

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM
107 W. Locust Street
Boonville, Indiana
June 3, 2021
6:00 PM

The Warrick County Council met in regular session in the Warrick County Courthouse, 107 W. Locust Street, Boonville, Indiana. All members present were present in person.

Attorney Matthew Koressel and Administrator Krystal Powless were in attendance.

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

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Greg Richmond: David is ill tonight, so he couldn't join us tonight. Time for Roll Call.

Heather Soberg: Ron Bacon?

Ron Bacon: Here.

Heather Soberg: David Hachmeister?

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

Heather Soberg: Ted Metzger?

Ted Metzger: Present.

Heather Soberg: Brad Overton?

Brad Overton: Here.

Heather Soberg: Rick Reid?

Richard Reid: Present.

Heather Soberg: Greg Richmond?

Greg Richmond: Here.

Heather Soberg: Chris Whetstine?

Chris Whetstine: Here.

ADDRESSING OF ARTICLE IN THE STANDARD

Councilman Richmond: Okay, I had something that came in the news today. I just love when you find good news in a newspaper. And this deserves recognition from all of us. Lynnville native National Guard Specialist, Terry Brucken, a member of the First Battalion of the 131st, 151st Infantry Regiment in Washington, D.C., won the Regional Best Warrior Competition at Camp Atterbury. And I understand he's going to go to State competition, I mean to the United States Competition, the National Competition and that is something that we can all be proud of him and appreciate his service that he's doing for us. And I appreciate the Boonville Standard having that as their main headline this week. It's nice to have good news in front of us.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
MAY 6, 2021

Councilman Richmond: Alright, first up is Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting, May 6, 2021. Anybody have anything?

Councilman Bacon: I'll make a motion.

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

Councilman Overton: Second.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Brad. All those in favor? Six, zero (6-0).

SWCD ANNUAL REPORT

Councilman Richmond: Alright, and next up is the Soil and Water Conservation Department's Annual Report. You all have a copy of and had a chance to read.

Holly McCutchan: I brought extras. Does anybody need another one (1)? I know I passed it out last time. Anybody want one (1)? I just wanted to have an opportunity just to talk to you guys. But, I know our annual meeting with COVID was hard for a lot of people to attend. So, I just wanted to let you know that we were still busy this past year. We stayed busy throughout, we stayed busy throughout the Pandemic. We serviced our people in Warrick County. Some

of the ways we did it, we switched to online conservation quarantine, we called it. An online format that we did kids activities each week. We also did videos on like how to take care of an invasive species or farming or how to garden. Cause a lot of people gardened last year.

Councilman Richmond: I apologize.

Holly McCutchan: Yes, Sir?

Councilman Richmond: For the record, for the minutes, can you state your name?

Holly McCutchan: I'm so sorry. Holly McCutchan, Executive Director of Soil and Water Conservation District. So, those are some of the things we did with that. We also, right now we have going on, also, if you're interested, our Conservation Crusaders. This is an activity, this is our fourth year in a row that we've been doing it. We partner with Purdue Extension. And we've had, traditionally, only been at Friedman Park. But, this year we expanded it to Tennyson and Lynnville Parks. We wanted to make sure we were getting the whole county. So, this is our first week. We do each park once a month. At Tennyson on Wednesday, we had twenty-one (21) kids. Friedman today we had thirty-one (31). And tomorrow at Lynnville, we have nineteen (19) signed up. So, we are having fun with those. Each month is a different theme. Habitat was this month. Soil will be in July. And water then in August. So, that's one (1) way we're trying to service on our kids' education. Public education for more adults, we did a backyard series. We partnered with Spencer County, SWCD, and we did an online Zoom meeting about how to do poultry. If you wanted to have a backyard chicken coop, what to do. So, we worked with Amanda Mosiman on that. We also, lots of Master Gardener meetings. We do a lot of education that way. We did a virtual Earth Day, Arbor Day event this year with, with students throughout Warrick County. We also did for the adults a virtual soil workshop with our (inaudible). We partnered with those. I don't know if you know, but we have equipment rental in our office. We have no-till drills. Things like that for farmers to use that maybe they don't, aren't sure if they want to go that way yet. It's a way for them to rent our equipment to see if it works. We have lots of equipment rentals this year. We also have invasive species removal equipment for people that are trying to get out, let's say, an autumn olive in their yard or they want to try to cut down a Bradford pear. We have some of those that are free rental for people to do that. We've got all of that equipment through a grant is how we got that. We also donated trees to Lynnville Park and Friedman Park. We were able to get a grazing grant this year with Clean Water Indiana, so, we're going to help our local, our local people with more of our farmers that maybe haven't used our services before or smaller where they have, it's for grazing, rotating your pastures with grazing or water tanks. And we also have one (1) with that also. We can inner-seed pastures to bring the pastures up. So, that was a grant we were able to receive through Clean Water Indiana to help. We're finishing up our ALCOA grant. We have really utilized that grant and we appreciate that grant from ALCOA. It's ending in June. We've been able to do a lot with that. Jason Baxter back here, I partnered with him this year, our office did with the Loehr Grant. We were able to get a grant to help on the Pigeon Creek with the flooding that occurred. It was in Vanderburgh County, the log jam that then flooded over into Warrick County. So, Jason and I worked together and we were able to get a thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) grant that we were able to clean up to help our Warrick County farmers and citizens in that area. So, just a, I know we've done a lot the, the native plants sale. We just, had about thirty-two (32) people who were able to get native plants now into Warrick County to help with our wildlife. We do have upcoming, July 27th, we're doing a cover crop field day. Rudolph Brothers, or Peter Rudolph is allowing us at his farm. We're going to work there and then we also have, we're going to do another one (1) with our area about cover crops with our area SWCD's later on this summer. So, I just wanted to give you as a quick overview, I know you guys have a long night, but is there any questions for me? No? Well, alright. Well, we appreciate...

Councilman Richmond: Appreciate getting that Pigeon Creek situation taken care of.

Councilman Reid: Yeah, that's great.

Holly McCutchan: Good. Well, I kept going to all the meetings and I kept hearing that. That, so we looked into it and Jason was able to help me which I'm so glad to get that cleaned up. So, you know, we're here to help the County. We're education and resources. That's kind of where we see ourselves. We appreciate your support. Thank you.

Councilman Richmond: Thank you, Holly.

Councilman Metzger: Thank you.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS TAX PHASE IN WARRICK NEWCO, LLC – ALCOA POWER GENERATING ALCOA WARRICK OPERATIONS, LLC

Councilman Richmond: Okay, next up is Economic Development Business. We have some Tax Phase In's. The first one (1) is Warrick Newco, LLC, formally ALCOA. The second one (1) is ALCOA Power Generating, 2008-03, personal property. The third one (1) is ALCOA Warrick Operations, LLC, 2014-02, personal property. And the next one (1) is Ciholas Properties compliance and Euronique compliance also. Those are the compliance business that we have tonight. A lot of changes at ALCOA. Identify yourself, please.

Steve Roelle: Sure, Steve Roelle, good evening. Economic Development. I'm joined in the audience by a familiar face to many, Paul Rudolph representing ALCOA. He is the site controller at ALCOA Operations and can answer any questions that I can't. If we keep it like we've done in the past, ALCOA has three (3) abatements I'll cover just really briefly all three (3) and answer any questions and then we can move on to the other two (2) companies here for compliance tonight. Nothing, although there has been big news at ALCOA, that was the rolling mill sale to Kaiser Aluminum which took place in April. This year's taxes are for last year. So, really, these are the same three (3) abatements that you guys have been looking at in the past. Our recommendation, I sent summaries to County Council this week. Our recommendation after looking at the investments and the employment, is that all three (3) are in compliance. That is the 2018 smelter restart which was a ten (10) year abatement. That's the 2014 preheat furnaces abatement. That is the one (1) next year that is tied to the rolling mill. Next year we'll talk about how that transfers over to Kaiser. I did send some supplemental information just to show you guys the breakdown of the transfer of assets and

dollar (\$105,000,000.00) project. And so they've made the investments. They're in compliance. And happy to answer any questions that you guys have.

Councilman Richmond: Would we like to take all three (3) of these in one (1) motion?

Councilman Reid: Yes. I make a motion.

Councilman Metzger: I'll second it.

Councilman Richmond: Okay. Rick Reid made the motion. And was second by Ted Metzger to accept the compliance record of the tax phase in for Warrick Newco, LLC, 2018-02, Personal Property. ALCOA Power Generating, 2008-03, Personal Property; and ALCOA Warrick Operations, LLC, 2014-02, Personal Property. Any discussion? All those in favor? That's all six (6) of us.

CIHOLAS PROPERTIES COMPLIANCE

Councilman Richmond: Next up is Ciholas Properties Compliance.

Steve Roelle: So, Ciholas, again, I sent out a short summary this week. Been speaking with Vicki McDonald who's the director of operations over at Ciholas. A recommendation, again, is they're in compliance. This is a company that moved over from Vanderburgh County. They do very specialized software and electronic development. A lot of the stuff there come out with a patent. They're the world leader in indoor GPS technology. They've built things that have been in space and used in the Olympics. They're doing some pretty interesting stuff over there. They're off of Bell Road. They built the building, made the investment, they hire and their wages are fantastic as they said they were. So, our recommendation is that they are in compliance. This is year seven (7) of ten (10). So, they'll be back for a couple more years.

Councilman Richmond: I'll entertain a motion.

Councilman Reid: Motion to approve.

Councilman Metzger: Second.

Councilman Richmond: Motion by Rick Reid and second by Ted Metzger.

Councilman Metzger: I'm sorry. Can I withdraw that second?

Councilman Richmond: Oh, okay.

Councilman Metzger: I'm sorry. I got ahead of myself. Somebody else can second.

Councilman Whetstine: I'll second that.

Councilman Richmond: Okay, Chris Whetstine will second that motion to approve the compliance to Ciholas Properties. Any discussion? All those in favor? That's five (5). Opposed?

Councilman Metzger: Abstain.

Councilman Richmond: Abstain. Five, zero, and one (5-0-1 with Ted Metzger abstaining). One (1) abstention. That was Ted Metzger.

EURONIQUE INCORPORATED COMPLIANCE

Councilman Richmond: Okay. Now the Tax Phase In, Euronique Incorporated Compliance.

Steve Roelle: Okay, Euronique outside of Elberfeld. Cabinet manufacturer, wood manufacturer, expanded multiple times in Warrick County. This is the one (1) that we came to last year for actual tax abatement. So, this is year one (1) of six (6) that was approved. They do case work. They are constantly hiring. Added six (6) new employees when they said they were going to add one (1) with this new investment. They were going to install and invest in five (5) different pieces of equipment. They have, they have installed four (4) of those five (5). The fifth one (1) is going to be taken care of in 2021. Again, they are in compliance and they are actually looking to maybe expand again.

Councilman Reid: Motion to approve.

Councilman Richmond: Motion by Rick Reid to approve. Is there a second?

Councilman Bacon: Second.

Councilman Richmond: Is that Ron?

Councilman Bacon: Yeah.

Councilman Richmond: Ron Bacon second. Any discussion? All those in favor? Six, zero (6-0).

Steve Roelle: Okay, thank you.

Councilman Reid: Thanks.

Councilman Richmond: Thank you.

**COMMISSIONER BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATOR – VACATION SELL BACK**

Councilman Richmond: Next up, item 4A and 4B, we could probably do together because that is a two (2) week vacation sell back, County Administrator, two thousand two hundred eighty-two dollars (\$2,282.00) according to the Employee Handbook.

Councilman Overton: Motion to approve.

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

Councilman Whetstine: I'll second it.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Chris. Any discussion? All those in favor? That's five (5) of us. Rick?

Councilman Reid: I said yes.

Councilman Richmond: Okay, six (6) of us. Six, zero (6-0).

Roger Emmons: Thank you, Gentlemen.

Councilman Richmond: Be careful that I don't say seven (7).

Roger Emmons: Appreciate it.

Councilman Overton: You're welcome.

**SURVEYOR BUSINESS
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES – TANGLEWOOD DITCH**

Councilman Richmond: Surveyor Business, Additional Appropriation, Contractual Services, seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00). I think this is something we've been asking the Surveyor to do.

Phil Baxter: Phil Baxter, Warrick County Surveyor. We're asking for seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00) to be transferred to Cum Drain for work on the Tanglewood Ditch. We sent a package, I think you got, and...

Councilman Richmond: Got your letter explaining it. And this is an Additional Appropriation of seventy-five thousand (\$75,000.00).

Phil Baxter: Yes.

Councilman Richmond: They have a hundred and twenty-five thousand (\$125,000.00) in that fund.

Councilman Overton: Motion to approve.

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

Councilman Whetstine: I'll second it.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Chris. Any discussion? All those in favor? That's six, zero (6-0). Thank you.

Phil Baxter: We thank you.

Councilman Richmond: Um hum.

**SHERIFF BUSINESS
JAILER – SICK AND VACATION DAY PAY OUT**

Councilman Richmond: Next up is Sheriff Business and I think we had some discussion about this. There's no additional appropriation needed for this. This is a Handbook issue that needed to be settled, pronto. Sick and Vacation Day pay out according to the Handbook.

Sheriff Wilder: Sheriff Mike Wilder. This is one (1) of our Jailer's pay-out. I think this follows not only, not so much the Handbook, but their union contract also.

Councilman Richmond: Did you make a motion?

Councilman Overton: Started to, make a motion to approve.

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

Councilman Reid: Second, second.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Rick. Any discussion? All those in favor? Six, zero (6-0). Thank you.

Councilman Reid: Thank you, Sheriff.

COUNCIL BUSINESS
COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR – VACATION PAYBACK

Councilman Richmond: Council Business, 7A and 7B, we can put together. Our Council Administrator, same as the Commissioners Administrator, two (2) week vacation sell back. And there's no Additional here. It's a transfer from Other Services to Council Administrator two thousand one hundred nineteen dollars (\$2,119.00). Handbook issue.

Councilman Overton: Make a motion to approve.

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

Councilman Whetstone: I'll second.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Chris. Any discussion? All those in favor? That's all six (6) of us. Six, zero (6-0).

(June Appropriations are located on Page 17 of these Official Minutes)

LIT TO RAINY DAY TRANSFER
RESOLUTION 2021-06

Councilman Richmond: Now, we're ready for some Resolutions. The first Resolution is...

Kristine Georges: Sorry, it's going to be 2021-06 for the Resolution.

Councilman Richmond: 2021-06. Let me get that out. And I can read this by title only, I wouldn't have to read you the three (3) pages. Actually, this is four (4) pages. It's a Resolution of the Warrick County Council of Warrick County, Indiana, authorizing a transfer from the County's Local Income Tax Fund to the Rainy Day Fund. This is the only way we are able to replenish our Rainy Day Fund that's available. And it has been hit a little bit with COVID. So, is there a motion?

Councilman Metzger: Motion to approve.

Councilman Overton: Second.

Councilman Richmond: Motion by Ted and second by Brad to approve Resolution 2021-06. All those in favor, oh, discussion? Any? All those in favor? Six, zero (6-0). Okay.

(Resolution 2021-06 is located on Pages 17 through 18 of these Official Minutes)

TRANSFER CASA TO 501C3
RESOLUTION 2021-07

Councilman Richmond: Resolution...

Kristine Georges: Would be '07.

Councilman Richmond: That would be 2021-07 and it is to take the funds that we had appropriated to CASA and put it into the 501c3. Warrick County Council Resolution 2021-07, authorizing a disbursement from certain funds to Warrick County CASA Incorporated. Is there a motion?

Councilman Bacon: I'll make a motion.

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

Councilman Reid: Second.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Rick. Any discussion? All those in favor? Six, zero (6-0). Thank you.

(Resolution 2021-07 is located on Page 19 of these Official Minutes)

ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION
RESOLUTION 2021-08

Councilman Richmond: And then the State Legislature just recently passed a rule of law that said that we could have some Council represented electronically, if the Council member was unable to be present. And there are certain restrictions and rules in this that we have to follow. And our attorney drew up everything according to what the House Bill 1437 states. It is a Resolution, Warrick County Resolution 2021-08, establishing a policy regarding electronic participation in Council Meetings. Is there a motion?

Councilman Reid: I make a motion for approval of 2021-08.

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

Councilman Bacon: Second.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Ron. Any discussion? All those in favor? Okay, that's all six (6) of us. Six, zero (6-0) on that one (1).

(Resolution 2021-08 is located on Pages 19 through 20 of these Official Minutes)

SALARY ORDINANCE FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND STORM WATER

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilman Richmond: 7F, 7F started out as 7A and if I can just for a minute, I need to skip that and drop down to, it's not labeled number eight (8) on here but labeled as Other Business. It's a Salary Ordinance for Highway, let me find that, and Storm Water. We had two (2) other Salary Ordinances sent our way. I believe it's also issues of Handbook Storm Water, it's five hundred ninety-three dollars and forty cents (\$593.40). And for Highway, it was seventeen hundred forty dollars and some odd cents (\$1,740.00).

Heather Soberg: It's one thousand seven hundred twenty dollars and forty cents (\$1,720.40).

Councilman Richmond: Twenty-one dollars and forty cents? (\$21.40)

Heather Soberg: One-seven-two-zero-point-four-zero (\$1,720.40).

Councilman Richmond: One-seven-two-zero-point-four-zero (\$1,720.40). Okay. Any motions on that? It's a Handbook issue. Storm Water was five hundred ninety-three dollars and forty cents (\$593.40). And Highway was seventeen hundred twenty dollars and forty cents (\$1,720.40), Salary Ordinance.

Councilman Reid: I'll make a motion.

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

Councilman Overton: Second, second.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Brad. Any discussion? All those in favor? That's six, zero (6-0). Okay, so that gets all the regular business out of the way.

DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ON PUBLIC SAFETY LOCAL INCOME TAX INCREASE

Councilman Richmond: We're ready for 7F now. To open up the discussion, 7F is discussion only on Public Safety, it's a presentation and discussion. About a week ago Monday, we had an agenda item come out and it had 7F as 7A. And one (1) Council member asked that to be moved, so we came out with a revised agenda that moved this down to the end of the meeting because there's probably going to be a lot of discussion on it. So, I do want to clarify something. Someone called my attention, there was an article that went out from a certain organization that said tonight's meeting's at 6:00 PM on the third floor of the Old Courthouse in Boonville. The proponents of an income tax increase have ramped up support and hope to get this passed tonight. Ladies and Gentlemen, it cannot be passed legally tonight, and that's not our intention. It goes on to state that it's time to stand up against LIT and I appreciate anybody that's against it. Nobody's going to be a hundred percent (100%) for or against anything. There's always going to be different opinions. But, it says, time to stand up to the LIT increase and lack of transparency. And I would like to say, that's a false accusation, because we are just in the very beginning stages and this is the procedure that we are to follow in doing this. No vote can take place tonight without first having a Public Hearing. That's the first thing that would happen to this. And that's when the public is allowed to put their input in and give their opinions. You may be limited in the amount of time to talk cause it could go on all night otherwise. And the Public Hearing will be where the public will state their opinions. And then after that, will come a First Reading. And the Public Hearing, First Reading could occur at our next meeting. So, I want to make you aware of that. That would be at our July meeting. And the Public Hearing would be like the first hour before, like at 5:00 (PM) instead of 6:00 (PM), and our meeting would follow whenever that takes place. And after that, if there's not a unanimous vote by the Council, which I don't think there will be, to have it enacted in the First Reading, it will take a Second Reading and that will occur a month later in August. So, there is a step by step procedure. We're following this legally like we're supposed to. It takes an Ordinance that would be drawn up by our attorney and then brought before the Public Hearing and the First Reading and if it passes, it may not pass the First Reading. If it doesn't pass the First Reading, it doesn't go to a Second Reading. So, that's the procedure here. And the agenda says Public Safety Presentation and Discussion. I was asked, well, what brought this conversation about was, back in, it was in 2019 in the fall, we were really discussing this and gathering information from the Cities and Towns. And gathering information from our County needs or Public Safety needs people like the Sheriff for example. And that's our primary Public Safety that we're in charge of. And we also handle the contract with the ambulance. We fund that. So, all these issues were coming up and were talked about and then at one (1) of our meetings in September I believe, it was asked if we'd set up a committee. And we did this, we did a Public Safety Income Tax Study Committee. We set it up and at that time, our representative on that committee got later on elected to the State Legislature. So, we replaced Cindy with Chris Whetstine. And Chris has been going to all the meetings. Cindy Ledbetter, she's the representative. And Chris replaced her and he's been going to all the meetings and has really worked very, very hard to bring us up to date on everything. I would like to remind the Councilmen that this that we have was given to us back in that fall of 2019 that I've read through several times. First seven (7) pages are summaries, if you want to get a summary of the report and this becomes public record since we have it. And this is all the Cities and Towns and what they feel like their needs are and it's very thorough. It tells what their needs are and what can happen if they don't get this increase in the Public Safety increase in our LIT, Local Option Income Tax. Because right now, we have Economic Development Income Tax which is split fifty/fifty (50%/50%) with Highway. We all need roads to travel on. It's very, very important. I was around when many of our roads in the County were gravel and chip and seal. And most of those roads are now paved. And in this plan they've projected with and without Public Safety tax what could happen. So, I would like to, first of all, introduce and allow Chris Whetstine, our representative on that committee to speak first and then the committee chairman, Terry Philippe has some information he would like to present to us on the Tax Study Committee's findings. I also have a Jail Study showing the needs of the Jail in my packet. Chris?

admit, that when you appointed me to the LIT Committee, I doubted if you chose the right person. Because obviously, the rest of you have much more knowledge and experience than I do. So, being on the LIT Committee for me, what that meant was that I was going to have to ask questions and learn. And that's exactly what I did. For the last two (2) months, I have listened to every member that is on our LIT Committee. I've talked with each one (1) of you individually. I've spoken with members of the general public. I met with several of our Department Heads. And I even went so far as to call the County Council President of Knox County. And I did that because I wanted to hear from someone who was in County Government and who had experience, yet was not in our County Government. Basically, he had no dog in the fight, or whatever term you want to use. I learned a lot from calling Knox County. And in every conversation, I was looking for intelligent arguments for and against. And it all comes down to this for me, the Council, our Council here formed the Warrick County LIT Committee to advise us. And it's made up of trusted community leaders. They all know the needs of our community far better than I do. And many of the people on the committee are Elected Officials. They're trusted by the voters of Warrick County. In fact, they were even placed in that position by the voters of Warrick County. So, what I will do as a Councilman, is, just like the voters, I'm going to trust the members of the LIT Committee and I will support their recommendation. And I'm asking each of you Councilmen tonight to listen carefully to their Public Safety and Health Presentation and to support the advice that our LIT Committee gives to us. Thank you again for appointing me to that. I appreciate it.

Councilman Richmond: Okay, Terry? Thank you, Chris.

Commissioner Phillippe: Good evening.

Councilman Richmond: Identify yourself, please

Commissioner Phillippe: My name is Terry Phillippe. I'm the Chairman of the Committee and also the President of the Warrick County Board of Commissioners. I will start off by letting you know that I know you guys don't want to hear me talk for quite a while, so we're going to break this presentation up amongst members of the Committee and take a couple of minutes each. Again, my name is Terry Phillippe, President of the Warrick County Board of Commissioners. I want to thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation this evening. In preparation for the meeting, we emailed a packet of information for preliminary review. I hope you have had the chance to form some questions; we're prepared to answer them. Over a year ago, we tabled this discussion out of respect for the Council facing a world of unknown created by COVID. We now know that Warrick County has maintained a high tax collection rate and thankfully remains financially very stable as always. I am representing the full support of the Warrick County Commissioners, Law Enforcement, Fire Service, Emergency Services, Emergency Management, all Towns, Townships, and the City of Boonville. We come to you unanimously in favor of an increase to Public Safety Local Option Income Tax. We come to you at a time when Warrick County is growing in all types of ways. Our population has grown from fifty-two thousand (52,000) in the year 2000 to sixty-four thousand (64,000) in 2019 with a projection of seventy thousand (70,000) in 2030. We sit on a growing traffic count on I-64. We have infrastructure improvements on IN-62 and (IN)-66, I-69, and a new I-69 bridge that will bring tens of thousands through Warrick County daily. We have a new health trail anchored by three (3) newer hospitals. Economic development and business growth is exploding in Warrick County. Building and construction permits have grown from seventeen hundred (1,700) in 2018 to two thousand sixty-seven (2,067) in 2020. There are more housing starts in Warrick County than Vanderburgh County three (3) years running. Manufacturing remains strong with different sectors building and expanding. These are just some examples. Yet, Warrick County is underfunded. We are the lowest. Ninety-second (92nd) out of ninety-two (92) counties. From our committee tonight, you will hear about facts and expectations. Sometimes hard to face facts, that you must consider. Expectations of our citizens and constituents that must be met. So, without further ado, I would like to turn to Christy Powell, Town Manager Newburgh.

Christy Powell: Thank you so much. (Inaudible) here. Been a couple years, here.

Councilman Richmond: Tell us who you are.

Christy Powell: I'm Christy Powell, Town Manager for the Town of Newburgh. And I'm speaking on behalf of your Warrick County Municipalities which encompass about fifteen thousand (15,000) Warrick County residents. We are asking the County Council to recognize the need for Public Safety funding and respond by enacting a point five (0.5%) Public Safety LIT. As public servants, we take on the responsibility of keeping our citizens safe. They trust us to do that. They demand and expect us to do that. It is a heavy burden. And when I hear about a distraught mother in the County waiting ninety (90) agonizing minutes for an officer to arrive to help her teenage son who is threatening suicide, I know we can do better. We must do better. The reality is most people don't give Public Safety another thought until they have to dial nine-one-one (911) themselves. As a representative for Warrick County Municipalities on this committee, its important small towns are recognized as part of the County. We are vigilantly preserving, Main Street America, offering the small-town life that our city, town, and county residents enjoy and identify with. And we're struggling. Two (2) years ago, my Committee laid out our needs in a Public Safety Plan. And the reality is it is only getting worse. Flattening revenue due to circuit breaker property tax caps, expansive growth requiring more and more reliance on mutual aid, rising Public Safety expenses, increasing technology, increasing regulations, increasing hazards, these are all limiting our Public Safety resources and forcing cities and towns to choose between what basic services we can offer. I'm not talking about quality of life or Economic Development spending. Basic services that our current revenue stream cannot afford. In 2010, State Legislators enacted the circuit breaker tax caps to stabilize property taxes. At that time the opposing legislators warned of disastrous effects on property tax reliant units like small towns and cities, also school corporations. The answer was local counties could enact specific LITs to address local needs. You know what your constituents needs better than the State and that's who should be direct funding of those needs. Warrick County is the third wealthiest in the state, yet has been the least responsive. The lowest out of ninety-two (92) counties in the State to react to these changes. County Council has the sole power to enact this mechanism of relief for your cities and towns. With the circuit breaker property tax caps in place, any increases in housing, population, anything which raises your net assessed value, reduces the tax rate. There is no increase in revenue. Tax payers pay less, but need more, requiring all hands-on deck, all the time. EDIT is part of these LIT tools, and after establishing, the County has seen immense success from the thoughtful planning and prioritization on Economic Development. The City and Town and County have established long term programs, services, and capital tied to this EDIT funding stream, if they're not using it to operate. The Town of Newburgh, I can tell you, does. Moving part of EDIT to Public Safety LIT is a net zero (0) sum for all and would be most detrimental to the smaller communities that the Council is so concerned with. We have to serve the development, the growth, the people with critical basic services. And we need funding to do it. The providers of these services are asking you to recognize the need that has been created by rapid development. We have been band-aiding Public Safety by pulling money from roads, infrastructure, facilities, maintenance. We're

losing ground and running out of band-aids. Public Safety is underfunded. The product is deteriorating and your citizens have no idea. The problem hasn't and won't go away. Point one (0.1) douses the fire, it does nothing to move the needle forward. Point two-five (0.25) was a proactive in 2012, but was not utilized. Nine (9) years later, sorry, nine (9) years later, the request for point five (0.5%) is reactive and a necessity to ensure the safety of our region. Point five (0.5%) could build a new Jail and put more Deputies and ambulances on the road. It could be shared with the Townships for fire protection, in turn alleviating the tug on our budgets, on our employees, and our volunteers that are responding in the County. It takes a special kind of dedicated individual to put on these uniforms and head into work. And they're getting harder to find. They deserve the proper tools to do their jobs safely, serve this community well, and go home to their families at the end of their shift. The cost of being slow to respond to the need for Public Safety funding shouldn't be measured in dollars. It should be measured in minutes and seconds that can mean the difference of life and death. I am Christy Powell, I'm a representative of Warrick County Public Safety LIT Committee, and I'm asking County Council to recognize the need for additional Public Safety funding and respond by enacting a point five (0.5%) Public Safety LIT. Next will be Tony O'Neal, your EMS Director.

Tony O'Neal: Good evening. My name is Tony O'Neal. I am the manager for Warrick EMS. I've had the privilege of managing the service for the last twelve (12) years. Warrick EMS has provided emergency medical services for Warrick County for several decades. I am here to support an increase in funding for Public Health and Safety. Over the last several years, we have seen substantial growth in Warrick County with new residential subdivisions, along with new assisted living facilities, and hospitals. There are now thirteen (13) assisted living/nursing homes in Warrick County that we respond to, as well as five (5) hospitals, and multiple medical facilities that we respond to as well. Though we welcome this new growth, it has put an additional strain on the system. Our public emergency services have not kept pace to the County's economic growth and to the level that fully serves the residents of Warrick County. During my time managing Warrick EMS, we have seen run volumes increase from forty-two hundred (4,200) runs per year to a projected seventy-two (7,200) runs for 2021. That will be a seventy-three percent (73%) increase in our run volume. Our medics, our stations in the different districts of the County, they've even felt a harder impact. The Newburgh Area, the run volume down there has increased a hundred and thirty-two percent (132%). The Alcoa/Paradise area a hundred and eighty percent (180%). Even Lynnville, Medic 4 up north a ninety-two percent (92%) increase in volume. Along with handling the medical facilities and our normal nine-one-one (911) medical calls, there are multiple times during the week all ambulances, all the ambulances are out on medical runs or they're dual responding to accidents with multiple patients requiring additional resources. We have not increased the number of ambulances for County coverage in over twenty-five (25) years. This has come at a cost. We have seen our response time increase over the last five (5) years. We've had times where there were no ambulances available in the County. And we've seen our increase in maintenance costs on our equipment. An average ambulance will last about eight (8) to ten (10) years. Five (5) to six (6) years as a front line vehicle. And then normally three (3) to four (4) years as a backup or reserve that we can use it. With our current fleet we should be replacing an ambulance every year to keep our fleet safe and dependable for the residents of the County. We also need to add another ambulance to ensure we have adequate coverage for the County. The County subsidy for the EMS this year will be three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00). This alone will barely cover the cost of replacing one ambulance and its equipment, yet alone subsidize an EMS service. Additional funding must be considered to maintain adequate coverage and safe reliable ambulances for the residents of Warrick County. I know there have been conversations about the differences between wants and needs of our emergency services. So, I will leave you with three (3) quick examples of why supporting public emergency services are so important. On the afternoon of May 6th, EMS and fire was dispatched to a mowing accident just southeast of Boonville. This resident, this resident was on a sixty (60) inch, zero (0) turn mower when the rear wheels slipped and she plunged twenty (20) feet down a wooded embankment with the mower on top of her, just feet from the lake water. Because we had deputies, fire, and EMS on scene within minutes with the right resources and tools, this resident was freed from the mower, assessed, and packaged and in route to the trauma center within twenty (20) minutes of arrival. A very good outcome. On May 10th, we were dispatched to an accident with injuries west of Chandler on (IN)-62. This patient was hit at sixty (60) miles per hour, broadsided in the driver's door. This patient had severe head injuries including a collapsed lung. Once extricated from the vehicle and in the back of the ambulance, a needle had to be inserted into this patient's chest to relieve the pressure so he could breathe. Both these patients needed emergency services in minutes without delay. They are alive today due to the quick response of your County services. But what if, what if there were no ambulances available at that time. What if this was one (1) of those extended response times? Would the outcome have been different? As a paramedic, I would say, yes, on one of those. Early last month, we were really busy. We only had one (1) ambulance available for the County. It was staged in the center of the County because it was the only one (1) there. Everything else was out on nine-one-one (911) calls. This unit was dispatched to a car accident on I-64 near Sullivan, Selvin, I'm sorry. It took twenty-eight (28) minutes for the ambulance to get to scene. And the only thing I will say about this run was the outcome was not good. Trauma patients have what we call a golden hour in the medical field. It's the hour immediately following a traumatic injury in which getting the patient to a trauma center can prevent irreversible internal damage and optimize the chance of survival is most effective. In a rural county it is even more critical because you're behind the eight (8) ball because you're normally twenty (20) to thirty (30) minutes away from a trauma center. What if this is one (1) of our loved ones or our friends? We as leaders and County Officials have a responsibility to ensure our residents are protected and safe. We cannot continue to pass the buck when it comes to funding the public service departments. This will only get worse. As the Warrick, as the Warrick EMS Manager I ask the County Council members to please pass the proposed full point five percent (0.5%) increase recommended by this Committee. This Committee as done its homework. We know our departments. We know the needs to make them successful for this County. It will ensure the Public Emergency Services have the tools and resources it needs to provide the residents of Warrick County now and in the future years to come. Thank you for your time and consideration. I would like now to introduce the Boonville Fire Chief Steven Byers.

Steven Byers: Good evening. My name is Steve Byers. I'm Boonville Fire Chief. Been with Boonville Fire Department for the past eighteen (18) years. Served as Chief since 2015. And I currently serve as the Vice President of the Warrick County Fire Chief's Association. I'm here tonight representing all nine (9) fire departments in Warrick County. We've all seen the growth, the astronomical growth that we've experienced in Warrick County. Additional housing, businesses, citizens that we're obligated to provide emergency services to. Those additional services create a substantial cost to the emergency service department with no additional revenue coming in to offset that cost. We're seeing higher call volumes while trying to maintain our equipment and have enough personnel to answer those calls. The data over the past fifteen (15) years shows the burden that we're experiencing in emergency services. Fire department dispatches are up a hundred and fifty-five percent (155%) throughout the County. Total emergency dispatches going through our Dispatch Center are up a hundred and ninety-four percent (194%). The overlappin

number ninety-two (92) on the lowest local income tax. And we're the fastest growing county in Southern Indiana. Fire Chiefs are having to make decisions that are putting our personnel and community at risk and we're giving up the safety of our personnel to respond to these calls with inadequate numbers of personnel and resources. We're not meeting several NFPA Standards for response and resource deployment. And as a Fire Chief, I could face legal and criminal penalties if something happens, something bad happens, I have to answer for that. There's nothing else I can do right now. The decrease revenue from the circuit breaker tax caps has hit us all hard with the 2020 circuit breaker tax cap for Boonville at one million and fifty-eight thousand dollars (\$1,058,000.00). Fire Fighters throughout the County, most of whom volunteer their time to serve their communities, are working in immediately dangerous to life and health environments without the proper equipment, outdated equipment, inadequate resources, and an inadequate number of people. Out of the nine (9) departments in the County, eight (8) of them are volunteer fire departments. So, we're asking people to volunteer their time, to be exposed to toxins and carcinogens, while not wearing the proper equipment and outdated equipment, and those toxins we're being exposed to we know contribute to a three (3) times higher cancer rate than the general public. And these members are doing it with pride and integrity every day. Fire departments would not have to hold fundraisers to buy critical lifesaving equipment, but they are. We're not asking for a lot here. We're asking to be adequately funded to get the equipment and resources that we need to respond to the calls the community are putting out there. We do have some wants. We want our members to go home safe at the end of their shift. We want them to have the adequate equipment that they need. And we want the community to know that we're doing everything we can to respond to their calls. We want to perform our jobs effectively and efficiently and provide the services that the community expects. The level of service and care that was displayed during COVID should be noticed. When everything was locked down, everyone was staying home, the first responders were out here making the calls every day on the streets without the proper equipment to help citizens in our community. This Public Safety Local Income Tax Committee has reviewed hundreds of pages of data concerning the safety of first responders, safety of the community, and the needed resources that we need to effectively fulfill our requirement to provide services to the community at the level that they expect. This committee agrees that the additional funding is needed for public safety and these needs must be met. The growth of Public Safety is not staying on track with the growth of the community. We're falling way behind. We're asking the County Council to listen to the Public Safety professionals in Warrick County and take the initiatives to adequately fund Public Safety. The recommendation of this Committee is to approve the Public Safety LIT at a rate of point five percent (0.5%). This increase would still place Warrick County number ninety (90) for the lowest income tax rate in the State. A vote to approve the Public Safety Local Income Tax at this rate is a vote to adequately fund Public Safety. In closing, I would like to put the cost of this into prospective. Someone earning fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) per year would pay four dollars and eighty-one cents (\$4.81) per week. To me, that is a very minor cost to pay to ensure that if I call nine-one-one (911), the adequate resources are available, they respond quickly, and they handle the emergency. I'd like to thank you all for your time and consideration. And I'd like to introduce Ohio Township Trustee, Chad Bennett. Thank you.

Chad Bennett: Good evening, everyone. I'm Chad Bennett. I'm the Ohio Township Trustee. I've been on the Public Safety LIT Committee for over two (2) years now. I've thoroughly studied whether or not there is a need to increase funding in Public Safety. I have over twenty-seven (27) years of Public Safety experience in both fire and law enforcement here in Warrick County. All of which is volunteer. I'm here this evening to share with the Council that there is a strong need for funding our Public Safety needs. As Ohio Township Trustee, I represent over forty-three thousand (43,000) people and nearly sixteen thousand (16,000) households who have made Warrick County their home. That's almost seventy percent (70%) of the entire County population. As the person who is tasked by State Statute to provide fire protection to our residents, I ask the Council to vote yes and properly fund Public Safety in Warrick County. Because Warrick County is a great place to live and raise our families, our population boom is placing a great strain on all levels in our County. This increase is causing emergency response time to increase due to the number of nine-one-one (911) calls. Multiple and simultaneous calls that are all happening at the same time. Warrick County is outpacing Vanderburgh County in new home starts for the last three (3) years. Commercial development is on the rise and we're tasked with providing the necessary services to insure Public Safety needs are being met. Besides maintaining multimillion dollar facilities to house our equipment in, we also have to maintain over one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) in loose equipment in Ohio Township alone. We maintain over eight million dollars (\$8,000,000.00) in fire trucks alone for Ohio Township. Firefighting equipment that has a life span, a very short life span, trucks that cost between seven hundred fifty thousand (\$750,000.00) and a million dollars (\$1,000,000.00), twenty (20) years or less. Air packs that cost over three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00), ten (10) years. Fire-fighting bunker turn out gear, five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) per person, ten (10) years or less. All of this is dictated by NFPA standards and mandates and we have no choice but to replace this equipment, because it is life safety for our volunteer firefighters. That's right, volunteer firefighters. Every fire department in Warrick County is volunteer with the exception of Boonville. Volunteers are the best asset we have in the fire service. We ask them to run into burning buildings, make personal sacrifices to family and work time. Attend hundreds and hundreds of hours of training and potentially make the ultimate sacrifice in life. All for no pay. The lifespan of a good volunteer firefighter is three (3) to five (5) years. Warrick EMS medical run dispatches have drastically increased the call volume for all Warrick County fire departments in the County over the past three (3) years. This increase is burning the candle at both ends for our volunteers. Ohio Township needs to look to paid firefighters to keep up with the demand in our population growth and the number of emergency service calls we are making. As the Elected Official that's tasked to protect the largest population in our County, I strongly ask that you draft a Resolution for further discussion and voting at your July and August meetings for a point five percent (0.5%) increase in the Public Safety Local Option Income Tax. I also ask that you include all Warrick County Townships that are eligible by Statute to be part of this maximum fifteen percent (15%) allocation, if they have a firefighting fund. This Township allocation is required to be made annually at your July meeting for approval by your September meeting. I ask that your resolution be drafted in a way to allow this to be reoccurring automatically for Townships so that you are not presented with over eight (8) separate requests each year. This recurring could be terminated by either the Council or the Township with written notice if either party should the funds no longer be needed. People are moving to Warrick County and making this a great place to live and raise a family. This is life and death for our volunteers and the people who call nine-one-one (911). Again, I respectfully ask that you consider our committees unanimous recommendations in enacting a point five percent (0.5%) increase in Public Safety. I would like to call on Sheriff Mike Wilder at this time.

Sheriff Wilder: Good evening, everyone. I'm Sheriff Mike Wilder of the Warrick County Sheriff's Office. I'm here to represent law enforcement on the LIT Committee. The Chief's, if they got the chance, would come up here and I'm sure echo the same thoughts that I plan on sharing with you tonight. I was told I was going to be given an hour, then I was told that's not correct. So, I'm going to try to brief this down. I'm kidding, I will try to make this brief. But, I do think it's very important. We've met several times here over the last weeks and I've listened to my colleagues and some of the things they said, but to see and listen to it here again tonight, it still amazes me what we're short and what we need. You know, every time I hear it, it kind of blows me away. That's just several of the things that they've already spoke

about. But, like I said, I'm going to specifically talk about law enforcement and the Sheriff's Office because that's my specialty. I think it comes down to, what I really want to share, is hit on three (3) things and it's the manpower allocation throughout the County, our technology, and our Jail. I'm going to start with manpower cause I think it comes to what the community thinks we have, what they expect us to have, and what reality brings. On most nights, or all nights, we try to schedule six (6) officers. Six (6) officers for three hundred (300) square miles, sixty-five thousand (65,000) people. Fifty thousand (50,000) living within the county which is our responsibility. On very few days or nights do we have six (6) officers working. We have to obviously allow them vacations, sick time, training, training, we want training. And then obviously other things such as today, I had an officer walk in and hand me an injury slip and he's off six (6) to eight (8) weeks. That crew is already down to five (5) to start the night. This is on a regular basis that this happens that we have anywhere between five (5) and four (4) deputies working, a lot of nights four (4). Now, as the Sheriff's Office, we're responsible for inmates and they're not the healthiest of all people just like the rest of the public. So, many nights we're taking an inmate to the hospital. We don't just take them and drop them off. We sit with them. Now, we're down to three (3) officers to patrol Warrick County. If you've been through State Road 66 on a busy night, you know the traffic. One (1) bad accident there, (State Road) 66 and Bell, (State Road) 66 and Grimm, whatever right through there, it will take all three (3) of those officers to work that accident. If there's a domestic situation going, a theft, a robbery, there's no officers to respond. We have a north car now that's responded to come down help the officers that are in that southern part because that's where the majority of the calls. Which who do you think at that point in time is patrolling Lynnville, Elberfeld, Selvin? I can tell you. Nobody. In the northern part of the County gets neglected so often. Not because the Sheriff or our Deputies don't have a care. It's just the patrol calls will bring us south. We have to answer calls and we don't have the manpower to do that. A specific example that's not on my agenda happened just Tuesday. At 1:18 (PM), we had two (2) calls come in simultaneously. Park Place Apartments, they had a car on fire. It was catching another car on fire and putting the people that lived inside at risk. An officer was calling for back up to help evacuate the apartments. We had another emergency which you probably heard more about, where a truck ran through an apartment complex. Two (2) people in the truck. One (1) was trapped and obviously, if you've read, didn't make it. But, officers were there trying to make an emergency rescue. Dispatch was being overwhelmed with fifty (50) to sixty (60) calls cause you think about an apartment, both the apartments, all the people calling nine-one-one (911). I was in there on my radio trying to dispatch with them and then ran out and ran down to the apartment to help. I received an email today from my sergeant, the one (1) that was at Park Place where he had no help, however he did get help. He sent me an email and wanted me to make sure to thank an employee of McDonalds, came out and helped him get people out of the apartments. That's great, but it shouldn't have to be that way. One (1) other thing I'd like to bring up that wasn't on my agenda because it happened this week also. I've had two (2) different ones, one (1) was actually last week. But one (1) this week. One (1) from Yellow Banks, Jason Powers, he said I could use his name. He's bought a large chunk. You know, asking for extra patrol, wanting to know if he can pay for off-duty security. Well, you can, but that's not how this is supposed to work. We're supposed to be available and up there. But, that's the need this community wants. The other was down in Rabbit Run, a homeowner's association asking if they could pay for off-duty officers. Which, they can, but that's not how it should be. Rick Reid, you have reached out to me to patrol your neighborhood. And we try. And I honestly, sincerely mean that. And we want to. But we are a reactive department and don't very often get to be proactive. And that's why I'd like to see us move. I'm going to move on to another thing cause I know my time's limited. Technology is moving and I think, in no matter what job or industry you're in, but technology, especially in law enforcement. We all now have computers in our cars. And that money, those computers are five (\$5,000.00) to six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00). We have over fifty (50) computers in cars in our department alone. I'm sure Boonville, Newburgh, and Chandler, I'm not sure the numbers, but all have those too. And those get very expensive. They get beat around a lot and stuff. Body cameras, Sheriff's Office, we're looking at purchasing new body cameras. Ours are obsolete, not working. We're in the process of trying to purchase new ones. The ones we're looking at going at would cost anywhere between two hundred twenty (\$220,000.00) to two hundred sixty-eight thousand dollars (\$268,000.00) over the next five (5) years. I want that. I think the public wants us to have body cameras for transparency. I know my Deputies want to have that. They want that trust and be able to have that with the community. I can go on and on about technology and things, but I'm going to be short. But, those are just two (2) things that stand out. And one (1) other thing that I'll hit on quickly to move your time along is a Jail. All of you know about the feasibility study. I think we've shared it. A Jail's going to cost, which we will have to build, if you read the study, you'll understand why, in the next few years if not sooner. Anywhere between thirty-five (\$35,000,000.00) to forty-four million dollars (\$44,000,000.00). That's if we start construction today. If we wait a year, if we wait two (2) years, I'm sure that number just continues to go up. We need money in Public Safety. This is the way to do it. I'm an Elected Official as you guys. I receive a lot of calls. I'm not saying there's no one (1) not opposed to this. I'm sure there's people opposed. There has to be. But I can tell you, I don't hear many of them. I hear the people want this, for the support, cause they see what they're going to gain. Which we just heard from all these people what that is. I take pride in being the Sheriff of Warrick County. I was born and raised right here and raised a family right here. It's a dang good community. But, we've got to support our Public Safety to continue it to be that way. I'm over a great department. But, if you raise this thing to a point five (0.5%), I will no longer be the Sheriff of a great department. I'll be the Sheriff of one (1) of the best damn departments in the State, cause we won't be a reactive department. We will be a proactive department and we will have the manpower that we need to serve our citizens. I'm Sheriff Mike Wilder and I support the LIT tax at point five percent (0.5%). Thank you for your time.

Commissioner Phillippe: Okay, everybody. I'm the last one (1). Again, thanks for the time. I'm not sure what else I need to say. To me, that says it all. Again, facts, growth has created additional burden on Public Safety while property tax caps have robbed revenue from municipalities, but the legislature has enabled us with tools to govern and properly fund Public Safety in the name of the Public Safety Local Option Income Tax. I'd like to reiterate some of the most impactful facts, facts that I find shocking and I think everyone finds shocking. At times maybe there could be one (1) or two (2) Deputies on the road. The Sheriff said zero (0). There are literally zero (0) people patrolling the roads when things are happening. At times, we are operating with no ambulances available when all five (5) are on call. We haven't added any ambulances to Warrick County in twenty-five (25) years. There are only fourteen (14) paid firefighters in Warrick County. Everyone else is volunteers and we're sending them into burning buildings. I just, that blows my mind. I'm sorry. We must show some leadership and start saving for a new Jail. As Mike said, the projected average cost is more than thirty-five million dollars (\$35,000,000.00). With enough overcrowding, it could be mandated. Another fact, our Public Safety Local Option Income Tax is zero point zero (0.0%). That's what we have now for Public Safety Local Option Income Tax. Zero point zero (0.0%). Expectations, again, we are the third wealthiest county per capita in the State of Indiana. Our citizens expect certain things under our leadership. They expect Public Safety to be properly funded. They've all said that tonight. It's there. As the Sheriff said, he wants his department to be the best, our citizens expect us to have the best service, they expect the best response times, our paid and volunteer heroes expect to have adequate equipment at a minimum. They expect proactive leadership. They expect it from me.

don't think it will take that. I think, I think you guys will do the right thing. I'd like to close with our ask. We're asking, based on this committee's recommendation, that you direct Council Attorney this evening, to draft an ordinance at a half a percent (0.5%) increase to the Public Safety Local Option Income Tax for consideration at your July meeting. Thank you.

Councilman Richmond: Thank you, Terry. I would like to mention too that there's probably a survey question going around publicly that I read about and seen. That, it asked, do you want your taxes to increase? If that's all that's said, we know what the answer would be. But, the wisest person to ever walk this earth often answered a question with a question. And I would ask, if I'm asked this question, do you want your taxes to increase? I'd say, what for? We have those answers tonight. You just heard all the sirens going out. Something pretty bad's going on somewhere. And that stretches. Alright. It's open for Council discussion. That's the purpose of this meeting as to what direction we need to go.

Councilman Overton: So, I've got a couple, maybe more than a couple, but I've got some questions. Some of these conversations that just brought to my mind, and I don't know if we can answer these tonight. It may take some additional research. So, I think one (1) of the first things I've got jotted down here, and Sheriff, I don't know if you might be able to answer this.

Sheriff Wilder: I'll try.

Councilman Overton: So, and this is why it might be rather difficult, would we be able to use any of this funding to support a, like a mental health person or perhaps like a social worker or someone on the Sheriff's Department that could help possibly with some of these calls where you've got, you know, maybe there's somebody, you know, with mental issues. And maybe you need somebody that could kind of walk through some of those things. You know maybe an expert in that type of a field.

Sheriff Wilder: I would have to defer to an attorney. But, I understand if they work for us, they would definitely, probably that would fall under it cause it'd fall under the Sheriff's budget and stuff. But, yes, you know, those things are a big issue out there. Mental health. And I do believe it would be covered under this if they were working hand in hand with Public Safety and responding to those types of calls where that person may be under distress. Mental, suicidal or what that may be. I don't want to say, I'm on record, it's a hundred percent (100%), but I do believe that would fall under that.

Councilman Overton: Sure, sure. Well, and I think that would be one (1) thing that would really help my support is if this does pass is that we could get, you know, at least some, we don't like to ever say, (inaudible) whatever it is we get caught on for a second.

Sheriff Wilder: I echo that sentiment there, Brad, you know, you see police reform out there. And one (1) of the things is people with mental issues and we get called to those so many times are subject to suicide because there's no other resource.

Councilman Overton: Right.

Sheriff Wilder: It's not where we want to go.

Councilman Overton: No.

Sheriff Wilder: I show up, I show up with a badge and a gun and the first thing he does is feel threatened and intimidated. We're already kind of starting behind in this. So, to have something like that as a resource, that's what I'm saying. This money could put us ahead. We're not thinking like that. It would be unbelievable.

Councilman Overton: That's something that as far as if this goes through, that as far as like a wish list or request, I'd like for us to look into, would be, at least acknowledgement that we can look into something like that. Perhaps even hiring somebody part time to start off or you know, it may not be something. Or...

Sheriff Wilder: I can tell you as the Sheriff, I would fully support that. And I guarantee my officers would love to have that type of resource.

Councilman Overton: That would be one (1) thing I would be interested in. Thank you. Thank you for your comments.

Councilman Richmond: I would like to point out, the Cities and Towns also mentioned a mental health person to work through things like that. And if any of you, I would encourage you to get a scanner and listen to the calls they have to go on. There's a lot of mental health issues.

Councilman Overton: And so, I think that would be one (1) thing that, you know, sounds like we definitely would have the Sheriff's support as far as from a County basis. And then another thing, and I don't know, Chad, I don't know if you can necessarily, you might be able to address this question. I understand you know as you said, Boonville's the only municipality, the only town with the full time firefighters. My thought would be that some of this funding would be to, are there any stipends, do you know, that any of the volunteers currently receive? I mean I know their equipment, I'm sure they're not paying for that. But, I mean...

Chad Bennett: Some departments are able to do that. The State allows us to pay what we call a gas or clothing allowance. Give them a little bit of a stipend to cover their fuel coming back or clothing gets damaged. You know, in Ohio Township, between the Cities and Towns and the Trustee, we try to give five hundred dollars (\$500.00) every year. I think the Statutes is more like a couple hundred dollars. So, we try to do a little bit more. But, you get above six hundred dollars (\$600.00) and it's considered taxable income even though it's a stipend that, that you're providing. So.

Councilman Overton: Well, even if it would be taxable income, I would, I would be interested in seeing some of this funding, you know, perhaps twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) annually at least to be doled out for these people. I mean I know that's nothing. But, I mean, at least where perhaps some of that funding, you know, could be allocated for

those strictly volunteer officers, because they're not receiving anything. Be something maybe you could kind of look into.

Chad Bennett: And something else too that I would encourage you all to look into and the Commissioners, because I've heard this is happening in other communities. Where they're able to take part of the second Recovery Act monies and be able to look at paying a stipend, you know, that they're doing to their Public Safety people. And I would say, not only for our paid Public Safety people but for our volunteer. Cause I'm going to tell you over the last fifteen (15) months, they made a huge sacrifice and commitment to our community at a time where we didn't know what was happening and they could have easily just said, I'm done and walked away. They stood beside our community and, and held strong and provided those responses. So, I would encourage you guys to also look at it from a different angle. Something that might be, be able to be covered under that. Not that you know there's tons of other things to consider, but I would like to encourage you to do that.

Councilman Overton: Sure, and that might be something maybe the Commissioners can kind of take a look at that. But, I'm kind of, you know, I just feel like, you know, it's not like we can flip a switch tomorrow and you can get a brand new or a full time fire department. But, I think, you know, if we're going to have a little bit of this, perhaps a small stipend would at least be, I mean even, I don't know what that might be. Just some thoughts that have crossed my mind. And think, think probably wouldn't have necessarily apply to you, Chad. My other question is then, I wonder if any of this funding will be able to be used for anything as far as mitigation for perhaps like, not necessarily, maybe it is Public Safety, but I'm thinking along the lines of like, perhaps like cancer screening, maybe some pollution. Just kind of thinking things like that. Cause I know this area of the State is a, you know, the Ohio Valley is kind of a real, you know, very high pollution rate. We've got a very high cancer rate. And it would be interesting if some of, if we could find some way to perhaps, maybe that's something with the Health Department, might be able to bring that up with him. But, just something we could look into. You know, I'm not, you know, I'm not saying trying to spend, take everybody's funding, but I'm just looking at some different sources here for something.

Chad Bennett: To answer on that question there, in the fire service, there's things that we can do for that. Specifically in our Township, we purchased gear washing equipment to try to launder the gear. Back in the day, it was a badge of honor who had the dirtiest set of turnout gear. But, today, we realize that's not a badge. That can be a badge of death because you're bringing all those pollutants and carcinogens into not only the truck as you respond back to the firehouse and potentially into your house. There's specific hoods that we could be purchasing that helps to keep the cancer away from the thin part of your neck and your skin where you're introducing it to your body. You know, there's a lot of departments, this laundry gear is not like going out and buying a Speed Queen washer and dryer at your house. It's twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) for a gear extractor washer and dryer. So, anything that has to do with Public Safety and Health falls under this, this LIT and it will allow it to be used on it. And I'm not saying that every fire department needs this. What I'm trying to do in Ohio Township is, is coordinate resources among multiple fire stations. Every fire station doesn't need the same piece of equipment. But, if your gear's dirty, you can bring it over to this fire station and launder it and make it safe and clean. We have a policy now that if you go into a structure fire, your gear gets cleaned immediately when you come out afterwards.

Councilman Overton: And Chad, can you further expand on that, the annual fund request that you were referencing?

Chad Bennett: So, basically, the way the statute is written now, it says that if a Township may be entitled to up to fifteen percent (15%) of the County's portion of a LIT if they have a firefighting fund. There was legislature that did make it through the house last year that would have changed the way to shall. But, right now, it's still may. What that means is that the Council annually has to approve every Township's request to be included in their share. I can't get a definitive answer from the State Auditor. We're still trying to work on it. But basically, the County share of the Public Safety LIT represents people who do not live in an incorporated city or town. So, they ultimately live in a Township. That County portion is what a Township could be entitled up to fifteen percent (15%) if they have a firefighting fund. Doesn't mean they have to have a fire department. And I'll use an example, Campbell Township does not have a fire department. They have a Fire Fund. Campbell Township can only collect less than seven thousand dollars (\$7,000.00) a year in property taxes for firefighting based on the Statute and based on the way their property was back in the day. It was a strip mine. Today, there are hundreds and hundreds of homes and it's the next growing community and if Campbell Township woke up tomorrow and said we want to start our own fire department, they couldn't even pay for the insurance on a truck for that. They contract half of that money with Ohio Township and half of that money with Greer Township for the two (2) to provide them fire protection. Ohio Township residents are grossly subsidizing fire protection in Campbell Township. We're getting thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) a year to make forty (40) runs. So, we're not even getting a hundred dollars (\$100.00) a run to maintain all that equipment I spoke about. So, if Campbell was able to be included, that's why I asked for all Townships. Even though they don't have a fire department it would allow them to increase the subsidized that they're able to give to the two (2) neighboring Townships that are both of us subsidizing their fire protection. And there's no easy fix to this. I'm mean they're only allowed the growth quotient every year that the, that the State puts in for every municipality. And I've been to the DLGF; I've been with attorneys and everybody says the only way to fix it is to create a fire district territory. So, everybody's struggling and this, this would, would certainly help out some of the small ones. There may be a couple smaller Townships up to the north that don't even have a Fire Fund or if they do they're in turn contracting with a neighboring Township to do that. So, that would allow those funds to do that and potentially do what you had talked about with the larger stipend.

Councilman Overton: Okay, thanks.

Councilman Whetstine: Chad, let me ask something here. Cause we've talked about this a little bit. It seems to me that there's a little concern if this LIT increase is approved, then that there would be a possibility that Ohio Township Fire Department could be left out. And I don't think, I know I certainly would strongly oppose that. I think that's one (1) of the main reasons Public Health and Safety is exactly why we're doing this. And it sounds like what you're wanting to do is to write it in so that, that the Townships is included. Am I right?

Councilman Overton: Yes, not only Ohio Township, but I believe every Township.

Councilman Whetstine: Every Township. Yes and I'm sorry.

Councilman Overton: Because you have the discretion to say, I want Township A and B but not C. Because you are

that area. So, there again, that's why I'm kind of the Township advocate. It's equal and fair for everybody. And, and trying to keep it simple and streamlined. Because until that legislation get changed the word from may to shall, you're going to have people coming to you every year. You can make that easier and automatic, because they can only spend the money for firefighting. It has to be for Public Safety. A Township could not take that money from that Fire Fund and use it for poor relief, Township assistance, or even for paying the Trustee salary. The state does not allow that. And the State Board of Accounts will, will nail you on it in an audit if you take money from one (1) fund to the next. And that's what's so hard, cause a lot of these Townships are doing well financially in their township assistance funds. We've got a half a million dollars (\$500,000.00) sitting in our fund in Ohio Township. But, not a penny of that can be used for firefighting because it's fund specific. And Ron's shaking his head because he's been in the legislature. He knows this. So, that's where it's so, it's important for it to be equal and across the board.

Councilman Whetstine: Right. I would agree with that. Take care of all the Townships.

Councilman Overton: There again, our Committee is speaking on behalf of everybody. But, if you get Township C that comes in and says, guys, I'm fine, we don't need it. Then they could send you a letter requesting that and you could withdraw their specific Township's portion from this and use that money in the overall County general, the County pool to be able to use for a litany of things. And I think what the Committee has given you in that packet is just, you know, is a sample of the immediate needs. But, there are a whole lot more things that could come up and, I'm telling you there's been a dozen different sirens coming by here tonight. I don't know what's happening in the County. But, there's a need. I mean...did I...?

Councilman Whetstine: Yes, that's it for me, sure.

Councilman Overton: Yeah, and I think another comment, I think, you know, there's always a concern about spending money wisely. And I mean, I've been on this Council now for a while. And, you know, I think through everyone that's sat in one (1) of these chairs, I think we've all tried to do a really good job of spending and allocating money wisely. And, you know, I'll say the same thing for, you know, the Office Holders that we, you know, review their budgets on. I mean, sure, we all have our disagreements at times. I'm sure there's probably some Office Holders that maybe think we're a little too frugal on certain things. But, you know, in the end, I mean, we're the ones who are more answerable here than anyone in Washington, D.C. or Indianapolis as far as even that goes. So, you know, I think that is something, I don't like, I've never really wanted to spend extra money here when we didn't have to. And I don't think that anybody really has. But, I think, you know, if you look at the growth of this County has had. And just, you know, we just came home a different way the other night and you just see houses just, like, oh, I didn't even realize, you turn around a corner you haven't been in six (6) months and all the sudden there's new apartments there. It was just like holy cow. So, yeah, and people, you know, they just keep moving, getting out of the city. They're moving out into the County out of the city jurisdiction. So, I mean, it's, and I, you know, I definitely think that there's a need. And we can't allow, you know, I mean, just the fact that we have very minimal coverage at times, I think they've all, you know, all the representatives have presented that. And to be perfectly honest, you know, look at EMS and the Sheriff's Office, you know, those are two (2) things, and the fire. I mean, you just think about those three (3) things and you're like, what happens if that's, you know, if that's me. Four (4) ambulances are gone, there's one (1) left and you wreck at Yellow Banks or wherever you might have been. It's, I don't know. I mean I'm kind of rambling here a bit. But, I mean, I think, you know, on a local level, this is where politics, they always say politics start at a local level. But, I mean, accountability for people and accountability of the funds. You can't expect the government, the Federal Government or State Government, you know, the State Government passed the buck down to us. Whether they want to handle it or not, it's up to us to decide what to do here. So, I mean, I think we have to, you know, try to be as responsible as possible. And I'll stop talking now.

Councilman Bacon: I want to make a comment. Having served for ten (10) years in the State Legislature, this is exactly what the State wants local communities to do. Because we have given, the State has given the local communities the tools. They don't want to mandate what we do locally. I've heard that time after time after time. All the State laws we've reviewed and passed and didn't pass. It's the locals that make those decisions. We give the locals the tools to do it. If they don't use those tools, don't come to us asking for money. And you know, that's what I've heard for the last ten (10) years and that's why the Local Income Taxes is there available for individual communities to make their own decisions. So, I need to make that comment.

Sheriff Wilder: I just, real quick and brief. I don't know if this is really the appropriate time. But, everybody's heard the sirens. We've had a bad accident right outside the city limits here. I know there's two (2) injured. Which means there's probably two (2) ambulances with them and we have one (1) deceased. This just happened. We've already called out officers to help. This gets back to what we're talking about. Here comes another siren. I mean this is what it takes. One (1) bad accident and all of our resources are used up. So, I hate, I don't know, I'm not trying to come up here but right here. This just happened. Right here while we're sitting here. All the sirens, that's what's happened out here. All Boonville City is tied up, fire, they're all out there. Tony left. All their EMS, at least two (2) units out there. We only got, so, here comes more. So, it's, this is the reality of what goes on. It just takes one (1) accident to tie up everything we've got. Anyways, that's what's going on.

Councilman Metzger: May I make a comment?

Councilman Richmond: Yes.

Councilman Metzger: I want to have it on record that I do support the establishment of a Public Safety Fund in our LIT, category. The problem that I'm having with it, there are optional ways to fund it rather than going straight to the taxpayer's pocket. So, I just hope the Council looks at all the options of funding this account before they double the tax. I think we can accomplish the same thing without doubling the tax on the taxpayer by simply moving some fund around a little bit. So, I just, I just, basically, I want to say, I hope we look at all the options and just don't go straight to doubling the tax, doubling the Local Income Tax in Warrick County.

Councilman Richmond: You have some suggestions?

Councilman Metzger: Well, fifty percent (50%) goes to Economic Development and fifty percent (50%) goes to roads, correct?

Councilman Richmond: Yes, the half percent.

Councilman Metzger: Right? And people are more worried about Public Safety right now than they are the Economic Development and their roads. So, we could shave a percent of two (2) off those categories and put it into a Public Safety Fund and not increase the LIT tax as much. And there's also two (2) issues here I think. One (1) is building the Jail and one (1) is the Public Safety Fund. I'd like the Council to look at them as two (2) separate issues and maybe passing a LIT increase to fund a Jail with a sun down on it and another increase that goes straight to Public Safety.

Councilman Richmond: The second issue you brought up, you do realize we cannot pay manpower with that. And if we build a Jail, it's going to take more manpower.

Councilman Metzger: Well, aren't we going to have to separate it anyway from a Jail Fund to Public Safety?

Councilman Richmond: Well, there is a separate basket.

Councilman Metzger: Right.

Councilman Richmond: That's for building a Jail only. And the sundown you talked about, yes, it does go away after that Jail's paid off.

Councilman Metzger: Right.

Councilman Richmond: But, all that will pay for is the capital project itself. Actually building that Jail. It will allow for paying for the electricity in it. But, no manpower. Nothing else. That's limited.

Councilman Whetstone: Okay, so does that come out...

Councilman Richmond: And I think the thinking was, a portion, if we went the full half of a percent (0.5%), a portion of that would be designated for a savings account and that would be something the Council would have to do in the Ordinance that's constructed. We'd have to designate the portion that's going to go to building the Jail and what would happen is if we don't have to start, basically it's going to take two (2) to three (3) years by the time you start architect and planning, taking bids and doing everything, the steps you have to. It's going to take about three (3) years. Those three (3) years, that portion could be savings for down payment, which would mean we would pay less interest. And then once the Jail is built, that same portion can be used to pay off the bond. I understand that any income tax that's used to support a bond issue has to be backed by property taxes. And I don't like property taxes raising because, let's face it folks, you don't own your own home here. If you don't pay your property taxes, it belongs to the State. So, income tax, the more money you make the more you pay. And so, that income tax money then would go to pay off the Jail and wouldn't have to touch property taxes. And then once that Jail is paid off, twenty (20) years, twenty-five (25) years down the road. I don't know, some people were able to pay the Jails off in a matter of ten (10) years. They didn't have forty million dollar (\$40,000,000.00) Jails. They were smaller communities. But, up the road there's a community, to let you know, got mandated to build a Jail and they weren't expecting that. And they had to find something fast. So, that's the purpose of it. You have more flexibility with this Jail Fund, once you get the Jail built and paid off, you can use that same Jail Fund to pay your ambulance workers, your Jailors, your Dispatch workers. Anybody that has to deal with Public Safety. It's a little more flexible. No, that tax doesn't go away unless we declare, okay, we've got too much money here so, if we're making too much money let's take it away. And Council can do that. We have the option to do that. That's why bond issues are backed by property taxes cause Council Members change over the years. So, that's just a little bit of an explanation on how I perceive this. I've been researching this for a long time. And it's weighed heavy on me as a burden. I just know that in 1988 when EDIT became an Ordinance here in our County, we had thirty-eight thousand (38,000) people. We're now approaching seventy thousand (70,000) people. And so that same EDIT has done a lot to cause growth to happen and if we take away from EDIT, we're talking about in Economic Development meeting the other night about taking our foot of the gas pedal. If we take away from EDIT, we're also taking away from road projects and some of these road projects are Federal eighty/twenty (80%-20%) grants that we only pay twenty percent (20%) of that we've already pledged to 2027. So, if that goes away, then all these road plans go away. You know, we're going to go back to chip and seal roads, gravel roads. I don't think our County people would like that. These are all the things to contemplate. This, this is, no, you think, like, you ask me, you want to increase your taxes. I'm going to say the same thing everybody else does. No, I don't want to pay higher taxes. I don't like that. But, I do recognize that if you have a jet fighter pilot who's defending our nation and our freedoms we have here, if that jet fighter pilot tries to start the engine and it doesn't start because they've got equipment that's twenty-five (25), thirty (30) years old that doesn't work well anymore. Or if we don't have the money to put fuel in that tank. Or if we don't have money to give them missiles to shoot with. What do we have? There are some things we can't do for ourselves that we have to depend on Government for. I'm not a person that believes the Government should supply every need there is. We're supposed to take care of our own self with what we can take care of. And that's my personal feeling. I don't like to spend tax money frivolously. No. And we're not doing that with this tax. That's just my opinion. But, I hope I answered sort of your question and you answered sort of my question. We have a lot of discussion. Tonight's purpose is open discussion here on the Council. The public will have, the public will have a chance to address us with their opinions at a Public Hearing if that's what the Council wishes to do to move forward with this thing. I mean, we've got, is it August 31st, the deadline?

Commissioner Phillippe: Yes, Sir.

Councilman Richmond: So, that's why I, I presented the scenario of asking our Attorney to draw up an Ordinance and bring it to us at a Public Hearing, first of all, on the Ordinance before the First Reading at the July meeting. And then we could go to the Second Reading if it passes the First Reading at the August meeting. If it takes more time and if you want more time for discussion, we could have a special meeting in-between. But we need to make our minds, yes or no, by August 31st. Otherwise, we push everything back one (1) more year. That would be money to put aside for the Jail. That would be money to take care of the needs of the ambulance and fire, people that take care of us. Go running into danger while I'm running from it.

Councilman Overton: You know, and I think another thing to kind of echo what Greg was, you know, a little bit of what he was saying as well. I mean if you, if you think about, you know, like, one (1) of the number one (1) issues as far as terrorism and everything else that we face, it's domestic terrorism. I mean it's issues, you know, from people within our own borders and...

Councilman Overton: Yeah, I mean, I mean, what happens if all the sudden we've got a couple calls and there's people, they're gone out and there's somebody, there's something that happens over at the Courthouse and you know? I mean, I don't want to see something that resembles the lunacy that happened in Washington, D.C. on January 6th. I mean if we don't have the people to adequately, you know, protect us. You know? I mean I don't, I sure don't want to see, you know, Greg and I come walking into a Council meeting carrying long guns because we're too worried cause we've got some crazies out front some day because they didn't like the way something turned out and they want to you know burn a couple cars. I mean, you've got to think about that I think. And right now, I don't, I don't think the Sheriff would disagree, but we're definitely not overabundant on Deputies, or overstaffed on Deputies or even Jailors. So, you know, I mean, we're, people don't realize, we're at tumultuous times right here in the country. I mean we need to kind of, you know, some people have some very unusual ideas of what is right and what is wrong anymore. And I think we need to make sure that we can adequately make sure we're defending the things that are actually true and just.

Councilman Richmond: This is open discussion between the Council and just of course between the Committee.

Chad Bennett: Just to reiterate on what you said about having a scanner and to piggy-back on the Sheriff's comment. The sirens that you can't hear in the southern part of the County, in the last sixty (60) minutes, five (5) fire runs have happened in Ohio Township. There's a working structure fire right now in Ohio Township. This is all happening every single day. And what Ron said earlier, we are grass roots government. We are local. We know what our people need. Every single person in this Committee represents grass roots government and we owe it to our local people to give them the best service that they can get. And I agree with what the Sheriff said. What the public does not know would make them upset if they knew the real truth about what's happening to our Public Safety. And if we let our Public Safety decline in our community, the boom and the growth we've seen will continue to march east. And then our property taxes will skyrocket because our assessed valuation will continue to go up. So, thank you.

Councilman Richmond: What I hold here are pages of all the roads and there are several roads listed on each page after page in Warrick County with Economic Development money.

Councilman Metzger: Oh, they've done their job. I admit to that. I hate to see either one (1), taking money from either one (1). But, I mean, we're talking life and death over a chipped road. I mean, which one (1) is it? Are we in a life or death situation for the residents Public Safety?

Councilman Richmond: I think they'd like both.

Councilman Metzger: I'm sure they do. And if you ask them, they would probably say they wouldn't want to take money away from either one (1). But, it's an option. We have options.

Councilman Richmond: Other Council members?

Councilman Whetstine: So, Mr. President, what are we needing here to advance this forward?

Councilman Richmond: Well, we need to decide whether or not we want our attorney to draw something up and if a motion is made for us to draw something up to get ready for, and schedule a Public Hearing and a First Reading at our next meeting, our July meeting. And I, you would instruct me to, to call our attorney and have him construct something for us to look at ahead of the meeting. And then Public Notice needs to go out. I think there's a ten (10) day or whatever of the Public Hearing. And the public notice of our meetings always go out two (2) or three (3) weeks in advance. But, all this needs to happen. I could get him to draw something up within a week and then we could...

Councilman Whetstine: I'd like to make the motion to have our attorney prepare the necessary paperwork to advance this to a Public Meeting. Is that the correct wording?

Councilman Richmond: Yeah, I think I would ask you to put a percentage in there too.

Councilman Whetstine: Okay.

Councilman Overton: And before you, sorry, but one (1) thing that he pointed out to me earlier, Greg, was if we, we can go down. So, if Chris were to propose the half percent (0.5%), if that, we don't, I'd rather propose high and come back instead of going low and if we proposed a quarter (0.25%) and we, you know, I'm just saying, we can always back down. But, you said they can increase that amount at the next, you know, at the, based upon that motion. So you can decrease, but you can't increase. Sorry, just wanted to kind of throw that out there.

Councilman Whetstine: I'd like to make a motion that we request our attorney to prepare the necessary paperwork to approve a one half a percent (0.5%) increase to the Public Health and Safety LIT.

Councilman Richmond: Okay, so you would like an Ordinance drawn up for a half a percent (0.5%) increase in the LIT, Public Safety LIT to be used for Public Safety only, Public Safety only. That's all it can be used for. So, it would be accountable. And this is not a decision to do this folks. This is only to get the motion, the wheels in motion started. It could be totally refused. So, if you're for or against, talk to us. I mean, we're all out and about in the community. We're right here with you and accessible. And so, I need a second.

Councilman Bacon: I'll second it.

Councilman Richmond: Second by Ron. Any further discussion?

Councilman Overton: And I think if we don't at least allow this to come forward and open it up with discussion, you know, I think the bare minimum, we're, I feel like there's some obligation to at least get that out and let the public speak about it. At a minimum, whether you agree with it or you disagree. Bring your arguments forward and we'll move from there.

Councilman Richmond: Okay. I'll call the question. All those in favor of the motion? That's all six (6) of us, thank you.

UPCOMING STATE-CALLED COUNTY COUNCIL ASSOCIATION MEETING

Councilman Richmond: And is there anybody on the public sign-in sheet? And is there any other business to come before the Council? I have something. On June 26th, every year I ask you all to consider going to the State-Called County Council Association, Indiana County Council Association meeting. In that, there's about two hundred (200) Councilmen that get together, and this time it's in Plainfield, Indiana, which is in the central part of the state just outside of Indianapolis. And it's great discourse between Council members. You find out what's going on in their communities and how they solve problems. That's a lot of it. The State Board of Accounts is there to present to us their rules and regulations and communicate with us what they want from us. And also their legislative update is also given at this meeting. A lot of good information about what goes on in different Counties all across the State of Indiana. And that is the Saturday, June 26th, I believe, and in Plainfield, Indiana. Ahead of that on the 25th, I'm signed up to go to the Budget Session 2 the State Board of Accounts is presenting, they presented (Budget Session) 1 at Huntingburg at our Southwest District meeting about three (3) of four (4) weeks ago. And this is Budget Session 2, you get a lot of information on the budget on what's going on. We had an accountant give us a great talk and a lot of that talk focused on this LIT, which was very, very appropriate since we were considering such a thing at the time. So, that was at the Budget Session 1. So, I invite you. You've all gotten emails from the Association of Indiana Counties to sign up for it. It's a State-Called Meeting which means it doesn't come out of any budgetary line item that we have in our budget for travel or education. It comes out of the Unappropriated account. So, your fee for hotel, there's some rules you have to follow. You have to get the letter that says you're exempt from the sales tax. And you pay the rack rate is what you do and the County will write a check for the rack rate and you take it with you and the letter. And you pay there when you check in the hotel if you need it overnight. But, since it starts at 8:00 in the morning, their time which is 7:00 in the morning our time, it might be a long commute up there to get there on time, an early morning get up. You can stay at the hotel for the rack rate. Then also the registration fee of forty dollars (\$40.00), that's sixty dollars (\$60.00) for the class and forty dollars (\$40.00) for the meeting itself. It again comes out of the Unappropriated funds. And I know that the Commissioners have these and the Auditors have these. A lot of them have the State-Called, the Office Holders have the State-Called meetings where they gain a lot of information. So, I invite you to look at that; carefully consider that. I am going. I'm going up on Friday. So, anything else to come before the Council? If not, it's time for a motion.

Councilman Metzger: Motion.

Councilman Reid: Motion to adjourn.

Councilman Richmond: I'll say Rick this time made the motion and second by Ted.



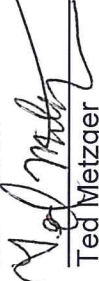
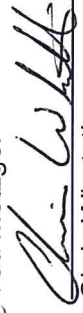
Councilman Whetstine: (Inaudible) said over there.


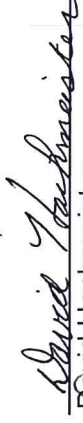
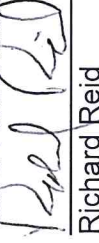
Councilman Metzger: Great.

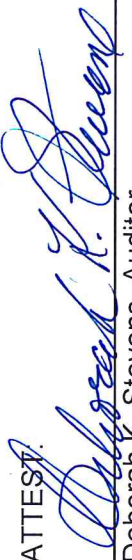
Councilman Richmond: All in favor? Thank you all for coming. Thank you all for the presentations. (Motion carried 6-0).

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL


 Greg Richmond, President

 Ron Bacon

 Ted Metzger

 Chris Whetstine


 Brad Overton, Vice President

 David Hachmeister

 Richard Reid

ATTES:

 Deborah K. Stevens, Auditor
 Warrick County, IN

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

FUND	APPROPRIATION #	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
Commissioners	1000.11900.000.0068	Administrator	\$2,282.00	\$2,282.00
Total Commissioners				\$4,982.00
Cumulative Drain	1141.31400.000.0000	Contractual Services	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
Total Cumulative Drain				\$75,000.00
State Board of Tax Commissioners				\$75,000.00

appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a Certified Copy of the action.
 Adopted this 3rd day of June, 2021.

AYE _____ NAY _____

Brad Overton
Paul Overton
Paul Metzger

ATTEST:
Deborah Stevens
Auditor Warrick County

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 044
RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA,
AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER FROM THE COUNTY'S LOCAL
INCOME TAX FUND TO THE RAINY DAY FUND

WHEREAS, the County Council ("Council") of Warrick County, Indiana ("County"), has imposed a county economic development income tax on the adjusted gross income of County taxpayers pursuant to I.C. § 6-3-5-7, which law has been repealed and codified at I.C. § 6-3-6 for the purpose of consolidating all local income taxes into a single article and reclassified as the economic development purposes and certified shares components of additional revenues derived from the expenditure rate tax under I.C. § 6-3-6 (referred to herein as "LIT"); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with I.C. § 6-3-6-9-15, the County has been informed that it will receive a supplemental LIT distribution in the amount of \$747,107.00 ("2021 Supplemental LIT"), which the County may use in accordance with any statutory stipulations associated with the type of LIT that it is eligible to receive; and

WHEREAS, the Council previously established a Rainy Day Fund (the "Fund"), by passage and adoption of Ordinance No. 2004-01, and thereafter amended, pursuant to I.C. § 36-1-8-5.1; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined that it will be of public utility and benefit to transfer the 2021 Supplemental LIT to the Rainy Day Fund and the Council now desires to do so as set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council, as follows:

Section 1. The Council finds and determines that a transfer of a portion of the 2021 Supplemental LIT to the Rainy Day Fund is permitted under Indiana law.

Section 2. The Council finds and determines that the amount being transferred conforms to the statutory limitation provided in I.C. § 36-1-8-5.1(d).

Section 3. The Council finds and determines that the transfer is not made from a debt service fund.

Section 4. Because of the findings in Sections 1, 2, and 3, *supra*, the Warrick County Treasurer is hereby directed to transfer the 2021 Supplemental LIT, in the amount of \$747,107.00 to the Rainy Day Fund.

Section 5. The President of the Council, County Treasurer, and County Auditor are hereby authorized to take all such actions and to execute all such instruments as are desirable to carry out the transactions contemplated by this Resolution, in such forms as such officer or member executing the same shall deem proper, to be conclusively evidenced by the execution thereof, and any and all actions previously taken, or documents previously executed, in connection with the

transactions contemplated by this resolution are hereby ratified and approved.
PASSED this 3rd day of June, 2021.

Warrick County Council

Greg Richmond President
Chris Whigstine
Roy Bacon
Paul Reid

Brad Overton Vice President
David Hachmeister
Ted Metzger

ATTEST:
Deborah K. Stevens, Auditor
Warrick County, Indiana

STATE OF INDIANA
 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

 INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER NORTH
 100 NORTH SENATE AVENUE N1058CB
 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204-4001
 PHONE (317) 232-3777
 FAX (317) 974-1629

TO: All Political Subdivisions
FROM: Fred Van Dorp, Budget Division Director
RE: 2021 Supplemental Local Income Tax Distribution
DATE: May 4, 2021

The guidance below is to assist with the unit level calculations, distributions, and deposit of the 2021 Supplemental Local Income Tax ("LIT") Distribution as certified by the State Budget Agency (SBA). The SBA will be releasing the LIT Distribution to the county auditor shall distribute the supplemental LIT amounts to each eligible recipient before June 1, 2021.

Eligibility for this distribution is based on the SBA calculation of your county's 2019 Trust Account Balance and your 2021 certified LIT distributions. This year there will be 81 counties eligible for the supplemental LIT distribution.

Along with this memo, the Department has posted unit-specific distributions for the supplement LIT. The unit-level distributions are based on the county LIT configuration and the same allocation percentages used for the 2019 LIT distribution. The unit-level report will separate the supplemental into separate pieces for Certified Shares, Public Safety, and Economic Development. The supplemental LIT distribution will be distributed to each unit based on the stipulations associated with the type of LIT that they are eligible to receive. Additionally, if a unit receives a public safety supplemental LIT, it must be used for the same purposes outlined in statute for their public safety LIT.

County Auditors and Property Tax Relief
 For any part of a supplemental distribution attributable to property tax relief credits, the adopting body for the county may allocate the supplemental distribution to property tax credits for not more than the three (3) years after the year the supplemental distribution is received. If the adopting body takes no action, the entire amount will be available for property tax relief in the ensuing year.

If you have questions about the distribution, please contact your Department's Budget Field Representative.

STATE OF INDIANA
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

LIT Supplemental Distribution 2021
 Based on SBA Certifications Released May 1, 2021

County	Unit	Expenditure Rate - Public Safety Revenue	Expenditure Rate - Economic Development Revenue	Public Safety Distribution	Economic Development Distribution	IC 6-3-6-3(a)(2) Distribution	Public Safety Distribution	Estimated Public Safety Distribution	Economic Development Distribution
87	Warrick	0	1,007,200	0	0	0	0	0	0
	WARRICK COUNTY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ANDERSON TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	BOON TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CAMPBELL TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GREER TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	HART TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	LANE TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	OHIO TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	OWEN TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	PIGEON TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SKELTON TOWNSHIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	BOONVILLE CIVIL CITY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CHANDLER CIVIL TOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	177,552
	ELBERFELD CIVIL TOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27,845
	LYNNVILLE CIVIL TOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,011
	NEWBURGH CIVIL TOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,795
	TOTAL:	0	1,007,200	0	0	0	0	0	42,218

STATE OF INDIANA
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

LIT Supplemental Distribution 2021
 Based on SBA Certifications Released May 1, 2021

County	Unit	Expenditure Rate - Public Safety Revenue	Expenditure Rate - Economic Development Revenue	Public Safety Distribution	Economic Development Distribution	IC 6-3-6-3(a)(2) Distribution	Public Safety Distribution	Estimated Public Safety Distribution	Economic Development Distribution
87	Warrick	0	1,007,200	0	0	0	0	0	0
	WARRICK COUNTY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TENNYSON CIVIL TOWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,672
	WARRICK COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	NEWBURGH - OHIO TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	BOONVILLE-WARRICK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	WARRICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL:	0	1,007,200	0	0	0	0	0	1,672

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 07
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A DISBURSEMENT FROM CERTAIN FUNDS TO
WARRICK COUNTY CASA, INC.

WHEREAS, the Warrick County CASA, Inc. ("CASA") has become an Indiana nonprofit organization and is therefore exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;

WHEREAS, prior to becoming a nonprofit organization, CASA funds were managed by the County government such that various CASA funds remain on the County's General Ledger;

WHEREAS, the Warrick County Council ("Council") was made aware of the following four funds which have remained in the General Ledger: 4113 CASA Donation, 9121 Indiana CASA Grant, 9131 CASA Local Grant, and 9141 CASA 2019 Capacity Grant GALC (the "CASA Funds"); and

WHEREAS, the CASA Funds have unused and unencumbered balances in an aggregate amount of sixty-nine thousand, seven hundred and forty-three dollars and sixty-seven cents (\$69,743.67); and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined that the unused and unencumbered balances of the CASA Funds should be disbursed to CASA, and the Council now desires to do so as set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council, as follows:

Section 1. The Council finds and determines that the remaining balances in each of the CASA Funds is unused and unencumbered.

Section 2. The Council finds and determines that a transfer of \$69,743.67 to CASA is warranted.





Section 3. Because of the findings in Sections 1 and 2, the Warrick County Treasurer is hereby directed to transfer the total remaining balances from the CASA Funds for the purposes indicated herein.



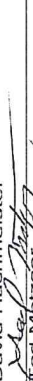
Section 4. The President of the Council, County Treasurer, and County Auditor are hereby authorized to take all such actions and to execute all such instruments as are necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution, and any and all actions conclusively evidenced by the execution thereof, and any and all actions previously taken, or taken in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Resolution are hereby ratified and approved.

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PASSED this 3 day of June, 2021.

Warrick County Council


Greg Richmond, President

Chris Winstead

Ron Barton

Richard Reid


Brad Overton, Vice President

David Hochmeister

Fred Metzger

ATTEST:

County Auditor
Warrick County, Indiana

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 08
A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A POLICY REGARDING
ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2021, P.L. 88-2021 (HEA 1437) (the "Act"), which prescribes new requirements by which members of a governing body of a public agency of a political subdivision may participate in a meeting by electronic means of communication under Indiana Code § 5-14-1.5;

WHEREAS, the Act requires the governing body to adopt a written policy establishing procedures for electronic participation by a member in a meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Warrick County Council (the "Council") is a governing body of Warrick County, Indiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council adopts the following policy:

Section 1. This resolution shall be known as the "Electronic Meetings Policy" of the Council and applies to the Council and any of its committees.

Section 2. The Electronic Meetings Policy is as follows:

1. General Electronic Participation Provisions.

A Council member may participate electronically in a Council meeting, subject to this Policy and the requirements of Indiana Code § 5-14-1.5, only if:

- 1. All participating Council members can simultaneously communicate,
- 2. The public can simultaneously attend and observe the meeting, except for executive sessions, and
- 3. At least 50% of the Council members are physically present at a meeting.

All votes during a meeting in which a Council member participates electronically shall be taken by roll call.

Meeting minutes for meetings at which a Council member participates electronically must include the following:

- 1. The name of each Council member physical present.

- 2. The name of each Council member participating electronically.
- 3. The name of each absent Council member.
- 4. The electronic means of communication used by Council members, and
- 5. The electronic means of communication used by the public to attend.

A Council member who participates electronically is considered present for purposes of establishing a quorum.

A Council member participating electronically may participate in final action only if the Council member can be seen and heard.

Technological failures that disrupt or prevent simultaneous communication between a Council member and the Council shall not be considered a failure to present do not prevent the Council from conducting the meeting or taking final action as long as the Council members physically present satisfy the quorum and voting requirements.

A Council member cannot attend more than 50% of the meetings in a year electronically, unless the electronic participation is due to:

- 1. Military service.
- 2. Illness or other medical condition.
- 3. Death of a relative, or
- 4. An emergency involving actual or threatened injury to persons or property.

A Council member cannot attend more than two consecutive meetings by electronic participation unless the Council member is physically present at the meeting or the above exceptions. Otherwise, two consecutive meetings of electronic participation shall be followed by the Council member's physical presence at the next meeting.

Electronic participation is prohibited, and all Council members must be physically present at a meeting, for the Council to take the following final actions:

- 1. Adopting a budget;
- 2. Making a reduction in personnel;
- 3. Initiating a referendum;
- 4. Establishing or increasing a fee;
- 5. Establishing or increasing a penalty;
- 6. Using eminent domain authority; and
- 7. Establishing, raising, or renewing a tax.

II. Electronic Participation During Disaster Emergency.

These provisions apply if:

- 1. The Governor declares a disaster emergency under IC 10-14-3-12, or
- 2. The County Commissioners declare a local disaster emergency under IC 10-14-3-29.

Notwithstanding the General Electronic Participation Provisions of this Policy, the Council members are not required to be physically present at a meeting until the disaster emergency or local disaster emergency is terminated.

Council members may meet by electronic means if:

- 1. At least a quorum participates electronically or in person.
- 2. The public can simultaneously attend and observe the meeting, except for executive sessions, and
- 3. The meeting memoranda includes:
 - a. The name of each Council member participating electronically.
 - b. The name of each absent Council member.
 - c. The electronic means of communication used by Council members, and
 - d. The electronic means of communication used by the public to attend.

All votes during a meeting under this section shall be taken by roll call.

Section 3. The Council has the authority to amend or revoke this Policy at any time.

Section 4. This resolution shall be effective upon its adoption by the Council.

ADOPTED by the Warrick County Council this 3 day of June, 2021.

[Remainder of page left intentionally blank; signature page to follow]

Warrick County Council

Greg Richmond
Greg Richmond, President

Chris Whigstaine
Ron Bacon
Richard Reid

Brad Overton
Brad Overton, Vice President

David Hachmeister
David Metzger

ATTEST:

Deborah K. Stevens
Deborah K. Stevens, Auditor
Warrick County, Indiana