

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM
107 W. Locust Street
Boonville, Indiana
December 2, 2025
6:00 PM

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

Council Attorney Rhett Gonterman and Administrator Krystal Powless were in attendance.

Auditor Michael Dietsch and Recording Secretary Kristine Georges attended and recorded the minutes.

The public could view the meeting via Warrick County Government YouTube channel at:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOK8y7lXclPk9le8VV4pr9w?view_as=subscriber

Council President Ron Bacon called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call showed the following Council members present in person: Ron Bacon, Patricia Brooks, Rob Dimmett, Brad Overton, Richard Reid, Greg Richmond, and Chris Whetstine.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
NOVEMBER 4, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The amended minutes from the November 4, 2025 Regular Session Meeting were presented. Councilman Rob Dimmett made the motion to approve the amended minutes. Councilman Chris Whetstine seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

2A. COMMISSIONER BUSINESS
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

HR Director Andrea Schofner was present for the Commissioner's Office.

Opioid Unrestricted	1238.31400.000.0000	Contractual Services	\$100,000.00
Opioid Restricted	1237.31400.000.0000	Contractual Services	\$50,000.00

Ms. Schofner reviewed what contacts this would cover. There are also applications waiting to be reviewed for the Restricted and there is only \$4,000.00 left currently. Councilman Brad Overton made a motion to approve the Unrestricted at \$100,000.00. Councilman Rob Dimmett seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Debbie Bennett-Stearnsman was present on the telephone for the discussion of the \$50,000.00 Restricted. She reviewed the balances and how the requests are vetted for the Grant Program. The money can only be used for help involving opioid use and recovery. All vetted groups are put under contact and have strict guidelines to follow. Councilman Chris Whetstine made a motion to approve. Councilman Greg Richmond seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

2B. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Courthouse	1000.33000.000.0162	Utilities	\$25,000.00
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There are two bills that need to be paid. There will be others as well. Councilman Chris Whetstine made a motion to approve. Councilman Greg Richmond seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

2C. SALARY ORDINANCE

Courthouse	2 Custodial employees	\$1,000.00
	Maintenance Assistant	\$1,000.00

They have been short-staffed due to an open position and vacations. This will be transferred and is not an appropriation. Councilman Brad Overton made a motion to approve. Councilman Rob Dimmett seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

3. COMMISSIONER/AUDITOR BUSINESS
RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FROM FUND 5001 TO FUND 5200
RESOLUTION 2025-09

Ms. Schofner explained that there was auditing done and, for the long-term and short-term disability, what was entered into the system was incorrect. They aren't sure where it got messed up. They are still working on it. Ms. Powless said that they will need to transfer from the Health Insurance Fund to cover. If they leave it in the red, it will be written up. If they do the transfer, they may still get written up, but it will show that the County was trying to rectify it and State Board of Accounts may be more lenient. They will transfer \$25,000.00 to cover, but this is just an estimate. Ms. Schofner hopes to have it all straightened by the end of the year. Councilman Greg Richmond made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-09. Councilwoman Pat Brooks seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

HANDBOOK POLICY, REIMBURSEMENTS, TRANSFERS OR CORRECTIONS

President Bacon read the following into the minutes:

4A. Additional Appropriation Vacation pay out Superior Court 2	1000.11205.000.0202	Court Reporter	\$2,067.08
4B. Salary Ordinance Vacation Payout Superior 2	Court Reporter	Sell back 10 days	\$2,067.08
4C. Transfer Child Support	Transfer from: 1000.21150.000.0660 Transfer to: 1000.32300.000.0660	Copy Paper Postage	\$750.00 \$750.00
4D. Transfer Prosecutor	Transfer from: 1000.21100.000.0009 Transfer to: 1000.32200.000.0009	General supplies Postage	\$500.00 \$500.00
4E. Transfer EMA	Transfer from: 1000.30010.000.0302 Transfer to: 1000.21100.000.0302 Transfer from: 1000.36400.000.0302 Transfer from: 1000.22300.000.0302 Transfer to: 1000.44000.000.0302 Transfer from: 1000.31400.000.0302 Transfer from: 1000.32200.000.0302 Transfer from: 1000.32300.000.0302 Transfer from: 1000.35100.000.0302 Transfer to: 1000.24500.000.0302 Transfer from: 1170.32450.000.0000 1170.33000.000.0000 Transfer to: 1170.44520.000.0000	Grant Maintenance General Supplies Equipment Maintenance Other Motor Supply Equipment Contractual Postage Travel Training Uniforms Communication Repair Utilities EMA Equipment	\$881.17 \$881.17 \$7,709.21 \$859.14 \$8,568.35 \$947.07 \$53.90 \$404.78 \$454.77 \$1,860.52 \$135.88 \$1,772.00 \$1,907.88
4F. Salary Ordinance Resignation Sheriff	Deputy Sargent	180.25 Hours 32.00 Hours	\$4,943.63 \$1,010.66

Councilman Brad Overton made a motion to approve. Councilman Chris Whetstone seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

(December Appropriations is located on Page 5 of these Official Minutes)

**COUNCIL BUSINESS
STORM WATER FEE**

Attorney Morrie Doll and Administrator Jennifer Curry with Storm Water were present to request an increase to the Storm Water Fee. They have advertised the new rate and had a public hearing. They start here for approval from the fiscal body and if approved, they will go to the Commissioners. There have been no remonstrators to the increase. The rate would be raised from \$4.50 to \$8.00 per parcel. The Council received an economist's report to review. Attorney Doll went over how the fee works and what it does. This fee covers the county only. Chandler, Newburgh, and Boonville are not included as they have their own fee. Storm Water continually receives complaints from the taxpayers due to failures causing flooding. They put together plans, but they do have to prioritize due to lack of funds. There have been a lot of improvements made over the years, but now previous projects are in need of repair. Mr. Doll reviewed Indiana code and how this rate increase will be just under what is needed to continue to fund projects and falls within the code. They have never had a rate increase since Storm Water started.

Councilman Greg Richmond asked about Springs Valley and the \$4,000,000.00 needed there. Mr. Doll said that has been the best estimate. Many subdivisions are getting age on them and the costs a lot more expensive. They also have issues with utilities when they are all in the right of ways. He also went over what the Storm Water is responsible for.

Ms. Curry went over current costs and what they have coming in. Right now, they have seven subdivisions needing some TLC at a cost of about \$5,700,000.00. With current fees, they will bring in \$1,800,000.00. Mr. Doll said they would be in the red in 2026. Ms. Powless said they would if they spent money on all the projects. Mr. Doll said they try to be very frugal. There was a brief discussion on the rate for businesses and how those numbers will also go up. Churches and ag land are exempt.

Councilman Overton was concerned about such a large increase with so many people already struggling. Mr. Doll said in the entire history of Storm Water has not had any increases, but they probably should have. The increase will still be less than the surrounding counties.

Councilwoman Brooks asked about taxpayers paying themselves for any of the upgrades. Ms. Curry said that was for a different Department. Mr. Doll also said that they try to work with other departments to get stuff done. There was continued discussion.

Councilman Brad Overton said he thought a lot of the work was contracted out. Mr. Doll said they try to do as much as they can in house. Some projects, however, are more technical, too large, or need equipment they don't have and are contracted out. They do occasionally work with the Highway Department who lends them needed equipment. But some things do have to be contracted out. They get bids to do the work.

Councilman Dimmett asked how this would help his constituents since this fee wouldn't necessarily benefit them, but they would still have to pay. Mr. Doll said it is a countywide assessment and it all falls under the MS4. The funds can be used anywhere. But, they do use where the more immediate needs are. All projects are reviewed by the

board for approvals as well as keeping within the state requirements and standards that have to be met. They are even subject to state audits. They are performing many functions.

Councilwoman Brooks said that, with all the growth, they will be getting an increase and asked how that was projected in their budget for next year. Mr. Doll wasn't sure on the numbers, but said they are running on diminishing reserves and not be able to meet the needs. The extra money will not suffice. There was then a discussion on the number of parcels in Warrick County.

Councilman Whetstine asked about what a residential fee and business fee would look like. Ms. Curry said a home would go from \$54.00 to \$102.00 for a year. A business would depend on the size. There was a brief discussion. Mr. Doll said that he talked with Economic Development and whether it would affect development. Mr. Roelle didn't feel that the increase would have a detrimental effect. Several members of the Council expressed concern on having such a big rate change.

Councilman Dimmett feels a lot of the issues are due to neglect and manmade causes. Councilman Reid asked about doing a smaller amount then coming back for more next year. There was then a discussion for the different options that were before the Council for tonight. If something like this isn't passed until next year, funds won't be seen until 2027. There was also discussed using bonds.

Councilman Brad Overton made a motion to deny. Councilman Rick Reid seconded the motion. Councilwoman Brooks would like to see the increase be smaller. There is already a large burden on taxpayers. Councilman Richmond said that he really sees the need, but he is torn. Councilman Overton feels that people have been consistently beat up by the increases. He sympathizes with the issues, but people can't maintain and this would be an additional burden. Councilman Whetstine feels it needs to be funded, but would like to see it phased in. Councilman Dimmett reviewed how much engineers have been paid over time and nothing has been said. He feels a lot of money is wasted in other areas that could be used here to save money. The motion to deny carried 7-0.

2026 MEETING DATES RESOLUTION 2025-10

The 2026 Meeting Dates were presented. Council meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM. Any meeting falling on a holiday or election day will be held the following Tuesday. Councilman Greg Richmond made a motion to approve. Councilman Chris Whetstine seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-2 with Pat Brooks and Rick Reid opposing.

(Resolution 2025-10 is located on Page 4 of these Official Minutes)

APPOINTMENT LIST

Council Administrator Powless said she sent out the list for the Council to review. She has been reaching out to those currently serving.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

LETTER TO DEPARTMENT HEADS – ROB DIMMETT

Councilman Dimmett said that the letter was sent out on budget requests and he has since talked to several Department Heads. He wanted to make sure that if there was an emergency that Department Heads knew they could come before the Council. There was a brief discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

The next Warrick County Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the Commissioners' meeting room. Councilman Rick Reid made the motion to adjourn. Councilman Brad Overton seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL


 Ron Bacon, President

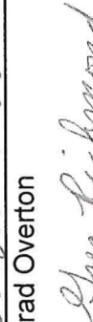

 Patricia Brooks


 Richard Reid


 Chris Whetsfline


 Robert Dimmett, Vice President


 Brad Overton


 Greg Richmond

ATTEST:


 Michael J. Dietsch, Auditor
 Warrick County, IN

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Kristine Georges, Official Recording Secretary

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025- 10
 WHEREAS, the last meeting in December 2024 the Warrick County Council desires to establish their regular meeting dates and budget meeting dates for the calendar year of 2026.

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

TUESDAY	JANUARY 6, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 3, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	MARCH 3, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	APRIL 7, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	MAY 12, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	JUNE 2, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	JULY 7, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	JULY 21, 2026	Budget	8:00 A.M.
MONDAY	AUGUST 3, 2026	Personnel	3:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	AUGUST 4, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	AUGUST 18, 2026	Budget	5:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	AUGUST 25, 2026	Budget	5:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 1, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	OCTOBER 6, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	OCTOBER 6, 2026	Budget Hearing	Following Regular Meeting
TUESDAY	OCTOBER 20, 2026	Budget Adoption	5:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	NOVEMBER 10, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 1, 2026	Regular	6:00 P.M.

This Resolution passed and ordained this ___ day of December, 2025.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL


 Greg Richmond


 Pat Brooks


 Brad Overton


 Robert Dimmett


 Ron Bacon


 Chris Whetsfline


 Richard Reid

ATTEST:


 Mike Dietsch
 Auditor, Warrick County

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
Superior Court 2	1000.11205.000.0202	Court Reporter	\$2,067.08	2,067.08
Opioid Unrestricted	1238.31400.000.0000	Contractual Services	\$100,000.00	100,000.00
Opioid Restricted	1237.31400.000.0000	Contractual Services	\$50,000.00	50,000.00
Courthouse	1000.33000.000.0162	Utilities	\$25,000.00	25,000.00

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

Adopted this 2 day of Dec, 2025.

AYE

Brad Chreston _____

Bob Bennett _____

Greg Richmond _____

Ch. White _____

Patricia A. Bunch _____

Paul A. Paul _____

NAY

ATTEST: Mike Dietsch Mike Dietsch - Auditor Warrick County