

**WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM  
107 W. Locust Street  
Boonville, Indiana  
November 4, 2021  
6:00 PM

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

Attorney Cliff Whitehead and Administrator Krystal Powless were in attendance.

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

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

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**Councilman Richmond:** First, we'll have a Roll Call.

**Krystal Powless:** Ron Bacon?

**Ron Bacon:** Here.

**Krystal Powless:** David Hachmeister?

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

**Krystal Powless:** Ted Metzger?

**Ted Metzger:** *(Councilman Metzger was not present for this meeting).*

**Krystal Powless:** Brad Overton?

**Brad Overton:** Here.

**Krystal Powless:** Richard Reid?

**Richard Reid:** Present.

**Krystal Powless:** Greg Richmond?

**Greg Richmond:** Here.

**Krystal Powless:** Chris Whetstine?

**Chris Whetstine:** Here.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 7, 2021**  
**BUDGET MEETING AUGUST 17, 2021**  
**BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING OCTOBER 7, 2021**  
**BUDGET ADOPTION OCTOBER 21, 2021**

**Councilman Richmond:** Okay, first item of business is Approval of Minutes. I read the October 7<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes and the Budget Adoption October 21<sup>st</sup> Minutes. I do not have a copy yet of the Budget Meeting August 17<sup>th</sup> or the Budget Public Hearing October 7<sup>th</sup>. So, we can, unless you guys have some, did you get one (1) of those? We can adopt just the two (2) of them and hold the rest of them 'til we get them, October 7<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup>. We're just talking about October 7<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Councilman Overton:** Motion to approve.

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

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

**Councilman Richmond:** Second by Ron. I didn't find any corrections. All good. All those in favor? That's one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4), five (5) of us. Get my count right. (Motion carried 5-0). Okay.



**COMMISSIONER BUSINESS  
CELL PHONES – CUM CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Councilman Richmond:** Item number two (2), additional business from the Commissioners. Additional Appropriation, Cell Phones, three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) is 2A. And then 2B, Additional Appropriation, Cum Capital Development, HVAC, County-owned buildings, twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00).

**Roger Emmons:** Thank you, Mr. President. Good evening, Councilmen.

**Councilman Overton:** Good evening.

**Roger Emmons:** Then Commissioner's budget pays for seventy-one (71) cell phones. And I sent you an email yesterday, well, I sent it to Greg and Krystal forwarded it to the rest of the Councilmen. But, the reason we didn't come for funds last year was because we didn't have enough to do so. And we've got two (2) payments that we weren't able to encumber the payments for, so we're, we believe the thirty-five hundred (\$3,500.00) will pay for those and leave a little left over for the rest of the year. We have Sprint-T-Mobile and as stated seventy-one (71) cell phones. The plan is such that we have, not like other plans, we have unlimited minutes. So, it's not like you reach a certain minutes and then they add extra charges. So, that's one (1) good feature of the plan. Frankly, I wish I didn't have my County cell phone, but (Inaudible). Cause most people receive their text and emails regarding County business as well. I mean I do all the time.

**Councilman Overton:** It's that GPS tracking you don't like, isn't it, Roger?

**Roger Emmons:** Yeah. I'm going to retire one (1) of these days. I keep saying that.

**Councilman Bacon:** I make a motion to approve.

**Councilman Richmond:** Both of them?

**Councilman Bacon:** Both.

**Councilman Richmond:** Motion by Ron.

**Councilman Whetstone:** I'll second it.

**Councilman Richmond:** To approve both 2A and 2B and second by Chris. 2A and 2B. Any discussion on that motion? All those in favor? All five (5) of us, five, zero (5-0).

**Roger Emmons:** Thank you very much, gentlemen.

**Councilman Overton:** Roger, can I bother you for just a quick question? And the only reason I thought of it, I've seen a couple of vans around. Could you give maybe just two (2) minutes overview or kind of where we're at maybe with the Broadband situation? I know I just kind of sprung that on you.

**Roger Emmons:** Yeah, you did.

**Councilman Overton:** When your head's empty, Roger, things just bounce around there all the time.

**Roger Emmons:** Well, Heather probably has more information. I've not received an update as to, we were going to get Broadband because you know Mainstream hadn't been good of keeping us informed. If Steve Roelle was here, I don't think he is, he'd probably be more informative. So...

**Councilman Overton:** I was just kind of, I know I was kind of throwing you under the bus.

**Roger Emmons:** And I was just discussing with Heather and Sherrie Sievers, our new Acquisitions Administrator about the WOW Contract that we continue to need because, you know, we put in the new phone system which the Council graciously funded, and we can't, it's for all County offices and departments and we still have to have the WOW because we're still waiting on the Broadband to be hooked up to these buildings. So, we can't do that until that happens. As a matter of fact, we're supposed to have a meeting, right, with David Shipley and Terry Phillippe to find out where we're at on that.

**Heather Soberg:** Right.

**Roger Emmons:** Because, you know, this is all done to save monthly phone bills and right now that's not happening. We put WOW on notice that we're terminating their contract just as soon as we can. But we're needing it for the time being.

**Councilman Overton:** I know we've got some claw-back provisions or something in that agreement with...

**Councilman Richmond:** I can update you on that.

**Councilman Overton:** Oh, okay.

**Councilman Richmond:** We have made our full payment for the backbone. They've made the commitment to that. What they have to do is they have to sign up like two thousand (2,000) customers or something like that before we're holding a, what is it, bond? We're holding...

**Councilman Overton:** Some kind of note or something?



**Councilman Richmond:** A note, yeah. And that's like a million and a half (\$1,500,000.00), somewhere in that zone. But, they don't get it until they get those customers. Well, I know they're very aggressive with customers, cause I've had people tell me that they are signing up and that it's amazing the difference between what they've ever had. Even those that are on Spectrum and others like from WOW and satellite. They're very happy with that. But, they found it's slow getting into neighborhoods in Boonville right now, for example. But I do know that supposedly Friday, the Warrick County Senior Citizens Center will be hooked up. If that happens, I'll get to go out there and experience that and see what's going on.

**Roger Emmons:** That's good news. I didn't know that Greg.

**Councilman Reid:** You a senior?

**Councilman Richmond:** No, I'm a junior.

**Roger Emmons:** You know, they ought to be incentivized because you know, we use three point six million (\$3,600,000.00) in Pandemic Relief, ARPA Recovery Funds to pay part of that County commitment.

**Councilman Richmond:** Yes. Yeah.

**Roger Emmons:** So, I really appreciate your update on that.

**Councilman Richmond:** That's as far as I know. And I, that's just what I've monitored from Steve and then also the senior citizens communications. I think they have a letter saying they're going to be out there tomorrow.

**Roger Emmons:** Okay.

**Councilman Overton:** See, it wasn't such a bad question.

**Roger Emmons:** Anything else I can't answer?

**Councilman Bacon:** That was, I was at the Economic Development meeting.

**Councilman Richmond:** What do they call that note? I can't remember. There's a title for it.

**Councilman Bacon:** I know what you mean. It was the exact same question about the bond.

**Councilman Richmond:** Bond, it's a bond.

**Councilman Bacon:** Bond, yeah. And we're still holding it.

**Roger Emmons:** Performance bond.

**Councilman Bacon:** Performance bond. Yes, so they're not getting it. They want it, but they're not getting it 'til they get (inaudible).

**Roger Emmons:** Thank you, gentlemen.

**Councilman Bacon:** Thank you.

**Roger Emmons:** Have a good evening.

### CIRCUIT COURT BUSINESS

**Councilman Richmond:** Number three (3) has been withdrawn.

### PARKS AND RECREATION BUSINESS WATER – ELECTRIC

**Councilman Richmond:** Number four (4), Parks and Recreation Business, they're Water and Electric Additional Appropriation, Water is eighteen thousand seven hundred dollars (\$18,700.00). And Electric is twelve thousand one hundred dollars (\$12,100.00) for a total of thirty thousand eight hundred dollars (\$30,800.00). I have a question. Go ahead and identify yourself.

**Ben Labhart:** Ben Labhart, Parks Department.

**Councilman Richmond:** Did you ever get in touch with the Water Department here to see if you had a leak and everything's kosher?

**Ben Labhart:** Still holding a seven thousand dollar (\$7,000.00) bill until, but we've been in communication with them, yes.

**Councilman Richmond:** Yes.

**Ben Labhart:** There is no leak. We did determine that. So, they're saying that the increase is due to the increase that everybody got. And of course since we use so much water, it's a bigger increase than most people. They did provide us with some information. So, from our busiest four (4) months in 2020, it was seventeen thousand (\$17,000.00), a little over seventeen thousand (\$17,000.00). And then for the same four (4) months in 2021, it was twenty-two thousand (\$22,000.00). So, five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) more. So, you know.



**Councilman Richmond:** So, it's not as bad as we thought then?

**Ben Labhart:** No, but there's still a lot of, there's still a seventy-two hundred dollar (\$7,200.00) bill when the same time the year before was twenty-four hundred dollars (\$2,400.00). So, the increase doesn't make sense on that one (1). We're still waiting, we're still waiting for an explanation on that.

**Councilman Richmond:** Okay.

**Ben Labhart:** But, even at that, we still need the Additional to get through the rest of the year. So, cause we're holding that bill and then we just got another fifty-five hundred dollar (\$5,500.00) bill and then we still have two (2) or three (3) more bills 'til the end of the year. But, no, we're still working with them and we're still holding the one (1) big bill until we have an explanation for it. But, as far as the other reasons for the increase in water and electric, this is as of the end of, this is as of the end of September. We don't have October numbers figured yet. But, we're at, right now, we're at fifty-three thousand dollars (\$53,000.00) additional revenue from where we were last year for camping. So, you know, big increase in camping which also means a big increase in utilities used in (inaudible). Any other questions?

**Councilman Whetstine:** Ben, on that water, does the County get any kind of discount or is it the same rate as everybody else? I've already gotten laughter on my left here.

**Ben Labhart:** We don't get any kind of discount.

**Councilman Whetstine:** No discount at all. Okay.

**Councilman Richmond:** Heck, they probably charge you a little bit more, an entity.

**Ben Labhart:** And they just actually put in the new meters and they told us that the new meters are going to read more accurately. So, we're probably going to get an increase from those too. So.

**Councilman Richmond:** (Inaudible) new meter.

**Ben Labhart:** Unfortunately we asked for quite a bit more money in water, or for water in 2022 and it was approved, thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00). And we usually get twenty (\$20,000.00). And, but with these increases, that's not going to cut it either. We're seeing six (\$6,000.00), seven thousand dollar (\$7,000.00) bills every month now.

**Councilman Whetstine:** To your knowledge, has anyone ever asked them for a discount? Or discounted rate? It's just a question.

**Ben Labhart:** Yeah, not to my knowledge.

**Councilman Whetstine:** Not to your knowledge.

**Ben Labhart:** I don't think it's an unreasonable request. We've got to be one (1) of their biggest customers.

**Councilman Richmond:** Krystal, since he's bringing in more income out there, is their cash balance okay?

**Krystal Powless:** Yes.

**Ben Labhart:** We're also, due to the increased utilities and other factors, Board is raising camping rates again. You know? And a lot of it has to do with the fact that we're pretty much full from every weekend from April to October we're full. So, as long as the demand is there, I see them continuing. People typically don't complain over a dollar (\$1.00) or two (\$2.00) a day raise. But over the course of a year, that went up twenty thousand (\$20,000.00) extra dollars. You know?

**Councilman Richmond:** Need a motion.

**Councilman Bacon:** Motion to approve.

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

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

**Councilman Richmond:** Chris, Ron made the motion. Second by Chris. Any discussion? Seeing none, I'll call for the vote. All those in favor? That's all five (5) of us. Five, zero (5-0). Thank you.

**Ben Labhart:** Thank you.

*(November Appropriations are located on Page 7 of these Official Minutes)*

## **TRANSFER OF POSTAGE, TAX BILL, AND GENERAL SUPPLY TO PART-TIME TREASURER BUSINESS**

**Councilman Richmond:** Next is some transfers from the Treasurer.

**Krystal Powless:** Yes, and she called and she would not be able to make it tonight. But, I told her I didn't think it would be an issue. I hope it's not. But...

**Councilman Richmond:** Yeah, it's just transferring.



**Councilman Bacon:** Transfers, so...

**Councilman Richmond:** The amounts are Postage, you're transferring from Postage, six hundred dollars (\$600.00); transferring from Tax Bill, two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00); transferring from General Supplies, two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00); to Part-time help, four thousand six hundred dollars (\$4,600.00).

**Councilman Reid:** So moved.

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

**Councilman Overton:** Second.

**Councilman Richmond:** Second by Brad. Any discussion? All those in favor? That's all five (5) of us. Five, zero (5-0).

**HANDBOOK POLICY**  
**SUPERIOR COURT I BUSINESS: PROBATION OFFICER – DIRECTOR**  
**SUPERIOR COURT II BUSINESS: COURT REPORTER**  
**VETERAN AFFAIRS BUSINESS: VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER**  
**SHERIFF BUSINESS: DISPATCHER**

**Councilman Richmond:** Superior Court I Business.

**Krystal Powless:** I, just so you know, if you guys did not know this, I kind of changed the agenda outline. And I put everything, all the Handbook Policies under one (1) item, so that you can make one (1) motion. Unless you had a question specifically on one (1). I thought that might start saving us some time.

**Councilman Richmond:** Well, I'll read them all through then if that's okay. And then you can ask questions and we'll vote. Superior Court I, they have Additional Appropriation for Probation Officer, one thousand four hundred forty-six dollars (\$1,446.00). The Drug Court Program, the Director, one thousand three hundred forty-four dollars (\$1,344.00). In the Salary Ordinance, Vacation Sell Back, one thousand four-hundred-fifty point six-seven (\$1,445.67), that's for the Probation Officer and for the Director, it's one thousand three hundred forty-three dollars and four cents (\$1,343.04). Superior Court II Business, Vacation Sell Back, one thousand seven hundred thirty-four dollars and forty-six cents (\$1,734.46). Veteran's Affairs Business, Salary Ordinance payout, nine hundred seventy-four dollars and ninety-six cents (\$974.96). Sheriff's Business, the payout for Dispatcher, four thousand four hundred five dollars and seventy-six cents (\$4,405.76). These are all Handbook Policy issues that were required.

**Councilman Bacon:** Motion to approve.

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

**Councilman Overton:** Second.

**Councilman Richmond:** Second by Brad. And the only discussion I have is the Veteran's Affairs Officer, I've had some experiences with him. He was very good. I hate to see him go. But, they're looking for a new one (1) from what I understand now. He resigned. So, seeing no discussion other than that, all those in favor? That's all five (5) of us. Five, zero (5-0). Council Business?

**Councilman Bacon:** Can I ask the Sheriff; do you have any Dispatchers left?

**Sheriff Wilder:** We've hired four (4) this year, in the last month.

**Councilman Bacon:** Just a question. We keep getting these resignations, I'm just wondering if we're getting any replacements.

**Sheriff Wilder:** It's been tough. We've been lucky. People leaving us, Keaton left us for Boonville to be a police officer, (inaudible). So, we're not losing people because of hating the place or something. Honestly, just people changing for their schedules. But, we've been fortunate to hire. I think, some good people. But, challenge is we have two (2) new positions also at the beginning of the year also for them to fill the two (2) additional that was granted through the LIT. So, that and Jailers have been a little bit of a challenge to find people and retain people.

**Councilman Whetstine:** I'm sorry, what did you say, Sheriff? Did you hire all the people with the LIT? Or?

**Sheriff Wilder:** Not with LIT, that will start at the first of the, not, late, after the first pay in February.

**Councilman Whetstine:** Okay.

**Sheriff Wilder:** But, yeah.

**Councilman Whetstine:** I thought I heard you say two (2) additional. Or something.

**Sheriff Wilder:** We will hire two (2) additional Dispatchers at the first of the year and two (2) Jailers. But, I do know that, not to stay up here too long, but I think with what the Council did with the pay and different things, it's going to help. So I appreciate that. And the way they changed their longevity, I know my employees are excited. So, I'll speak for them, I know a lot of them would like to say thank you. I know they're not here. But, that's going to help too to keep them. Thank you.

**Councilman Reid:** Thanks.



**COUNCIL BUSINESS  
PUBLIC SAFETY PROCEDURES**

**Councilman Richmond:** Under Council Business, the Public Safety Procedures, there's a letter that our Legal Counsel put together for me to send out. Have you read the letter?

**Councilman Whetstine:** Yes.

**Councilman Reid:** Yes.

**Councilman Richmond:** Anybody have any discussion about it? Questions? So, probably should have them vote for me to send this, sign and send it. So, I need a motion on this to sign and send.

**Councilman Whetstine:** I'll make that motion, Greg.

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

**Councilman Overton:** Second.

**Councilman Richmond:** Second by Brad. Any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor? That's all five (5) of us.

**OTHER BUSINESS - ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilman Richmond:** Is there anybody on the community speaker list?

**Krystal Powless:** No.

**Councilman Richmond:** Any other business to come before the Council? Seeing none, I'll call for a motion.

**Councilman Reid:** Motion to adjourn.

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

**Councilman Overton:** Second.

**Councilman Richmond:** Second by Brad. All those in favor? (Motion carried 5-0). Meeting is adjourned.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 6:19 PM.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Richmond, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Bacon

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted Metzger

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Whetstine

  
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Brad Overton, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Hachmeister

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Reid

ATTEST  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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 additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the proposed specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

| FUND                          | APPROPRIATION NUMBER | DESCRIPTION           | AMOUNT REQUESTED | AMOUNT APPROVED |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Guardian Ad Litem             | 1211.21311.000.0000  | Printing Supplies     | \$500.00         | Remove          |
| Total Guardian Ad Litem       | 1211.21310.000.0000  | Office Supplies       | \$1,000.00       |                 |
| Park & Recreation             | 1219.31421.000.0000  | Water                 | \$18,700.00      | 18,700          |
| Total Park & Recreation       | 1219.33000.000.0000  | Electric              | \$12,100.00      | 12,100          |
| Commissioner                  | 1000.32410.000.0068  | Cell Phones           | \$3,500.00       | 3,500           |
| Total Commissioner            |                      |                       | \$3,500.00       |                 |
| Cumulative Capital Dev.       | 1138.60021.000.0000  | HVAC Co. Owned Bldgs. | \$20,000.00      | 20,000          |
| Total Cumulative Capital Dev. |                      |                       | \$20,000.00      |                 |
| Superior Court 1              | 1000.11452.000.0201  | Probation Officer     | \$1,446.00       | 1,446           |
| Total Superior Court 1        |                      |                       | \$1,446.00       |                 |
| DD/DC Program                 | 492.11105.000.0000   | Director              | \$1,344.00       | 1,344           |
| Total Cumulative Capital Dev. |                      |                       | \$1,344.00       |                 |

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

Adopted this 4 day of NOV, 2021.

AYE NAY

ATTEST:  
  
Auditor Warrick County

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