpful for me. I got a really good visual in my head now, you know, of the jail. And it really is a lot more than a jail. I, we really shouldn't call it that. We should call it the Public Safety Command Center. Because that's really, shoot, I saw detectives and nurses and clergymen and janitors and it's a small city almost. So, I came away from it feeling that I, I see the need for a jail, a new jail. But again, I'm using that word. I see the need for a new jail. However, I don't want to rush into anything. I do somewhat feel that way, that we're rushing, even though I know it's been on the table for a long time. And suddenly, I kind of feel like somebody has yelled go and I look up and the light has not, is not green yet. And someone's yelling, go. Now, I understand, I think I understand why you guys are here is to kind of get a feel for what can you work with. And golly, as I look around the room, I see all kinds of people that I wish I could read their minds because they have a lot of information about this that I would like to hear and know and get that information. I even asked to Cliff earlier today through email, if there was a way that we could have an Executive Session on this topic just so that we could all share that knowledge. And I don't think it's actually possible is that right, Cliff, on this particular topic?

**Cliff Whitehead:** Right, unless, correct. For the Council, correct.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Okay. That's the short answer. And the, so, I don't know, you know, what's next. I don't want to just, if we blurted out a hundred million dollar ($100,000,000.00) number here or five million dollar ($500,000,000.00) number, I bet the bids would come in at five hundred million ($500,000,000.00), you know? So, I don't want to just, hey, here you go, guys. I'm kind of with Brad's thinking here on this is, I know you've looked, I need to convince myself that you've looked and analyzed everything and all that. I'm rambling, I don't, this isn't much help. But, I would like to talk to all of you more in more detail so that I can know.

**Brad Bingham:** I just want to say I think that's exactly, kind of what Andrew said, I think the point of tonight was to get a sense, but also start a dialogue. You know what questions do you have? What else do you want to see? I think we're hearing some of that. And I think the more that can be compiled and say, here are the things we want to address, you know, what else did you look at? Can you can you cut some costs? And if you looked at that, are there other monies out there? All great questions. I think we've got to start somewhere because what we don't want to do is get down the path just come and say, here it is. That's a problem. And again, if we got to start somewhere, and I think that's why we're here tonight.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I, the Jail Commander has told me that he is willing to give any of us a tour at any time of day, any day of the week that's convenient for anybody. Eyes on things helps a lot to become informed.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Absolutely.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And that's why I'm inviting everybody also out to the Recycling Center. So, that's just a note to everybody that wants to go out there. Jeremy will take care of you.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Well, one (1) question I have right now is, back to the hard costs of the jail, and do you know what the, the original hard cost was compared to the hard costs now? Let's forget about the soft costs for a little bit.

**Jeremy Kountz:** In the feasibility study?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Yes.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Five-ninety-five ($595.00) a square foot.

**Andrew Skinner:** Five-ninety… ($595.00) if you extrapolate that out low to high end estimate was forty-two ($42,000,000.00), forty-one point eight ($41,800,000.00) to forty-eight point six million ($48,600,000.00) of just strict construction costs for a facility that was…

**Jeremy Kountz:** Eighty-three thousand (83,000) square feet.

**Andrew Skinner:** Eighty-three thousand (83,000) square feet, five hundred sixty ($560.00).

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Okay, close enough.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** It's really stayed the same.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Okay, and the hard costs now are, just give me a dollar amount.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Five-ninety-five ($595.00) to six-twenty ($620.00).

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** On one (1) hand, I'm a little confused now, because I've been hearing it's gone up, but now you're telling me it didn't go up? So that confuses me. But, I'm gonna, I'm talking hard costs of hard costs. And so now, we would have had to have added the ten million ($10,000,000.00) or whatever it was for soft costs to the original hard costs, right?

**Jeremy Kountz:** Your original and your feasibility study, your original high is now our low and now we have a new high. So, you've went from that range where the five-ninety-five ($595.00) was your high. Five-ninety-five ($595.00) is our low. The six-twenty's ($620.00) is our high on the ranges right now. And that's the trends we're seeing on similar, like projects. We're coming in at five-ninety-five ($595.00) and six-twenty ($620.00) range, and we're escalating that too, you know, projected Q2.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Okay. So, I like to compare apples to apples kind of thing.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Sure.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** And the hard cost before the hard costs now, what's the difference? How much? Just throw me a number. Don't make me do the math. Just throw me number.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Twenty-five dollars ($25.00) a square foot, roughly.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** You'll have to do math.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Ten (10) per, twelve percent (12%).

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Do it for me. Do the math.

**Jeremy Kountz:** On, dollars?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** How big, how big the jail is.

**Jeremy Kountz:** You've went from forty (40), in your feasibility study, you went from forty-eight-six ($48,600,000.00) to right now we're at ranges of fifty point four ($50,400,000.00) on hard to fifty-two point five ($52,500,000.00).

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Okay, so I'm gonna use forty-eight-six ($48,600,000.00) to fifty-two point five ($52,500,000.00).

**Jeremy Kountz:** Yep, and that was, that was your last high.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** That's our hard costs.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Yep.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Okay. That helps me.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Yep.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Okay? Because the other stuff was kind of a side thing. We stop and get Dairy Queen on the way there. That's extra too, right?

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I might have misspoke a little bit, because of feasibility studies numbers are pretty accurate. It's just what you could have done a year and a half ago to now though.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** So, there's really not a whole lot of difference.

**Jeremy Kountz:** On the soft side, your real difference is, and Brad, you may know better on the scenario reports. If you look at the...

**Brad Bingham:** It's the interest. Interest rates year over year are vastly different. And what that drives is that capitalized interest number. So, that dry, it's all part of the soft costs.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** That's a good point. The interest rates...

**Brad Bingham:** I was at a meeting last night, I think the municipal advisor that was there said they've risen like a hundred twenty (120) basis points using certain scales. So, I mean, that's a large swing and has a huge impact on the costs for the size of the project.

**Jeremy Kountz:** You look at the top of this, this has a, assumed true interest cost at five point nine (5.9%). I mean, these a year ago were, that was probably three-one (3.1%).

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** So, it's sounding like most of this increase is coming in the interest rate?

**Brad Bingham:** That's a huge part of it.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** And not actually not in the nuts and bolts.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Not in the design or...

**Andrew Skinner:** Those, those costs of desks and furniture and systems to put in the jail, that was a proponent that wasn't in that (inaudible) as well.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Exactly. Exactly, yeah. So, okay. It was just a question. I don't know if that helps anybody else or not, but it helps me. So, you know.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Ron, do you have any questions?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Not really, I'm, fortunately or unfortunately, I've been in the jail for many years working as the Coroner and with the officers in the past. So, I'm well aware of the issue. I know how it was back then. And I'm sure that it's much worse now. Because it was very crowded then before we had fifty-eight (58) officers. And so, I'm in total agreement with the Sheriff and the space is definitely needed. I'm in agreement also with Chris, we need to look a little bit together now of what to do. What can we do to get the cost down as much as we possibly can? But, I'm in agreement that we've got to have a new, new Jail. No other questions otherwise.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Thank you. Anybody else?

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Greg, I'd like to make a comment that maybe Jeremy can answer. Like, yeah, we're not here today, this is dialogue. We're not, hey, could give us the numbers so we can go forward. But, I think we, Krystal, me and Heather's discussion, we are looking for, as we kind of hit on, a little guidance because to kind of go back to Brad's question, hey, where can you go, Sheriff, and cut some things? I don't think we can cut anything 'til we kind of know where we're going with the land. Because, you know, that's why it's called schematic design because we can only go so far until we kind of have enough green light to at least go the next step. You know, not necessarily into full, but we got to clear a few hurdles. Am I kind of describing this right?

**Jeremy Kountz:** Yeah, I mean, we have RQAW, I made a recommendation that they pause where they're at today. Because the next phases in the design are going to be placing this on the site. We, they've programed through the property that we're, that we're kind of looking at and considering but that still has to go through a purchase step. That takes time. There's, you know, you as a County have handcuffs of how you pay for that. You pay the average of two (2) appraisals max. So, there's a negotiation, willingness of, you know, you're only going to pay so much so you got to start vetting those things out. Alright, we want to look at this property and, you know, utilities start coming into play in the design. I don't want to spend good design money if we're not going to be moving on to that property and or making those recommendations to keep spending the design money and costs if things are going to shift. So, you know, that's where funding does come into play and getting, you know, a feel for what, where the appetite is for that funding capacity. That way we know, all right, well, here's the nugget or proceeds available we have for the project. What are we going to be able to get with that? I know we talked the thirty-five ($35,000,000.00), forty-five million dollar ($45,000,000.00) range that was, I guess, in feasibility study or in, in people's minds that those costs. Are we going to get a total project from a financing point down to that? Not unless we do something completely different than what that. Is their ability to look at things of, you know, your example of hardwoods and carpets right? Jails are pretty basic. There's a lot of just basic amenities. There's steel cells and block walls and some paint. There's not even flooring in most, the office...

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Carpets and floors.

**Jeremy Kountz:** Yeah, so there's not there's not a huge laundry list of V-E options that you can look at. I know when you did this Courthouse, you're probably considering things, you know, the laminate top on the bench here versus the solid surface top. And there's things that, yeah, there's a drastic difference there. You know, there might be a four thousand dollar ($4,000.00) difference, just that countertop there. You can look at different materials. There's not a lot of those nice things that add up to big money and in jail. It's already pretty basic. And there's a lot of the things are in the components and the controls and operations of it, which are also probably things that, you know, we have to decide, do we want to, do we want to look at and give up. You know, water management system pays for itself. Typically, within, you know, I know you've seen those studies on that when they came in did that of the uses and the ability to ability to control the water. You know, that pays in your water, utility bills pretty quickly. Same with heating and cooling. There's just not a lot of areas to drastically get down to that mark we've talked in that those low forties (40's). Is there ways we can, we can be cutting a few percentage points out of this? I think absolutely through the design process. You know, there's square foot that we could probably look at and skinny down and get it down to the eighty-three thousand (83,000) square foot that was probably in the feasibility study versus the eighty-four thousand seven hundred (84,700) today. There's definitely areas in that scope can get reduced.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I just kind of wanted to hit on those hurdles that we're looking at that we have to do.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And Krystal's worked real hard on some ideas. She can send you emails.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Where do we, where do we proceed from here? Just thank you? Or...?

**Jeremy Kountz:** As I mentioned, you know we're, I think that we're at a stopping point of needing direction to move forward. Right? So, and then that will be my recommendation. I don't think you want to spend you know, the next fifteen (15%), twenty percent (20%) of design until we know what kind of funding level the project is going to be at so we can work towards, towards that amount. To me, that's the best, best next step.

**Commissioner Terry Phillippe:** Terry Phillippe, Warrick County Commissioner. I have an ask of you guys at some point. Not necessarily this evening. My ask to you would be to, this is not a project that you're just gonna write check. It's probably the most expensive project that's been done in the history of Warrick County. It's gonna have very complex financing structure. I would ask you guys to consider some, some continued dialogue with folks like Brad, Matt Eckerle from Baker Tilly, Jeremy from Garmong, they built, he just said they built twenty million dollar ($20,000,000.00) or twenty (20) jails. They know how this stuff works. Let's continue to talk and I think that's the ask this evening. Let's work together as a team. Next step, I think is to engage in conversations with the financial experts. So, that's my ask, thanks.

**Brad Bingham:** And maybe to that point Terry, I mean, and I don't know, Krystal, if this falls to you, but is there a list of deliverables or questions that you want to see and maybe we just, next meeting, we'll come back and try to address those and keep, you know, keep presenting and answering questions that you're raising. I think to me, that's, that's how you keep having this dialogue. Through just being on the agenda and keep presenting.

**Brad Overton:** Let me ask a question of my fellow Council members. So, I'll give you my opinion and then I would kind of be curious to see what everyone else thought. But, my first thought is, is that if at all possible, we avoid touching or increasing tax rates that are already in effect. So, that is my number one (1) thing. I don't know if any of you feel strongly about that or not. But, I don't, I want to keep this so we're not, I would like to see, however we manage this, that it's done, that we don't impact our citizens of this County, their bottom line, if that's at all possible. That's the, honestly, I think that's my first concern is doing everything possible to avoid any kind of tax increases. I don't know if anybody else feels strongly about that or not. Or not that this needs a consensus or a motion, but I don't know if anybody else has any thoughts on that. Because that would be like one (1) of my thoughts about where we could kind of move this is if at all possible, avoiding touching or increasing any kind of tax impact or burden to the citizens.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I feel like that too. I do have a but. If the Federal Government forces us someday to come in and change, we have no say so. We just do it. And that will cause taxes to go up. And I'd rather be in control of it rather than somebody else personally. There is, we're not at the maximum levy in the Cum Capital Development. And if we took some of that out and took Steve, you'll hate to hear this, a little bit out of EDIT. And then use our PSLIT the way it is, I think it can be done to reach close but not quite the fifty-five ($55,000,000.00) being projected.

**Krystal Powless:** I'd say more like fifty ($50,000,000.00).

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** So, there are some creative ways we could do this.

**Krystal Powless:** Depending on how much you want to take from EDIT. I'd say that number, I'm confident in that number by taking five hundred thousand ($500,000.00) a year from EDIT, which is probably not going to kill Steve too much. But if it's, if you, if you're going to go with a higher number, you would probably need to end up taking more from EDIT.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And the Cum Cap Development is not at its maximum Levy.

**Krystal Powless:** Correct.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** If we, we upped that a little bit, or to its maximum.

**Krystal Powless:** Now, that would be effectively taxpayers unless you only did it up to the amount that the courthouse lease rental payment will be paid off soon.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And that was a scenario we looked at to where that would level.

**Krystal Powless:** Right.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** On that thought, myself, I like Brad's idea about not, you know, changing taxes. I don't like the idea of taking away from Economic Development. Cause I feel that the money that goes through Economic Development through the, it's more like an investment and we earn money on our investments. I'd hate to take away the ability for the County to earn money through, through that, through EDIT. So, I guess I'm thinking I would like to see how we're gonna pay it back and let that determine the budget. You know? What, what, what ways do we have to pay it back? And...

**Krystal Powless:** Well...

**Brad Overton:** There are three (3) ways. You've got the Public Safety LIT. You've got EDIT. You've got taking, continuing to make that same payment that we're making on the Courthouse...

**Krystal Powless:** Lease rental out of CCD.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Lease rental. Those are your....

**Krystal Powless:** If you're not going to increase taxes. Which, if you're going to increase taxes, then you're looking at a possible referendum and we really don't want to go with that.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** If you, so, given those, those choices that Brad just named, would you be able to figure up what then, work the math backwards to come up with? You have already? Okay. Good.

**Krystal Powless:** I just didn't think you wanted it said in the meeting. Cause a minute ago you said...

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** No, no, that's fine. Yeah, you'll have to say it right now.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Krystal's been working real hard the past couple of days.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** I should have known.

**Andrew Skinner:** As mentioned earlier, that Public Safety LIT number is going to be increasing, right?

**Krystal Powless:** I've accounted for that.

**Andrew Skinner:** And as we do construction, we talked about this at the last finance meeting. Throughout the process of construction, you're investing your bond money that you've borrowed and you're earning, because our interest rates are so high, it allows us to invest that money and actually earn money through construction on the money we borrowed. And that allows you additional income as well. (Inaudible).

**Brad Bingham:** That is the great point. I forgot about that. And that was not in Baker Tilly's numbers. But, what he's getting at is, you know, you're not going to disperse all the bond proceeds on day one (1). There's gonna be a draw schedule and we're going to know that. And so, once you know the draw schedule, and I think we did this in Gibson County with Baker Tilly's is you come up with an investment portfolio to time your investment of those dollars when you need them. And you earn money off that. As long as you spend the money within a certain time period, which this will, you can keep that money. It's called arbitrage. But it's significant on this, on this size of project, you're probably into the seven (7) figures on investment earnings during that construction period. So, it's, it's not insignificant. That is why I think we talked before really, you would want to spend bond proceeds first, so that like your amount of actual contribution that the County contribution is going to be minimized. Because you want something else to pay for it other than your own, your own money.

**Krystal Powless:** Right.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Well, I agree with Brad and everybody else, I don't want to do anything that's going to raise the tax rate for sure. And it just, it just sounds like our eyes are bigger than our stomach right now. And the County just can't afford a fifty-five million dollar ($55,000,000.00) jail this time. I would think we'd be closer to forty-five ($45,000,000.00). That's just my personal opinion. The County's not in the shape right now to construct a fifty-five million dollars ($55,000,000.00) jail. I mean, that's just the way it is. The alternative would be probably need to raise taxes. And nobody here seems to have the stomach for that. I definitely don't. So, what we want and what we, you know, gonna get by with is two (2) different things here. And do we have any documentation that the Federal Government's on our back now to build a jail? Do we have any letters? Or any…?

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** No, absolutely not. I never said that. We don't. No.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Right. So, it's not that severe.

**Andrew Skinner:** But having it in our backyard happened. It does make you, we don't want that, right?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Right. We don't want it.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** But, seriously, to argue that defense (inaudible) take it to the next step. So, you want to wait two (2) years, now we're gonna, the fifty-five million dollar ($55,000,000.00) jail is going to be a seventy-five million dollar ($75,000,000.00) jail. I mean, that's what, that's what we would have just experienced. I mean potentially. I'm not trying to (inaudible). You can keep putting it off. You're going to cost, cost went up.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Way to go, Sheriff.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** But, I mean, realistically, if we put it off, all we're doing is making it even more expensive.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Right. I'm not suggesting we cut if off. I'm saying if we have to build now, let's be realistic. It doesn't sound like the County can afford a fifty-five million dollar ($55,000,000.00) jail. And the tax payer would stand up here and tell you, you're going to have to learn to live within your means. And your means is forty-five million ($45,000,000.00) or so.

**Commissioner Terry Phillippe:** If you don't mind me rebutting your remark there.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Sure.

**Commissioner Terry Phillippe:** Ted, I'm sorry. I know you said that that was your opinion.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Right.

**Commissioner Terry Phillippe:** My opinion is we can afford it. We've got to increase capacity. We're one (1) of the richest counties per capita in the State of Indiana. They've got to set examples. I think we don't need to solve this conversation tonight. Let's talk to financial experts. Let's tell, let them tell us what they know. I think we'll find out that we can afford it. So, that's why I ask once again, is let's just, this was informational. We've got the information. Let's talk to the financial experts. See if we can figure it out. Brad stated his goals. We've got some goals that we want to see. If we get to the point where we say, we built this thing and we're not going to have enough beds, I won't support it anymore. I want it done right.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Of course.

**Commissioner Terry Phillippe:** So, let's just continue to figure it out as a team.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Right. So how do we do that? I mean, all of us individually talk to each other or have, we need to have a public meeting?

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I think we have to have these meetings and they're long. I mean, we're already at an hour, but this is what's got to happen. RQAW when they come to table, I don't think all you Council members can come at once cause it'd be considered. But, if you guys one (1) a time or two (2) come, I think it'd be beneficial to sit in. Because like what Ted saying, I somewhat agree with you. I see what you're saying because the money we're talking about. But you can't tell me now we got thirty-five million ($35,000,000.00) cause then we're just building what we have. It, all it is, is new. It's no bigger, you know, that doesn't do us, that's just wasting money. You got to do it right. But we got to do it in our means. So, you know, those, those are important things. So, but what I would ask is to come understand some of these. Because it's easy to say hey, go back and cut, but we kind of did that we designed it. We know what we need. So, yes, we will kind of go back, but I think it's important maybe they either, I'm not saying trust us. I don't want to appear forward. But, maybe you come and sit in on that process. I know Dan Saylor did, Terry. But you can only have so many Councilman there at a time. But if you take turns maybe sit in on those, kind of see what's going into this. Because it wasn't like, hey, I'd love to have a swimming pool and maybe, you know. It's what do we have to have and Garmong and them led us down this because they built twenty (20) jails. They kind of help us. But I get what you're saying. I'm not arguing with you. But we can't just say we're gonna take a loan number because that's what we got, cause then what we're doing is building the same size we have. The only thing we've got is it's newer not bigger. So, we got to kind of do that whole weigh it out thing but I'd asked you, you're welcome, any of you to come out and sit in those, I think that can beneficial, you know, to hear what RQAW can do and Garmong what we're trying to accomplish to.

**Andrew Skinner:** And...

**Brad Overton:** Well, I would like, sorry, Andrew, but on these meetings, if we could possibly have something that's not at like 9:00 (AM), I mean, some of us, you know, we just can't. I mean, I just, I'm not going to, you know, for me to just, oh, I'll just take three (3) or four (4) vacation days and come in for these things. I mean, maybe we could have something that you know, 4:00 (PM) or 3:00 (PM) at least or something where we can get you know, more people visible. Because I would have loved to have sat on this thing but I think it was 9:00 (AM) and I, you know, that's right in the middle. And even though I'm making you know millions of dollars as the Councilman I'd still, still need to actually have a full-time job as well.

**Andrew Skinner:** We'd be happy at our meetings, when we sit down, we could advertise it as a as a public meeting. You know, so you all could be there. They don't have to be private meetings. Nothing we're discussing in our meeting is something we're trying to hide from anybody. And, of course, we're happy to have those public meetings and to continue this discussion with all of you because it is hard to get with two (2) at a time, right? You have the same discussion three (3) times and something comes up with the first two (2) that doesn't come up with the next two (2). And so, it is good to get together and that's what really the committee is wanting to do is continue this conversation, discussion with the Council to come up with where, where, where are we going here? What can we afford? I mean, I take off my attorney hat, put on my Warrick County citizen hat. With Terry, I don't see how we could have passed a nine million dollar ($9,000,000.00) Public Safety LIT for the purpose of building a jail and then not be able to build a jail that's gonna cost us five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) a year. So, from my own personal view of this, we've got, we can do this. Alright? Do we need to come up with the strategy of how to do it? Yeah. And that's really what we're here to do is let's get, let's figure it out. Let's meet with the experts to come up with that strategy.

**Krystal Powless:** Okay. I would like to make a few comments if that's alright?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** You've worked so hard. You deserve it.

**Krystal Powless:** Just so you know, I have come up with a way to finance between forty-nine million ($49,000,000.00) to fifty-two million ($52,000,000.00) without increasing property taxes. Okay, so that's where we stand. We didn't want a number quoted and I just said it. As far as LIT, there's a lot of things paid out of the LIT that maybe you're not aware of like the ambulance service, Sheriff Deputies, SROs to, you know, officers with schools. You know, I have that all laid out exactly. We have with the jail payment in there, we would actually be over budget next year. But, that's okay, because we built a little cash reserve. And then eventually it would catch up with itself because we bring in a little bit more each year. So, that's maxing it out of the three point five million dollar ($3,500,000.00) payment out of the PSLIT. But then coming up with other ways to fund the other portion. Okay? So, forty (40), I came up with forty-nine million ($49,000,000.00) to fifty-two million ($52,000,000.00) that we could afford without increasing property taxes.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Still less than fifty-five ($55,000,000.00).

**Councilman Rick Reid:** So, you get your project set up. Start cutting some things.

**Krystal Powless:** But, there are ways, I mean, there are ways to generate more money. But, they're asking me not to do that.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I don't think fifty-five million ($55,000,000.00) is, I don't, you guys, be curious, as a hard number that we wanted you to come and give us tonight. And we want, you know, what can we afford? What can we afford? Here's what I'm telling you tell us what we can afford. I'm trying to like she just did. Let's get there. I know some of these projections were on the high side. The low side though was right at fifty (50). What was it, the low side?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Forty-six ($46,000,000.00).

**Jeremy Kountz:** Construction was at fifty point two ($50,200,000.00).

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** So, that's what we're doing right here. And I think as long as this meeting goes, we have, she's given us some numbers that we can get to. I get, we're gonna go back, but we kind of have to have that guidance because if you just told me twenty million ($20,000,000.00) and I told RQAW, that buildings gonna look totally different. Probably not gonna happen. But, if we're just talking two ($2,000,000.00) or three million ($3,000,000.00), four ($4,000,000.00), it gives us that box to start working in. And so, this discussion really is what we need that hurdle to clear. I don't need you to say for, okay, tonight, I don't think any of us need that, set a number, but, where we think we got to get to roughly. I think. I appreciate your thoughts. I'm not saying we get on there but that's what we got to work together.

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Well, we don't want to increase taxes.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I stand here as the Sheriff and want a brand new jail as big as can be and don't want to pay more taxes. I stand right here. I mean, nobody wants to pay more taxes. I think we can get this this facility down without paying more taxes. I've talked a lot with Krystal. I think we can.

**Krystal Powless:** I agree. I agree.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** I'm curious, as how many people are on the jail committee in the audience here. Just curious.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Two (2), three (3). Three (3) more. Everybody's here but Steve Smith and the judge but he's not I mean, so.

**Brad Overton:** I think that's probably, I mean, I don't know, I think we've, I think we've kind of laid out what we're looking at. Does everybody kind of agree? I think we've got our ideas. And Ron, do you agree? We've kind of given the information. Because I hate to hold these guys up any longer. We, that horse is already dead, I think. And he's starting to, you know, might be time to move him on? Anybody else? I mean...

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** You okay, Ron?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** It's kind of my fault.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** To move on?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** I'm in agreement with what Krystal's saying. I think we can do it. And do that and I'll go along with that.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And I'll ask the committee see if they can schedule some 4:00 (PM) meetings where some others who wish to come, (inaudible).

**Councilman Rick Reid:** (Inaudible).

**Andrew Skinner:** And Greg will, when we get those meeting dates, times to you, if enough of the Council wants to join that you want to make it a public meeting, you're of course (inaudible).

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, just email Krystal and Krystal email the others and asked for a commitment one way or the other from them.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Thank you for your time.

**Andrew Skinner:** Thank you.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Thank you.

**Brad Overton:** Thanks a lot. Appreciate it.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Real quickly, before we move on here. I'd be interested in going to that meeting. Is, who was, who else would be interested? We can know whether they want to make it public or not.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Yeah, I mean, I'll go.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Sounds like it should be made public then.

**Brad Overton:** And I would say though, Cliff, could we put a timeframe on that meeting as well? And if people have public comments and those we can, I think that would probably be something we definitely want to do. Because I think if we do that and open a public meeting, we're probably going to open Pandora's box and maybe the not only the box, but anything else out there. So, we can, I mean, we can put some limitations on like public speaking couldn't we?

**Cliff Whitehead:** Yes. Yes.

**Brad Overton:** Okay. Cause I'd hate to see where that would go.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** We ready to move on?

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Item number, thank you.

## AUDITOR
## FIRST DEPUTY
## RESIGNATION VACATION PAY OUT

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Item number three (3), Salary Ordinance, Resignation, Three Week Pay, First Deputy, two thousand nine hundred forty-three dollars and forty-six cents ($2,943.46). And I believe our attorney may have some instruction on that?

**Cliff Whitehead:** I gave instruction in an email.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Do we need to have a motion then, is that?

**Cliff Whitehead:** You have a motion to approve what you want to approve.

**Krystal Powless:** The three (3) days.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion to approve this?

**Krystal Powless:** Yes, the three (3) days for five-eighty-eight and seventy-two cents ($588.72).

**Cliff Whitehead:** That's my recommendation.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Five-eighty-eight and seventy-two ($588.72) times three (3) days. Okay, first, I'd like to call for a motion in a second then we'll have discussion and open it up.

**Councilman Rick Reid:** What's the total did you say?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Two thousand nine hundred forty-three dollars ($2,943.00).

**Krystal Powless:** No.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Oh.

**Krystal Powless:** Five hundred eighty-eight dollars and seventy-two cents ($588.72).

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Times three (3) days?

**Krystal Powless:** No.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** No? Oh, I was just…

**Krystal Powless:** Five hundred and eighty-eight dollars and seventy-two cents ($588.72). That's is for three (3) days.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Oh, okay.

**Cliff Whitehead:** Three (3) days, eight (8) hours each day at twenty-four dollars and fifty-three cents ($24.53) an hour.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Oh, there it is.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Motion to approve.

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** I'll second.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I need, okay. I have a motion by Brad and second by Ron. Now, we'll open it up for discussion.

**Auditor Debbie Stevens:** May I speak?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** You may speak.

**Auditor Debbie Stevens:** Thank you. Debbie Stevens, Warrick County Auditor. The request for three (3) weeks of vacation is due to the fact that the First Deputy has not used a day of vacation in 2022. I do want to bring to the Board things that, that you may not always see or things that don't end up in front of the Council. But, I see it. I see it in payroll. I see things being approved. I see discriminatory actions when it comes to Handbook Policy, when it's ignored, often ignored. And, and other times, in this case, I'm not even sure what, what the issue is, where they are looking at even making a recommendation to this Board. This is the Fiscal Board. This is policy and, you know, your position is to appropriate then the, it goes to Commissioners to approve. Whether they approve or say that the policy allows or not, that, that is certainly on them. But, this is a this is an extremely, this has never happened in the eight (8) years that I've been in my in the administration as Auditor. Nothing like this.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Can you tell me what the violation is?

**Auditor Debbie Stevens:** I'm not well, I'm, I'm telling you that Handbook says three (3) weeks' vacation and she has not used a single day of vacation in 2022.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Can you tell me what the Commissioners ruled in their meeting Monday?

**Auditor Debbie Stevens:** I'm not sure why HR matters are being discussed in a public meeting.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Well, okay.

**Auditor Debbie Stevens:** And approvals being made in advance of any payroll being submitted. But, I do want to mention a situation that just happened in 2022. I was presented with a payroll by an employee who had expended all days allowed by policy. All sick days, all vacation days and this was in June. The payroll was submitted. The payroll was paid and then we come back with some revision to extending more benefits to one (1) particular employee outside of what Handbook Policy allows. I paid that payroll under duress and I informed both bodies that that payroll would be paid under duress of my office with no supporting documentation for those hours worked. And this is just some of the things that, it's, you can't pick and choose. If policy says, policy says. And for whatever reason, they go back to 2022. No one in my office is allowed comp time. But, we often, often have to work flex time in order to meet deadlines, payroll deadlines, claim deadlines, also deadlines for many things. Annual Financial Reporting, PSAP reporting things that then result in revenue back to the County. We have a lot of reporting that then means we gain revenue back to the County for meeting those deadlines. It is it is an absolute necessity to maintain internal controls, allow employees to use flex time. Kristine's here tonight doing minutes and it's 7:30 (PM) at night. She's, she can't be paid over time. We have to implement flex time to accommodate the kinds of demands that are put on the Auditor's Office and our staff to meet those demands of internal controls, deadlines...

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** First Deputy, applies to First Deputy?

**Auditor Debbie Stevens:** Pardon me?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Never mind. We have a motion on the floor. I'm gonna call for the motion, the question. All those in favor of the five hundred eighty-eighty dollars (Clarification $588.72).

**Cliff Whitehead:** We need a roll call vote.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** We need a roll call vote. Thank you.

**Auditor Debbie Stevens:** I would like to add it won't stop here. This this request for the three (3) weeks of vacation will not stop at the County level.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay. Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Nay.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Rick Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Nay.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Myself. I vote, aye. Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** So that's it. (Motion carried 4-2 with Ted Metzger and Rick Reid opposing).

## COMMISSIONER BUSINESS
## SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2023
## INSPECTOR FOR HIGHWAY, STORM WATER, AND BUILDING COMMISSION

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Number four, Commissioner Business, Salary Ordinance, Highway Inspector, 1/3 of fifty-two thousand seven-seventy...seven-twenty-five ($52,725.00). Storm Water Inspector, 1/3 of fifty-two thousand seven-twenty-five ($52,725.00). Building Commission Inspector, 1/3 of fifty-two thousand seven-twenty-five ($52,725.00). The following reduction and Additional Appropriation will be listed in the January agenda. I don't need to read those do I since it's in January?

**Krystal Powless:** No, I was just making those notes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay. So, is there a motion on this?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Motion to approve.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Brad. Is there a second? Second anybody?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** I'll second.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Second by Ron. Now, I need to ask for discussion. Questions?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** What exactly is this for?

**Krystal Powless:** The new Inspector position that was created was split between the Building Department and the Storm Water Department only. And the Highway Department has agreed to take on a portion of it. So, it will be split three (3) ways instead of two (2) ways. So, it is a current, funded position, but they're going to split it three (3) ways instead of two (2) ways.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** And if I'm not mistaken, this was due to the usage of this Inspector by all three (3) of those departments found some value in that Inspector.

**Krystal Powless:** Correct. That is correct.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** That's why we split those or split.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay. Any more questions? Roll call vote. I've got to mark my list. Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Nay.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Rick Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Nay.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I vote yes. Chris?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, so that's four (4), three (3) as the last one.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Wait a minute. It's not four (4) to three (3).

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I'm sorry, four to two (4-2 with Ted Metzger and Rick Reid opposing). Yeah. Thank you. And I do not need to read the nays since they are Roll Call?

**Cliff Whitehead:** You do not.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Thank you.

## ELECTION BUSINESS
## ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Election Business, Additional Appropriations, I think we've discussed this in the past. Clerks, ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00); Election Support, twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00); Absent Voter Board, two thousand dollars ($2,000.00); Postage, two thousand dollars ($2,000.00); Total Election for Additional Appropriation is thirty-four thousand dollars ($34,000.00). Transfer from Election Support nine thousand five hundred dollars ($9,500.00); Transfer to Absent Voter Board, one thousand nine hundred dollars ($1,900.00); Transfer to Inspector, two thousand seven hundred dollars ($2,700.00); Transfer to Judges, four thousand five hundred dollars ($4,500.00) and Transfer to Clerk's four hundred dollars ($400.00). Then the next one (1), item is Transfer from Equipment, nine hundred twenty dollars ($920.00); Transfer to Clerks, nine hundred twenty dollars ($920.00. I'll entertain a motion.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Motion.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Ted. Is there a second?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Second.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And second by Brad. Any questions or discussion? All those in favor? Roll Call. Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Myself, I'll vote, aye. Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Rick Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** That's six, zero (6-0).

## STORM WATER BUSINESS
## TRANSFER – SALARY ORDINANCE FOR ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Now Storm Water Transfer. Transfer from Seasonal Help, two thousand six hundred dollars ($2,600.00); Transfer to Office Administrator, two thousand six hundred dollars ($2,600.00). And the Salary Ordinance, Administrator, Training of New Employee, and that's just the Salary Ordinance. That's four thousand…forty thousand three hundred twenty-eight ($40,328.00), forty thousand three hundred twenty-eight ($40,328.00).

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Motion to approve.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Brad. Is there a second?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Second?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Second by Rick and Roll Call. Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Rick Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I'll vote aye. Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay.

**Steve Sherwood:** Thank you.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** You're welcome. You need to give the total? Six (6), zero (0)?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Six, zero (6-0). Yeah. Thank you.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** You're welcome.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Too much writing here.

## SUPERIOR COURT II BUSINESS
## COURT REPORTER

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Superior Court II Business, Salary Ordinance, Court Reporter, Step Increase Request, and that is forty-four thousand eight hundred eighty-six dollars ($44,886.00), court reporter. It's the same thing for the second one (1), forty-four thousand eight hundred eighty-six dollars ($44,886.00). And if approved a reduction and Additional Appropriation in January. That is number seven (7). Okay, you got notes on this earlier on. So, any motion on this?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Motion to deny.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion to deny by Brad. Is there a second to deny?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** I'll second that.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, any discussion?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** The reason that I made that motion was due to the fact that these requests should have been made, submitted at budget time. I don't want to set a precedent of trying to make these changes now or opening up the budget to these types of adjustments at this point in time.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** That's pretty much my reasoning.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Thank you.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay. We have a motion to deny by Brad. Second by Ted and that's the end of the discussion, I assume. All those in…

**Councilman Brad Overton:** No, Roll Call.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Roll Call. All those who want to deny, your vote will be aye. Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Rick Reid.

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I'll also vote aye. And Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay. That vote is six, zero (6-0) to deny. That's number seven (7).

## PARK AND RECREATION BUSINESS
## MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT – GENERAL

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Number 8A, Parks and Recreation. Additional Appropriation, Motorized Equipment, thirty-eight thousand ($38,000.00). And General Fund, ten thousand ($10,000.00). 8B is a Transfer, one thousand four hundred forty-five dollars ($1,445.00), Transferring from Advertising. Transferring from Phone, one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00); Transferring from Fireworks, two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500.00). Transfer from Printing, one hundred thirty dollars ($130.00). Transfer from Concessions, four hundred twenty-five dollars ($425.00). And those Transfers go to Motorized Equipment, six thousand dollars ($6,000.00).

**Ben Labhart:** Ben Labhart, Parks Department. So, the transfers are to help with the purchase of the vehicle we're asking for. I think Krystal sent everybody pictures of the truck we're trying to replace. And there's also, I also included a list of the vehicles we have and the condition they're in and the miles they have on them. So, the first Additional that Greg read is for the vehicle. We transferred as much as we possibly could, six thousand dollars ($6,000.00) and also another two thousand ($2,000.00) that we were able to do in line transfer. So, the total transfers we're doing is eight thousand dollars ($8,000.00). And I also included, Krystal provided you all letter from Sherrie to kind of explain the troubles that she's been having trying to order vehicles and get vehicles. And the reason this vehicle's available, somebody ordered it and decided they didn't want it and Sternberg still has it so that's why it's still available right now.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Any comments or questions from the Council?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** I do have a question. Do we make a motion for this, this, these transfers first and then where the remaining amount would be transferred from? Can we split that up?

**Krystal Powless:** You could split it up or you can make it all one (1). However, you wanted to do it.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Okay, I'd like to make a motion to approve the transfers listed on 8B to Motorized Equipment.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, this is just for the transfer, right?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Yep.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay.

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** I'll second.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Brad made the motion to transfer and it was seconded by Ron. Any discussion on that?

**Krystal Powless:** Roll Call.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Yeah, I was still writing. Roll Call. Number eight (8). Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Rick Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I will vote aye. Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Yes, aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, so the motion for the Transfers, six, zero (6-0). That part is done.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** And then, let me ask, the additional funding for the vehicle, where are we requesting that money? Where's this request…?

**Krystal Powless:** From the cash account in Parks Department.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Oh, from the cash account within Parks, not from…

**Krystal Powless:** But they supplement that from the Friedman Park. Is that what you're talking about?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Well, this is not coming out of County General then, correct?

**Krystal Powless:** No, no, no.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Okay, motion to approve the remaining transfer. Sorry, I should have just asked at first I don't know why I didn't.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Brad to approve the Additional Appropriations of thirty-eight thousand ($38,000.00) for Motorized Equipment and the General, ten ($10,000.00).

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Yes, sir.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay. Is there a second?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Second.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Second by Ron. And any questions or discussion on that?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** You say that was coming out of Friedman Park budget?

**Krystal Powless:** Well, it's coming out in Parks Department's budget. Okay? And I thought he was going to ask me if there'd be any LIT funding, but I was just gonna say that the proceeds from the Friedman Park Event Center does go to Ben. So, it's kind of coming out of there too. But, it's not coming out of property, not coming out of County General.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** You know, guys, I'd like to say here, there was an idea that I've heard presented maybe more than a year ago. But, doesn't matter, that possibly the Building Commission Office could every year, purchase a new car that they have, or truck I should say, because they have the funds available to do that of their fees and things like that. And then the next year that vehicle goes down to the Assistant Commissioner, and then in the third year, it'd go, would go to the Parks Department. And that way every year the Parks Department would be getting a two (2) year old truck. Which seems like that'd really help. I saw your pictures and I saw the descriptions and those are some beat-up vehicles.

**Ben Labhart:** Yeah, that's by far the worst one (1). But, we have some other ones (1) that could use replacing too.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Yeah, I don't know how to implement that idea. I don't think it's, you know, I don't know who's responsible for that. If you would need to present that kind of a proposal sometime if that's the Commissioners or who but, boy, it made a lot of sense. It wouldn't cost any tax dollars if everyone was on board, you know, with the Building Commission and Parks Department and whoever else. So, I just thought I'd throw that out there. I heard that once it seemed like the time to talk about it.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I think we'll file that under the cap and, and talk about it.

**Ben Labhart:** Yep.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Maybe you can figure out how to make that work.

**Ben Labhart:** Yep.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, I have the motion made by Brad and second by Ron for the Additionals? All those, Roll Call. Turn the page here.

**Krystal Powless:** Would you like me to do the Roll Calls?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Yes.

**Krystal Powless:** Okay, Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Yes.

**Krystal Powless:** David Hachmeister? No. Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Richard Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Greg Richmond?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I still gotta write it down. That was 8A and 8B. Thank you.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** That it?

**Ben Labhart:** That included the trees too?

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Ben Labhart:** Okay. Thank you very much.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Have a good one (1).

**Ben Labhart:** You too.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** And I'll just make a comment. I can walk over to that park and I mean, it's, I'm always impressed when I walk over to Scales and just, the place is always cleaned up. And I mean, it's just, it's just a really, really, it's, you know, they say a hidden gem and it's definitely just a really nice place to go and take a walk. And heck, if you don't, if you want to, at least taken that, you've got two (2) different types of scenery. You got Friedman which is a little open and then you've got Scales and it's just a nice peaceful walk through there. So, just a really nice place.

**Krystal Powless:** I agree.

## CORONER BUSINESS

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, are we ready for number nine (9), Additional Appropriation, it's Coroner Business, Additional Appropriation. It's for Out-Of-County Deaths, four thousand five hundred dollars ($4,500.00). Is that autopsies? Or just, what is that for?

**Sarah Seaton:** No, it's actually for unclaimed bodies.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay.

**Sarah Seaton:** And I have it, I didn't have a line item that actually would, that would fit under. So, I put it or requested it under the Out-Of-County. But after submitting the request, we've created a line item. So, if I can...

**Krystal Powless:** (Inaudible) transfer.

**Sarah Seaton:** If I can change that line, because I think this is something we're going to keep running into.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** So, you have a new line?

**Krystal Powless:** Well, she'll do an inline transfer with Tammy. She'll just send the email to Tammy to do the inline transfer. But, then if she has any future, she can ask for it out of the new line item.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, so we need to do the Additional Appropriation to this line.

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Is there a motion?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Motion to approve.

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Second.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Brad. Is that Rick seconded?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Yes.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Any discussions? All, Roll Call.

**Krystal Powless:** Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Richard Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Greg Richmond?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Aye.

**Sarah Seaton:** Thank you.

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Thank you.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Thank you.

## SHERIFF BUSINESS
## JAIL
## OVERTIME, BUILDING CIVILIAN JAILER, FUEL

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Number ten (10), Sheriff's Business, Additional Appropriation for Overtime, fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000.00); Building, thirty thousand dollars ($30,000.00); Civilian Jailer, twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00); Fuel, twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00).

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** I'll just kind of hit on these real quick. Civilian Jailer, the reasonable short is because one (1) of the Jailer's is paid out of Misdemeanant Fund. And Misdemeanant doesn't properly fund the salary anymore. Debbie, I forget what's...

**Krystal Powless:** Well, there's another reason too.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Well, there's, there was also, I think, a mistake.

**Krystal Powless:** Well, there were there was several of your people that retired. And there were several payments paid out of there. And that's truly why it's low.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Yeah, and that kind of goes why we need overtime. We had seven (7) employees' turnover in the Jail this year.

**Krystal Powless:** Yeah.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** It's been hard. And that creates, you know, we had three (3) new people at one (1) time so they couldn't work the floor. So, people were forced. We had to force a lot of people and also back, we had a lot of sickness in August too. You know, there's still stuff going around. But, we just had a high year turnover and sickness and that's what created the overtime.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Can't they work from home there?

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** They'd love to. The other thing is Building. Right now, we've got, yeah, I think fourteen (14) handlers on top of that building and six (6) of them are still out and got to be fixed. I feel like there's an issue there that we're dealing with.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Your air conditioner was out in some of the rooms.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Yeah. Right now, we have six (6) not heating in that building, so we have people wearing jackets.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** That's what I meant.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Motion to approve.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Have a motion by Brad. Is there a second?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Second?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Second by Rick. Any discussion?

**Krystal Powless:** Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Richard Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Greg Richmond?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, that vote was six, zero (6-0). I haven't been calling the others. Okay.

## HANDBOOK POLICY REIMBURSEMENTS TRANSFERS OR CORRECTIONS

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Now these elevens, can we do that in one (1)?

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Did you already do the Fuel?

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Oh, now I don't have to talk.

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Thank you. I just real quick, I know you're probably going there too, but I wanna at least get to say, thank you to David Hachmeister. I know this was gonna be his last meeting. He's not here. But as the Sheriff, I've worked with him and Hachmeister called me and I'd like to at least have it on the record and I thank him for his service. I hope he can hear me and for serving our County Council. So, thanks, Hach, where ever you're at.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Maybe he's watching.

**Sheriff Mike Wilder:** Thanks.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, I'm going to read all these. Salary Ordinance 2023, Correction, 27th pay, Chief Public Defender for 2023. Salary Ordinance 2023, Correction, 27th pay, Public Defender. And then that's 11B. The following Additional Appropriation will be listed in January and you can read those. I don't have to read those. Sheriff, 11C, Salary Ordinance 2023 to 27th pay for the Sheriff. And the following Additional Appropriations listed in the, well, I'm not going to read that because that's going to be in January. EMA, 11D, Transfer from Furniture, a hundred five dollars and fifty-five cents ($105.55). Transfer to General Supplies, one hundred five dollars and fifty-five cents ($105.55). Pre-Trial, 11E, Transfer from Grant Distribution, fifteen thousand two hundred fifty-three dollars and three cents ($15,253.03). Transfer to PERF, two thousand five hundred ($2,500.00). Transfer to the VOCA Grant, V-O-C-A, twelve thousand seven hundred fifty-three dollars and three cents ($12,753.03). Then the Salary Ordinance for Assessor, two (2) week vacation pay out, Deputy, one thousand five hundred seventy-three dollars ($1,573.00). Additional Appropriation, Assessor, Deputy, one thousand five hundred seventy-three dollars ($1,573.00). That's all the number eleven (11) items. So, you can have a Roll Call vote on that. Well...

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Motion to approve.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay.

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** I'll second it.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Brad and seconded by Chris.

**Krystal Powless:** Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Richard Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Greg Richmond?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** That's six, zero (6-0).

***(December Appropriations are located on Page 30 of these Official Minutes)***

## COUNCIL BUSINESS
## MEETING DATES
## RESOLUTION 2022-14

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Number twelve (12), Meeting Dates Resolution. She has two (2) of them. And it depends on which one (1) that you all decide on as to which one (1) we sign and vote on.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** We need a motion for stay the same or motion to change to Tuesday?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Yes.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** I'll make a motion to stay on Thursday.

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Second.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Brad to stay on Thursdays and the 6:00 (PM) time except for the May meeting that's at 7:00 (PM). And seconded by Rick. Okay, any discussion on that motion?

**Krystal Powless:** I, did you, I wasn't listening. So, I'm sorry. But, did you mention that we were going to make that meeting…

**Councilman Brad Overton:** To 9:00 (AM)?

**Krystal Powless:** No, that, the March 2nd one (1) that I have on there should be the night because that's Election. Oh no, that's…

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** No, it's not.

**Councilman Rick Reid:** What Election?

**Krystal Powless:** Thursday, never mind. The only difference was I thought we needed to move one (1) of those to 7:00 (PM).

**Councilman Rick Reid:** That's the Day of Prayer.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** That was on this one (1).

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Yeah, I mentioned that and it's on here at 7:00 (PM).

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Yeah, he mentioned that.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Thursday, May 4th, 7:00 PM.

**Krystal Powless:** Okay. I'm sorry. It was this one (1) that Election, I wrote it...

**Councilman Brad Overton:** So, can I can scratch this out?

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** We need a Resolution number?

**Kristine Georges:** The Resolution number would be '14.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** 2022-14. Okay, so that's the motion on the floor. Any discussion? All right. I'll call for a vote.

**Krystal Powless:** Ron Bacon?

**Councilman Ron Bacon:** No.

**Krystal Powless:** Ted Metzger?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Brad Overton?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Richard Reid?

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Greg Richmond?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Aye.

**Krystal Powless:** Chris Whetstine?

**Councilman Chris Whetstine:** Aye.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, so that's six (6) to one (1).

**Councilman Rick Reid:** Five (5) to one (1).

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Five to one (5-1 with Ron Bacon opposing). I'm stuck on magic number seven (7). Thank you.

***(Resolution 2022-14 is located on Page 30 of these Official Minutes)***

## OTHER BUSINESS

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** And in Other Business, I wanted to mention that they are having a new Officials school if anybody wanted to go. The Council's day is Tuesday, this Tuesday. And then is there anybody on the sheet? And then I also wanted to mention appointments. I've received some appointments from you all and I think everybody's gotten those emails of who wants to stay on certain committees. And if anybody wants to change or add a committee and wants to be on committees, we need to talk among ourselves. So, email each other on this or email Krystal and maybe she can pass it along. The January 5th meeting, which is our next meeting, there's a possibility that I might not be here. It depends on if flights are canceled because I'm flying home the 4th, the day before.

**Councilman Rick Reid:** You never know.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I know. I've got the last flight out of Atlanta. So, I'm hoping that I'll be back. I plan it to be that way so I'd be back, but just in case. I have a personal decision, the way I feel about, I've enjoyed being President. And I've been praying about a lot and I'm leaving it all up to you guys and God, whatever you feel like. I'll be glad to serve. And, if you want somebody else that won't hurt my feelings at all. Just keep that in mind. I don't covet the position. It's challenging and it's been interesting. And in case I'm not here the 5th, those are my feelings on that. Anybody else have some Other Business?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** I'd just like to say Merry Christmas and thanks to Krystal for all she does throughout the year and I wish everyone in the audience and if anybody is actually still watching this, after this amount of time. I wish them a Merry Christmas and all the Council members as well. And then, I've got to make a comment that's a little off Council Business. But, there's been a lot of, I think, a lot of, I think, hateful, anti-Semitic comments that I've heard throughout the country lately, and I just want to speak out against those and unfortunately one (1) of those is a former Elected Official United States of America, and I just want to speak out and condemn those comments and people that associate themselves with anti-Semitism, any type of racism, or any other prejudices against different types of religion. I have no use for you and I have no use for you in office and I have no support for anyone that does that. So, I just want to make those comments clear. And I'm wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** I wanted to, also, we have a plaque here for David in recognition of David

Hachmeister. Thank you for your twenty (20) years of service as a Warrick County Councilman. Somehow, we'll get this to Dave one (1) way or the other. Whether we have to hand deliver it or see him out and about. Or he can come to our January meeting.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Yeah, let me make a comment about Dave too. Dave has always, it was kind of funny my role as a Councilman started back while Dave was still on the Council. And to be perfectly honest, if I would have thought about that a little bit more, I probably never would have ran in the first place because that was never my intention from the beginning to run against him in that capacity. Dave has always been gracious with me, even after that. And I've known him for a long time for some other reasons as well. And he's always been, he's been good to me and I've always liked working with him. Dave's got a good sense of humor. He and I kind of see some things very similar, so we can relate to that. And I do just want to thank Dave for all that he's done and I wish him the best.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Okay, and I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and to everyone, enjoy these times with your families. That's what it's all about.

**Krystal Powless:** And I just want to thank the Council for the card and the kind words that I received tonight. And I also wanted to say that I will miss Dave and all of our conversations and, you know, hopefully, he still stays in touch. But, he was, I didn't comment that he truly is under the weather. I talked to him today. He can barely talk. So, he's quite ill.

**Councilman Brad Overton:** You mean he's froggier than normal?

**Krystal Powless:** He was definitely froggier than normal.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** I'd also like to say Merry Christmas to everybody and thank you to Dave. Let's keep Dave in mind that he mentioned he would like to have a board position if one (1) comes available, stay active in the community. So, if there's somewhere we can fit him in, I'd like to fit him in somewhere. Merry Christmas.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Well, do I have a motion?

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** Motion?

**Councilman Brad Overton:** Motion to adjourn.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Motion by Rick, seconded by Brad. It was Ted? Sorry.

**Councilman Ted Metzger:** It doesn't matter.

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** It came from that direction?

**Krystal Powless:** Roll Call?

**Councilman Greg Richmond:** Roll Call, everybody. Everybody said yeah. (Motion carried 6-0).

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL

Greg Richmond
Greg Richmond, President

Brad Overton
Brad Overton, Vice President

Ron Bacon

(not present)
David Hachmeister

(not present)
Ted Metzger

Richard Reid
Richard Reid

Chris Whetstine
Chris Whetstine

ATTEST:

Michael J. Dietsch Auditor
Warrick County, IN

*Minutes transcribed by Kristine Georges*

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 APPROPRIATION # | DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT REQUESTED | AMOUNT APPROVED |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | APPROPRIATION # | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT | |
| Election | 1215.18701.000.0000 | Clerks | $10,000.00 | 10,000 |
| | 1215.31440.000.0000 | Election Support | $20,000.00 | 20,000 |
| | 1215.11191.000.0000 | Absent Voter Board | $2,000.00 | 2,000 |
| | 1215.32200.000.0000 | Postage | $2,000.00 | 2,000 |
| | 1215.18701.000.0000 | Clerks | $5,000.00 | 5,000 |
| Coroner | 1000.31435.000.0007 | Out of County Deaths | $4,500.00 | 4,500 |
| Assessor | 1000.11210.000.0008 | Deputy | $1,573.00 | 1,573. |
| Park & Recreation | 1219.44300.0000.0000 | Motorized Equip. | $38,000.00 | 38,000 |
| | 1219.21100.000.0000 | General | $10,000.00 | 10,000 |
| Jail | 1000.18220.000.0380 | Overtime | $15,000.00 | 15,000 |
| | 1000.36200.000.0380 | Building | $30,000.00 | 30,000 |
| | 1000.11254.000.0380 | Civilian Jailer | $20,000.00 | 20,000 |
| Sheriff | 1000.22100.000.0005 | Fuel | $20,000.00 | 20,000 |

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 1 day of DEC, 2022.

AYE NAY

ATTEST: Deborah Stevens
Auditor Warrick County

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2022-14

WHEREAS, the last meeting in December 2022 the Warrick County Council desires to establish their regular meeting dates for the calendar year of 2023.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Warrick County Council that said Board shall hold regular meeting dates on the following days:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| THURSDAY | JANUARY | 5, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | FEBRUARY | 2, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | MARCH | 2, 2023 election | 6:00 P.M. Move to 9th |
| THURSDAY | APRIL | 6, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | MAY | 4, 2023 | 7:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | JUNE | 1, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | JULY | 6, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | AUGUST | 3, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER | 7, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | OCTOBER | 5, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | NOVEMBER | 2, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |
| THURSDAY | DECEMBER | 7, 2023 | 6:00 P.M. |

This Resolution passed and ordained this 1st day of December, 2022.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL

Greg Richmond
Ted Metzger
Brad Overton

David Haehmeister
Ron Bacon
Chris Wetstine
Richard Reid

ATTEST:
Debbie Stevens
Auditor, Warrick County