

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 17, 2013
8:30 AM

The Allen County Council met on Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 8:30 am in the Discussion Room at Citizens Square. The purpose of the meeting was for additional appropriations, transfer of funds in excess of the current budget, grants, budget approval and any other business to come before Council.

Attending: Robert A. Armstrong, Larry L. Brown, William E. Brown, Roy A. Buskirk, Tom A. Harris, Kevin M. Howell, and Darren E. Vogt.

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

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

Darren Vogt: Good morning everyone. We do have some adjustments to the agenda and I will go over those briefly. We are going to move Community Corrections up on the agenda and will go right after the financial report. We have the Building Department's request has been withdrawn. With that, we need approval of the September 18th meeting minutes. Are there any additions or corrections?

Roy Buskirk: Move to approve the minutes from September 18, 2013.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Next is the financial report.

Tera Klutz: Good morning, Council. Revenues and expenses are tracking as predicted with 75% of the year done through September 30, 2013. We are currently in the process of certifying the net assessed values that will be used to calculate the 2014 tax rates for all of the budgets in Allen County. We should be certifying them either tomorrow or Monday. They'll use all of the budgets that we adopt, the City of Fort Wayne adopts, the Townships adopted and do a calculation to come up with the rate that we will charge on next year's tax bills.

Darren Vogt: Great, are there any questions for the Auditor? I have one and it has to do with Inheritance Tax. In that line item, the estimated revenue was \$700,000 and is that going away for this year and how will it be affected? That is \$700,000 to the bottom line and I am not sure how that is impacted.

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Tera Klutz: That is a really good question. The 2013 Indiana Legislature eliminated the Inheritance Tax retroactively to January 1, 2013. That was for deaths that occurred after December 31, 2012. The \$336,000 that we've collected to date is a result of Inheritance Tax returns that were filed for deaths prior to the elimination of that tax. We do not anticipate collecting the full \$700,000 though we have analyzed the revenues and feel that the other ones have increased enough to offset the loss there. We are still tracking right on target.

Darren Vogt: Perfect.

Larry Brown: Funds may continue to come in for the next year or so.

Tera Klutz: A couple of years, that's right.

Darren Vogt: When the estate settles or whatever.

Roy Buskirk: But eventually that will be zero.

Tera Klutz: Yes.

Darren Vogt: Are there any further questions for the Auditor?

Tom Harris: Just one, the Surveyor shows 142% of the amount of revenues coming in. Just some insight, is it coming in faster or has it increased?

Tera Klutz: I would say that it is not necessarily coming in faster because the summer months are his highest months however, it is increased. It is more than the trend has been normally. I am not sure if that is due to new development because we have had development pick up. There have been several plats filed in the office or maybe just special projects that he is doing and then being reimbursed for.

Tom Harris: That is what I was hoping for, thank you.

Darren Vogt: Any further questions?

Bill Brown: Move to approve the financial report.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Next is the unemployment rate, Nick.

Nick Jordan: Good morning, Council. On the agenda are the unemployment rates for July and August. They are the non-seasonally adjusted rates. Allen County went from 8.7% to 7.1%. Indiana went from 8.3% to 7.5% and the National went from 7.7% to 7.3%.

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Tom Harris: Just a comment on that. We have been planting seeds through a number of abatements in the growth and opportunities that have been happening here in the community in the last year and a half. I think with the economy and all of the seeds that have been planted, to go from 8.7% to 7.1% is a trend in the right direction. That means that people are being employed in Allen County. This is the first time that I can think of where we are now below the Federal and State in terms of unemployment. Hopefully, we will continue that trend.

Darren Vogt: That is a great thing for sure. Are there any other questions on the unemployment rate? With that, we will move to the second page of our agenda for Department 90, Community Corrections. They have a conflict with one of their Board Members and so we moved it up.

Jeff Stevens: Good morning, my name is Jeff Stevens and I am the Senior Finance Manager for Community Corrections. I am here today to ask your approval of an appropriation from the Rainy Day Fund in the form of a loan. It is for the purpose of funding an agency-wide computer refresh project. The amount of that is going to be \$68,521 and it will be repaid over the period of the next three years. I am here to answer any questions that you might have. You should have a spreadsheet in front of you that details the equipment that we are asking about as well as quantities and extensions for the pricing.

Darren Vogt: Council, are there any questions on this?

Tom Harris: I think this might be another opportunity to be able to borrow that internally without having to go to the market on the outside. The Rainy Day Fund is providing that bank, if you will, for you to be able to borrow that. Community Corrections is doing a number of things with ACJC in terms of trying to reduce overall costs for the County. I think this makes sense in a lot of different ways.

Darren Vogt: Tera, is the Rainy Day Fund healthy enough for this with some of the borrowing that we have to do when tax collections come in?

Tera Klutz: Yes, I believe so. We have a cushion in case an emergency happens. The \$68,521 is really immaterial to the bottom line and if we don't have enough, we wouldn't have enough if something major were to happen. I think we are covered.

Darren Vogt: You are a grant-funded department and so how do you work with the State because if we didn't have this money sitting here, what would you have to do and how can you work with the State on the grants so that you can keep your systems up and running?

Jeff Stevens: We have done a lot of things in the last couple of years just to reduce our costs in terms of labor and other items like that. We had a Plan B in case this wasn't going to follow through. The spreadsheet kind of shows that in phases and we were going

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to fund the first phase in this fiscal year and then delay until the next fiscal year which would begin July 1, 2014, to fund the rest of the project. We are certainly always watching our costs and allowing for every opportunity that we can.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Buskirk.

Roy Buskirk: You just mentioned one thing that I had actually kind of forgot about and that is that there fiscal year is July 1. I will make a motion to approve a loan from the Rainy Day Fund of \$68,521 to Community Corrections for the purchasing of software and equipment.

Tom Harris: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. We do need a separate motion for the appropriation within the Rainy Day Fund.

Roy Buskirk: I will make a motion to appropriate \$68,521 out of the Rainy Day Fund of \$25,383 for software and \$43,138 for Equipment & Machinery Purchase.

Tom Harris: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Next is a salary ordinance.

Tracy Mitchener: Good morning, Tracy Mitchener, Assistant Human Resources Director.

Tom Hardin: Tom Hardin, Assistant County Attorney assigned to Community Corrections.

Eric Zimmerman: Eric Zimmerman, Director of Court Services, Chief Probation Officer and Community Corrections Advisory Board member.

Mary Rian: Mary Rian, Compensation Specialist.

Tracy Mitchener: As all of you know Sheila Hudson, Executive Director of Community Corrections, has given us her retirement date. She is going to be retiring December 13th of this year. Due to that, we are going to need to post this position and since we are unaware of what types of candidates we will be having, we have worked on the posting with the Community Corrections Advisory Board along with some input from Sheila. We are asking for a range of \$70,000 to \$85,000. In these types of positions, we really need to look at experience and look away from our current model. As we know, this is a big position to fill.

Darren Vogt: Council, are there any questions?

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Roy Buskirk: What are the current wages for the Director?

Tracy Mitchener: It is currently around \$81,000.

Darren Vogt: What is the retirement date?

Tracy Mitchener: December 13th.

Darren Vogt: Is there a committee set up to interview and hire and all of that?

Tracy Mitchener: It will be some members of the Advisory Board for Community Corrections.

Tom Hardin: Along with Commissioner Brown. The Advisory Board selects the candidate and then it has to be approved by the Commissioners. There has been involved every step of the way.

Tom Harris: The search is local, regional and national?

Eric Zimmerman: I believe that at a minimum, it will be regional but it could be national.

Tom Hardin: It will be posted in a variety of places.

Darren Vogt: It is a unique position.

Roy Buskirk: It is going to be very hard to fill.

Tom Hardin: It will certainly be State-wide if not outside of the State.

Darren Vogt: Are there any further questions, Council?

Tom Harris: I will make a motion for consideration of a salary ordinance amending the pay for the Executive Director of Community Corrections to have a pay range of \$70,000 to \$85,000 and to be effective December 14, 2013.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Now we will go back to the Treasurer's Office for a transfer within the General Fund.

Sue Orth: Good morning, Sue Orth, Allen County Treasurer. I am asking for a transfer of \$1,373 from Postage to Part-Time Help. We just need more help during November. Our kiosk didn't make it in yet. We have had some issues with the credit card part of it.

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Darren Vogt: Give us an update on that. Tell us what is going on and when is the anticipated arrival?

Sue Orth: We are hoping that it will be before the tax due date but I am not sure. Once it gets here, we have to have it installed to the wall and windows have to be moved and the teller area has to be adjusted. It has to be ADA compliant. I am not sure that it will be able to be used this fall.

Darren Vogt: Okay. Better to take your time and get it right. Is it a programming issue with the credit card?

Sue Orth: Yes. That is the big thing right now. We talked yesterday and decided to have them go ahead and set it up for credit card and then we will get all of the stuff worked out and they can install the software later. We can go ahead and get it up and going.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Buskirk.

Roy Buskirk: Correct me if I am wrong but aren't you emailing some property tax statements now?

Sue Orth: Yes, we already did those for this fall.

Roy Buskirk: Is this part of the reason why you have excess funds in Postage?

Sue Orth: It is really hard to know how much postage we need each time because we don't know how many appeals will be made and how many adjustments will be made to bills because of added assessments. Every time there is a change made to a bill, you have to re-mail it. I have been told that I cannot come back and ask for money in Postage and so I always make sure that there is a little extra. You just never know how many appeals that there are going to be each year.

Roy Buskirk: Not to put you on the spot or anything, do you have any idea of how many statements or savings you have provided for the County because of the emailing?

Sue Orth: I don't have that number right now but I can get it for you.

Roy Buskirk: That's fine.

Bill Brown: I have spoken with Sue and I think it is based on solid rationale. I would like to make a motion to transfer \$1,373 from Postage to Extra Deputy Hire, \$1,275 and FICA for \$98.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

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Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Next is the Sheriff.

Ken Fries: Morning, Council. Kenny Fries, Sheriff of Allen County. I am not even asking for money today so it is an amazing thing. This is just a restatement of our benefits for our pension and supplemental trust benefits from the IRS and is required every five years. It was approved by the Merit Board at the September meeting and now needs to be signed by the Council. It has no fiscal impact on the County and is just a requirement from the IRS to have it done every five years. Tera has the green copy that has to be signed and given back to McCready & Keane so that they can get it turned into the IRS by the end of November.

Darren Vogt: I have some really technical questions. If we waited until our November meeting, would there be an issue?

Ken Fries: I think it is too late. I think it may be November first. Tera, does that have a date on it? I am trying to remember what he told us. Unfortunately the guy from McCready and Keane had some open-heart surgery and is not available. I don't know if the requirement is the end of November or the first of November.

Tera Klutz: It doesn't say.

Darren Vogt: It is an IRS requirement. We could be like the Federal government and say that we were shut down for a while. I do have some questions and they are technical in nature. They have made some changes to this and the Merit Board is the only one that can make changes to that and that change was made five years ago? Help me understand this. This is some of the stuff that I really wanted to talk to you about before and didn't get to.

Ken Fries: We have the old copy of the pension that has all of the changes that have been made over the last five years. That document is a cleaned-up version of what we already have. It is a restatement of the benefits that are currently in place. Apparently every five years we will be coming in front of you, the Merit Board has to re-sign it and Council re-signs it.

Darren Vogt: I think five years ago we made some adjustments on the supplement and drop pay. We also made it so that Council didn't have any authority over the Merit Board or over the pension? That is kind of what I want to talk through as to how the Merit Board looks at those things and Council does not. The pensions are based on funding that the Merit Board sets up and that is where I was going with it. I don't want to delay but I want to make sure that we do this right.

Ken Fries: There are no changes to the document in front of you. It is what we have been operating under for the last several years.

Roy Buskirk: There is no more participation by the Sworn Officers for their retirement?

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Ken Fries: It has stayed the same.

Roy Buskirk: The County is approximately 30%.

Ken Fries: Yes.

Tom Harris: Last year or the year before, we had talked about the drop program or a program that we were anticipating an increased number in retirements. How did that go? Did that happen?

Ken Fries: Yes. We went through fifteen employees in the last two years. It surprised all of us. Now we have a hiring list of fifteen and my concern is I don't think we will go through fifteen in two years. Maybe we will be surprised and have that many retirements.

Tom Harris: You don't think there will be another fifteen in two years? Is that what you mean?

Ken Fries: Yes, maybe ten. It all depends on when they turn 55 and if they got involved in the drop program. The nice thing about the drop program is that once they get involved, they are gone within three years.

Tom Harris: How many are involved in that right now?

Ken Fries: Currently, I couldn't tell you.

Tom Harris: Based on what you just said it is probably less than ten or fifteen.

Ken Fries: Yes, maybe three or four. For some of them like me, it doesn't benefit me because of my age when I got hired. I can't get involved because it is based on age when you were hired and the age when you retire and how many years of service you have. Some of us, it doesn't help.

Darren Vogt: Council, what is the pleasure? I want to make sure that we have thoroughly looked it over. I don't think we are going to be in trouble if we delay it but at the end of the day, I want to make sure that we have all had time to analyze it and make sure that we are all on the same page with it.

Tom Harris: Is there a possibility of making a phone call or finding out while the meeting continues?

Ken Fries: I can find out.

Darren Vogt: Can you do that real quickly and then we will come back to it? We understand that the document hasn't changed but we want to make sure that we are analyzing it the way that we should.

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Larry Brown: To the point of the questions that you have, they are good questions and I think we deserve answers to them.

Roy Buskirk: If nothing else, we could have a special meeting.

Larry Brown: That is what I was going to say.

Darren Vogt: Yes we could.

Roy Buskirk: I think it is very important and questions need to be answered.

Darren Vogt: Let's just hold off on that and if we need to, we will do a special meeting.

Ken Fries: Do you want me to make the phone call or not?

Darren Vogt: Go ahead and make it so we know and then we can schedule the special meeting if we need to.

Ken Fries: Okay, I will let you know.

Darren Vogt: Okay. With that, we will move to the Youth Services Center.

Chris Dunn: Good morning, Chris Dunn of the Youth Services Center. I am just here to correct an error that we made in our budget last year or the beginning of this year. We are not asking for any funds out of the General Fund. We are going to correct this by using our 737 Fund. It is an error that was made in some of the salaries that are being covered by our 737 Fund. Are there any questions?

Larry Brown: What is Fund 737?

Chris Dunn: It is a fund that payments from the State where 50% of the payment that comes in for the kids that are with us goes into that fund and the other 50% goes to County General. We have historically used that fund to cover our budget. Right now, we are covering all of our 200 series and 300 series with that budget. Council requested for this year to use another \$200,000 and all that was left was salaries. We covered three or four salaries with that. The error that was made was when the Council approved the pay increase or that one-time bonus, we didn't use Fund 737 to cover that and so we need to come back for those salaries that are being covered out of the 737 Fund.

Darren Vogt: Group Health Insurance is a big one as well.

Tom Harris: With that, I would like to make a motion. We spoke earlier, Chris, and I appreciate you using some of your funds in your area to cover that increase rather than passing that back to County General. Make a motion to appropriate in Fund 737, \$46,411. Do I need to read down through all of the items?

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Darren Vogt: That is okay.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0.

Chris Dunn: Thank you.

Darren Vogt: Next is Highway, Department 250 and the Bass Road Project.

Kim Yagodinski: Good morning, Council. Kim Yagodinski, Controller for the Highway Department.

Bill Hartman: Bill Hartman, Allen County Highway Director.

Kim Yagodinski: We are here this morning to ask for re-appropriation of funds. This is what we have had to do lately. We are getting reimbursements in and we have had some from Union Chapel, Diebold, Gump Road, Timbercrest Addition and Flutter Road projects. Those projects are becoming fully funded and so we are now taking those reimbursements and appropriating them to Bass Road. Our request is for \$79,064.

Darren Vogt: Council, are there any questions on that? I do have a non-related question after this.

Roy Buskirk: I have a question. You are moving the \$79,064 from what account?

Kim Yagodinski: It is actually cash that has come in from reimbursements for projects that we have funds for currently. We are not finished with those projects but we have enough funds in those and so we will take those reimbursements and apply them to Bass Road.

Roy Buskirk: I understand that by I am not seeing where the \$79,064 is coming from.

Tera Klutz: It is confusing to people when people think you are transferring from a cash line to an appropriation line. It is not a transfer but an appropriation.

Nick Jordan: It is just like the Joint Oversight Permitting Board. When we receive money from the City and we appropriate it and in this instance, they are appropriating the \$79,064 that they have received from the Feds.

Kim Yagodinski: I can give you the breakdown, if you would like. Union Chapel, we received \$21,492.35. In Timbercrest with the 60/40 HMA split, we received \$46,616. From Gump Road, \$2,520 and from Flutter, \$8,436.29 and so that makes up the total cash that we would like to appropriate now.

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Roy Buskirk: Okay.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Armstrong.

Bob Armstrong: I would like to make a motion to accept the appropriation from CEDIT in the amount of \$79,064.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Bill, I have to ask about the Union Chapel Road and that whole north side of the town. Any update on when and how that is going to come about?

Bill Hartman: We are trying to get that open for winter. That is being negotiated right now between INDOT and the contractor. The project got held up by utilities a little bit this summer but the completion isn't until next spring. You will probably be driving on binder during the winter and then in the spring they will go back in and surface and landscape. They can then bid the Dupont Road over I-69 and get that going.

Darren Vogt: I know that is a busy area and is continuing to grow. The faster we can get some of that stuff done, the better.

Darren Vogt: Are there any further questions?

Roy Buskirk: I would like to thank you on your bookkeeping on this. I am sure it is quite challenging.

Kim Yagodinski: Thank you.

Darren Vogt: We are down to Discussion and Other Business and the Southwest Allen County Fire District.

Ellis McFadden: I am Ellis McFadden, Financial Officer for the Southwest Fire District.

Nick Jordan: Do you want to explain why you are getting the additional appropriation?

Ellis McFadden: Yes. September of 2012, we bid for a new fire station. We realized that the architect kind of tried to fit the building with the funds and we realized that we were going to be short. In October of 2012, I put a legal ad in to borrow an additional \$500,000. Rather than to give up the fees, I figured it would be \$50,000 to \$60,000, if we stopped and waited a couple of years until we had the money. I didn't realize until August 30th, when I met with George Helton, we had this bucket of money for five years building up. I failed to realize that it needed to be appropriated. That is the reason that I am here today. Basically, we have the project almost finished. We have had a couple of hiccups. One is a portable generator that we paid for last December and the guy hasn't

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delivered it yet. This is holding up the electricians. The seeding and landscaping is being done presently. Originally, when the project started, they thought it would be complete in September. Due to the winter, we lost a couple of months of putting the steel up but we are in no hurry. We haven't pushed the contractor because we want it done right. Even after we do the punch list and are complete, we are in no hurry to open because this is much different than we had in the past. There are eight bedrooms and we intend to have people volunteer to stay there. In a lot of college towns, they jump at this chance. Maybe they are taking a fire related course and they can live in a fire station free of charge. This is the concept that we are doing. One of the things, just for example, we have six acres and about three acres is going to be sod. The joining three acres was to stockpile dirt in the middle of the lot and not do anything. It is weeds and brush and that type of thing. After we did some surveying, we realized that the stockpile was right next to a homeowner that we fired from the fire station. I said that I didn't want one gallon of water flowing onto his property. First time it rains, we will have a fish kill in his pond. What we did was to have the excavator make it two inches lower and run a swale to an existing pond that we have. There are near 1,000 homes in that area and this could be a community event that we want this to be good enough to park on. There could be Halloween parties and playground equipment and so we are kind of gearing this towards a community facility. That is where we are at the present time.

Darren Vogt: Great. Council, are there any questions?

Roy Buskirk: Is there a dollar amount that we need to appropriate?

Tera Klutz: Yes. There is a resolution in your packet and Tom has it.

Bill Brown: So, to recap, you have the money in that fund and you need us to appropriate it.

Ellis McFadden: At the present time, we have this loan and the latest draw from the architect, we have about \$150,000 and we are basically complete. Tonight is our Board meeting and we will open bids on furniture and appliances. We are getting to that stage. We are in no hurry to do a grand opening because this is so different and we want our own paid people understand the concept of this. This is probably as near green as we can get with LED lights and this type of thing and it all takes some training. There is no crisis here and we want to do it right.

Tom Harris: Ellis, over the last few years, you have been bringing this to us and congratulations for getting to that final stage. With that, I move for approval of Resolution 2013-10-17-01 which states, whereas it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was originally appropriated in the Southwest Allen County Fire District Cum Fire Fund annual budget for the purposes of constructing a new fire station. Be it resolved by the Allen County Council, governing fiscal body, of the Southwest Allen County Fire District, Allen County, that for the expenses of the Southwest Allen County Fire District the following additional sums of money are hereby

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appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to laws governing the same, Cum Fire Fund 8691 with Capital Outlays of \$1,372,000.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0.

Tom Harris: When you have that grand opening, invite us. We are excited about grand openings.

Darren Vogt: Sheriff, did you get an update?

Ken Fries: The IRS has to have it submitted to them by November 30th.

Darren Vogt: Okay, we will plan on putting it on the Council agenda for the November meeting. We will get with you.

Ken Fries: If you can email me because the guy from McCready and Keane will have to get somebody else here.

Darren Vogt: Okay, thanks Sheriff. That will be back on our agenda for the November meeting. With that, we are at a point in our agenda where we have the Allen County 2014 Budget Adoption. We have some resolutions for someone in the hot seat. If you look at the agenda, we will take these in order. Those ordinances will need to be read.

Tom Harris: With that, the first ordinance is be it ordained by the Allen County Council that for the expenses of the Southwest Allen County Fire District, for the year ending December 31, 2014, the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expense of Southwest Allen County Fire, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Allen County Council.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1(Buskirk absent). Next is the Allen County Airport Authority.

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Tom Harris: Be it ordained by the Allen County Council that for the expenses of Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority for the year ending December 31, 2014 the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named for the purposes herein specified subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expense of Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Allen County Council.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

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

Tom Harris: Be it ordained by the Allen County Council that for the expenses of Allen County Solid Waste for the year ending December 31, 2014 the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named for the purposes herein specified subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expense of Allen County Solid Waste, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Allen County Council.

Bill Brown: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 5-0-2(Buskirk absent and Armstrong abstained). Next is the 2014 Allen County Budget.

Tera Klutz: I am passing out a sheet that compares the proposed 2014 budget and levy to the 2013 certified levy and adopted budget so that you have a little bit of an idea of how the two compare. We are going to be reading a similar ordinance of appropriation for all of the County funds. Ours is a lot bigger because we have several hundred funds listed in our ordinance. On your summary, I have just the funds that require a tax levy. For the levy, it was permitted by law to grow by the average six-year growth factor in non-farm personal income which was 2.6 this year. We recommended that adoption of a 2.6% increase because even though our rate will increase, the collections may not because of Circuit Breaker at the back end. If you follow the top portion of your summary, you are going to see the General Fund and the Reassessment Fund. Those funds are at our max

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levy and are tied to the 2.6% growth factor. Below, the Cumulative Capital Fund, the Bond Fund and the Cumulative Bridge Fund are tax rate fixed funds. They are growing by the 2.6%. With the Bond Fund, we would generally have a higher growth factor because we would need an operating balance but with Jackie's help, we have been able to work our cash flow just to keep that at the lowest amount of increase that we can because of timing of our debt payments next year. If you keep going further to the right, you will see Assessed Value and what it was last year compared to this year. How that is important is because the effective net assessed value and the effect of what you do with the levy, whether increase or decrease, ends up having a net effect on the tax rate and it works inversely. If your levy goes up and your assessed value goes up, your tax rate could stay the same if they both went up by the same amount. If your levy goes up but your net assessed values go down, you then actually multiply the increase in your tax rate. You can see that the net effect of our increase in levy of 2.6% plus the expected 1.2% increase in net assessed value equals about a 1.3% effect on the tax rate for County taxpayers next year.

Darren Vogt: This is an odd question and I don't expect you to know the answer but do we ever track how much of that is new investment growth versus ordinary growth?

Tera Klutz: We haven't and often it is because it is almost like a ten-year deal or five-year deal because all of the new investment is abated. It is never showing up for several, several years.

Darren Vogt: Some of that is but real estate residential wouldn't.

Tera Klutz: We haven't had growth in residential in a long time. Generally, right now, our changes are due to the market. I can almost say 90% of our changes are due to the dips, ebbs and flows of the market. Market is up a little bit right now and so our values are up 1.2%.

Darren Vogt: Not significant.

Tera Klutz: No.

Darren Vogt: In reality, I would say it is a good thing compared to the crashes on the east coast. We didn't fall as hard and we getting closer to back to where we were.

Tom Harris: Maybe a question along the same line. Has that net assessed value of our properties in the County, if that increases, the tax rate basically drops for the citizens of Allen County.

Tera Klutz: Yes, that is true. It is an inverse relationship. As the values go up, you divide them by that same amount of levy. Say you had a hundred million dollars of tax levy, the rate will go lower because we need to charge less per one hundred dollars of assessed value to come back to the hundred million dollars.

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Tom Harris: It behooves us as Council and the economic development vitality of the community to keep that healthy and to keep it growing because if that happens, we all pay less. That is what is going on in this process this year.

Roy Buskirk: For my little pea brain, it is like a teeter-totter.

Tera Klutz: Yes, thank you. It is the teeter-totter.

Darren Vogt: Those of us that have been on Council for a while knows that Councilman Buskirk loves the teeter-totter. Are there any other questions? This is good information to have especially when you see the 3.2% at the bottom but with the net effect of 1.37%.

Tera Klutz: The bottom portion is just the budget which is a little different from the levy. The budget includes all of our other revenue sources for those same funds. I don't have anything else to add. I will pass the big ordinance over to Councilman Harris.

Tom Harris: Be it ordained by the Allen County Council that for the expenses of Allen County for the year ending December 31, 2014 the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named for the purposes herein specified subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expense of Allen County, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Allen County Council.

Bill Brown: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. You should have a salary ordinance for Classified Employees.

Tera Klutz: I will permit you to read that one line.

Roy Buskirk: You don't have to read that whole thing, Bill.

Bill Brown: Move for approval of the 2014 Salary Ordinance for Classified Employees.

Tera Klutz: These are all of the employees that are on a grid.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0.

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Bill Brown: Move for approval of the 2014 Salary Ordinance for Non-Classified Employees.

Tera Klutz: Non-Classified includes the Chief Deputies, Doctors, Lawyers and Department Heads.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0.

Bill Brown: Motion to approve 2014 Salary Ordinance for Elected Officials.

Roy Buskirk: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0.

Bill Brown: Motion to approve the 2014 Salary Ordinance for Part-Time Employees.

Tera Klutz: Basically you are approving an hourly rate or range that they can pay their part-time help throughout the year.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Are there any recent or upcoming events that Council needs to be aware of? Some of you were there last night and we had the Joint Permitting Group had done the combining of the ordinances for Land Use Planning. It was the first public hearing last night and the Omni Room was full. We will have our business meeting next week and it will be voted on next week and then it will go to the Commissioners for the County side and the City Council.

Larry Brown: Just a quick follow-up. If any of you have been quizzed by constituents or are curious, you can go to the DPS website and download and look at all of the different ordinances, changes and updates. There is a summary that highlights everything. It is pretty user-friendly. It amazes me that this process has been going on for over eighteen months. This is back to the \$1.4 million shared by the City and the County. As early as Friday, last week, I was contacted by a constituent who is also a friend who had no clue that this was going on. Unfortunate but in my opinion everything has been done reasonably possible to make people aware of this effort. It has been in the paper and on television but there are still people that have no clue. This is coming up for a public hearing and if they had been a little more aware of what was going on, they would have realized a long time ago that it is an improvement. It is not impeding anybody. In

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summary, I would say it is making things easier. There is more clarity and transparency and it is improved. The verbiage is a cleanup that has been needed for a long time.

Darren Vogt: Clarifying definitions and a lot of things will be the same but there will be parts of it that the City doesn't have and the County does and vice versa. Definitely it is a good thing. Councilman Buskirk.

Roy Buskirk: I would like to add that this all comes from the Plan-It Allen and the recommendation to do this. It had been like three years that the Department of Planning was working on it. This is one of the reasons that the Permitting Board was created and came up with the \$1.4 million. The Permitting Board hired Clarion to get this process done. Like Larry just mentioned, Clarion has been working on it for almost a year and a half. I think their fee was around \$250,000 to get this brought to a head. They have done that or otherwise we would still be working on this.

Larry Brown: Clarion, alone, has had 65 public meetings over the course of this project. I believe every one of them have been in this building. There is a group of stakeholders, some contractors and developers and so forth that make up a stakeholders group that has met over 50 times. There has been a lot of effort put into it.

Darren Vogt: I don't want to belabor this but I took pretty good notes last night on some of the concerns. I will just highlight the major ones. Combined feeding operations and farming was one of the major things. There were some people concerned about annexation. Obviously that is not what the issue was about. The Airport was somewhat of a concern but they are really following FAA regulations and guidelines. The Tall Buildings and Structures Act and there were some sign ordinance things that may need to be tweaked a little bit. The public has some more input and there is not a finalized draft yet but it will be soon. The Commissioners will also have additional public hearings.

Roy Buskirk: The one thing that was brought out last night was the fact that there are no zoning changes through this process.

Darren Vogt: Correct, people's land is not changing. Councilman Harris.

Tom Harris: On a different issue, if we are ready to move on, I voted for the 2014 salary ordinance for Elected Officials and in respect for all of the Elected Officials that do a tremendous job and dedicated job of providing great service to the community, I voted in favor of that. I am not comfortable, personally, in accepting the increase. I would like the Auditor's Office to assist in how I pay that back or not receive it in the coming year. I would like to not accept that increase.

Roy Buskirk: Is that possible?

Tera Klutz: I don't know because you already adopted the salary ordinance.

Tom Harris: I understand but I can also pay that back.

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Bill Brown: I think you can make a donation.

Tom Harris: I will work that out with the Auditor's Office.

Darren Vogt: Are there any liaison reports or anything like that?

Roy Buskirk: I think the one thing on the Permitting Board is that we are also getting closer on is the Accela program. We are constantly working on that so the public can pull down reports as far as where permits are and which departments are holding up the permits. It has a time stamp on it to show when it goes into each department. It will also give us an avenue to be able to check to see if there is a need for the department to move the permits through. On many of the minor permits, you are able to apply and pay for them electronically. All of this is for an economic impact so that we can get permits going quicker and to tax the project quicker.

Tom Harris: Approval to waive the reading on any matter approved today for which it may be deemed necessary for the County Council meeting of October 17, 2013.

Larry Brown: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor please signify by saying aye. The motion passes 7-0.

Larry Brown: Move to adjourn.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt : All in favor please signify by saying aye. Opposed like sign. The motion carries 7-0. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:36.