

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2012
8:30 AM

The Allen County Council met on Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 8:30 am in the Chambers in Citizens Square. The purpose of the meeting was for additional appropriations, transfer of funds in excess of the current budget, grants and any other business to come before Council.

Attending: Bob Armstrong, Roy A. Buskirk, Tom A. Harris, Kevin M. Howell, Paul G. Moss and Darren E. Vogt

Also Attending: Tera Klutz, Auditor; Nick Jordan, Chief Deputy Auditor; Jackie Scheuman, Finance and Budget Director; Therese Brown, Commissioner and Becky Butler, Administrative Assistant.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Tom Harris with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

Tom Harris: We will start with the approval of the minutes. They have been sent to everybody. Are there any adjustments to the minutes? If not, I will accept a motion for approval.

Darren Vogt: Move to approve the minutes from February 16, 2012.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Tom Harris: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent). Next up is the financial report by Auditor Tera Klutz.

Tera Klutz: Good morning, Council. We received our 2012 Budget Order from the DLGF a couple of weeks ago. We have calculated taxes and now we are able to process additional appropriations. Our Miscellaneous Revenues are coming in on track for 2012. At this time, I do not anticipate any adjustments to the 2012 budget. I believe our revenues will meet our expectations.

Tom Harris: Are there any questions for the Auditor?

Darren Vogt: Move for approval of the financial report.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

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Tom Harris: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent). Next up is the unemployment rate. Nick, the unemployment rate has been adjusted so if you want to share that information.

Nick Jordan: Yes. The January figures were released on March 13th. For Allen County, it is 9.0%. Indiana is 9.2% and the national is 8.8%.

Tom Harris: All right, thank you.

Roy Buskirk: All of them are up.

Tom Harris: Yes, they are up but we are still running below the State and just slightly above the national. That was through the adjusted period which was the Christmas timeframe. The next thing up is for the Treasurer. Councilman Moss, we have a salary ordinance for the Treasurer's Office.

Paul Moss: Is there anyone here about it?

Darren Vogt: The Personnel Committee, Roy, do you want to take this?

Roy Buskirk: Yes, the Treasurer came before the Personnel Committee and is doing some reclassification and it was passed by the Personnel Committee 3-0.

Tracy Mitchener: Good morning, Tracy Mitchener, Compensation Specialist for Allen County. I reviewed the Treasurer's Department and I determined that the Office Manager at OSS 5/7 should be reclassified to Collections Deputy III at OSS 4/7. We ask for it to be red-circled according to our policy since there is someone currently in there. Since it was less than ten percent, we asked that it would become effective March 15, 2013.

Tom Harris: All right, is there any discussion there? If not, I will accept a motion for approval.

Paul Moss: Consideration of an amended salary ordinance amending the pay within the budget of the Treasurer, 100-0301-415, Collections Deputy III, classification from OSS 5/7 to OSS 4/7 and salary from \$41,450 to \$37,775. This is red-circled until March 15, 2013.

Darren Vogt: Second.

Tom Harris: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent). Thank you.

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Stay there because the next up is a change in the salary ordinance for the jail. Does someone from the Personnel Committee also want to mention this one?

Roy Buskirk: Yes, it came before the March 1st Personnel Committee meeting and was approved 3-0. You can go ahead and explain it.

Tracy Mitchener: They had requested a Health Services Nursing Supervisor at PAT 6/2 and it was scored to be that. They are combining an LPN position and a Records position so that it will not increase the budget.

Tom Harris: Sheriff, good morning.

Ken Fries: Ken Fries and I am just here to say that Tracy is right.

Tom Harris: Is there any discussion, at this point?

Darren Vogt: I will mention that this is one of the positions that he has been trying to get filled for some time. How has that gone? I know that you thought you might have someone who was interested.

Ken Fries: Our Nursing Director is supposed to be here. She told me that she has two people that are interested because it is an RN position and as soon as we get it posted, we will know. I am hoping that we have two very interested people.

Darren Vogt: Move for approval of the salary ordinance amending the pay within the budget of the Allen County Jail 100-5201-421, Health Services Nursing Supervisor, PAT 6/2 at \$53,138.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Tom Harris: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent). Next is Superior Court and they are here to request approval to apply for a Foreign Language Interpreter Grant.

Jerry Noble: Good morning, Jerry Noble, Allen Superior Court.

Eric Zimmerman: Eric Zimmerman, Allen Circuit Court.

Jerry Noble: Once again, as we have done in recent years, we have the opportunity to receive a grant funding from the Supreme Court of Indiana. I think they have been doing this every year since 2003. The purpose of the

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grant is to provide funding especially for qualified interpreters. By that, they mean those that have gone through a rigorous training and testing with the Supreme Court to make sure that people who are non-English speakers have access to the Court. This is something that enables us to pay the bills that we would otherwise have to pay out of the General Fund anyway. We have gotten anywhere from \$9,000 to \$18,000 a year but we don't know the exact amount that we will be given. They have a pie that will be divided up according to the various applications that they receive around the State. We do this jointly with Circuit Court every year and it is just simply a great tool for us to make sure that we have qualified interpreters and it helps us pay our bills.

Tom Harris: That is coming from the State, is that correct?

Jerry Noble: Correct.

Tom Harris: Are there any questions or comments? If not, do we have a motion to pass that?

Darren Vogt: Move for approval for them to apply for the Foreign Language Interpreter Grant.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Tom Harris: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent). Next up is Community Corrections. These are items that have gone through the Personnel Committee.

Tracy Mitchener: Tracy Mitchener, Compensation Specialist. We have the Personnel Deputy, PAT 3/4. The Personnel Director has resigned and so this person is taking on more responsibilities. We are requesting to change this to a Personnel Manager at PAT 4/4. Also, to go along with this, there was a Public Research, PAT 5/2 and we are asking it to be reclassified as a Quality Assurance Manager at PAT 4/2. These two just about equal each other out and so there is zero difference in the budget. The last position has no one in there so we are not asking for any red-circling.

Roy Buskirk: This was presented to the Personnel Committee and was passed 3-0. The funds are not from the General Fund but are from grants that the Director applies for and receives.

Sheila Hudson: Good morning, Council. My name is Sheila Hudson and I am the Director of Allen County Community Corrections. I would be happy to answer any questions about these positions that you might have.

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Tom Harris: Any questions or comments?

Darren Vogt: Sheila, can you explain about your tracking and mechanisms that you are trying to do with this position of Quality Assurance?

Sheila Hudson: Originally, when we put this together a number of years ago, the Research position was never filled because we soon realized that when you do research, you have to do an objective research. You hire professionals from universities or research institutes to come in and do your research. You do research on data. Community Corrections has twelve divisions and in order to make sure that the data is clean, you need someone to quality manage everything that is input into the Community Corrections data systems. We have multiple systems that cross over each other. The person had been hired part-time to begin to access and input the SPSS database which is our research database. This is the person that I am interested in hiring for this Quality Manager position which is really an internal auditor. Community Corrections has the highest ranking in the State when it comes to effective management and effective practices. I want to keep it there and this is the way that you do this.

Darren Vogt: Thank you.

Tom Harris: Are there any other questions or comments? If not, we will accept a motion to accept this proposal.

Paul Moss: Move for approval of consideration of a salary ordinance amending the pay for an employee within the budget of Community Corrections 234/235/236-9001-423, Quality Assurance Manager, with classification from PAT 5/2 to PAT 4/2, salary from \$43,895 to \$39,938. The other position is Personnel Manager, classification from PAT 3/4 to PAT 4/4 and salary from \$39,127 to \$44,032.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Tom Harris: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent). Next up is the Mental Health Service Fund.

Sheila Hudson: That is also me. Community Corrections applied two or three years ago for a Federal Stimulus Grant through the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. This is the remainder of the grant and the last amount of money that we will be expending. As Jeff Stevens said, we underestimated our expenditures and therefore we are bringing it forward to spend now.

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Tom Harris: Okay, very good. Is there any discussion or questions for Sheila?

Darren Vogt: Move for approval of the Comprehensive Mental Health Service Fund 233 in the amount of \$68,823.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Tom Harris: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent). Okay, that takes care of the items in the first part of the agenda. For Discussion and Other Business it looks like one that we have Auditor Klutz will talk about some information that they have been gathering.

Therese Brown: Councilman Harris, may I have a few moments of Council's time before you get into the other things? I know that there has been some confusion and I understand that President Brown is unavailable due to a family circumstance and my condolences for the issue that he is facing right now. We requested to be on the agenda today for a short-term scenario regarding taking care of an issue that was presented to the County Commissioners several weeks ago regarding Homeland Security. In the short term, we had discussed with a few of you members that in the short-term we would appreciate the opportunity to have a salary ordinance passed for the current salary to maintain at least a level status quo for that position so that we could vet the individual salary through Personnel Committee. At that time, prior to the discussion with Councilman Brown, he had agreed that he would suspend the Personnel Committee rules that you have currently in place for review just so that we could at least ensure that the April first deadline that the City of Fort Wayne had placed on that position, we would at least continue paying that individual in that position so that we could vet everything that we needed to. We did make a guarantee as the Board of Commissioners that we would be going through the appropriate process and in the short-term if not before the end of the year or the budget process of 2013, we would most surely have something back to this Council through the Personnel Committee and a budget if there is a need for any adjustment in that current budget to be able to bring it to you hopefully before May if not sooner. I would respectfully request the opportunity to the salary ordinance that we would like to have for the Homeland Security position.

Tom Harris: We can have some of that discussion here this morning although it is slated to be on the Personnel Committee meeting this coming Tuesday. There has been some discussion about calling a special meeting prior to the April deadline for Council to reconvene to take a look at what has been discussed and to pass it through the Personnel Committee. It would then

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come back before the Council and Council would decide prior to the April first deadline.

Therese Brown: My concern is, one, that had not been communicated to the Commissioners and so I was unaware that this was something that was going to be occurring. Also, I can have Cathy come up or Tracy come up to explain from what we are gathering from the information that has been turned over to them and what they need to do, that would be a rather daunting task to make that occur in such a short order.

Cathy Serrano: Good morning, Council. Cathy Serrano, Director of Human Resources. Mr. Beier's position is somewhat unique and unusual. We are looking at some of the documentation and we have the JAQ prepared. We are looking at old job descriptions and some of that kind of data. They are going to be changing his position somewhat. Part of the discussion that is going on with the Commissioners and with those Council members are exactly what those changes are going to be, it is almost impossible to write what that job description is going to be and what that person is going to be doing. That is one obstacle that we are going to have to overcome. The second thing is that we don't just want to slap this together. We want to get out there and get the data and try to find comparable positions with other places in Indiana that are doing similar things on a full-time basis and what they are getting paid. If we can't find them here, we need to go find them somewhere else so that we have some basis to compare so that we are paying this person and this position for what they are going to be doing. We will also be looking at it with regard to the budget so that we are not overpaying as well. That is going to take some doing to get done. It is not like we have five of these people on staff and we can look at it and say okay, everybody else is getting this amount and so this person should get the same amount. We are going to have to undergo some research and then we are going to have to get that in front of the Personnel Committee and have some discussion about it there before we can actually get to a final place in that. What the Commissioners, I believe, are not wanting to happen is to have Mr. Beier hanging out there on a limb while we are waiting to get this all done even though we are trying to do this as quickly as we can. It is going to take some work to get this done properly.

Roy Buskirk: I have a question then. Why are we meeting Tuesday?

Cathy Serrano: At the former Personnel Committee meeting that we had in March, we were going to meet in a special meeting to discuss several items. I believe this was added and I didn't realize that we were going to be discussing the salary ordinance. I knew we were going to be discussing some of the changes that were going on with the Commissioners. That is kind of news to me too. We were going to look at the policies of the Personnel

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Committee as they are currently written and edit those or change them. That is one of the main topics that we were going to be looking at, as far as I knew.

Roy Buskirk: I am sorry but I thought the main topic was this salary.

Cathy Serrano: That wasn't my understanding.

Roy Buskirk: The meeting Tuesday was because you never had the points for us on March first.

Cathy Serrano: The whole reason that I sent the policy to you, and my understanding was, is that we were going to look at that. I did not know we were looking at this. We didn't even have the JAQ at that time. We were in the process of getting it. We are working on it. It is not like we have been dragging our feet.

Roy Buskirk: You had the City job description prior to the March first meeting.

Cathy Serrano: That was pretty much all we had. We were waiting on Mr. Beier to fill out the JAQ which we also need in order to properly score that. We also need to know for sure, if these discussions are continuing between the Mayor and the Commissioners, exactly what is this position going to be doing? We kind of have to know that before we can draft a job description.

Roy Buskirk: I think some of the discussion will come up later in this meeting about some of his possible responsibilities.

Tera Klutz: You were on the agenda to be discussed. It was just on the Other Business and was going to come up right after the Rainy Day Resolution.

Therese Brown: My apologies because I had heard otherwise. Ultimately I would like to place an impassioned plea to Council in that we want to do this thoughtfully. We don't want to do it happenstance. To the point that our Personnel Director has said, the Commissioners have not supplied other than the JAQ that Bernie supplied, a request formally to the Personnel Committee. I really wonder how you could possibly act on our behalf when we are not exactly sure what we want to have happen with this position relative to how long it has been this joint position and now possibly being singular in nature. On top of that, I want to state that it was requested to potentially look at other functions being performed in the County, possibly other positions in a supervisory capacity, whether it is security of the buildings or security in any other way, be folded into this. That is something that was discussed just two days ago. If that is something that needs to be added to

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this, I don't know how you can effectively have a discussion next week about what the appropriate salary ordinance should be under the new scenario when we haven't totally vetted what needs to happen. As I mentioned, I am giving an impassioned plea that we can just have at least a salary, for a short period of time so that we can get through this minor hurdle. It will be adjusted no later than the May Council meeting. If there needs to be a Personnel Committee meeting at a special level, before the Council meeting in May, we will do our best to make sure that happens.

Tom Harris: Councilman Moss.

Paul Moss: I always try to look at these types of situations at a 30,000 foot level in terms of what is the proper role of government in general. I guess the question to you is part of that thoughtful consideration going to be at a very high level in terms of the whole Homeland Security? Setting aside the fact that everybody in this room agrees that the individual in that position has done a phenomenal job and is highly regarded and there is no question about that. I feel the same way, absolutely. It is frustrating for me, over the years, to see situations like this. This is just one example and there are many of them out there, in my opinion, where it almost becomes a black hole. You can throw money at certain things; I use the Safety Academy as an example and a fairly glaring example, in the name of Homeland Security. Is part of your thoughtful consideration going to be an honest assessment of what we really need in that regard or is it just going to be a thoughtful assessment of what we should pay this current position?

Therese Brown: Councilman Moss, you raise a valid point. The goal of the Commissioners is to truly vet the subject to its entirety through the whole JAQ process but not only the LEPC, Local Emergency Planning Council, but also the emergency management process in general. It would be a County function anyway. That is important to see how Homeland Security fits into that. To give you some confidence, Mr. Beier is well aware that the County's salaries are considerably different than those of the City. He is well aware that there can be, and more than likely will be, a reduction in that salary depending on, even more so, what other functions may or may not be included. There is a potential that we would be contracting with the City of Fort Wayne for some of his services. That does not mean that he would be getting additional salary. It just means that we would contract out his services for whatever the City may need on a short-term basis. I want to give you that, to the best of my ability, guarantee that our goal is not to just stuff money down a black hole but to actually vet the position and truly give some guidelines to what we expect out of the position and the department.

Roy Buskirk: Is it possible to pass a salary ordinance and have a deadline?

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Jackie Scheuman: We have done that in the past when departments have requested a temporary salary ordinance to bring someone in to train. Absolutely you can have it to expire June 30 and everything needs to be taken care of by then. Yes, you can do that.

Roy Buskirk: I understand the confusion because when you look at the Council liaison assignments, there are five different departments that could possibly be put under Homeland Security or that individual. You have the Local Emergency Planning Commission, Emergency Management, Safety & Environmental Affairs, Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste. I appreciate the Commissioners looking at possibly combining some of these departments. I think that would be a good budget item for this coming year.

Darren Vogt: I guess to say that you learned about this two days ago shocks me a little bit, Commissioner. We talked about it in Personnel Committee. We talked about it in our last Council meeting that there were some concerns about this and that it needed to be addressed completely because of what Councilman Buskirk just said. My question is, is there a need for the position? Can the duties be absorbed within the current role of County government? I am not in favor of that. We did talk about having a special Personnel Committee meeting about those two things and one other thing that I can't recall right now. To go ahead and approve a salary ordinance, let me ask this question Commissioner, when do you plan on changing the duties and responsibilities of this person?

Therese Brown: We will be scheduling a meeting within the next week or so to get everything nailed down as best we can. Two days ago I was in conversation with Councilman Brown regarding security and other things especially with what Councilman Buskirk just brought up of what other duties and functions this department can perform under the umbrella of this position. The goal is to be completely wrapped up before the end of May. Bear with me. This whole thing obviously came as a surprise to everybody in this room when this whole thing came crashing down. We are trying to work through a lot of subject matter regarding what we need to have this position do. In no way is the intent to try to maintain the salary at the current level by adding more duties to it. The Personnel Director was informed by Commissioner Peters to bring the Council members that are on the Personnel Committee, up to speed regarding this subject and that was the extent of it. What was reported in the newspaper, I am not sure what the goal or intent was with the miscommunication but it was never the intent that it be a vote or that we were remotely prepared. We will be prepared before the end of May to come forward with anything that we need to have taken care of.

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Tom Harris: At this time, Council, we have two different ideas in mind. One is to have this discussion go before the Personnel Committee this coming week. Coming from that Personnel Committee meeting, we would convene a special Council meeting to be able to complete or resolve any salary ordinance that would need to take place at that time. That is one proposal. The other one is entertain a proposal for a temporary salary ordinance today.

Paul Moss: Are we even allowed to do that? I mean as far as advertisement.

Tera Klutz: Yes because you are not doing additional appropriations. It doesn't sound like you are going to have the information available.

Tom Harris: That comes back to any thoughts that might come from that.

Cathy Serrano: Yes and no. We are meeting, Tracy, Nelson and I, to look over all of the documentation that we currently have. We have been in discussions with Mr. Beier, via email, to see if he may have some additional resources or guidelines of comparable positions that we could look at to get that piece of the puzzle. Again, talking with Mr. Peters about what he knows that they are definitely going to want this position to do. We are going to have to have that piece too. We are committed to meeting as often as we have to in order to get it done and in front of the Personnel Committee in full and final form and whatever the analysis turns out to be. If that means that we combine different things into that position or whatever it looks to be but can I tell you today that I am going to have every piece of information Tuesday morning, no I cannot.

Tom Harris: Commissioner, are their still negotiations or discussion going on with the City or not?

Therese Brown: I believe that negotiations are no longer taking place. We are committed that we will be taking over the salary and function of Homeland Security within Allen County.

Darren Vogt: I believe that we need to take this discussion to a different level and to the Personnel Committee. We need to be cognizant, everything that I have heard coming from the Commissioners and Human Resources is what are we doing to keep this position and to analyze the position. What I don't hear is what other positions are doing those types of functions and what we can do to potentially eliminate the position. As Council knows, we are still in a financial situation that is a challenge. I am referring to the future and moving forward and not necessarily the immediate situation that we have. If we can fold those duties and responsibilities into other departments, then we can eliminate a full-time FTE. With all due respect to Mr. Beier, he had done

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a great job. I get that and I am not saying that he is not qualified or anything like that. As an Elected Official, we have to make sure that we are spending the tax dollars the best way that we can and if we have other folks that have the ability to absorb those responsibilities, we should be looking into that. That is what I don't hear happening. I would like to see what you've got figured out on your end to what you have done to see what Councilman Buskirk has said as to those folks that are doing similar types of duties and responsibilities. To that point, I am not going to support any salary ordinance at this point in time. We have a meeting set aside for next Tuesday at 8:30 and I think the idea to have the Personnel Committee and then a full Council discussion is fine or we can open it up and bring in the Auditor's report that she wants to talk about and have a much more in depth conversation about that.

Tom Harris: From the Personnel Committee meeting and being able to advertise for the salary ordinance, do we have enough time to do that in order to still meet the April 1 deadline?

Tera Klutz: Salary ordinances do not require advertisement. Additional appropriations are additional to a budget that was passed. Personnel Committee is already advertised. I was going to talk about a historical financial packet that I put together that we could go into depth over for full Council and was going to suggest after Personnel. If the full Council got together, it is just another 48 hour notice and you can discuss salary ordinances and do formal action on salary ordinances at that meeting, if you want to.

Paul Moss: From a payroll standpoint, does this affect...

Therese Brown: I guess my question, you are requesting Councilman Vogt and I don't disagree, but we have been on such a short timeframe to be able to address the breadth and width of what you are referring to that there is no way that we can address your concerns by next Tuesday. To truly put out what would be something that we could present in full for 2013. In the short term, it would make sense, and I am on the side of pleading, that if we can have the short-term solution now, we will have a long-term solution presented in the next few months which would be well in advance of your budget hearings to know exactly what we could do regarding full-time employment. This is not again an attempt to load up the position to justify an \$89,000 salary ordinance. This is in fact trying to look at the position for what the value is based on the Allen County process of valuing what those functions should actually be compensated. What other functions that the position may do, full or part-time or what may be in concert with, may or may not even impact the salary increase or decrease. Again, I plead that we want

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to make sure that the person is still gainfully employed and the position is still intact because we receive letters from individuals relative to the Henryville tornado. Everything that happened in southern Indiana they ask who is taking care of our tornado sirens and why can't I hear these things? Those are up and down depending on how the weather goes. I am not trying to impassion a level of plea there but that is the position that handles that function. If we don't have someone that is in that position that is an identifiable face, whether it is Bernie or someone else, then we are not doing our due diligence to make sure that the citizens of this community are being safeguarded even in the short term. That is my impassioned plea. Next Tuesday is not going to be sufficient. Please allow the Commissioners the opportunity to go through and vet this subject thoughtfully and appropriately so that we can bring intelligent information back to you so that we can all do the right thing regardless of what it is.

Tom Harris: Commissioner, thank you. Are there any other comments?

Paul Moss: I want to make sure that I understand this. If we don't pass this salary ordinance now, is it going to affect that position's payroll, literally?

Therese Brown: Yes.

Paul Moss: And at what timeframe?

Therese Brown: The first pay period in April.

Tom Harris: The April pay period.

Jackie Scheuman: He is done with the City on March 31st. If we don't have a salary ordinance in place, he won't get paid.

Therese Brown: We have no one performing that function.

Tom Harris: And that brings up the concept of Personnel Committee having a special Council meeting prior to the April deadline.

Paul Moss: I was just trying to recall the chronology of it. I personally would support this. This is another situation kind of like the building that we are in where we are thrust into a situation by our government partner. I do think it does take a little bit more of a deliberative approach to this based on some of the things that we have talked about and also based on, we even talked about this last month, we have to defend this position. That is not what I am looking at doing. I am not looking to defend this position but I am looking that this is an opportunity to really understand almost from a philosophical

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perspective of whether we need this. Let's look at this as an opportunity to see what we really need. Do we need the position? I don't know. I think it is somewhat unfair, given the circumstances, to have an individual who has done a very good job in a situation where basically April comes and their paycheck is cut off. I think the Commissioners deserve an opportunity to try to work through some of that. I would be supportive and look at this as a stop-gap measure. My question then is can we word this salary ordinance so that there is some sort of an end date, so to speak? That would give me and hopefully all of you, a little more comfort that there is a timeline for resolution.

Darren Vogt: Not to interrupt but that is why we thought we could meet in March. We could let HR figure out how long it is going to take them to get it figured out because we may not need a salary ordinance to go through the end of the year. We may only need it to go through June, in the short-term fix. If they figure something else out that we don't need the position or we do need the position, then we can adjust it at that particular point in time. To create a salary ordinance with an arbitrary deadline, we don't know. They said they can have it by the end of May.

Therese Brown: We have no problem with a date that you set out there. We will meet that objective.

Darren Vogt: Tuesday.

Therese Brown: Sorry, that won't work.

Darren Vogt: Other than Tuesday? I am a little disappointed in the fact that you act like you have not known about this.

Therese Brown: Councilmen.

Darren Vogt: Let me correct one more thing. They are not tornado sirens. They are emergency warning sirens. They could mean anything. That is just to clarify for our listening audience.

Therese Brown: I was not aware of the depth of conversation that had occurred during the Personnel Committee meeting, as I was not present. The level of discussion that all of you had, hence the assumption that there was to be something presented at a meeting this next Tuesday. I was not aware of that.

Tom Harris: Okay, thank you. Kevin.

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Kevin Howell: Philosophically I am along with Councilman Moss. We have had a discussion about this but I do believe that we have to give you some time to put your best case scenario in front of us here, philosophically and militarily. One of the problems that we had on September 11th was that there was not one person or one agency in charge of what happened on September 11th. There were mice running around all over the place. Though this situation doesn't obviously approach that level, Mr. Beier is qualified with his military background and by what he has done already. I think he is a good man and he would be a great asset to Allen County. I want to make sure that he has every opportunity in terms of what you will put together and what we will be discussing in order to carry on what he has been doing already. I support both sides of this thing.

Tom Harris: Are there other comments?

Roy Buskirk: I don't think it is a question of the qualifications of the individual. I think part of it is the fact that these other five departments that I stated and with Homeland, it would be six, how the personnel in all of those departments, who is the Director and who is the Assistant Director, that is the total picture that needs to be looked at. I would support a band aid. I don't know if we have to have the math and dollar amounts and everything else.

Tera Klutz: You don't have to have dollar amounts. I wrote up a little salary ordinance that has the salary going from \$35,000 to \$89,309 which I understand to be his current salary with the City of Fort Wayne. You just put the timeframe on that because it is an annual salary ordinance and we already calculated it. We can write the timeframe in whether it is June 30th or whenever.

Roy Buskirk: So June 30th is when we will be starting our budget discussions.

Tera Klutz: Or maybe a little before.

Paul Moss: We can have a shorter time. Do you want me to do this?

Roy Buskirk: Yeah, go ahead and do it.

Paul Moss: Move for approval of an amended salary ordinance amending he pay for a position within the budget of Homeland Security 100-4801-429, Director, 13-01, from \$35,000 to \$89,309. From a timing perspective but I would want this to expire May first. There is no net increase or anything along that line and effective 4/1/2012 to 5/1/2012 with the intent of trying to resolve these issues.

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Kevin Howell: Second.

Tom Harris: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent).

Therese Brown: Thank you very much.

Tom Harris: All right, Council, the next item under discussion is Tera is going to talk in terms of some budget information.

Tera Klutz: Yes. I will just jump into the Rainy Day Fund Resolution. We do this resolution annually to supplement the cash flow in the County General Fund as we are waiting in anticipation of the property tax collections. We are asking that we transfer \$7 million from the Rainy Day Fund just through the end of the year until we collect the property taxes and then we will transfer it back at the end of the year. This is exactly the same amount that we transferred last year and Councilman Vogt pointed out that by using the Rainy Day Fund, we are actually saving money. Many governments issue Tax Anticipation Warrants to supplement their operations through the end of the year. This saves us interest and administrative fees.

Roy Buskirk: So you are saying that it actually helps out all of the other government units throughout the County.

Tera Klutz: No, I am saying that it helps the County only. Other governmental units have the choice to borrow if they have cash within their funds. I know a lot of the schools issue Tax Anticipation Warrants. It just depends on their individual circumstances.

Tom Harris: Are there other discussion or questions? If not, entertain a motion.

Paul Moss: Move for approval of Allen County Council Resolution 2012-03-15-01. I don't have to read the whole thing do I?

Tera Klutz: No.

Darren Vogt: Second.

Tom Harris: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent). Tera, there is also some information about the budget.

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Tera Klutz: Yes, I am passing around an historical financial analysis. It includes historical property tax information for the last ten years, historical income tax information and some details regarding the General Fund, the expenses by department and by fund. Also, there are historical fund balances. I spent about two hours with Councilmen Brown and Harris going over each of our graphs and explaining what our income trends are and what our property tax trends are. They suggested that we have a special meeting to go over it with the entire Council instead of having separate two-hour meetings with everybody. Everybody could hear the same information and ask the same questions. This document is handed out today so that you can look through it and possibly come up with questions. At the end of it, we thought it would be a great tool for Councilmen to start the discussion with your departments about their spending and their special funds and to have it as a resource.

Tom Harris: Having the first opportunity to look at this, there is a great deal of information and trends both in terms of cost and revenue streams for the last ten years. It gives us a wealth of information. In the discussion that President Brown had, there is a lot to dissect and a lot to understand. Possibly having a future meeting to go over this more in detail and as a group would be a wonderful thing. I will probably defer until maybe we are able to talk to him about setting that date. Do you recall, was he planning to not do it at a regular session?

Tera Klutz: No and in fact he just wanted to maybe set it in the next couple of weeks. I was thinking that three of the members were already going to be here the morning of the 20th at 8:30. I was thinking that after that maybe at 9:30 we could just have that meeting. I don't know what your calendars are like or we can check with him.

Tom Harris: Council that would be something that we would obviously want to check with the President in terms of his schedule as well. Initially, that is next Tuesday.

Kevin Howell: For two hours?

Tom Harris: Yes, approximately two hours.

Tera Klutz: We will make sure that it doesn't go over two hours.

Darren Vogt: If he has already seen the information at an in depth discussion, his knowledge base is much better than ours, at this particular time.

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Tom Harris: The idea is that they would go through this information in detail and allow us the opportunity to ask lots of questions and those kinds of things. With that, is there a thought that next Tuesday, sometime that morning and we will check with Larry to make sure that it works for him. Is there anything else, Tera, at this point? Other items for discussion, is there anything else that needs to be brought up? If not, we can move to Liaison Reports.

Roy Buskirk: There was an Association of Indiana Counties magazine thing about the Counties being able to share in some of the revenue from the NACO prescription plan. Was anybody aware of that?

Tera Klutz: I believe that we can.

Roy Buskirk: We are supposed to receive money for the ones that are enrolled in it. That is what this is talking about; the County would participate in the discount drug card.

Tom Harris: If we are a part of that, we would be receiving revenues back through this process and back into some fund, right?

Roy Buskirk: I think this is a new program. We might have to apply to it and to see if you were aware of it.

Tera Klutz: No.

Roy Buskirk: I will give you this after the meeting.

Tom Harris: Roy, do you have any liaison reports?

Roy Buskirk: The one thing that Larry and I are working on is the joint permitting review. I think it is moving along with the software and the Accela program. We are preparing a contract for the Ombudsman. I am not at liberty to say who it is but the contract is being drawn up and minor details are being worked out. Hopefully, in the next week, we will have an Ombudsman onboard. I think things are moving ahead. The other one that I am on is Human Resources or Personnel Committee, I mean. We have had enough discussion on that this morning.

Tom Harris: Okay, anything else? Are there any other liaison reports or updates or anything? Are there any further comments for today's meeting?

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Darren Vogt: Approval to waive the reading on any matter approved today for which it may be deemed necessary for the County Council meeting of March 15, 2012.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Tom Harris: All in favor please signify by saying aye. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Brown absent).

Darren Vogt: Move to adjourn.

Paul Moss: Second.

Tom Harris: All in favor please signify by saying aye. Opposed like sign. The motion carries 6-0-1 (Brown absent). There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:23.