

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 23 2012
8:30 AM

The Allen County Council met on Wednesday, May 23, 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: Larry L. Brown, Roy A. Buskirk, Tom A. Harris, Kevin M. Howell, Paul G. Moss and Darren E. Vogt. Absent: Robert A. Armstrong.

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

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Brown with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

Larry Brown: Good morning everyone. First on the agenda is the approval of the April 19th meeting minutes. Are there any additions or corrections?

Darren Vogt : Move to approve the minutes from April 19, 2012.

Paul Moss: Second.

Larry Brown: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent). Nick, would you mind highlighting the unemployment rate?

Nick Jordan: Yes and actually I have an update. You will see that February and March are there but April has also been released. For Allen County, it is 7.5%. Indiana is 7.7% and National is 7.7%. Those are non-seasonally adjusted rates compared to seasonally adjusted rates. Seasonally adjusted rates smooth out some of the cyclical trends. For example, December might see more hiring for the Christmas season and the same is with the spring when you might see some summer work. The non-seasonally adjusted keeps the figures in rather than smoothing them out.

Tom Harris: It is showing that Allen County is beating the State and National though.

Larry Brown: Let's pause for a moment to take care of the technical difficulties.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tom Harris: I was just pointing out that Allen County remains lower than State and National unemployment rates and so it is headed in the right direction.

Larry Brown: Tera, I'm sorry. Can you give the financial report, please?

Tera Klutz: Good morning, Council. Our revenues are coming in as predicted and the General Fund is meeting our expectations. We are showing for the month ending April 30th that we have approximately \$90,000 left to appropriate in the General Fund for this year.

Tom Harris: There is no sign of an uptick in revenues at this point?

Tera Klutz: No, unfortunately not. Not with all of the timing of the various streams of revenue. We may have a better indication at the end of June.

Larry Brown: Is there any indication that the State might find some more?

Tera Klutz: That is a good question. I was actually at a meeting with the State yesterday in Indy. I am on the work group for looking at all of the Local Income Tax collected by the State. We are going to look at all of them. It is exciting and as those processes begin, you never know if we are going to owe them more or if they are going to owe us more. As of right now, we are all good. Nobody owes anyone differently than what we said.

Roy Buskirk: I think it shows an amount of confidence in our Auditor, by the State, to put Tera on that committee. We are very fortunate for that to occur. Also, I don't know how many of the Council members saw that we received an email from the County Extension Office as far as Larry DeBoers' estimates on income. I would highly recommend for you to look at that because it is very interesting. You should allow a little over an hour of your time and print out the handouts before you go into it. It is very good information and it also explains a little bit of what you were just asking Tera about that there are possibilities that it could flip and go the other way and we owe them or they owe us. They are trying to set up how much reserve that they want to have in the accounts for each County and that they are not wiping it to the balance that is in each County's account. They are talking about keeping 1.5% of the amount of money that the County collects on average per year. I would highly recommend that if you get an opportunity, look at that.

Larry Brown: Darren.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Darren Vogt: Tera, is the goal of the committee to look at the distributions, how it is calculated or check for accuracy? Which is the ultimate goal? The main thing, from our perspective, is that we want to make sure that we don't have ebbs and flows where we owe them and they owe us. We just want it to be the right amount on a regular basis. What have you guys started, at this point?

Tera Klutz: The current scope of our work group is to review the audit selection process. The State is hiring an external auditor and they put out a Request for Information on May 9th. Those proposals are all due back to the State today by 3:00 p.m. The State process is going to review those and we are a guide to that audit firm. We are going to be looking at all of the processes that the State uses because the reason that they came up with the error that they did was because they had a process flaw, whether it was technology or just the flow of information going through their offices that led to the error. I believe that we are starting from scratch from when the money is collected and mapping it into the distribution. We will be making sure that all of the processes follow statutes. We are also going to look at what is the best way that we can do this. Is there a better way to do process? Our goal is to be done by December first.

Darren Vogt: Great. I appreciate your work on this and it sounds like a lot of work that needs to be done. Not to discredit anyone but when you are dealing with those kinds of dollars it is a good idea to review this.

Roy Buskirk: The one thing that comes from this Dr. DeBoer is the fact, and it caught me totally off-guard, is that it has been recommended that we keep one and a half times what the average disbursement is. If your County usually gets \$30 million, they recommend keeping \$45 million in your account that is being held at the State.

Tera Klutz: It is a great comment but actually it is a statutory requirement that was put into law last year because of the misinformation that the Counties had significant negative balances down at the State and the State was fronting all of that money. Hindsight is 20/20 and how to prevent this going forward, they came up with 150% of the annual distribution or about eighteen months' worth of reserve. As this process goes on, I believe it will be one of the things that comes out of our committee as a recommendation on what reserve balances should be.

Darren Vogt: Does the statute say how the reserve balance gets built? I would assume that it would be over time. If we are a \$30 million dollars, you can't take \$30 million in one year to build that up.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tera Klutz: That is a great question. What the law says is before you receive a supplemental distribution. I don't know if you recall that we received a couple of supplemental distributions in January of a couple of years. When the law first started, you had to have a three-month reserve before they could make a distribution. It then moved to six months and then they ended up making huge distributions. Then it moved to where you had to pretty much dump out all of the Counties' Trust balance and give it to the Counties or units in January. That became the Supplemental Distribution. Everybody owes the State all of this money now, even with the error corrections, our balance is still negative at the end of 2011. They still did overpay us but thinking that they overpaid us by a significant amount of money, they moved the reserve balance to eighteen months. Basically that will build up slowly and over time and we just won't get a supplemental distribution until that balance reaches 150% or eighteen months.

Darren Vogt: Okay.

Roy Buskirk: If the economy keeps improving, they pay on what they estimated two years ago. If the economy keeps improving, they won't pay the amount that was improved because they are two years behind. The extra money they are collecting will be going into that reserve. That is how I understand how the reserve accumulates.

Tera Klutz: It accumulates with what we collect and what we distribute and any difference.

Larry Brown: Okay, very good.

Roy Buskirk: I make a motion to approve the financial report.

Kevin Howell: Second.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. Is there any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent). Next on the agenda is an appropriation request from the Drug and Alcohol Consortium. Did I pronounce that right?

Jerri Lerch: Yes, you did. Good morning, my name is Jerri Lerch and I am the Executive Director of the Allen County Drug and Alcohol Consortium. I am here to request approval and release of recommended grants that we have for this year. On an annual basis, fees from the OWI Fund accumulate in the Local Drug Fees Community Fund. We, as a coalition of more than 140 members of organizations, meet regularly to review data and submit a very comprehensive plan to the State agency, ICJI, for approval by the Drug Free

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Indiana Commission. Once we have an approved plan, we can come before you and request that these funds be allocated. The statute requires that one-quarter of the funds go to Law Enforcement or Justice. One-quarter goes to treatment or intervention and one-quarter goes to prevention. One-quarter is discretionary for us to use to operate the coalition. We have been successful in bringing millions of dollars to Fort Wayne and Allen County from State and Federal sources. This year, our request is for \$272,444 and I believe that you received a copy of those recommendations. I am happy to answer questions about any of those.

Tom Harris: Can you mention again the breakdown on where those funds go? You mentioned one-quarter.

Jerri Lerch: One-quarter goes in the area of prevention and it is required that those are research and evidence based programs and approaches. One-quarter goes to Law Enforcement and one-quarter goes to treatment or intervention. In our community, our group has mutually decided to handle that on a scholarship basis. In the area of treatment, we could have all kinds of requests for care and approaches. The group has decided to target the working poor and those that have been working on recovery for a while but don't have benefits to help in their recovery.

Tom Harris: What is the fourth quarter?

Jerri Lerch: The fourth quarter goes to fund our coalition and that is the DAC administration. We have an office on Jefferson and a few staff.

Larry Brown: Darren.

Darren Vogt: On treatment and prevention, what do you do to make sure that the programs that you are funding are effective and efficient?

Jerri Lerch: First of all, the application for request for funds requires a fair amount of documentation as to who the organization is and what their oversight is. In the area of both prevention and treatment, they have to document that they are using either research best practices in the area of treatment or in the area of prevention, there is a list of national programs curriculum that they are employing in the after-school programs. One is the application process and the review and in addition, we require six-month and twelve-month reports. When any of the organizations have either been late or struggling, we have research or site visit that. We work to fund some grassroots organizations. Their passion is fabulous but sometimes their organization needs some help and so we will set up some conditional grants where we work with them a little more directly. If a group was not compliant

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

with being a member of the community or with what they promise, we won't approve funding for the next two years after that. Part of what you see before you is that we have had some returned funds. People or groups who voluntarily were not able to fulfill the promises have returned the funds and we throw that back into the pot.

Larry Brown: Gentlemen, I think that you received this breakdown by email. It shows how the dollars will be distributed. Are there any further questions for Jerri? Kevin.

Kevin Howell: Just in general, is there an average that you give to each organization?

Jerri Lerch: In the area of Law Enforcement, we tend to have fewer applicants and we tend for the police forces to fund equipment for cars. Often cameras are very popular. The amounts in that area are much higher. In the area of prevention, it can be unusual for the grants to be more than \$10,000. In the area of treatment and intervention, those are defined payments. When there is a needy individual, the organization can receive a \$300 first payment and a \$300 second payment. That happens about 50% of the time because the clients don't always follow through or whatever happens. That is a payment to help offset their cost which is way more than that.

Larry Brown: Are there any further questions?

Darren Vogt: Move for approval of the appropriation in the Drug Free Communities Fund 745 in the amount of \$272,444.

Paul Moss: Second.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent). Thank you.

Jerri Lerch: Thank you.

Larry Brown: Next on the agenda is our smiling Sheriff.

Ken Fries: I am always so happy to come to Council. This is a request for the overtime money from the Feds on the reimbursement that they are continually making at a slow pace. This is \$22,335 that we are requesting. I spoke with Councilman Harris about this yesterday and hopefully he has had a chance to talk to some of you this morning.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Larry Brown: Is there any discussion?

Darren Vogt: So basically we are fronting the money and as it comes in slowly from the Feds, we put it into the General Fund.

Ken Fries: Correct.

Roy Buskirk: This is the same thing that we went into discussion last month?

Ken Fries: Correct.

Roy Buskirk: I noticed when I was reading the minutes from last month's meeting that this is for overtime. What about the regular time?

Ken Fries: That is paid for by the County and is not reimbursed.

Darren Vogt: I do have one question on the overtime. You spent through the 18th, \$112,000 and your budget is \$143,000.

Ken Fries: You will remember the major case at the end of last year. That money all came due in January and there have been some other cases that we have been working.

Roy Buskirk: I make a motion to approve \$22,335 in overtime.

Tom Harris: Second.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent).

Ken Fries: Thank you very much. We appreciate it.

Larry Brown: Thank you, Kenny. Next on the agenda is Superior Court.

Jerry Noble: Good morning, Council members. Jerry Noble, Allen Superior Court. Our request before you this morning has to do with 400 Series and equipment replacement. Every year, we turn in, with the budget request a copy of the strategic plan. It includes the next year and subsequent years anticipated equipment replacement needs. The things that we need now did appear on that list. I mentioned to our liaison, Tom Harris, is that the way that things get on our list is by virtue of their age. When they come before you in an actual request is when they are breaking down. There are other things on the list that we are not coming for but we do have some copy machines in the Probation Department. In Field Services there are two

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

regional offices that have machines from 2001. Parts are not available and when the service folks come out to repair them, they tell them that there is not much more they will be able to do to help them get repaired. Likewise is the same with the copier at the CASA Department. That one was purchased in 1999. There are two fax machines as well. One is for our Jury Office and has jamming and repair issues. This machine was purchased in 2001. As we are receiving faxes from jurors, it is very important to keep that thing running. Likewise, in Small Claims Division, the fax machine there I used for communicating with the jail with Body Attachments which is a warrant. We want to have a very efficient and clean way of communicating with the jail about Body Attachments and when people are released from that. That is critical to us as well. And then the last item is a television-player replacement. The one that we have was purchased in 1994 and is used in the Sheriff's Department in the lockup area of the Courthouse. There is a small cell down there and this is where we show the prisoners their video rights. It makes the arraignment process go much quicker and the hearing process go much quicker for when they arrive in the courtroom later.

Larry Brown: Council, are there any questions for Jerry? Tom, is there anything that you want to add?

Tom Harris: The equipment being from 1994 and such, it sounds like it is time. I don't think anything electronically has lasted that long in my house and if you are using it on a regular basis, it is probably time to fix those things.

Darren Vogt: I do have a general question to ask after this but I don't want it to relate to his.

Tom Harris: I will make a motion for appropriation.

Kevin Howell: Second.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent).

Darren Vogt: I do have a question. I know this was in his particular strategic plan. I guess at some point we have to figure out, from a budget process standpoint, when departments are going to include these types of things in their budgets and when are they going to come back to us if they don't put capital line items into our budget. I know that for about two or three years, we put about \$1 million into a capital line. Is that a pretty fair statement?

Tera Klutz: Yes.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Darren Vogt: This year we didn't put anything in?

Tera Klutz: \$250,000.

Darren Vogt: Okay, we put \$250,000 in. Do we want to continue to that or do we want to encourage them to put that into their budget?

Tera Klutz: Just to clarify, they are putting that into their budget when they submit them. What is going on is that during the allocation they are being pulled out and separated into a capital source and are not being considered. That is how it has been for the last few years. They are submitting them as part of their request for an increase or they are submitting them as meeting their budget. They are already doing exactly what you are saying.

Darren Vogt: I guess that some are and some aren't. Some we are pulling out and some are meeting within their budget.

Tera Klutz: It is a case-by-case basis. If they look at their needs for the year and they can fund capital, then they are not asking you for an increase. If they cannot fund their capital needs within their current allocation, they are coming to you for the increase in their budget request.

Darren Vogt: Right and we are pulling them out before that.

Tera Klutz: You are pulling them out during the meeting. That is how you have done it in the past. It is going to be at your discretion but what you need is there.

Darren Vogt: Okay.

Roy Buskirk: I think the one reason why we started doing that was that for some of the smaller departments, a capital item could really throw off their budget for that one year and increase it considerably. We were then using that the following year...

Tera Klutz: ...as a baseline.

Roy Buskirk: ... based upon the higher number. That is the reason that we were pulling out the capital items.

Darren Vogt: I wanted to make sure that we were being consistent. As long as we are doing that, I am fine.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tera Klutz: I will ask for clarification on the last motion that was made. We have an appropriation reduction and an appropriation request.

Tom Harris: The appropriation reduction was for \$8,683 and the appropriation in the General Fund is also \$8,683. Do you want the account numbers with those?

Tera Klutz: Appropriation in County Council of \$8,683 and appropriation in the General Fund for Superior Court in the amount of \$8,683.

Tom Harris: Yes, thank you.

Roy Buskirk: Do we need to second that?

Tera Klutz: That was just clarifying the motion that was just passed.

Larry Brown: Next on the agenda is the Highway Department.

Bill Hartman: Good morning. I am going to pass out some things here. What we are hoping to do today is take \$989,993 in CEDIT that we got for reimbursement and appropriate that towards some resurfacing projects. Also, \$1 million in MVH for some resurfacing and conversion projects between the two. One of the sheets that I handed out there that has the green highlight is our 2012 page in our budget. That is based on a three-year plan for CEDIT that wasn't able to be funded in our budget. Only the major projects at the top were able to be funded within our budget. The conversion projects and resurface projects are highlighted in green and are part of the ones that we would like to be able to accomplish with these appropriations. The other several pages that I handed out, the top page is specifically the projects that we want to fund with this appropriation and underneath is the rest of our planned projects for the rest of the year. If you approve what is on top, this will be our whole summer program. Are there any questions?

Roy Buskirk: I have a question on the green sheet and then you go to the packet. On the packet you have Grabill Road and Cuba Road as being ones that you wanted to do on MVH resurface?

Bill Hartman: Yes, sir.

Roy Buskirk: You also have them highlighted on the green but Beineke is not highlighted.

Tera Klutz: Beineke is highlighted on mine.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Roy Buskirk: But it is not on the one that they are doing. You have six on the green highlighted projects but only three on this one.

Tom Harris: You have it by how he has it marked on here, right?

Roy Buskirk: In the margin, right.

Bill Hartman: Ignore that. Everything on that list is what we want to do. That was a doodle when I was sitting in the meeting. Kim can explain further, if need be, on how we put these funds together. Particularly in MVH, the biggest part is that we no longer fund the fuel upfront. The Purchasing Department does that and charges everybody where before, the Highway Department was funding all of the fuel and then billing everyone else and getting reimbursed. That freed up, in the neighborhood, about \$700,000. We can now put that on the roads instead of just carrying everybody's fuel.

Darren Vogt: Can you explain how these projects actually are determined to get done?

Bill Hartman: Our maintenance staff goes out and evaluates the roads. We have the north region and the south region and they put this plan together based on the conditions of the roads through observation.

Darren Vogt: So this isn't one that has the scoring.

Bill Hartman: No. At the top, you can see the major projects of Bass, Bull Rapids, Carroll and Coverdale have a matrix number. The conversion projects have a matrix number. Resurfacing and reseal projects are by observation. What happens is we put together a plan but every spring but we generally revise it. What I have handed out to you here is the most up-to-date revised plan for this year. Some roads winter over better than others and so we move them around a little bit in the spring and that was really done in the last week.

Darren Vogt: I just wanted to clarify for Council that we had the matrix for the major projects but this is more of a touch and feel as they go through there.

Bill Hartman: Yes, we make the best educated guess that we can. We needed to put together a three-year CEDIT plan, which we did but the income in CEDIT has drastically been reduced. We are scrambling to try to salvage some of this program wherever we can. We see this as an opportunity, we hope.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Larry Brown: The work that you have described today, is this done in-house?

Bill Hartman: The resurfacing and hot mat asphalt will be contracted out. The conversions for Noyer Road, Hoffman Road and Springfield Center Road will be done in-house. All of the pages after that are done in-house. We do rent some equipment. There is some reclamation of three miles or so and we do rent a machine to grind up the pavement but the rest of the operation is done in-house.

Larry Brown: That which is not done in-house, do you go through a bid process?

Bill Hartman: Yes. In fact, the Roth, Grabill, Cuba and Trammel will be one package that we are going to try to get done pretty soon if we get it approved. The Gold Wing folks are coming to town and they are going to cruise out around the Grabill area and all of those are in that general area. We have been asked by the Coliseum and the Town of Grabill if we could make some improvements out in the roads out there and so we are going to try to concentrate on that. Those roads really take a beating from the horse hooves and so they are in pretty good need of a hot asphalt mat.

Larry Brown: Are there any other questions for Bill?

Roy Buskirk: Yeah, on the capital improvement projects and the cost estimates, is that total cost including Federal reimbursement?

Kim Yagodinski: Roy that is the amount that we need for that particular year. We have a plan where we try to determine how much money we are going to need for whatever section of that project that we are working on. That is what we are requesting in 2012 as part of the CEDIT budget.

Roy Buskirk: Then you are going to be reimbursed after you spend it?

Kim Yagodinski: Yes and actually some of these reimbursements, that we have available cash in CEDIT, some of those are reimbursements that we budgeted for extra cash already in those projects and the reimbursements are freed up to spend on other projects. We try to totally fund those for what we are going to need for that particular year and then work with the reimbursements to do additional projects.

Roy Buskirk: Okay. To keep it simple, Flutter Road at \$1 million, you would be reimbursed about \$800,000 on it?

Kim Yagodinski: Correct.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Roy Buskirk: So then it is only an out-of-pocket cost of \$200,000.

Kim Yagodinski: Correct. In 2011, in the CEDIT plan we received back \$293,000 based on what we actually spent. Part of that is in the cash that we are going to ask for the appropriation for.

Roy Buskirk: What I was trying to point out is the fact that when you see a \$1 million expenditure, it is not like it is gone. When you spend that \$1 million, you get 80% back on it.

Kim Yagodinski: Right.

Darren Vogt: What might be helpful is to add another column that says County Cost. There is no doubt that it is a confusing flow that we have to spend this to get this back.

Kim Yagodinski: Right. The confusing part is that we have to spend the whole amount before we get any back.

Roy Buskirk: Right. It is almost like the Sheriff's overtime. You spend it and then you get it back.

Kim Yagodinski: Correct.

Larry Brown: On these projects, seasonal ones aren't so bad but if you get something that is more than twelve months.

Roy Buskirk: Most of them up here at the top are more than twelve months. Typically it takes about five years from when you decide that you want to improve a road of this type until construction is actually done.

Darren Vogt: I will move for approval in Department 250, Highway, Wedge and Level Resurface in the amount of \$1 million and the appropriation in the CEDIT Fund, HMA (hot mat asphalt) Resurface in the amount of \$989,993.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion or questions? All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent).

Roy Buskirk: I do have a question. How many Council members received their Highway Department Annual Report?

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Larry Brown: Electronically.

Kim Yagodinski: They were sent electronically.

Roy Buskirk: And some were mailed?

Kim Yagodinski: Some that requested a mailed copy, yes. I can mail everyone a copy, if they would like. We just tried to cut down on expenses by emailing them.

Larry Brown: That is fine with me.

Roy Buskirk: I was going to suggest that instead of mailing them, you could put them in our box.

Kim Yagodinski: Okay.

Tera Klutz: With printing costs, I think that if people want it printed they can request it like the email says.

Roy Buskirk: Right but instead of spending \$3.50 to mail it, they could have just stuck it in the mailbox that we have. Thank you.

Larry Brown: Gentlemen, we are down to Discussion Items unless I have overlooked anything. One thing that I will point out is that Tera put together a timeline. Tera, do you want to speak to that for a second?

Tera Klutz: Sure. I brought a couple of extra copies. We put together a draft timeline of the budget process. I followed the same methodology but ten years ago we started this process a lot earlier than August. This timeline follows that. This is for discussion purposes and is completely up to you as to how you want to run and meet and review budgets. We will be making our budget presentation in June. During the meeting we will give you our best estimates of revenue. Historically, at the Thursday meeting, Council approves the letter going out to the departments and then the letter goes out on that following Friday. That would be June 22nd. Departments have about three weeks to respond to the pre-allocation questionnaire with their needs for the following year. Then the Council meets to discuss those and hand out allocations. The Wednesday and Thursday, July 25th and 26th, is a week later. We moved that back and is completely fine with our office. Darren had a conflict with the previous week. Friday, July 27th, we would mail out all of the budget forms and the allocations for the departments. The departments would submit their budgets back to the Auditor by Wednesday, August 22nd. Historically, they have had the opportunity to submit a budget that met the allocation that you

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

gave them and also to submit an appeal budget, one that was higher than the allocation given.

Larry Brown: Tera, you mentioned that there were some changes on the reviews and I was curious if it was going to create a learning curve for Townships? Are there major changes?

Tera Klutz: There are some major changes and I am sure that Nick is still working on the summary for that. I can just highlight the bullet points that are new. The schools, for the first time, are going to be required to submit the tax levy and the tax rate. They do not have to submit their budget this year but will the following year. Our schools, we have always asked them for that information and they have submitted it. Now they will be required to submit it. Another major change is that the Airport will come to you for a binding review because their Board is made up of a majority of appointments that are not elected and it is not a Library. Libraries are still going to fall under the category of if their budget is over the average growth quotient, they will come to you for approval. If they do not increase their budget, they will go through the non-binding process. We will review the Airport, Solid Waste and Southwest Fire District during our Allen County budget hearings. We will advertise them and we are required to advertise them separately. The unit has to pay for the advertisement. All of the proposed budgets that will go through the non-binding process are due to us by September 1st. There is no more 45 days before they adopt their budget language which was very hard to keep control of. They are all due by September 1st and Council must issue their recommendation by October first. Currently, we allotted one day, September 19th. We chose that day to make sure that we had all of the budgets here for you to review and that was 45 days before November first which was the last day that people could adopt their budget. There is a lot of leeway for you to meet as often as you want with regard to this non-binding review. Last year it took less than an hour and you only had some of the information. Nick will be heading the process again and we will be happy to request information that you want such as questions besides the tax rate and tax levy. It is required to be to us by September 1st and we could get it to you in that first week in September and you can review it and ask the unit questions directly or you can choose to meet and discuss them all on September 19th. The only thing I would ask is that all the work be done before the fourth week in September to allow us to summarize your recommendations and get them out to the units by October 1st. That way it doesn't jeopardize us getting our growth factor by not submitting those recommendations back to the units by October 1st.

Roy Buskirk: So when, on this time chart, I see non-binding reviews but when it is for the binding reviews?

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tera Klutz: Thursday, September 20th. It is part of the Allen County budget hearings and will also be part of the final adoption. We are required to adopt just like we do our own budget.

Roy Buskirk: So that would be for the Airport, Southwest Fire District and what was the other one?

Tera Klutz: Solid Waste. New to us will be the Airport. We had the Airport before when they increased their budget over the growth factor but now they will be part of the permanent adoption process. Citilink will permanently be a part of the City of Fort Wayne's adoption process.

Darren Vogt: So Citilink is out of ours and into theirs.

Tera Klutz: Citilink is out of ours and must be adopted by the City of Fort Wayne.

Larry Brown: So there is flexibility to the September 19th as much as we want to be flexible on it.

Darren Vogt: In theory, after we get this stuff, we may decide that we don't need that meeting and move it to the actual Thursday meeting.

Larry Brown: Combine the 19th and 20th.

Tera Klutz: Absolutely.

Darren Vogt: Again, it is a non-binding review part and is not anything that we have any control over.

Larry Brown: What is your pleasure? Do you want to think about it or just do it now?

Darren Vogt: Just in case there is something odd, I would rather leave it on the calendar. Once we have the information, maybe the school that didn't get their referendum passed may have something in theirs that is different. Eventually I would rather see us combine.

Tom Harris: Thursday could turn out to be more discussion depending on how we go.

Roy Buskirk: Especially since this is the first year that it is binding on the three. It might take more time or it might not.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tom Harris: The question that I had is based on the process this last year, were any complaints or concerns from departments or Elected Officials? Not necessarily the outcomes of their budgets but maybe the process.

Tera Klutz: Speaking strictly on the process, I did not hear many complaints and I will not say anything else. I think a lot of people, at first, felt that using some of the Rainy Day Fund would be appropriate. We heard a lot of that. Otherwise, nobody had any complaints with the process because it is one that they have been familiar with for several years.

Larry Brown: Thank you.

Kevin Howell: One more thing. Getting back to this non-binding thing, say that the Airport brings a budget and we don't agree with it. What happens then?

Tera Klutz: The Airport moves to a binding one. You can do anything with the budget but you cannot set salaries. That is not under your perusal. You adopt the line item budget. We will be advertising the proposed budget and you may choose to go through that line item by line item and make any line item what you wish. On the binding ones, Larry made the comment last year that we are adopting these budgets and we don't know much about them. We don't make them go through the process as our other departments and you have the same authority. I think there will be more time spent on those. We can also have them come up during our allocation meetings on July 25th and 26th and give us a little history of their budgets and what they are thinking and what is coming forward.

Roy Buskirk: That is a good idea.

Kevin Howell: We don't have a representative on their Board.

Tera Klutz: The County appoints part of the Airport Board.

Darren Vogt: The Commissioners have three and I am the liaison.

Tera Klutz: You are the fiscal body.

Larry Brown: Kevin, generally the non-binding reviews, I am not a State Legislator but my suspicion is that their purpose of requiring a non-binding review by the County Councils is to bring that budget forward to the public rather than the old process. They advertised in the newspapers in print about this big and whoever paid any attention? I don't think anyone pays any

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

attention now but at least we are seeing what their budgets are. We can make recommendations and we have. They don't have to follow them.

Roy Buskirk: The recommendations go to the State Board of Accounts, right Tera? When we make those recommendations on the non-binding reviews, where does that recommendation go?

Tera Klutz: It goes to the Board of the unit and also the DLGF.

Roy Buskirk: Nothing has to be done on it.

Tera Klutz: You have to make the recommendation and that is all you have to do.

Kevin Howell: So we recommend no and then they decide?

Tera Klutz: They have no authority to change the budgets.

Kevin Howell: Who is "they"?

Tera Klutz: The DLGF has no authority but when it goes back to the unit, they can decide. They are submitting their proposed budget to you and theoretically they haven't adopted it yet. They are going to take your recommendation under consideration before, let's say, a Township Board. You recommend setting the Trustee's salary more in line with other Trustees in the County. The Board will take that under consideration and then adopt their budget. They may choose to take your recommendation or not.

Roy Buskirk: It is kind of like talking to your teenage kids. You make a recommendation and they don't have to accept it.

Larry Brown: Did that answer your question?

Kevin Howell: Right now it has, yes.

Roy Buskirk: It is just to review them and thanks to the State Legislature they have made it binding on some of these that have no Elected Officials. The other ones have Elected Officials that are supposed to be looking out for the taxpayers.

Darren Vogt: Except for the Library.

Roy Buskirk: Except for the Library. All of them that have no Elected Officials, except the Library, we can change their budgets.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Kevin Howell: We can change it or recommend that they change it?

Roy Buskirk: No, no, no. We can change it. The ones that are on the list that I just wrote down, Airport, Solid Waste and Southwest Fire District...

Kevin Howell: They come back to us for approval, is that right?

Larry Brown: That is the approvals.

Darren Vogt: That's it.

Larry Brown: We either approve it or change it.

Darren Vogt: If they want \$20 million and we say it should only be \$19 million, we can do line by line but we can't adjust salaries.

Roy Buskirk: The whole reason for this was that the Legislature felt that there needed to be a control point in the County so that you don't have one taxing unit raise their rate and that there are not a whole bunch of capital improvement projects going on at one time and everyone is pushing up the rates. There needed to be some cooperation that there needed to be a more level tax rates and especially now with the tax caps. Now, when one raises the rates it has an impact on every taxing unit in the County.

Larry Brown: Moving forward, okay? Nikki, we are going to have a discussion on compliance.

Nikki Liter: Yes. I had spoken with Councilmen Brown and Vogt earlier this year and we talked about State statutes. When these companies fill out their compliance forms, they have 45 days to get a response. When the City and the County has so many compliance forms coming in and the County only meeting once a month, it gets kind of hard to fit that into the 45 days. I suggested that we do a summary the first two months and then go ahead with the approvals in the third month. With that being said, the summary that I sent you on May 10th only shows that I had received compliance forms from eight different companies. Since then, I have received a few more and am still waiting on some but have been working with the Auditor's Office on that. They get the City and the County and so they are a little bogged down right now. I am sure that they are here but I just need to go get my other copies. They are supposed to be sending me a copy and the Auditor's Office a copy and that doesn't always happen. What you see before you today are the eight companies that were filed by May 10th. They had until May 15th to get those filed. Since then, I have received seventeen more on County companies. Again, this is just the breakdown. Your policy says that they have to be 75%

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

compliant of what they said they would do on their Statement of Benefits. I also tried to add, according to the Auditor's list that they give to the newspaper as to how many years are left on the abatement. With the County having no end to designation date, they can come back in and continue on with things like personal equipment. With that said, you can see the eight listed there. Last year you liked to get a summary of jobs over the years and I am working on that too right now. I am going to be looking at 2008 compared with 2012 with the companies that are sent in this year. I don't believe, and it is up to you guys, that I will need until July to come back to you for final approval. I can get all of these done for the June meeting, if that is okay. We don't need to have another summary discussion for that. With that said, if you have questions for me on these eight, I would be happy to answer those.

Larry Brown: Could you, one more time so that it is really clear, you mentioned 75%?

Nikki Liter: Yes, according to your policy, companies need to be 75% compliant with either/or the jobs they said they would retain or create and the salaries that they said they would retain or create. If that is not happening, we also look at their investment dollars. Did they invest at least 75% that they said they would? That is either in real property or equipment.

Tom Harris: That is not on here though, correct? Is the investment not on here?

Nikki Liter: It is on there. It is down below.

Tom Harris: Okay, very good.

Nikki Liter: At the bottom of the spreadsheet shows the compliance with the investments. With that said, if they are still not within the 75% we take a look at the economic factors. If you remember, we still have one of those companies that took a hard hit during the recession and are still not going to be bouncing back.

Tom Harris: And then what?

Nikki Liter: Then, again, it is pretty much up to you guys if you want to proceed with the legalities of it.

Larry Brown: We can deny an abatement.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Nikki Liter: You can deny an abatement, but it is a very big process. They have the right to come in and speak and then they have the right to legal representation.

Roy Buskirk: A hearing or something?

Nikki Liter: Right.

Larry Brown: I will try to keep my example generic in nature. There is a particular company that is near and dear to me, which I am not personally connected with but am very knowledgeable of, and is an economy-driven company that has not met their employment and payroll projects. They did spend more than they projected on the investment. Although they don't look very favorable in the top graph, they do look very favorable in the bottom of the spreadsheet.

Tera Klutz: They only have one year left.

Nikki Liter: Another thing that you need to look at is that when I put down the investment dollars, I also put the estimated project completion date. When you have all of the companies that we did last year, we had sixteen abatements last year; their investment dollars might not look so good this year because they are not done with their project. That is another thing that you have to take into consideration too, if they are actually done spending.

Roy Buskirk: The one thing that would help me is on the top chart; keep the companies in the same order.

Nikki Liter: Sure, I can sort them for you.

Tom Harris: The other piece that would be helpful is listing those that have not complied or you have not received the information back. You said there were seventeen.

Nikki Liter: I have received seventeen since I made this summary. You will see those and any additional ones that I get copies from the Auditor's Office.

Larry Brown: What Tom is saying is will you then also tell us the ones that you didn't hear from?

Nikki Liter: Yes, I can do that.

Roy Buskirk: How many total companies in the County are receiving abatements?

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Nikki Liter: Do you want the newspaper list?

Roy Buskirk: It is a pretty big list.

Nikki Liter: Renata has what she submits to the newspaper and it gives you City, County, what the deduction amount is and how many years are left. She submits this to the newspaper at the end of the year. This is what I work off of, for example, when we have companies do the 10% or 5% payback, this is what I base their contribution amount on.

Tera Klutz: That is on our website as well.

Larry Brown: Is there any desire or point in using an alpha-numeric code, if you will, on these company names?

Darren Vogt: It is public information.

Larry Brown: I know but to Roy's point, you can have a company name that has multiple abatements but they are different timelines, different amounts or different years.

Nikki Liter: They have a different resolution number. For example, General Motors completed three compliance forms this year for all different years. I list the resolution number on there so that you can see if a company has more than one abatement when they are filling all of them. When you are numbering your resolutions, the year is always first and then it is the month and the day.

Tera Klutz: It looks like year, month and day.

Larry Brown: Nikki, are the choices three, five, seven and ten?

Nikki Liter: We typically do three, five, seven and ten and one for special tooling. However, with the State passing a new schedule last year, you can pretty much do whatever you want with the schedule now.

Darren Vogt: Up to ten.

Nikki Liter: Yes, up to ten.

Larry Brown: If we see a resolution number and an ending or completion date, is the date built into the resolution number?

Nikki Liter: The resolution number is the date that you guys passed it.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Larry Brown: How is the completion date established?

Nikki Liter: It is by the company as to when they think they are going to be done with that particular project.

Roy Buskirk: Going on that resolution number, the first one has 05 which was passed in 2005. Then you have 09 which is September. Then 15 was the day. What is the 01?

Tera Klutz: The first resolution passed on that date.

Darren Vogt: There could be two or three at that meeting.

Roy Buskirk: Oh, okay.

Darren Vogt: Like when we did Orthopaedics Northeast January 15, 2009, there were three resolutions on that particular day.

Roy Buskirk: Right, gotcha.

Larry Brown: Okay, that one is an example. That is the completion date of the project and not of the abatement?

Nikki Liter: Right.

Darren Vogt: In the early years, you may not have...

Larry Brown: I understand. We don't know how many years the abatement was approved for, on this chart.

Nikki Liter: Not in my chart. The list that Renata makes for the newspaper will tell you how many years are left.

Larry Brown: Okay.

Tera Klutz: He is talking about how many years the abatement was approved for.

Nikki Liter: I have a spreadsheet for that too. I can add that if you want.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion or questions? This might be an appropriate time to point out and make sure that everyone is aware that the City Council is meeting the fifth Tuesday of this month and discussion will be geared around abatements. I have been asked to attend and I think Roy is

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

going to attend. All of you are more than welcome to attend. I think the goal is to align, from a philosophical standpoint, the City and County together to work in complement of each other and not against each other, so to speak. I know that professional services are going to come up in that discussion.

Roy Buskirk: It is the 29th and is next Tuesday.

Darren Vogt: Larry, I don't know if you are going to be speaking, one thing that they can abate and we can't is retail. It is an interesting concept of how given the fact of last night's meeting and how retail strips are treated with them, that is a State statute scenario. As they continue to grow their borders out further and further, retail continues to follow subdivisions. That may be something to bring up with them on their philosophical beliefs on retail.

Roy Buskirk: One thing is Larry, I and City Council President Tom Smith and Russ Jehl all serve on the Permitting Committee. We have had some discussions in the hallway on this and according to Councilman Smith it is only big-box retail. I told him there is really a difference between the County and the City when you talk about abatements for retail. He said they are trying to only use it now to get big boxes used instead of sitting vacant. I don't know if they have changed their attitude towards that or what.

Larry Brown: He also pointed out that they have designated geographic areas.

Darren Vogt: Economic development revitalization area.

Larry Brown: There you go.

Darren Vogt: We designated the entire County in order to skip a step about six years ago. Otherwise it is a two-step, sixty-day process.

Larry Brown: That could include a convenience store or whatever just to encourage any kind of development within a described graphic area.

Roy Buskirk: I think they used to call it a blighted area.

Larry Brown: Is there anything else, Nikki?

Nikki Liter: Not from me.

Larry Brown: Thank you very much. Two things that do not appear on your agenda but I wanted to offer a time for discussion, they are not related but yet they are. They are both big dollar items. One is the 9-1-1 funding for the

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

E25 radio system. The other is County Health self-funding balance. If we want to get into specifics, Tera probably has the information but basically we have had a rash of claims and surprisingly it is spread over a huge number of people. There are only two individual claims that are pretty substantial but it is not like they are open-heart surgery or something like that. Our fund balance is a concern. We need to be aware of that. Also, the 9-1-1 funding, I can share with you some preliminary numbers and these are very, very, very rough. They are still working with the Commissioners in determining a share of cost method. The hardware components are called the backbone and the backbone will probably be split 50/50 between City and County. Both would probably be in the neighborhood of about \$4.5 million. The user side, very simplified, is the radios. The City would pay their share and the County would pay their share. Obviously the County share is much smaller than the City share. The County share is going to be somewhere in the ballpark of \$3.5 million. The total is still projected to be at the \$14, \$15 to \$16 million. This just gives you a rough idea of how it may break down. There are two or possibly three funding mechanisms that are being evaluated and discussed. One is a lease-purchase where the vendor would finance the project and I am told that it would be about 1.5% rate. That sounds pretty good but maybe we don't want to pay 1.5% and maybe we want to take it out of Rainy Day and save the 1.5%. That is probably not wise but it is something that we will have to discuss when the time comes. My reason for bringing it up and offering it for discussion is that before we race to spend the, gift is not the right word, money that was turned over to the County based on an error at the State level we need to keep those two big ticket items in the back of our heads.

Kevin Howell: Bring me up to date on this; have there been informal discussions between the City and the County concerning this 9-1-1 thing?

Larry Brown: Not to my knowledge. I was invited and so was Tom Smith from City Council, I believe Roy was there...

Tom Harris: I was there.

Larry Brown: It was a presentation by the proposed vendor. It was very proprietary and so there is not a whole lot that we can share. It was kind of an explanation about what they are proposing and how it would work and what the infrastructure might look like and that type of thing. As far as funding, I know of no discussions with anybody.

Roy Buskirk: Part of the \$15 to \$20 million figure that they keep bringing up is the fact of bells and whistles that goes with the program. Part of it is the number of radios involved. That is one reason why some people are saying that we need to pin down exactly how much it is going to be so that we can

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

start getting on the funding side of it. One other thing that was proposed or discussed with the Commissioners, as far as funding, was the fact that we would do a bond. This is where I thought it was kind of unusual to take the operating 9-1-1 funds that we are receiving and using that money to pay on the bond. But then it is like how are you going to cover the operating expenses every year? That is what the current 9-1-1 funding that we are collecting is paying a portion of. If we use that money to pay on the bond, what is going to pay operations? Operations are \$4 million or something like that.

Larry Brown: \$6.8 million.

Roy Buskirk: There is a difference of \$4 million being made up. The revenue that we were receiving was just a little over \$2 million and now the State is going to collect all of the 9-1-1 fees and they are going to be turned back over. I hope your committee studies how that is set up too because that is kind of a nervous situation. In the legislation, we probably will not receive any more than what we have in the past. The legislation says that your revenue for 9-1-1 is not going to go down any but as far as it picking up any, it probably won't. There is a lot of unknown.

Larry Brown: As near as we can figure, Allen County is going to continue to be what has been described as a donor County. That means that we are not going to get back 100% of what we collect within the County. Part of that is because, in their wisdom at the State level, the new legislation says that the current revenue for 9-1-1 in every County will not go down. There are already Counties that are receiving way more than their fair share. If their revenue is not going to go down, where is it going to come from? It will come from our increased fee.

Darren Vogt: Spreading the wealth around is basically what is happening. Some fees are going down and others are going up. The individual taxing unit, if you will, isn't going to see any additional dollars.

Roy Buskirk: The fees are being set by the State. To give an example, I think it is \$.70 in Allen County and is going to increase to \$.90. In Wells County, where my office is, it is \$2.40 a line now and is going to be reduced to \$.90. I don't even think the State knows for sure how much that is going to generate.

Tom Harris: In both of these cases, in the 9-1-1 and the County Health, I guess it is Council's position that we are waiting on recommendations from the Commissioners in terms of how they want to proceed in both of these. I know that the meeting that Larry and I attended, in regards to the County Health Fund, there were a number of suggestions thrown out and kicked

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

around about what we could do with the County Health Fund and ways that they could be more efficient and reduce cost. Those were more long-term kinds of fixes and not fixing the situation this year. In both of those cases, we are waiting for the Commissioners to come back to us saying what they want to do.

Larry Brown: Specifically to 9-1-1, I have told the Commissioners that they need to come to us with a proposal that includes the operating budget. I failed to mention a few minutes ago that the timeline that was presented in the meeting that Roy, Tom and I attended was that they wanted to award contracts in July. That means that the details have to be worked out in early June to actually award a contract in early July. Somebody has a lot of work to do in very short order. Like I said before, Tom Smith was in this meeting and probably over-simplified his statement was that it was not even on City Council's radar.

Kevin Howell: That is my next question.

Darren Vogt: They have a plan to do something without any funding mechanism behind it. It is the typical situation that we run into. There is a unit of government, the CCP that has a job to do. Unfortunately their job is to run the operation and the funding mechanism is controlled by the Commissioners and the 9-1-1 fee and the City. The problem that we have is that not everyone is on the same page. They have to get the operational budget put together and they have to figure out ways to come up with dollars for the E25 project. That is really the problem that we've got. The CCP is moving down a track toward a bid without everything else being put into place. That's the problem.

Kevin Howell: What has happened is that we are holding the bag. The County government will be holding the bag because the City is not moving on it, apparently.

Tom Harris: They will have to.

Larry Brown: They are going to have to. They are going to have to pony up.

Tom Harris: I think what we have tried to do is raise that up that the City of Fort Wayne does have that responsibility. It is ironic that the day that this discussion was going on, the Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne was having a press conference on how to spend the money from the State while the Controller has the knowledge that this Board needed to come up with funding for this expense. It was ironic to see both of those things happen on the same day. Ultimately the City will have to come to the table and provide funding.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Larry Brown: Kevin, I will say that I think the CCP has done and will continue to do a wonderful job of providing emergency services to all of the residents of Allen County. It is really their main focus, so to speak. The fiscal side of it seems to be not as important or they are not involving the fiscal side for this huge expenditure like perhaps they should have, could have.

Darren Vogt: It is not only that but also the contract. There is an agreement that says a 70/30 split. There are a lot of different variables as the CCP evolves and the combined 9-1-1 Center evolves. The cost and number of calls have not been tracked and realized that there has been a 70/30 split. There is a lot of work yet to be done and very little time to get it done. I have serious concerns. I think what is going to happen is that they are going to end up putting us in a box saying that this is what you have to do and here it is.

Larry Brown: I will say that we, as a Council, tried our very best. We started asking questions about this well over a year ago. Maybe it was even two years ago. Get us some better numbers, get us a plan. We want to plan for it. We've tried. Roy, I am sorry to interrupt you.

Roy Buskirk: Kevin, in answering you as far as the City, it is because they haven't been confronted with it yet. The City moves through their Council a lot differently than what we do through the County Council. It starts going through committee and then it takes about a month or longer to move something through. That is what Larry was saying about the fact that they're talking about the middle or end of June and they want a bunch of this wrapped up. Even for us, if we get the word in the next week and get it on next month's agenda and going further on the financing, if they are talking about doing a bond or something, I want to see the entire expense of that bond such as attorney fees...

Larry Brown: Soft costs.

Roy Buskirk: ...and soft costs and interest rate to the broker fees and everything involved with it. I am leaning towards taking some of the funding out of the Rainy Day Fund. We do have some other funds available. I believe there is \$3 million in the 9-1-1 Capital Fund. We would have the \$4 million plus that we recently got from the State and then the balance might have to come out of the Rainy Day or something. I don't see going to the general public. This would have to be voted on, right, because of the size of the bond?

Darren Vogt: Not necessarily. It depends on what type of bond. If it is a revenue bond, I don't think it has to go. There is some sort of way that it

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

doesn't have to go to referendum. I don't know that bonding is the latest and greatest, at this point.

Tom Harris: I know that on the County side, we are not interested in doing that. I don't know what the City is planning to do. The County is not going to do that to the taxpayers.

Larry Brown: I don't know the figures but bear in mind that the \$3 million has probably had some of it used to fund the difference, just in the last week or two, of the operating budget for 9-1-1.

Roy Buskirk: Okay.

Larry Brown: I am not so sure that the balance that we thought was there is still there.

Roy Buskirk: We need to see the numbers.

Larry Brown: I know. You are exactly right, exactly right. Okay, is there any further discussion? Are there any liaison reports or upcoming meetings that you want to share?

Roy Buskirk: I would like to announce, if you haven't read in the paper, that the Permitting Board that Larry and I serve on now has an Ombudsman. His name is Michael Diamente. He will be working with the different contractors and County departments to try to improve the system of going through the permitting process. He will also possibly be making recommendations that State legislation may need to be changed. Nick is making notes down there that he wants a copy of the contract.

Tera Klutz: That is exactly what I just wrote down.

Roy Buskirk: Hopefully, in the next week, I will have that for you. It has been signed by the committee and the Ombudsman but the legal staff has not signed off on it yet. The next move on the Permitting Board is that towards the middle or end of June, the Accela software program is scheduled to be up and running. That will be the fourth and final step of the four-step program that the Board has been working with. We will have some public meetings in June concerning the ordinances and how they have been studied, looked at and reviewed. That is moving forward.

Darren Vogt: Can you talk a little more to that part of it? The ordinances were a big issue. Is that what that public meeting is for to talk about the ordinances that you are thinking about combining or changing?

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Roy Buskirk: They already had public meetings, in March, concerning the ordinances. Clarion has been studying that. The meetings are for some of their recommendations and to get additional input. The ordinances cannot be changed, on the County side, unless the Commissioners have public hearings to change them. On the City side, it is the City Council. You can't just start scratching out and adding to these ordinances.

Darren Vogt: I knew that. I was just trying to make sure where they were in the process of getting it to the resolution. They had the initial public hearing and have done the ground work and now they are going to go with the recommendations at this hearing. Is that what I am hearing?

Larry Brown: Exactly. I might remind you that what Clarion brought to the table was their experience with best practices, nationally. The public hearing brought to Clarion's attention the troublesome areas, troublesome legislation, troublesome ordinances and those kinds of things. Clarion is researching best practices around the region or around the nation and are going to come back with recommendations. That is what will be presented in June.

Roy Buskirk: The only other thing I have is that I advise everyone to look at the Unclaimed Indiana paper that was in the newspaper this weekend. We have the Allen County Clerk listed in here and the Allen County Treasurer is listed in here. I called and notified them that they need to follow up on this. City Utilities is listed in here. I don't go through and read each one of these but these are the ones that jump out to me. Another one that I thought was pretty humorous is that the Fort Wayne Newspapers are listed in here for having unclaimed property.

Tera Klutz: Every year we have several and we claim them every year.

Larry Brown: Are there any other meeting or liaison reports? Are there any public comments? Darren.

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 May 23, 2012.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Larry Brown: All in favor please signify by saying aye. The motion passes 5-0-2 (Armstrong and Moss absent).

Darren Vogt: Move to adjourn.

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Kevin Howell: Second.

Larry Brown: All in favor please signify by saying aye. Opposed like sign. The motion carries 5-0-2 (Armstrong and Moss absent). There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:06.