

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM
107 W. Locust Street
Boonville, Indiana
January 6, 2022
6:01 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, Chief Deputy Auditor BJ Farrell, and Secretary Kristine Georges attended and recorded the minutes.

Council President, Greg Richmond, called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Greg Richmond: Time for Roll Call.

Krystal Powless: Ron Bacon?

Ron Bacon: Here.

Krystal Powless: David Hachmeister?

David Hachmeister: Here.

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.

UPDATE ON LOWERING OF THE TAX RATE ON BUSINESSES

Councilman Greg Richmond: And before we go to appointments, Steve Roelle's here tonight to speak to us about some upcoming legislative issue, one (1) big one (1) that our AIC's having a legislative conference on the 25th and 26th, Tuesday and Wednesday of January in Indianapolis where legislators are invited to come. And that might be something, a meeting, if anybody's free, on that. Steve?

Steve Roelle: Okay, I'm here for two (2) things. Basically, I think Greg does want me to address the fact that there is an issue everyone should be concerned with and that's about Business Personal Property Tax and the State wanting to, and Ron and I were talking about it before this meeting, reducing the floor on Business Personal Property Tax and lowering that and basically what that means to Warrick County. Warrick County relies heavily on Business Personal Property Tax. Part of that is because our largest taxpayer, Kaiser/ALCOA pays so much in taxes. So, if that floor is lowered, what will wind up happening is it will wind up pushing that tax burden onto individual taxpayers. And so, Greg and I have forwarded a few things. Greg can forward it to the Council as well. But, it's on the agenda in the short budget session. I think it's important to the taxpayers of Warrick County. It's important to the Economic Development of Warrick County. Businesses paying less taxes is a great thing. But, not when it steals from the locals or pushes the burden on the individual taxpayers. So, it can be a real positive thing for business to come here to Indiana. But, at the same time, the way that they're trying to do it, needs a strong look at it. And Greg can share some of the stuff I've sent around and we're going to get another update on it in my office tomorrow and if I get anything out of that I will forward that along.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Thank you.

Steve Roelle: does that work?

AWARD PRESENTATION TO BJ FARRELL FOR CENSUS 2020

Steve Roelle: The other thing, and I appreciate Greg just giving me two (2) or three (3) minutes here today and to acknowledge someone for a job well done. I think it's really important to acknowledge people that knock it out of the park and do a good job. I appreciate Greg moving it to the front of this meeting today cause Club Lacrosse has not been cancelled. So, I've got to go be an Uber driver here in a little bit. So, I will excuse myself after I do. But, I want to start really quickly with the background on why this acknowledgement is important. We've all been in those meetings, whether it's at work, whether it's at a kid's school, whether it's at a sport's club, or whether it's in a church group. Somebody stands up and looks at whoever showed up for the meeting and says, I need a volunteer. And in my experience, that means most people look at their shoes, cause they don't want to be picked. And so, we've all been in those meetings. We had one (1) of those meetings here in Warrick County. And basically, we had the 2020 Census coming up. And we needed somebody to be the Complete County Chair for Warrick County. And I want to tell you, only one (1) person raised their hand. And only one (1) person didn't look down. That one (1) person said that they would do it. And the thing with volunteering is doing it's half the battle. Then you have to go out and do it. And it was no extra kudos and a lot of extra work and it was about a twelve (12) month commitment and a whole bunch of webinars and a whole bunch of meetings and telephone calls and they only had to get everyone in Warrick County individually to agree that getting counted was important to the County. And they had to create a committee of religious leaders and the libraries and the schools and retirees and senior centers and you name it. Had to get this done for the community. And the Census is really important. I think we've talked about this before. But, the Census is one (1) of the first metric systems that's used for the distribution of Federal Funds. So, that can be money for kids for school lunches that don't have money for a lunch and don't have food. It can be road and highway dollars that Warrick County gets. So, being counted really matters. If you're a growing community, you need to get that growth counted. Cause you need those funds to equal the new population that you have. And Warrick County's growing. Warrick County grew seven point one percent (7.1%) in the Census. While that was lower than maybe some of the Counties around Indianapolis, it crushed everything in Southern Indiana. Our surrounding Counties either stayed the same population or shrank. So, it was really important that everyone got counted. This committee set out a few goals and it was to beat the national average in responses which was sixty-six percent (66%), to beat the State average which was seventy percent (70%), to be the highest reporting county in Southern Indiana and to beat our 2010 Census report, which we did. It was a fantastic job and I can tell you first hand, cause I was just a tiny little piece of that committee, when they talk about trying to get the businesses together. This person met at senior centers and talked with seniors about why it's important. Went to retiree committee meetings at ALCOA and it was all kind of after hours and everything else. So, this is delayed from the Census committee. We had a big committee formed, apologize for the delay, but I have a small little token of appreciation for BJ Farrell who's right behind me and again, just like to say thank you to folks in Warrick County that go above and beyond. That's it. (Inaudible).

Chief Deputy Auditor BJ Farrell: Well, thank you. (Inaudible).

Steve Roelle: It was a great job. No, no, no. I got to go to Lacrosse.

Chief Deputy Auditor BJ Farrell: No, no. Come here. Come here, you're going, you're going to wait a minute. We had a wonderful committee that worked hard all the time. But, this gentleman here always answered the call for help, came with me and talked to people and got people so excited about getting counted so we would get the money for Warrick County. So, committees like this are great, but they're not successful without people like Steve. So, thank you.

Steve Roelle: Thanks, BJ. Appreciate it. Happy New Year, everybody.

Councilman Rick Reid: Great job.

Steve Roelle: I need to get out of here.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Happy New Year.

APPOINTMENTS COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, we'll proceed forward with the Council Appointments. Get my appointments list out. First up is Council President. What's your wishes?

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'll nominate Greg Richmond for Council President.

Councilman Rick Reid: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, are there any more nominations? Seeing none, I would ask for a vote for acclamation. That's all seven (7) of us. (Motion carried 7-0). Thank you very much. I will continue. Be glad to do that. I'm right here in town and it's convenient to run up here any time I need to.

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Councilman Greg Richmond: And Council Vice President. Currently, Brad Overton. Brad, you wish to remain?

Councilman Brad Overton: Unless somebody else wants to. If somebody else wants to, take a shot.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I'll nominate Brad Overton.

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'll second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay. Chris and Ron. Okay, any other names for Vice President? Hearing none, I'll ask for a vote of acclamation. That's all seven (7) of us. (Motion carried 7-0). Thank you.

COUNCIL ATTORNEY

Councilman Greg Richmond: And our current Council Attorney is Cliff Whitehead.

Councilman Rick Reid: So moved.

Councilman Brad Overton: I'll make a motion.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I'll second that.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Nomination by Brad and second by Chris. Anything else? Seeing none, I'll ask for a vote of acclamation. Seven, zero (7-0), thank you.

Cliff Whitehead: Thank you.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Councilman Greg Richmond: On the Personnel Committee we currently have David Hachmeister, Brad Overton, and Chris Whetstine. You guys like to continue?

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Sure.

Councilman Brad Overton: I'll do it, but if somebody else wants to, like I said, feel free to, I mean, I don't, I mean, that's okay with me.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Anybody else want on it? Okay, if the three (3) will accept that, seeing none other, I will ask for a vote of acclamation on that. Guess I need somebody to make a motion.

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'll nominate the three (3) to continue.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, Ron, and who will second that?

Councilman Rick Reid: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Rick. And all those in favor of acclamation? Seven, zero (7-0). Thank you.

Councilman David Hachmeister: We just need to use it.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Yeah.

2022 COUNTY ATTORNEY CONTRACT

Cliff Whitehead: And to go back, Greg, to mine real quickly. I presented a contract to the Council. It's the same terms, everything, so, except the term would be 2022. But all the monetary arrangements are the same. So, I'd ask that you'd approve that as well.

Councilman Brad Overton: I make the motion for approval of Cliff's updated contract for the '22, '22, 2022.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, so, the same contract basically of '21 for '22. Same contract terms. And that was made by Brad and second by David to accept the contract, approve it. Any discussion? All those in favor? Seven, zero (7-0). Okay.

Cliff Whitehead: Thank you.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Councilman Greg Richmond: Council on Aging. I'm currently there and able to make the meetings if you want me to remain, I'll continue. Anybody else want it?

Councilman Ted Metzger: I nominate Richmond.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, I've got Ted down.

Councilman Rick Reid: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: And then second by Rick. And I'll ask for a vote of acclamation. Seven, zero (7-0).

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Councilman Greg Richmond: Solid Waste, I'm currently there and love doing it. Anybody else want on it?

Councilman Ron Bacon: I nominate Greg.

Councilman Chris Whetstone: I second it.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Ron, Chris, any others? Seeing none, I'll ask for a vote of acclamation. That's seven, zero (7-0).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL – REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COALITION OF SOUTHWEST INDIANA NEWBURGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION - TOURISM COMMISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL COUNCILMAN APPOINTMENT

Councilman Greg Richmond: Economic Development Advisory Council, currently serving: Mike Andreas, Aric Pryor, Paul Perry, Lynn Lingafelter and Courtney TenBarge. Courtney TenBarge is Howard Nevins' daughter. And so they all said they would like to remain and I know Ron attends those meetings and I attend those meetings and they're very much involved. So, does anybody else have any other nominees?

Councilman Ron Bacon: I make a motion we accept the nominees.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, motion by Ron. Is there a second?

Councilman Rick Reid: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Rick. And so, I'll ask for a vote of acclamation on those.

Councilman Ted Metzger: Is there any discussion on those?

Councilman Greg Richmond: Oh, yeah. Go ahead.

Councilman Ted Metzger: Since everybody's agreeing to redo this, can we just take them all at once?

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay.

Councilman Ted Metzger: And make a motion to renew everybody? Cause according to my list, everybody...

Councilman Greg Richmond: I have, I have one (1) that needs to be talked about maybe.

Councilman Rick Reid: Let's just keep going through the list.

Councilman Ted Metzger: Okay, okay, never mind.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay.

Councilman Ted Metzger: Disregard.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Yeah. Well, the one (1) is the Property, I could come back to that and we could do all the others. Property Tax Assessment Board.

Krystal Powless: Yeah, just pull that one (1) out.

Councilman Greg Richmond: You just pulled it out?

Krystal Powless: Yeah, pull it out and then you can address all the others together.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, so we'll just pull this one (1) out.

Councilman Rick Reid: We gonna vote on that one (1)?

Krystal Powless: Not, not yet. I think they're going to discuss.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, so this would be Redevelopment Commission, currently Steve Smith, Aric Pryor and Courtney Tembarge. Economic Development Commission currently Randall Pemberton. Alcohol Beverage Board currently Tim Mosbey. Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana, currently Courtney Tembarge and Ron Bacon. Newburgh Economic Development Commission, Todd Titzger. Tourism Commission, Steve Smith. Economic Development Advisory Council, this is a Council representative, Ron Bacon.

Councilman Brad Overton: Motion.

Councilman Greg Richmond: I have a motion by Brad. Is there a second?

Councilman Ted Metzger: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Ted.

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE BOARD

Councilman Rick Reid: I'd like to change a nomination in on Alcohol Beverage Board, Mike Ledbetter.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Mike Ledbetter?

Councilman Rick Reid: Yeah.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, where's that at? Okay, anymore? Let's vote on the Alcoholic Beverage Board and then vote on the others. All those in favor of Tim Mosbey? Three (3) of us? And all those in favor of Mike Ledbetter? Four (4). (Rick Reid, Ted Metzger, Chris Whetstone, and Ron Bacon voted for Mike Ledbetter. Brad Overton, David Hachmeister, and Greg Richmond voted for Tim Mosbey). So, Mike Ledbetter will replace Tim Mosbey then. So that went three (3) for Tim and four (4) for Mike Ledbetter. Alright, all the others? Any others?

Councilman David Hachmeister: Well, who's the three (3) or who's the four (4). However you want to do it?

Krystal Powless: Yeah. The three (3) for, the three (3) for Tim were Brad...

Councilman Rick Reid: The three (3) in the middle.

Krystal Powless: Brad, Greg, and David. Okay.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL – REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COALITION OF SOUTHWEST INDIANA NEWBURGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION - TOURISM COMMISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL COUNCILMAN APPOINTMENT CONTINUED

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, now, can we move on to the group that I mentioned other than the Alcoholic Beverage Board and Property Tax Assessment Board?

Councilman Brad Overton: Sure.

Councilman Greg Richmond: And let's see, Brad made the motion and Ted seconded.

Councilman Ted Metzger: Correct.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, all those in favor? That's all seven (7) of us then.

Councilman Ron Bacon: I want to make a comment then on the Economic Development Coalition of Southwestern Indiana. I'm not quite sure what's going on there. But, I'm going to reinvestigate. We haven't heard anything from them recently since the...

Councilman Greg Richmond: Reorganization.

Councilman Ron Bacon: The reorganization. So, I'm not quite sure what they're doing in that respect. So, I'll follow up and see. But we've, in the last few months, we have heard nothing from them. So, and I will look into that.

PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT BOARD

Councilman Greg Richmond: PTBOA Board, Property Tax Reassessment Board, Assessment Board. The, David Zingler wants to continue. He's the attorney that, the Assessor really wanted an attorney on that board. So, basically, it's free legal advice if he's a member of that board. And the other one (1) that's on here, and you do not have to be, according the recent information I got, a Level 4. And the other is Cheyenne Phillips and Cheyenne has not been able to make the meetings and has canceled again for the meeting that's coming up next week and they don't have a quorum a lot of times when she's absent. So, she's asking us to consider replacement and it has to be a Democrat.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Okay, I spoke with Sarah today and the, hopefully things are changed to where Cheyenne can make the meetings and Sarah has another replacement on the Board that is a Level 3 that can make the meetings and she said she'd have the quorum. She'd rather have Cheyenne on than someone that was new that didn't know the Reassessment properties.

Councilman Greg Richmond: These, these are all annual appointments, right, Krystal?

Krystal Powless: Yes.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay. I also received a call from Pat Brooks and Don would like to be a member and basically we put David in last year instead of Don because of David being an attorney. So, these are our, anymore that you know of? We couldn't replace Don for Cheyenne because it has to be a Democrat.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Correct.

Councilman Rick Reid: So, the vote would be between David and Don?

Councilman Greg Richmond: Huh?

Councilman Rick Reid: The vote would be between David and Don.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Yes, um hum.

Councilman Rick Reid: Well, I'll make a motion for Don Brooks.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, Rick made a motion for Don. Is there a second?

Councilman Ted Metzger: I'll second it.

Councilman Greg Richmond: And Ted seconded it. Do I have a motion for David?

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'll make a motion for David.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Is there a second?

Councilman Brad Overton: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second, Brad. Motion by Ron, second by Brad. Okay, we have two (2) candidates. All those in favor of Don Brooks? That's three (3). All those in favor of David Zingler? Four (4). I need to tell who the ones were. The four (4) in favor of David were David, myself, Brad, and Ron. And Don was Ted, Rick, and Chris. And again, I based mine on the fact that, you know, I know Don very well and he'd be a good member. But, mine's based on the fact that she wanted some legal attorney, legal advice on the board. And David is a close friend of mine. I do know him. So, I'll put that in. We've been friends for many, many years. Okay. That's all of...

Councilman David Hachmeister: You got Cheyenne...?

Councilman Greg Richmond: Cheyenne's just, I guess she's going to stay according to the wishes of Sarah.

Councilman Ron Bacon: May I ask, Rick or David, who was there another person that she...?

Councilman David Hachmeister: No.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Okay, so she didn't have a name or...?

Councilman David Hachmeister: And that was really kind of up to us. She didn't have anybody else. She made those wishes, well, I said earlier that Cheyenne was having trouble meeting, but hopefully that's worked out now. And Sarah also stated too, I hate to turn around and say what she said, but, that's fact. Even it'd be better if Cheyenne didn't make the meeting, which is kind of stupid, but you know, she'd bring a lot to the meeting when she is there because of her past certification. And hopefully this will be worked out where she can make the meetings.

Councilman Greg Richmond: And I did put out feelers today among the Democrats I do know and they were supposed to call me back and I never got any phone calls back.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Would it be alright, I'd like to make a motion then that we table this appointment to our next meeting to give us at least, the appointment of Cheyenne.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Table that? The one (1)?

Councilman Ron Bacon: The one (1) appointment to our next meeting to at least give...

Councilman Greg Richmond: And they've got a meeting coming up I think next week. And so, if that happens, can Cheyenne continue to come if she wants to come until we replace her?

Krystal Powless: I mean, I don't believe so.

Councilman Ron Bacon: I would think she's off the Board right now. She's not...

Councilman David Hachmeister: Yeah, cause their term expired.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Their term expired.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Isn't that right, Counselor?

Councilman Ron Bacon: My point is...

Cliff Whitehead: That's what I'm trying to find out right now. I don't know the answer to that.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Okay.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: May I interject something? Terry Phillippe, County Commissioner.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Yes, cause we haven't had a second.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: We had the same question with one (1) of our appointments and our Legal Counsel told us that because they have a PTBOA Board meeting coming up, that the existing person would remain in place as a Board member until we replaced her.

Krystal Powless: Yeah, but was your appointment up at the end of the year?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Pardon?

Krystal Powless: Was your appointment up at the end of the year?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: No.

Krystal Powless: See, our appointment is up. Her term has been served. So.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Yeah, same term.

Councilman Greg Richmond: So, is yours year to year also then? Like our appointment on PTBOA is...

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: I don't know if it's year to year. But, it expired at the end of '21.

Councilman Greg Richmond: It did? Okay. So, then they're in the same situation then.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Yep.

Councilman Rick Reid: I second Ron's motion.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, once we do that, we can't debate.

Councilman David Hachmeister: If the table is approved.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Have to table it to our next meeting.

Councilman Greg Richmond: If the table's approved, yeah. And Rick Reid. We can go ahead and vote on it and our attorney find out something else, we can change if we need to.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Sure.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, all those in favor of tabling? That's one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4), five (5), six (6) of us. Opposed? One (1).

Councilman Rick Reid: Two (2).

Councilman Brad Overton: Two (2).

Councilman Greg Richmond: Two (2)? Who, oh. Five (5) of us then. Five, two (5-2 with David Hachmeister and Brad Overton opposing). Okay, five (5) to two (2), Brad and David. Okay, are we done with all of that part?

Councilman David Hachmeister: And I wanted to bring up one (1) other thing, Cliff, while you're looking that up...

Cliff Whitehead: And I do have the answer. We're good, yes. So, just for the record for purposes of...

Councilman David Hachmeister: She can go to the meeting?

Cliff Whitehead: She can. So, Indiana Code 6-1.1-28-1, H, if the term of a member of County Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals appointed out of this section expires, and the member is not reappointed and a successor is not appointed, which is what happened here, the term of the member continues until a successor is appointed. So, we're good. Okay, what's next?

Councilman David Hachmeister: And what I've learned today too that you should be some level of certification to be on there, on the PTBOA Board.

Councilman Rick Reid: One (1) of them has to be and Cheyenne doesn't have her certification anymore.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Cheyenne does not have her certification?

Councilman Rick Reid: No, it's expired.

Councilman Greg Richmond: I didn't know that.

Cliff Whitehead: I think they can waive...I will look.

Councilman Ted Metzger: So, it makes it (inaudible).

Cliff Whitehead: But, well, I'll look.

Councilman Ron Bacon: And you've put your feelers out, Greg, so hopefully someone will contact you before the next meeting.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Yeah.

Councilman Ron Bacon: And if not, we can see where Cheyenne is at that point. Which she has made better arrangements so she can make the meetings. Which is okay with me, I'm fine with her being on it. Just don't want someone there that has been appointed that can't attend the meetings.

Councilman Greg Richmond: That's right.

Councilman Rick Reid: Yeah.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
DECEMBER 2, 2021 REGULAR SESSION
JULY 22, 2021 DEPARTMENT HEARINGS**

Councilman Greg Richmond: Into the minutes, I had all my minutes questions answered. Did any of you have any comments on that? I read through the minutes to December 2nd and I do have some corrections, if you got those copies. On page six (6), midway down, under Auditor transfer from General Supply to Official Records, Equipment Maintenance to Furniture, I was reading from the Agenda, transfers from General Supply, five hundred dollars (\$500.00). That's correct. Transfer from Official Records, two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00), that's correct. Transfer from Equipment Maintenance, and then it went on, all off that, thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00). In place after Maintenance where the comma is, you can put a carrot there, it should be one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). I left that out. For a total of, let's see, where's it...thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) to Furniture. So, just that one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) inserted there between Maintenance and all. And a similar thing down in three (3) different places. Sheriff Handbook Policy pay outs, the first line says, "Let me read them first, Sargent, three (3) vacation days pay back, Salary Ordinance, six-ninety-seven-ninety-five (\$697.95)." And this has six thousand ninety-seven dollars and ninety-five cents (\$6,097.95) and I'm sure the Deputy would appreciate that, but the zero (0) doesn't belong according to our agenda and what we passed. And it continues, five (5) vacation days, a thousand two hundred sixty-seven dollars fifty-eight cents (\$1,267.58), that is correct. And let's see, we continue and then you'll need to draw a line through the next one (1), there where it says Maintenance, five (5) vacation days. It's not seven-one-one-one (\$7,111.00), and that's listed correctly there. It's seven-one-one (711), I mean that's not correct. Seven-one-one-point-o-eight (\$711.08), and again take the zero (0) out, take the zero (0) out and it's seven-one-one-point-o-eight (\$711.08). And then in the next line, seven hundred eleven dollars and eight cents (\$711.08), again you need to take the zero (0) out. Seven-zero-one-point-o-eight (\$7,011.08), take the zero (0) out. Those three (3) things. Let's see, I think there's one (1) more. Yeah, I want to record who made the motion to adjourn and seconded. Ron, Rick Reid made a motion to adjourn. Ron Bacon seconded and it was seven, 'o (7-0) on the last page. That's all the corrections for that one (1). The other one (1), that's fifty-two (52) pages. I glanced at some of them. I didn't go through all of them because it's mainly a reference. We didn't decide on anything during this meeting. So, there's nothing official except the minutes that's here and I plan to keep this so I can refer back to it when we have any questions about our discussions during the agenda, I mean during the budget when we were listening to all the office holders is what this was. So, I would accept a motion to approve if you're ready for that.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Motion to approve.

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

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I'll second it.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Chris. Any discussion? Other additions or corrections? If not, I'll call for a vote. All those in favor of the minutes? That's all seven (7) of us. (Motion carried 7-0). Thank you.

**COMMISSIONER BUSINESS
COVID EXPENSE – ARP EXPENSE**

Councilman Greg Richmond: Additional Appropriations, Commissioners, the COVID Expense, these are correct numbers now. They've changed. COVID Expense, three hundred forty-two thousand one hundred fifty-six dollars (\$342,156.00). The American Rescue Plan, which, that's the new one (1), two million five hundred eighteen dollars...excuse me...two million five hundred eighteen thousand three hundred eleven dollars (\$2,518,311.00), same total. And then withdrawn is the eighty-one-'o-nine-three (\$81,093.00). That has been withdrawn. That's the old plan and I think that was out of money's the reason why that was withdrawn. Any...?

Councilman David Hachmeister: Motion to approve.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, motion by David. Is there a second?

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'll second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Ron. Any discussion on this? Hearing none, I'll call for a vote. All those in favor of the additional appropriations? That's all seven (7) of us. Seven, zero (7-0). Thank you.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR CONTRACT

Councilman Greg Richmond: The next one (1), I'm gonna hold up until the end. I want to go through the other stuff if I have your permission to do so, the 3B Salary Ordinance.

HEALTH BUSINESS VAXCARE – ANIMAL CONTROL

Councilman Greg Richmond: The 4A, Health Business...

Krystal Powless: Oh, hold on. Aaron is on the phone. I'll put him on.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay.

Krystal Powless: So, he can talk. He's under the weather and didn't think he should come. Okay, Aaron.

Aaron Franz: Okay, I'm here.

Councilman Greg Richmond: I'm going to read, first of all, the, the Vaxcare and Animal Control which is a reimbursement. That's always a fairly easy one (1) for us. I'd take a motion on that. Vaxcare is seven thousand one hundred sixty-one dollars (\$7,161.00) and Animal Control, five thousand nine hundred sixty dollars (\$5,960.00).

Councilman David Hachmeister: Motion to approve those two (2).

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

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'll second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Ron. And that's a total of thirteen thousand one hundred twenty-one dollars (\$13,121.00). All those in favor? Oh, discussion? All those in favor? That's seven, zero (7-0) on that one (1).

TRANSFER FROM ANIMAL CONTROL TO POUND KEEPER SALARY ORDINANCE FOR HOURLY RATE

Councilman Greg Richmond: The next one (1) is transfer and a Salary Ordinance for that. And I think there's going to be some discussion on that. The Animal Control is five thousand five hundred dollars (\$5,500.00). And that's to transfer to Pound Keeper, Part-Time, five thousand five hundred dollars (\$5,500.00). That's Animal Control line item 1159.22500 and a bunch of other zeros (1159.22500.000.0000). And then that fifty-five hundred dollars (\$5,500.00) basically is the additional needed to fund a Part-Time Pound Keeper at twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) an hour.

Krystal Powless: So, before you start discussing, just to be clear. I want to be clear with everybody, at budget time you allowed a Secretary in the Health Department, a new Secretary. At that time, I took out the part-time in his budget thinking that the full-time would take the place of that part-time. What I didn't realize is that part-time that was budgeted in there was for the Pound Keeper. So, it was two (2) totally separate issues.

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'm going to make a motion that we approve, so we can have discussion then.

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

Councilman David Hachmeister: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by David. So, in our budget, did we have funds down for Part-Time Pound Keeper?

Krystal Powless: We have, yes, all the way through. And this year I took them out to help fund the full-time, but it was the Pound Keeper that I took out. They didn't have a part-time person in the office. He had a Part-Time Pound Keeper.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay.

Krystal Powless: So.

Aaron Franz: This is a current employee and we were just going to try to take some of that money from, that's already in the Animal Control, and switch it over. It's Dr. John Mulkey. He's a retired veterinarian that works for us which was a huge asset for the Animal Control Department to have someone with his ability and knowledge there and we would like to, I mean, soon as we found out he would work for part-time money, I asked him to call him on his way home. So I could ask him if he would do it and he's been very gracious to do that.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Is that gonna short you under Animal Control or...?

Aaron Franz: No. No.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Okay, cause you're transferring.

Aaron Franz: No, it will be fine. As Greg alluded to, we're normally transferring every month from the money that comes in from the fines. So that, that normal transfer is pretty regular for us.

Councilman David Hachmeister: But, this is a total new job though, part-time?

Krystal Powless: No, it's not. I mean, they've had it budgeted this whole time, but I took it out.

Councilman David Hachmeister: I thought it was there. Now, I understand what you're saying.

Krystal Powless: Yes.

Councilman Ron Bacon: So, we'll fix an administrative error?

Krystal Powless: Yes.

Councilman Chris Whetstone: Clerical error, sounds like.

Krystal Powless: Yes.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Right. Okay.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Any more discussion? I'll call for the question on that. Do you wanna do in both together in one (1)?

Councilman Ron Bacon: Yes.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay and David you'll agree to that with your motion to do them both?

Councilman David Hachmeister: Yeah.

Councilman Greg Richmond: That's a 4B and C. OK will put 4B and C to the vote. All those in favor? That's all seven (7) of us. (Motion carried 7-0).

Aaron Franz: Thank you all and thank you for allowing me to call in.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Hang in there, we've got one (1) more.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Don't leave.

Councilman Greg Richmond: We've got one (1) more.

Aaron Franz: Okay, okay.

MOSQUITO DISTRIBUTION

Councilman Greg Richmond: We got the Additional Appropriation. You have the local Health Department Trust Fund, Mosquito Distribution, twenty-eight thousand eight hundred dollars (\$28,800.00). It's, that's also the total. There is a cash balance of seventy-nine thousand two hundred forty-seven dollars (\$79,247.00) in that. And the only thing it can be used for is mosquitoes. Is that correct, Aaron?

Aaron Franz: Correct. Yes, it is part of the program that we developed back in 1999 or 2000 with tobacco settlement money with the State Department of Health.

Councilman David Hachmeister: But, I'm trying to think back, and I didn't look at the budget, but I was trying to think back on summer, none of that was used last summer. Is that correct?

Krystal Powless: No, it was used.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Okay.

Krystal Powless: I mean, what I looked up yesterday, Aaron, can you answer that question?

Aaron Franz: I didn't hear it very well. Would you care to repeat it?

Krystal Powless: David asked if that money was used last year.

Aaron Franz: Yes.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Okay, I was thinking that was one (1) of the problems at budget.

Aaron Franz: Yes, (inaudible) things.

Councilman Greg Richmond: At budget time, we were some of us thinking that you'd said something that one (1) of the, somewhere along the line that you had a problem either with the, the applicator or the operator of the applicator or the truck that carries the applicator. Is that correct or am I just dreaming?

Aaron Franz: Yeah, I don't remember that. The person that does it has to test like every couple of years and be licensed and certified and they are. I think they're good through 2024 now.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay.

Aaron Franz: I don't remember any of the other. I'm a little foggy tonight. But, I don't remember it like that.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, do I have a motion on this one (1)?

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'll make a motion.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Ron. Made the motion. Is there a second?

Councilman Chris Whetstone: I'll second it

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Chris. Any discussion further? All those in favor?

Councilman Greg Richmond: That's all seven (7) of us that's I can see. (Motion carried 7-0). Okay, Aaron, we're done. Thank you. Get well.

Aaron Franz: Thank you. Thank you all again. I plan to.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, Happy New Year.

SUPERIOR COURT II BUSINESS PROBATION OFFICER ADULT – PROBATION USER FEES

Councilman Greg Richmond: Superior Court Business. What we have here is Administration Probation, Administrative Probation Fees. Probation Superior Court II, Adult, five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). And in the explanation you probably read about that this is user fee supported and this new Probation Officer has different qualifications, better qualifications and by Statute this has to be paid.

Councilman Brad Overton: Motion to approve the Additional Appropriation and the Salary Ordinance.

Councilman Greg Richmond: And the Salary Ordinance is five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). So that's 5A and 5B. And that motion was made by Brad to do them together. Is there a second?

Councilman Ron Bacon: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Ron. Any discussion on that? All those in favor? Seven, zero (7-0). Thank you. Didn't even have come up here for that one (1).

Krystal Powless: It's not him.

Councilman Ron Bacon: I was going to say.

Councilman Greg Richmond: That's right, that was...

Krystal Powless: He's probably, yeah, that's not me.

Councilman Ron Bacon: He's not the surrogate for that. That's not a problem.

Krystal Powless: I did tell someone, they called and they're having some issues with health and their kids and they, they just couldn't make it. Kind of like Aaron, I told them I thought it would be okay.

DRUG COURT BUSINESS DIRECTOR – GROUP INSURANCE SALARY ORDINANCE

Councilman Greg Richmond: Now Drug Court Business. I'm gonna read it and then you can talk to us about it. There's a reduction in the Director's salary of fifty-four thousand eight hundred fifty-six dollars (\$54,856.00). The Drug Court Program group insurance reduction of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) for total reduction of sixty-two thousand eight hundred fifty-six dollars (\$62,856.00). The Salary Ordinance is the Drug Court Director, ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). And that makes the Director, sixty-seven thousand seven hundred seventy-four dollars and sixty-six cents (\$67,774.66). And you can explain all this now.

Judge Zach Winsett: Zach Winsett, Superior Court 1 Judge. I wanna emphasize reduction here, okay? That word...

Councilman Ron Bacon: We like hearing that.

Judge Zach Winsett: Right? So, the Drug Court Coordinator, the prior Drug Court Coordinator, Chris Wagner, left for greener pastures. Good luck to him. He was a great Coordinator. We're gonna miss him. But, I looked at it as an opportunity. We kind of doing kind of the equivalent of a corporate restructuring. There's a current Community Corrections Program with the Director, Jennifer Fuhs and I've spoke with her a lot. And the plan is for her to be the head of Drug Court and Community Corrections basically eliminating Chris Wagner's position and his, instead of having that fifty-five thousand dollar (\$55,000.00) salary with eight thousand dollar (\$8,000.00) group insurance, she's agreed to accept a ten thousand dollar (\$10,000.00) stipend instead. This all comes from program fees. And she's gonna be the Coordinator of both programs. There may be further, in the future, just letting you know, there may be further restructuring. For instance, there may be maybe a middle management position where a particular existing employee may take on an Assistant Director position to handle more day to day stuff with a small stipend. But still, even if we do that, it's gonna be a, it's still gonna be a cost savings. Cost savings, high on efficiency, and I think it ensures the long term viability of the program. I've worked with Krystal every year on the Drug Court and, and its financials. So, I'm, I'm asking the Council to approve our request on that.

Councilman Rick Reid: So moved.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Rick, did you make the motion?

Councilman Rick Reid: Yes.

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

Councilman Chris Whetstone: I'll second it.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Chris. Any discussion or questions?

Councilman Ron Bacon: And this all comes from user fees?

Krystal Powless: Um hum.

Judge Zach Winsett: Yes, a hundred percent (100%) user fees.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Yeah, so we're actually going to have more money that were not spending?

Judge Zach Winsett: Exactly, that will go...

Krystal Powless: That will remain in...

Councilman Ron Bacon: Remain in Drug Court Fund.

Krystal Powless: Drug Court Fund.

Judge Zach Winsett: And still go to the participants or Rainy Day or where it where it needs to go.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Where it needs to go. Okay.

Judge Zach Winsett: And that's, when I say long term viability of the program, that's exactly what I'm talking about.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Right, exactly what it's going to do.

Councilman Rick Reid: Sounds great.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Good savings account.

Judge Zach Winsett: Yeah.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Any further? All those in favor? It's all seven (7) of us. Seven, zero (7-0). Thank you for coming. Thank you very much.

Judge Zach Winsett: Thank you, gentlemen, Ms. Powless.

EXTENSION BUSINESS OFFICE MANAGER - TRAINING

Councilman Greg Richmond: Next up is Extension Business. We talked about this in the last meeting, I think, or our meeting or two (2) ago. Two (2) employees for training, January 14th, for Office Manager position, with the Salary Ordinance being forty thousand three hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$40,328.00).

Krystal Powless: So, we have...

Amanda Mosiman: So, we updated, go ahead, Krystal.

Krystal Powless: Sorry. I was just going to say you did approve this in December or November.

Amanda Mosiman: November.

Krystal Powless: But, you have to approve it again in January, because it's a new year and that's why it's back on the agenda. So.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay. Identify yourself first.

Amanda Mosiman: Yes, Amanda Mosiman with the Extension Department in lieu of Carla Kidwell, our Extension Director, she was otherwise busy tonight.

Councilman Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

Councilman Rick Reid: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: I have a motion by Brad to approve and a second, was that Ted or Rick? Rick. Any discussion? All those in favor? That's all seven (7) of us. Seven (7-0).

Amanda Mosiman: Thank you much.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Thank you.

Amanda Mosiman: I still got (2) two systems to get through and then they're done.

**AUDITOR/PROPERTY REASSESSMENT BUSINESS
DEPUTY – MAPPING DEPUTY
TRAINING**

Councilman Greg Richmond: And we have a similar situation in the Auditor's/Property Reassessment Business and the Assessor.

Councilman Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Let's see. It that 8A and B?

Councilman Brad Overton: Yes, Sir.

Councilman Rick Reid: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Motion was by Brad, second by Rick.

Councilman Rick Reid: Yeah.

Councilman Greg Richmond: And I'm gonna read it. Deputy, seven hundred seventy dollars (\$770.00). And that's the total or total Reassessment. And in the Salary Ordinance, two (2) employees for training to January 18th, is thirty-six thousand nine hundred forty-nine dollars (\$36,949.00). Any more discussion? All those favor? That's all seven (7) of us. Seven, zero (7-0).

Auditor Debbie Stevens: Thank you very much.

Councilman Brad Overton: Prolonged your life, Debbie.

Auditor Debbie Stevens: You sure did.

Councilman Brad Overton: (Inaudible) extra breaths.

HANDBOOK POLICY

**PROPERTY REASSESSMENT – MAPPING DEPUTY - RETIREE
ASSESSOR – ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK - RETIREE
EXTENSION – OFFICE MANAGER - RETIREE
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – HIGHWAY FOREMAN – RETIREE
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - DISPATCHER**

Councilman Greg Richmond: Have an Additional Appropriation in Property Reassessment, 9A and the Salary Ordinance for retiree payout and that's to the Mapping Deputy.

Councilman Brad Overton: May I make a suggestion that these are all Handbook Policies if we could approve all of these simultaneously.

Krystal Powless: Yes. That's why I put them that way.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay. Now, I'll read them all down then. The Deputy and Property Reassessment that I mentioned is six thousand four hundred ninety-three dollars (\$6,493.00) and that's the Salary Ordinance amount (Clarification: Salary Ordinance amount is \$6,492.68). The Additional Appropriation Assessor, Administrative Clerk a payout seven hundred seventy-five (\$775.00), and that's the total of the Salary Ordinance also (Clarification: Salary

Ordinance amount is \$774.62). Additional Appropriation Extension, The Office Manager, three thousand two hundred sixty-four dollars (\$3,264.00). And that is the retiree payout Salary Ordinance also (Clarification: Salary Ordinance amount is \$3,263.68). And then the Salary Ordinance for the Highway Foreman retiree payout is five thousand two hundred ninety-three dollars and ninety cents (\$5,293.90).

Councilman David Hachmeister: Eighty-three (\$83.00).

Councilman Greg Richmond: What?

Councilman David Hachmeister: You said ninety-three (\$93.00).

Councilman Greg Richmond: Oh, I'm sorry five thousand two hundred eighty-three dollars and ninety cents (\$5,283.90), thank you. I looked ahead to the ninety (\$0.90). And then under 9E that was added tonight, the Sheriff Salary Ordinance, a Dispatcher payout for twenty-four (24) days, six (6), and six (6) sick days is four thousand two hundred forty-nine dollars and thirty-eight cents (\$4,249.38). So, that's all of them if you want to prove them all in one (1) fell swoop here.

Councilman Brad Overton: So moved.

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

Councilman Ron Bacon: I'll second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Ron seconds. Any discussion? Questions? All those in favor? All seven (7) of us. Thank you. Okay, so seven, zero (7-0).

**CLERK
VOTE CENTER**

Councilman Greg Richmond: Alright. Is the Clerk here?

Krystal Powless: No.

Councilman Ron Bacon: No.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay. So, we'll skip that one (1).

**COUNCIL BUSINESS
PROSECUTOR – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Councilman Greg Richmond: Council Business, Additional Appropriation, this is the Prosecutor, Administrative Assistant for longevity. They had the wrong hire date. It's a correction.

Councilman Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Motion by Brad Overton. That's nine hundred (\$900.00) by the way. Is there a second?

Councilman Ron Bacon: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Ron. Any discussion? If not, all those in favor? That's seven, zero (7-0).

(January Appropriations are located on Page 22 of these Official Minutes)

CIVILIAN SECURITY OFFICER – LONGEVITY

Councilman Greg Richmond: 11B, Salary Ordinance, Longevity, two (2) Civilian Security Officers that were owed 2021 lump sum. The salaries now have changed to where they're doing the longevity in their actual salaries paid out all year long.

Councilman Brad Overton: Motion to approve.

Councilman Greg Richmond: That's three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00). Motion by Brad. Is there a second?

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I'll second it.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Second by Chris. Any discussion or questions? All those in favor? Seven, zero (7-0).

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR – NEW CONTRACT**

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay, let's go back to...

Councilman Brad Overton: 3B.

Councilman Greg Richmond: 3B. 3B, Salary Ordinance. Terry, would you like to come up here, talk to us about that? The Commissioners, you got a copy of the signed contract by the Commissioners and the Economic Development Director. In the past, this Economic Development Department was created when I was on the Council, when I first started. We've always had a contract for the Economic Development Director. And in that contract was built in that they would be able to get the benefits and they were provided a vehicle. That's been in the contract from day one (1). For some reason or other after the previous contractor, Larry Taylor, resigned and left and Steve took over, a contract was not issued that time and he just became a salaried person in the budget. And this contract, the way I vision it is to make it happen, the amount that he's being paid now in the Salary Ordinance would be transferred over into the contractual amount. And so would the health benefits and the other stuff that goes along with the benefits. The health benefits wouldn't change. The only thing that would change would be the salary and that's why there's a Salary Ordinance here which is an increase. So, I kind of tried to sum it up here. You got some things you'd like to add?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Yeah, I think there's a lot of dynamics at play here and I don't think I need to remind all of you what a great job Steve Roelle does, but I'm going to. You know, of course, we all knew Steve before he was Economic Development Director in developing all the new trails that we see around the Warrick County. He's done a great job with that. He's done a great job with the shell buildings, with the broadband projects, which there are many more to come there, and of course many other initiatives. So, we all, we all recognize Steve Roelle's value. I don't think there's any, any debate there. I think what we've got here on our hands that pertains to this new contract that we entered into with Steve is a timing issue. Steve's out there and doing, doing what he does as an Economic Development Director, doing a great job. Somewhere in the middle of the year, you guys are having budget meetings and talking about pay for, all the employees in Warrick County and going over your job study. After that's all decided, Steve has an opportunity presented to him where he can leave his position with Warrick County and go work for a lot more money. So, we, the Commissioners, the Economic Development Board, and I believe a lot of you guys on the Council recognize that we need to keep Steve under the fold. And, so we, we had a contract was already sitting on table being worked and, and we amended that a little bit more. And so, I'm not sure if that's the contract that you have in front of you, but we found an opportunity to keep Steve in the fold as the Economic Development Director and we did what we think thought needed to be done. My understanding is there's a little disagreement from some of the Council members and I don't know if that's hearsay or accurate, but I think we've got a couple ways to solve this and that's to ask for an Additional Appropriation tonight to fill the gap in what his salary was that was put forth versus what we've contracted for, and we hope that happens. I, I don't know what the alternatives are. I've talked to some people today and I think one (1) of the alternatives would be to find that additional amount from other lines and to come to you month after month after month and have to ask for that. That's kind of cumbersome. It's obviously not really efficient. And I don't frankly think that sends the right message to Mr. Roelle and what his value is. We would like to see this taken care of this evening. And if you guys have other suggestions that I haven't heard of today, this is all kind of quick stuff. I'm certainly open to any other ideas, but we are now contractually bound with Steve Roelle to a contract. Any questions for me?

Councilman Ron Bacon: I got a couple questions, so, instead of him just being a County employee, which I am assuming that he has been in the past, he's not been under contract?

Councilman Greg Richmond: He's not been under contract the last three (3) years he's been here.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Pardon me?

Councilman Greg Richmond: He's not been under contract the last three (3) years he's been here?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: I don't know the dynamics of that to be quite honest. I, I would have assumed that he was. But, I do know there's a gap in time where his new contract was not signed.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Okay, that's what I was trying...

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: I don't think that was a three (3) year period though.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Cause what you said, you know, we were treating him as an employee, just an employee and not under contract, was my understanding. I was here way back when Greg was on also, and the Economic Development Director was always under contract and the only issue with that I ever had was if we ever changed Commissioners and they didn't like what was going on and being under contract, they could just not renew the contract.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Understood.

Councilman Ron Bacon: So, it was a little different than having an employee. So, I was a little concerned about that and so, so with the new contract, is the contract, what's the time period of the contract?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: I do not know. Do you have it in front of you?

Cliff Whitehead: One (1) year.

Councilman Ron Bacon: One (1) year. Okay.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: I thought it was one (1) year.

Councilman Ron Bacon: I just wanted it in the record for one (1) year. So.

Councilman Greg Richmond: It's one (1) year. It's year to year for four (4) years. I don't know what you'd call it because it says it renews...

Cliff Whitehead: It says automatically unless notice is given. So, the initial term is one (1) year, but then it does renew automatically for consecutive, I think it said four (4) years.

Councilman Greg Richmond: And then he gets the raises or any benefits as they come along on top of that.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: One (1) thing I can tell you, Ron, that he's related to a timeline that we talked about more than the term was, I think we're probably gonna be presented with scenarios down the road where there is always opportunities, not just for Steve, but for good employees, and we wanted to have kind of a lock down period. So, if he did have an opportunity that he couldn't refuse, that we've at least got time to fill that spot.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Right. That's what I'm getting at. Yeah.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: So, we've got a hundred and sixty (160) day clause in there where we've got to find a period of time to work and fill his position for him leave. So that's, that's what I can tell you as discussed more than anything.

Councilman Greg Richmond: It's a hundred and twenty (120) days.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Okay.

Krystal Powless: Not to put anybody on the spot, sorry, Debbie. But, she just brought something to my attention and maybe I should ask Cliff, but she is saying if he is under contract, he's no longer an employee of the County and would not receive the benefits of the County.

Cliff Whitehead: I, I don't, you can be an employee and still be under contract. I don't know, yeah, I don't know that, what you're speaking of.

Auditor Debbie Stevens: Is he a vendor? Or is he is an employee?

Cliff Whitehead: The way this contract reads, he is an employee, but an employee can have a contract with his employer and still be a W2 employee. To your point, he could be an independent contractor i.e. a vendor and have a contract as well, but long story short, just because you have a contract does not make you an independent contractor.

Councilman Greg Richmond: When I was a school teacher, I worked under contract, but I was employee of the School Corporation.

Cliff Whitehead: Perfect example, yes. Now, I, I have not vetted this, the terms of this contract. So, it does have benefits, including PERF, but it does condition upon the employee meeting eligibility requirements. So, yeah, I, I would assume, and I know what you do when you assume, but I would assume the Commissioner's Attorney made sure that we can designate this individual as an employee. But, I just don't know the answer.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Absolutely, that was never in question.

Cliff Whitehead: Okay.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Yeah.

Councilman Ron Bacon: And we've done that in the past if I'm not...

Krystal Powless: Yes, Larry Taylor was.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Larry Taylor was.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Under contract.

Councilman Ron Bacon: Under contract and an employee.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: At the end of the day, it's a very valuable person for the County. Not that every person isn't. But...

Councilman Ron Bacon: Yeah.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: That's a hard, hard spot to fill and we've got to have him under contract. That's what contracts are about.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Because of, if this, could be a bad thing I guess, because of my experience. I've sat through at least five (5) and maybe six (6). And the first one (1) we had was excellent and then politics entered the field. That person went away and we had three (3) that lasted, one (1) in six (6) months, I think. One (1) of them a year and another one (1) another year and then Larry Taylor came along. I take that back, the first one (1) was Jim Holderread. He lasted several years. But then that second one (1) came along and that was the one (1) that the politics entered. He was working for us and he lasted a few years. But then the three (3) in between, they just came real fast, came and went. And they were not productive. I mean, part of the deal was one (1) person left period. Another one (1), the person had to be relieved, another one (1) the person had to be relieved and Larry Taylor came

along. And we had excellent things that came along with Larry. Larry lasted, what, five (5) years, six (6) years. He'd been there a while. And then Steve, when Larry wanted to leave, Steve came along and then the last two (2) and the first two (2), in my opinion, have been the best ones we had. And they're not easy to get, to get you a good one (1) will be productive. And the Job Study did study, but they weren't here in Warrick County to see what all has been accomplished in Warrick County in this. And I just would hate to lose, I think Steve loves Warrick County and wants to stay. But, if somebody talked to me on the phone, our discussion, and one (1) of our Council members, and it's true, if I was off, if I was teaching and working all kinds of overtime hours and not getting paid for it, which I did, and put in my time, and I was offered a twenty-five thousand (\$25,000.00) or thirty-five thousand (\$35,000.00) more to go be a secretary in the office 9:00 (AM) to 5:00 (PM), you know, it's hard to resist that. So, I think it's...

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Well, guys, I think it's representative, you know. Steve took time away from his kids lacrosse game tonight to, to come present BJ's award. He's always in the office on weekends. He's willing to work for less money. I mean that's what kind of a guy he is. And that speaks volumes and I don't want to put words in his mouth, but I can tell you, you know, he's a little discouraged with this discussion. I think we've got to do the right thing. We thought we were doing the right thing with the timing of the incident and putting the contract in place. I mean that was all that was in play. It was a timing thing. You guys were done with your discussions on salaries. And we fixed the problem that needed to be fixed and here we are.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Well, our job is not with the contractor, it's with the money.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Yep.

Councilman David Hachmeister: And don't really know how to start. We appropriated the money at budget time for this whether he's under contract or not. You know, you still contract it. But really, the request is for the more money. Correct?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Correct. I'd like to comment give me just a second here. You know there's been a lot of diligence done by you guys and by us in investigating what other Economic Development Directors make. I know that there was a poll cited that the State took. Sixty-three (63) respondents out of ninety-two (92) counties. Steve has the highest budget of all the respondents and is toward the bottom of the list and pay. So, you know, I know there were considerations given with regard to the County budget. But, but at the end of the day, we're the third highest per capita County in the State of Indiana and we got to set examples.

Councilman Greg Richmond: This is Economic Development tax money not property tax money and they've got the money for it.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Well, we're gonna keep hashing this out but really as far as, the difference is in the money. But, we put it in the budget and I'll make a motion deny the extra money.

Councilman Greg Richmond: They're not asking for an additional appropriation. He's asking for a Salary Ordinance. Then they can transfer to get the money.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Yeah, it's really, it's not as far as, as an Additional, but it is an Additional. But, make a motion to deny the Salary Ordinance for the ninety thousand two-hundred (\$90,221.00).

Councilman Greg Richmond: Dave, let's make the motion see if there's a second and then we'll discuss some more.

Councilman Rick Reid: Second.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Okay.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Yeah, I am, now that we're having discussion, I guess. I've read the contract and I even highlighted some things to ask about. And I see that it's more money than and we budgeted for and we approved in the budget. I see that. I also see in here that it says that this is a contract 'til December 31st of this year and that it renews automatically as you just talked about. What, what were his terms of employment before this? Did he have to stay the whole year? Or come go or leave anytime? What was...?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: No, I believe this contract has been...

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Before this when he was an employee of the county, was he bound to stay for the entire year?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: He's always been an employee. He's been under contract at times. I don't think he's been under contract the whole time because this one (1) was sitting on the desk waiting to be signed. There were revisions made with this contract and it was put on our Attorney's desk because there was an incident where the prior Director took a County vehicle out of, out of town, had a flat tire, and that kind of caused a little heat wave. Steve wanted this contract defined, how he could use his County vehicle. And so that's why that that contract was sitting on the attorney's desk.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Okay. What I'm asking...

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: It sat there and sat there so we made some other changes when this salary thing came up.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: What I'm asking though is he, now, he's committed to remain here until December 31, 2022?

Krystal Powless: Correct.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Correct.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: In previous employment agreements with him, was he committing to stay for a year at a time?

Krystal Powless: There was no contract.

Councilman Brad Overton: There never was anything.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Just the same as any other job.

Cliff Whitehead: (Inaudible) at-will.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: At-will, thank you. Okay, so, it was at will, now, it's a year, year long term.

Cliff Whitehead: Well, technically, he doesn't have to stay till December 31st. He could give notice (inaudible).

Councilman Chris Whetstine: And that's the next part I was gonna, I got highlighted is that either party would give one hundred and eighty (180) days' notice.

Cliff Whitehead: One-twenty (120).

Councilman Chris Whetstine: It says here one hundred eighty (180).

Cliff Whitehead: Mine says one (1)...

Councilman David Hachmeister: I thought I read one-twenty (120) too. But, that's...

Councilman Greg Richmond: The one (1) I have says one-twenty (120). If you've got a draft...

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: It started at one-eight (180).

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Oh, I do. I can see the word now. Draft. Okay.

Councilman Brad Overton: (Inaudible) photograph (inaudible).

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I couldn't see. I, readjust my focus there. You're right. Okay, so one hundred twenty (120) days. So, so right now, if the Director wants to leave, the Director has to give one hundred twenty (120) day notice. Where before he could just leave on any old random day. Okay, so, I see value in that is my point. Council, I see value in a hundred and twenty (120) day notice. I see here that it says that he has to maintain a permanent personal residence in Warrick County. Is that a requirement to be an employee? Before this contract, disregarding this contract. Does a person have to live in Warrick County to work in Warrick County?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: No.

Krystal Powless: No.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: And so, now, we're requiring the Director reside in Warrick County. I see value there is my point. You know, I do see value. And there's one (1) on here that's kind of a sleeper, I think, maybe to most people. But paragraph number seven (7), which is referred to as the exclusive service, and it says that the Director will devote his full attention to this job. In my mind, I'm gonna call it the no moonlighting clause. Is that, would you say that's a fair way to describe this?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: I think so.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I see value to the County in that. I do see value. Now, the third, the next thing is something I simply just wanna ask you as a Commissioner, I see that your signature was on that. Somewhere I saw that. So, I'm gonna assume that the Commissioners' negotiated this contract with the Director and all that kind of stuff. And, is that true?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: That's correct.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: And in your opinion as Commissioner, is this contract better for the citizens of Warrick County?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Absolutely.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Than the employment agreement?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Absolutely, absolutely.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I see value in that.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Again, but our issue is not with the contract.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I understand.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Yeah.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: I see value in it.

Councilman David Hachmeister: We can...

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Our issue is in increasing the amount. And I see value in this contract. Now, is it possible, if the Council decides not to do this, not to fund it, or increased it or whatever, hello, where was I going with this? Are there other methods that, that, to fund this within the department?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: We know that all our, our known alternative is to come back and ask for an Additional Appropriation from other lines.

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Okay, so there are other options. Okay. The next thing, I have one (1) last thing, I believe, which is more on the legal line, and Counsel, if, since the Commissioners have committed, obligated the County in an agreement, if we don't fund it, is there any negative consequences to the County? Could there be? Whatever?

Cliff Whitehead: Well, because anytime you're obviously bound to a contract, you're bound to a contract. You don't fulfill that, yes, you have a liability. This termination, as I was reading, it allows for one hundred twenty (120) days termination. So in theory, as long as there's enough money budgeted to pay for a hundred and twenty (120) days of his contract, then the Commissioners could serve notice, fulfill payout of that one hundred twenty (120) days and, I don't believe would be in breach of the contract.

Councilman Brad Overton: I, can I interject?

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Yeah, I think I'm actually...

Councilman Brad Overton: Did you actually mean though, he signed the contract today, are we obligated since this has not come before us yet? Is that, or was that your question? Or am I just reading (inaudible)?

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Actually both questions are, both are good and I can attach that to my question.

Councilman Brad Overton: I thought maybe that's where he was going. That's why I was asking for clarification.

Cliff Whitehead: You're not obligated to fund this additional amount or pass this salary ordinance to put more specifically.

Councilman Brad Overton: Even though the contract had already been signed?

Cliff Whitehead: That is correct.

Councilman Brad Overton: Thank you. Okay, so, I got a few points here. Were you done?

Councilman Chris Whetstine: Yeah, I'm done.

Councilman Brad Overton: Okay, so honestly my whole issue, and I agree with Dave, is not this contract. I mean honestly, as far as signing Steve to the contract, I mean if somebody would have said hey at budget time, we want to sign him to a contract for the next two (2) years, boom I would have been okay with that. Okay? My issue, I've got some points here which I really, I'm just kind of struggling with. And I'll go back, I mean, Steve, I think Steve has done a great job. I mean, he's done more for Scales Lake than anybody I've seen since I've been here. He's got the Friedman Park Center, Friedman Park looking fantastic. I mean, I'm not gonna sit here and complain about the job that Steve is done. And you know, it, as far as trying to and I'm not, don't necessarily know that anybody is making this argument less important, but the fact is, you know, a few things here. I mean, for one (1), this contract was signed before the Council even was able to discuss an amount. I think it should have been brought up at budget time. We have a job study in place. We didn't look at it that point. And job studies, you know, the whole point of the job studies were to try to make things as equitable as possible across the board. And the other thing I like about the job studies is I can kind of go back in the job study, you know, I will shorten my French, but it's a little bit of C YA. But I don't have to say, hey, somebody here, you know, we're paying somebody so and so more. I mean, we've got something to study and it kind of takes the political aspect out of it, saying what politics are. Not to say that this is, and it helps to take that out and I really like the job study. And as I've said before I started this, I would have entertained this, possibly this amount or anything else if it was done in the appropriate amount of time. I wish this would have been discussed with us as I mentioned to one (1) of the Commissioners earlier today. And, you know, like I said, my problem is not with the contract, but it's this whole, I mean here we are on January the 6th and we're wanting to do this and I just, I've got a real problem with the optics of this for everybody across the county as far as County employees. And I just, I mean, I don't know too many places where I can go and agree to an amount and then I'm gonna turn around and say, well, now we better ask the people how much we can pay, whether we can afford or we wanna pay that. Cause that would be you know going back to a sports analogy, you know, they don't sign contracts until they know how much money

they're gonna be able to get. I mean you can't, you need to find that out first. And then the other thing that kind of slightly troubles me here is the fact that you've mentioned that you can come back each month and just continue to ask for an Appropriation to cover this and to me that kind of circumvents the whole process of coming before us anyway. So, I think whether that's, you know, okay to do or not, it kind of defeats the, how am I trying to say, the letter of the law or the intent or I think you kind of know what I'm trying to say here. You know, you're kind of going around the backside and getting this done anyway. And like I said, this is nothing against Steve. Hell, I could sit and talk to Steve for three (3) or four (4) hours about running and everything else and I think he's a great salesperson. I think he's doing great things. And I'd rather see him stay here. But, my whole problem with this entire thing is just the way it was done. Hell, bring, should have done this back when we were looking at that and whether it's timing or whatever you wanna say, the whole thing was it should have been done earlier. We could have looked at the contract. I would have signed Steve to a contract right then if we wanted to sign one (1) to the existing amount.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Can I interject please?

Councilman Brad Overton: Yeah, go ahead and interject.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Timing, I've said that a few times. That's what this is about. You guys were done with your discussions. I think Steve came himself and asked for a raise and don't know exactly what he asked for quite honestly. I know there was a one point six percent (1.6%) raise given. This opportunity for another job came up after, after all that was all done. And we, we found a problem that we had to fix. With regard to the knowledge of the contract, I don't know, I can't sit here and say who. But, I know you guys were privy to this information.

Councilman Brad Overton: We got this two (2) days ago or three (3). Wasn't it, Krystal? So that's how privy I was to that information. Honestly, most the stuff that I get three (3) days before the meeting, and I guarantee you most of us are gonna vote no against it because we didn't have time to even look at it. So, that timing, and pardon me, that timing sucked. You know?

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: I don't know why you didn't have it before that, I really don't.

Councilman Brad Overton: If this was done, we should have this a month to look at. We had it for two (2) days. You know?

Krystal Powless: I actually found out about it, basically the same time Debbie did, when Pamela went to do the payroll and the salary was more. Now, I knew you guys were negotiating it. I knew that. But, I did not get the contract until Pamela noticed a difference in payroll and so I immediately messaged Heather and I said I need a copy of that contract and then that's when they bought it. So.

Commissioner Terry Phillippe: Understood.

Councilman David Hachmeister: So, in that aspect, was it ever asked to be put on the agenda?

Krystal Powless: No.

Councilman Rick Reid: We can table it to the next time.

Councilman Greg Richmond: I'll entertain a motion to table if you all want to take it home and digest it for a while.

Councilman David Hachmeister: Well, I made a motion a while ago.

Kristine Georges: Yeah, there's a motion on the floor.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Yeah, we have a motion on the floor, don't we?

Councilman Ron Bacon: Yep.

Councilman Greg Richmond: Motion and second to deny the Salary Ordinance. David made the motion. Rick Reid second. All those in favor of that? One (1), two (2), three (3), four (4). And all those opposed? One (1), two (2), three (3). So, four (4) to deny and the four (4) were Brad, David, Rick, and Ted. And the three (3) were Ron, Chris, and Greg. (Motion to deny carried 4-3 with Ron Bacon, Greg Richmond, and Chris Whetstone opposing). Okay. So, I guess this is over.

Councilman Brad Overton: Motion to adjourn.

Councilman Rick Reid: Second. (Meeting adjourned with no opposition 7-0).

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL


Greg Richmond, President


Ron Bacon


Ted Metzger



Chris Whetstone

ATTEST:

Deborah K. Stevens, Auditor
Warrick County, IN


Brad Overton, Vice President


David Hachmeister


Richard Reid

Minutes transcribed by Kristine Georges

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Sec. 1 Be it ordained (resolved) by the Warrick County Council, Warrick County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the proposed specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

FUND	APPROPRIATION NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
Prosecutor	1000.11411.000.0009	Admin. Assistant	\$900.00	900
Total Prosecutor				
Health	1159.11250.000.0000	Pound Keeper PT	\$5,500.00	5,500
	1159.21375.000.0000	Vaxcare	\$7,161.00	7,161
	1159.22500.000.0000	Animal Control	\$5,960.00	5,960
Total Health			\$18,621.00	
Local Health Dept Trust	1206.31510.000.0000	Mosquito Distribution	\$28,800.00	28,800
Total Local Health Dept Trust			\$28,800.00	
Admin. Probation Fees	2000.11482.000.0000	Probation Sup.2-Adult	\$5,000.00	5,000
Total Adult Probation Fees			\$5,000.00	
Assessor	1000.11410.000.0008	Administrative Clerk	\$775.00	775.00
Total Assessor			\$775.00	
Commissioners	1000.31116.000.0068	COVID Expense	\$347,871.00	347,156
Total Commissioners			\$347,871.00	
American Rescue Plan	8950.31110.000.0000	Expense	\$2,539,560.23	2,518,311
Total American Rescue Plan			\$2,539,560.23	
Pandemic Relief Fund	4930.31110.000.0000	Expense	\$81,093.00	0
Total Pandemic Relief			\$81,093.00	
Property Reassessment	1224.11470.000.0000	Deputy	\$7,263.00	7,263
Total Reassessment			\$7,263.00	
Extension	1000.11251.000.0011	Office Manager	\$3,264.00	3,264
Total Extension			\$3,264.00	
REDUCTION	49211105.000.0000	Director	-\$54,856.00	-54,856
DD/DC Program	4921.17300.000.0000	Group Insurance	-\$8,000.00	-8,000
Total Reduction DD/DC Program			-\$62,856.00	

Taxpayers appearing in the meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the State Board of Tax Commissioners. The Board will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a Certified Copy of the action.

Adopted this 6 day of JAN, 2022.

AYE

NAY

[Handwritten signatures: Paul W. Wisk, Brad Clayton, David Thompson, Paul Duff]