

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 22, 2014
8:30 AM

The Allen County Council met on Thursday, May 22, 2014 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 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: Nick Jordan, Chief Deputy Auditor; Jackie Scheuman, Finance and Budget Director 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 and welcome to Thursday, May 22nd, 2014 County Council meeting. Before we get started, I want to take a personal moment here. Twenty-one years ago today I married my wife and I want to say happy anniversary to her. It was a bright and sunny day just like today and the church was under construction but it worked out well and we are still going strong. With that, we have the April 17th meeting minutes. Are there any additions or corrections?

Larry Brown: Move to approve the minutes from April 17, 2014.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0. Nick, do you have the financial report?

Nick Jordan: Good morning, Council. In your agenda you will see the Miscellaneous Revenue through April. We are trending on target. We are currently processing the tax collections. Just to give you a heads up, the Treasurer's Office had some issues with some of the financial institutions and possible new regulations that were passed regarding the taking in of receipts. It has caused some issues with collecting the tax payments and it is creating more work on her end, after the fact. There could be an instance this fall where she comes back looking for more kiosks, or funds for more kiosks, if that is the route that we need to go down. It has almost come to the extent, which collections at certain financial institutions are not as worthwhile as it used to be. There is now work on the back end in getting these payments into

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our tax software and credited to the correct people's accounts. We will see how that plays out. It is just taking her a lot longer to process these payments than in prior years.

Darren Vogt: Is that some of the same thing they did before when they changed the last legislation that came from the Feds?

Nick Jordan: I don't know exactly because we have even heard that some financial institutions have interpreted it different than others. Some are receipting them in differently than others. This is when you go to the bank and give them your tax payment. Whether some are doing more than they have to and some of the others are not, I don't know. I just know that for certain financial institutions it is not going as smooth as it used to. We have people in our office that are now putting these payments into a spreadsheet so that they can get it back to the Treasurer so that she can upload them into our tax software and get them credited to the right account. It is just taking a little bit longer. This spring was our first collection with the kiosk and it worked out well and so that may be an avenue that we do down in the future and they could be located at other places throughout the County whether it is the libraries and so forth, that people can go to and pay their tax bills there. The longer it takes the Treasurer, the later we get the information to process the tax distribution. As of now, it looks like the collections are coming in similar to last year and we will see in the next couple of weeks if they meet expectations. So far, so good.

Darren Vogt: Great. Are there any questions?

Tom Harris: In looking at the Miscellaneous Revenue percentages, it looks like the Auditor is doing very well in terms of the percent. Help me understand that.

Nick Jordan: The Auditor revenue, if you actually go to the Miscellaneous Revenue Explanations you will see that there is around \$533,000 that was transferred from the Ineligible Deductions Fund. That is the way that the statute is set up if it is not used within a year. Revenues go towards the contract and the expenses that we have in reviewing homestead deductions and then anything over \$100,000 is rolled into the General Fund. That is why that is very disproportionate when it comes to the percentage compared to the estimate.

Tom Harris: Is it considered additional revenue or was it projected?

Nick Jordan: This is the first year and we didn't project anything in that regard. That is why the estimate is \$6,100. It is really unknown and when

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this process started there were 10,000 homesteads that had not been verified. It is still an ongoing process. Even if you had verified your homestead, it can still be subject to review. People move and things change. It can be an ongoing process. At the onset, we had the huge group of 10,000 out of the approximate 95,000 homesteads that had not presented their verification. Right at the start, there was a significant group that was subject to these ineligible homestead liens and that generated that big chunk of revenue.

Tom Harris: That is what I was looking at that the Auditor projected about \$6,500 for the year and right now they have received \$536,000. I just wondered if this was new revenue or different revenue. We should probably understand that, I guess.

Nick Jordan: At least for the next year, it could be along the same lines with a comparable dollar amount. It all depends, because we have a third-party contract and they get a percentage of it as they are helping with the research and so forth. Depending if there are as many ineligible homesteads this year, the number could fluctuate.

Darren Vogt: Could you explain, briefly, what we mean by ineligible homestead.

Nick Jordan: Ending in 2012, there was a pink form and you had three years prior to verify your homestead deduction. You are entitled to a homestead deduction if it is your primary residence. In the past, some people had multiples, some were on rentals and some had foreclosure on their homes. In those types of instances, if they never submitted to us the verification, you are to let the Auditor's Office know within 60 days when there is a change of use of that property. In some instances, we have back-billed for three years or six installments and installment means the spring and fall taxes. In others, we have just removed it going forward. If there was a death, obviously that person can't notify us and it may be only removed going forward. At that point, your tax bill will go up. Some could double if you are at the tax cap. If you are at a one percent cap and you go to a two percent cap and you lose the homestead deduction, you could easily double and even increase more than that. It is essentially just making sure that those receiving the homestead deduction are in accordance with the law.

Darren Vogt: You get one.

Nick Jordan: There is one rare exception if a husband and wife had two and one was out of state and there was no ownership in each other's properties. Your wife primarily resides there and you primarily reside at the other but I

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don't think we have had any of those yet. You have to remember that the other states have their own laws on the homestead or a similar deduction.

Darren Vogt: All right, are there any other questions on the financial report?

Roy Buskirk: Since he mentioned the tax cap, when you hit the one percent on residential and the gross assessed value, you are losing the benefit of the homestead deduction, correct?

Nick Jordan: It would be a case-by-case basis. I would say that you are losing the benefit of a mortgage deduction quicker than losing the benefit of the homestead deduction. The homestead standard is \$45,000 and the homestead supplemental is a calculation that is another chunk added on. In cases where you have a significantly valued homestead, that supplemental could be \$100,000 to \$200,000 because it is based on a percentage. It would be a case-by-case basis to say that the homestead deduction becomes worthless because of the Circuit Breaker caps.

Roy Buskirk: Even though it is one percent of the gross. That is for the calculation of the homestead.

Nick Jordan: Yes, but if you take that off, you would have to do it on a case-by-case basis to see if it effected the person or not. Even if they are essentially at the point where the homestead doesn't matter anymore, under current law if you don't have the homestead deduction you are not going to get the one percent cap.

Roy Buskirk: Okay.

Nick Jordan: They go hand in hand unless the Legislature is going to remove or get rid of the homestead deduction the homestead gets a one percent cap. You have to think State-wide too. There are some counties that have zero Circuit Breakers, at this point.

Roy Buskirk: That is correct and that is the reason I phrased it, but we will discuss it later. The Major Bridge Fund, in which we are going to be bringing up later on in today's meeting, about the tax for mopeds. Some of those funds would be going into the Major Bridge Fund. I want to remind people that in 2009 we had agreements with the different cities and towns that they would give back to the County part of their portions so that we could make bridge improvements. I see that we have a balance of a little over \$4 million in the Major Bridge Fund. I would appreciate if next month we could have the Highway Department come and explain where we are at on the Major Bridge

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improvements and replacements because this benefit that we are receiving now from the cities and towns stops in 2017.

Nick Jordan: Just to clarify some stuff, and Jackie can correct me if I am wrong, I don't know if Major Bridge gets any of the wheel tax and surtax. That actually goes into Fund 252 and a couple of other funds but not Major Bridge. I have had discussions with Kim in the last couple of weeks about Major Bridge because Major Bridge gets the property tax and some other miscellaneous revenues but the one thing that is going to happen is the Maplecrest bond payments are going to start coming out of the Major Bridge Fund. Those will take the majority of the revenues coming in and slowly eat down the cash balance that is in there. Those bridge repairs are going to be reverted to the wheel tax-surtax fund, the Highway Fund and other funds that they have. That is where the wheel tax and surtax is going. Everything else does sunset in 2017. Before then, if County Council did not take the initiative to continue on or extend this, it could go to the Allen County Income Tax Council, whichever adopts an ordinance first.

Darren Vogt: And that is mainly the City.

Nick Jordan: Yes, the way that the law is now is that the City has the majority of the population.

Roy Buskirk: But what are those funds being used for currently?

Nick Jordan: Major Bridge? They are using for fixing bridges but the Maplecrest bond payments will be around \$1.8 million.

Roy Buskirk: I understand that Nick but you said the excise tax...

Nick Jordan: The wheel tax-surtax goes into another fund. They do get used for some of the same purposes. There is a budget set out for that. I think it is Fund 252. If you look at your financials, some of it goes into Fund 250.

Darren Vogt: What page is that?

Nick Jordan: It is on page ten. You will see some surtax and wheel tax goes into there. The Highway gets an initial portion and they also get the remittance that you are talking about. Fund 252 is not in here but it is in the budget book.

Roy Buskirk: That is fine but I would personally like to know where we are on that and if that fund is sustaining. Are we gaining on improvements on our County bridges?

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Nick Jordan: That fund has grown, Fund 252, because of the fact that Major Bridge Fund 340 has been used to cover some bridge expenses. Going forward that is going to revert because Maplecrest is going to come out of there and Fund 252's balance will go down as expenses are moved over there. And that is obviously depending on the revenue coming in changing.

Roy Buskirk: That is one thing that this Council was very concerned about when the Maplecrest Road project was done. The bond payment was dependent on TIF money coming and there has not been much improvement in that area. They have to dip into Major Bridge.

Nick Jordan: That is one thing that literally in the last two weeks I have been emailing with Kim and Scott Harrold about. Kim had brought it to my attention about the TIF. I help handle the TIF in our office and that area where 930 and Maplecrest meet and Adams Center, there are a couple of corn fields and a couple of little places like a smoke shop. As of right now, it generates minimal revenue compared to the bond payments. I am not sure what the future entails there.

Darren Vogt: And the backup to that was...

Roy Buskirk: Major Bridge.

Darren Vogt: And the backup to that is CEDIT if I recall correctly. That is our economic development money. That is one of those things that when Maplecrest Road was financed, you and I were the only ones on the Council at that time. It is one of those financing deals when Umbaugh put the numbers together there was one lone vote against that and I will take credit for that vote because it was financed poorly and I hope we don't have issues with our bridge down the road. If we have bridge repair, we may have to bond for them and that is the problem that we've got. We have to make sure that we are on top of that. Bonding is not necessarily the best way to go.

Roy Buskirk: Yes and that is the reason that we were trying to eliminate the bonds. That is what we were previously doing. We were doing most of the bridge repair out of the bond money.

Darren Vogt: Are there any further questions on the financial report? Not hearing any, is there a motion to approve the financial report?

Larry Brown: So moved.

Roy Buskirk: 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.

Larry Brown: Before you go onto something else, to get back to what Roy requested, let's make sure that Highway is notified to attend. I did not listen to the particulars but in the last week to ten days, there has been discussion about bridge inspections and to your point, we need to be in on the results of that inspection for financial planning purposes.

Darren Vogt: Becky, can you notify the Highway, please?

Nick Jordan: I am pretty sure that they are coming to appropriate some additional Maplecrest bond proceeds that are still outstanding. We will make sure that they get here.

Darren Vogt: Great. Nick, do you want highlight the unemployment?

Nick Jordan: On your agenda, you see February and March and that was due to the time that this was sent out. The only change from the March numbers is that Indiana is actually 6.2%. It was revised. For April, it is 5.0% for Allen County, 5.5% for Indiana, 7.2% for Illinois, 7.3% for Michigan, 5.3% for Ohio and 5.9% for national.

Tom Harris: Obviously beating everybody on the sheet, right?

Nick Jordan: Yes, sir.

Tom Harris: All right, very good. It is a good place to be.

Nick Jordan: Again, those are non-seasonally adjusted and they will reflect some of your seasonal employment that picks up in the spring.

Tom Harris: And the challenge now is to get to the fours. We will see how the economy continues to grow.

Roy Buskirk: The National dropped almost one percent in one month.

Nick Jordan: Yes and the asterisk that I put by it means non-seasonal. They are not smoothed to factor that seasonal employment.

Darren Vogt: We've got to keep that in mind. You start getting that temporary employment in mind. It is still good employment, don't misunderstand that.

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Nick Jordan: If you compare year-over-year, it's dropped almost 30% from this period last year. Some people say it is because of the labor force. Labor has increased and it's not like people have left our labor force and that is the reason that these have gone down. Our labor force has gone up as the employment has also increased.

Darren Vogt: Are there any further questions or comments? We have today to appropriate in the General Fund, \$23,134 and in Other Funds, \$243,231. With that we will bring up the Drug and Alcohol Consortium for the Drug Free Communities Fund 745.

John Rogers: I am John Rogers and I am the Vice President of Finance for the Board of Directors of the Drug and Alcohol Consortium. I have Cherie Wright with me and she is the Executive Assistant from DAC. That means that she knows the numbers that I don't know. We have a couple of bullet points here. The Drug Free Indiana statute established these local coordinating councils of which DAC is one. It is 25 years old and so is DAC. We file an annual comprehensive plan with the State. It has been approved and is available to the Council and to the public. By State statute, DAC is allowed to retain one-quarter of the funds that they get dealing with this particular group of funds and it allows us to operate and do the work that we do in coordinating with the various groups. The other 75% is to be divided among prevention, law enforcement and intervention/treatment. We are a 501C3 organization. We have a Board of Directors, a Finance Committee and most important, an ad hoc committee of Board members and community members that looks at the grant requests. They decide what our recommendation would be towards the various organizations whether it would be the Allen County Sheriff's Department, New Haven Police Department, Fort Wayne or even some social service agencies that do counseling work with people that come through the system. Our grant cycle opens on March first. We have our meeting after the grants are accepted. We don't do multiple year grants. These are one-year grants. In some cases you will see that the agencies or groups are the same ones because like the Police Department for radar units or Breathalyzer equipment, they may have an ongoing need from year to year. You do tend to see some of the same people coming back. We require six and twelve month reports from the various groups and agencies and in some cases we actually go out and do interviews and onsite visits to see how the money is being spent and what is happening with it. That being the case, we are here to request an appropriation of the recommended Local Drug Free Community Funds. Thank you.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Buskirk.

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Roy Buskirk: How often do you grant these funds?

John Rogers: Once a year. That is the March first thing when it opens. They submit the request and then the ad hoc committee looks at them and then it goes to the Board of Directors and then onto this regulatory process.

Roy Buskirk: The Juvenile Center applied for a grant. Do you know if that was approved? I know it is in another section of my iPad.

John Rogers: Right, Juvenile Probation.

Roy Buskirk: Right, for \$9,000 and something.

John Rogers: That was the requested amount. The amount being recommended is \$3,592. This was a situation of the available dollars. Anytime that you ask for requests like that you're going to end up with a lot more than what you can actually distribute to the particular groups and it becomes a decision that this ad hoc committee recommends.

Roy Buskirk: That was to lease two pieces of equipment to be able to detect...

John Rogers: I have been trying to bring around that discussion because I was there at that meeting and we weren't sure that the leasing was, given everybody else's, that it was the way to go.

Cherie Wright: That is correct.

John Rogers: Can you step in and help me there?

Cherie Wright: What they decided to go ahead and fund were the other things like the chemical reagents that test for marijuana or THC and those types of things. There are 400 tests that we approved. There are 200 of some tests that detect synthetic marijuana and some intoximeters with the mouthpieces that go with the intoximeters. There was also some dry gas. The two Transdermal Alcohol Detectors is the portion that they did not fund.

John Rogers: We are trying to spread the money out.

Roy Buskirk: I understand. I am not sure how they are going to fund those. The two pieces of equipment are kind of interesting and they wanted to lease them to see how they were going to work before they purchased them. With ankle bracelets, you can tell if a person has been consuming alcohol. That blows my mind.

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John Rogers: We were surprised by that too. The technology goes beyond what we understand.

Roy Buskirk: Right.

Darren Vogt: Every once in a while you do a grant cycle the second time through if money is left over, right? I think we have done that once or twice before.

Cherie Wright: On occasion, like when we get \$60,000 requests and we get requests for \$40,000 then we have the other \$20,000 and need to do another grant cycle to try to appropriate that all in the same year. That is the way that the State prefers that we do it. That way we make sure that we get all of the money out every year. On occasion some money will come back. Typically it has been granted past the grant cycle and done in this kind of a process, if it comes back later in the year and we are not going to be able to use it, we put it into the next year's cycle. We don't typically have a second one but I know there were two or three years in a row when we had to do it. We try not to bother you more than once a year.

Darren Vogt: That's okay. I just know that I told the Judge that sometimes there is a second cycle. Councilman Harris.

Tom Harris: You might explain where those funds come from. Secondly, you have \$235,000 requests and how many requests are there?

Cherie Wright: I believe it is seventeen organizations.

Tom Harris: And as far as the funding and the money that comes to you, where do you get those funds?

Cherie Wright: The funding comes from OWI arrests and drug arrests. There are two different funds, and Nick probably knows the numbers, and a portion of those fines will go to. That is what the statute from the State of Indiana set up. In all 92 Counties, that is the case. Whatever is collected for the year is what we use for the grant cycle in addition to any returned funds or whatever.

Tom Harris: So it is kind of a user fee. In other words, the folks that are in this program are paying into the program.

John Rogers: I think it is interesting to note that we track the OWI arrests in our reports and those are trending down, the dollars that are generated from that. I guess that is saying or you hope that things are working better and

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people are doing better. It is a challenge on that standpoint because the numbers are not what they used to be.

Roy Buskirk: So is that only on court fees that are collected in Allen County?

Cherie Wright: Correct.

John Rogers: That is Allen County.

Roy Buskirk: I mean there are no funds here from State or anything?

Cherie Wright: No.

Darren Vogt: Are there any further questions?

Nick Jordan: Council, I wanted to point out that if you look at the four-page listing that shows the different agencies that are getting the funding, you will see the \$243,000 figure. They are only requesting \$235,591. That goes to the explanation that there are some existing funds that don't need appropriation because they already have them on hand to fund one of these grants. That is in case you wondered why there was a difference between those.

Darren Vogt: Are there any further questions, Council?

Tom Harris: I will make a motion for the appropriation in Drug Free Communities Fund 745 in the amount of \$235,591.

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.** Thank you. Next on the agenda is the Coroner.

Mike Burris: Good morning, gentlemen, Mike Burris with the Allen County Coroner's Office. We were here in April to request funds to replace a vehicle that we have in our fleet. We were requested by Council to go back and give it some thought. Since that time, I have taken a look at it. Since the beginning of 2014, on our call rotation we have one Deputy Coroner that is on-call and is responsible for responding to scenes as needed. So far, in 2014, there have been fourteen occurrences where there was a need for a Deputy Coroner at two scenes at the same time. I have those broken down and we can go over the individual cases, if you want. The primary Deputy Coroner that was on-call was either tied up at a scene or at an autopsy and had to request assistance from a second Deputy Coroner. Coroners need to respond to all

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homicides, suicides and motor vehicle crashes. For the past two nights we have had a critical incident stabbing and a critical incident shooting. The Coroner's Office responds to those also but if they don't die, they don't go into our stats. I don't have the number of times that we have been paged out on the critical incidents and the people don't pass away. Of those fourteen, the primary Deputy Coroner could be tied up at an autopsy and then a second scene comes in and someone needs to respond to the scene. Of the Coroner's staff, there are two people who are compensated for off-duty overtime. Pat and Becky are the two full-time in the office. I and Dr. Nelson are strictly salaried employees. Part-timers are hired in to cover the call rotation.

Darren Vogt: Council?

Larry Brown: Operation-wise, nothing has changed. In other words, what you shared with us last time about on-call rotation and all of that is still the same.

Mike Burris: Correct. Last time, there was discussion of the low mileage of the vehicle. I did check and there is approximately 2,700 commute miles. The vehicle, in 2011, put on 8,400 miles. In 2012 it was 6,700 and in 2013 it was 7,800. Both full-time employees know that the vehicle is not a second vehicle for the family and is only utilized for work related issues and the mileage shows that. The Commissioners' Office knows that the vehicle is under their guideline for take-home vehicles. The need for the vehicle and the need for the Deputies to respond to the scenes outweigh the mileage issue.

Darren Vogt: How did you determine the 2,700 commute miles?

Mike Burris: I approximated where the person lives to the City County Building. I doubled that and for 365 days a year, I subtracted 48 days for the weekends and then took off for sick time, vacation time and holidays and that brings it down to approximately 2,700.

Roy Buskirk: I'm sorry, I wasn't fast enough on writing down the mileage and the years but 7,800 was 2013 and so business miles were 5,100.

Mike Burris: That would be approximate.

Roy Buskirk: Wow. I think we could almost look for a used vehicle to replace it.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Harris.

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Tom Harris: A couple of questions. Just to back up, this is an additional vehicle?

Mike Burris: No, it is to replace a 2001.

Tom Harris: So it is a replacement and it is your assessment through the County Garage and such that this vehicle needs to be replaced. We spoke yesterday and did you have a chance to find out if there are other vehicles that you could be traded with?

Mike Burris: No, I wasn't able to get hold of the Garage at this time. The Sheriff's Department is the one that I would have to contact and would have a comparable vehicle that we would need.

Tom Harris: They do have an ongoing process of using user fees to buy new vehicles. What is the mileage on the vehicle that you are wanting to trade?

Mike Burris: We have 130,000 miles on the 2001 Jeep.

Bill Brown: That vehicle would stay in the pool, right?

Mike Burris: Ron McCoy at the Garage said that the vehicle would be reassigned either to the Garage for a parts vehicle or to another agency with the County for non-emergency travel.

Roy Buskirk: In the service and expense report it is showing that in three years it has \$1,058. That is a little over \$300 a year. That is oil changes and lubes.

Darren Vogt: Regular maintenance.

Larry Brown: Where are you getting that from because that is different from what we had last month?

Roy Buskirk: It is on page 23.

Darren Vogt: Not to mention the fact that the car is going to be recycled into the fleet. That is the thing that I am looking at. This car has not met its life expectancy and is still out there and still going to be used in some way, shape or form. It is still performing very well. These cars and this particular model have done well for us in maintenance. I can tell you that I have cars that are newer than that and have more maintenance on them. I am struggling with actually getting rid of this car especially when you change it from someone who has been driving this car for a number of years and you put a new person

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with a new style of driving and that can inhibit its performance from a maintenance standpoint. Council, are there any other questions?

Bob Armstrong: The only thing I've got to add, and this brings an issue up and is something that we need to look at during the budget time, it always amazes me that when a department gets rid of a vehicle there is a reason why they are getting rid of it. It seems like we just keep hand-me-down, hand-me-down, hand-me-down and hand-me-down. Eventually, in the upcoming budget process, we need to probably sit down and really look at the vehicle process on handing down. I take it this came from the Sheriff's Department.

Mike Burris: I believe it was purchased new in 2001.

Bob Armstrong: For your department.

Mike Burris: Correct.

Bob Armstrong: Okay. It just amazes me because are we rotating the fleet because we just want new vehicles? You are getting rid of a vehicle for what reason? Is it the maintenance? Is it the miles? Is it the color? I just think this is something that we really need to look at especially at budget time and the way we operate the rotation of our fleet.

Mike Burris: One of the reasons that we came to the table is that the County Council Vehicle Replacement Request has a life expectancy of approximately ten years. That is the general recommendation. The vehicle is equipped for emergency runs and has lights and siren and a police radio. We can keep in contact with law enforcement at the scenes. If I-69 is closed down, the vehicle is going to have to be driven with the emergency equipment on and on the median to get through the traffic and to the scene. The ten years is the recommended life expectancy for vehicles and 130,000 miles is for intermediate vehicles. That is the reason why we are here. We have reached the life cycle and Ron McCoy believes that the vehicle should not be operated as an emergency vehicle.

Bill Brown: I was just curious on the general appearance of the vehicle. Sometimes when they get old they get beat up. Has this been maintained well and does it represent the County well?

Mike Burris: It looks good but Pat has let me know that with the rains that we have just had that there are some leaks into the passenger compartment of the vehicle. There has been some water on the floor after these last couple of rains that we had. That is something that we will have to address.

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Roy Buskirk: It is around the windshield?

Mike Burris: I am not sure where the water is coming from. She noticed it after the last couple of storms.

Tom Harris: Mike, you mentioned that you were going to be in touch with the Sheriff's Department but had not had the chance to do that yet. Any thoughts on when you might be able to do that?

Mike Burris: Probably in the next week or so. That would be an easy conversation with them.

Tom Harris: You would be able to find out if they have another vehicle that might be better than what you have and that they need to transfer or something.

Mike Burris: Correct.

Darren Vogt: I struggle that it will be an accurate thing to do. I would assume that their vehicles are driven harder than this. This is an emergency vehicle but doesn't run 90 miles per hour to a scene. It is driven the speed limit with following all normal emergency procedures. It is not something that would be put to the test.

Mike Burris: It will not be driven hard.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Brown.

Larry Brown: We are beating a dead horse here, as far as I am concerned. What I mean by that is that the bigger question is, are take-home vehicles warranted and I am not sure that we are the ones to decide that. Secondly, is an emergency vehicle necessary for the Coroner's Office? I am not capable of deciding that. My point is, if indeed an emergency vehicle is required for the Coroner's Office and apparently it is, this vehicle has made it through its lifecycle and is past the lifecycle and so it is time to do something different. Take-home vehicles, I believe that is under the Commissioners' responsibility and that is a total different issue.

Darren Vogt: I would argue that the financial control comes through us.

Larry Brown: I understand that but the take-home vehicle policy is the Commissioners.

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Darren Vogt: The vehicle life-cycles are recommendations. I can tell you that this vehicle is solid from the fact that it is going back into the fleet. It will be driven no differently now than if it was in someone else's fleet. It is not driven in any kind of way that is emergency operation. The emergency side of this is that it is going to an emergency scene rather than being driven in chase types of situations. When you look at those guidelines, I would say that this is more along the guidelines of a full size rather than an intermediate from a vehicle standpoint. It is an SUV. An intermediate is a sedan type of scenario.

Larry Brown: It is not a first responder vehicle. It is a criminal scene investigation vehicle.

Darren Vogt: That is a really good way to put it.

Larry Brown: To your point, that is exactly right. The maintenance that has occurred on this vehicle, like you pointed out, is minimal, routine and expected.

Roy Buskirk: I will make a motion to deny the purchase of a new vehicle.

Larry Brown: I will second that.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion to deny the request for the vehicle. Is there any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. Let's do a show of hands on that. The motion to deny is 5(Vogt, Harris, B Brown, Buskirk and L Brown)-2 (Armstrong and Howell).

Mike Burris: Thank you.

Bob Armstrong: I think something to add, Larry has a point and we talked about it earlier, another budget issue that is dollars and cents. We need to look at and talk with the Commissioners about the take-home vehicle policy. In that instance there me personally, if I come home and find my son or daughter had hung themselves in the garage or whatever, I don't want to have to wait for the Coroner's Office to go from point A to point B to get the vehicle to come to me. And that is especially if they are driving past the scene to go back to the scene. That is here or there. On the part of the take-home vehicle thing, I think that there are definitely dollars that can be saved. We have people taking vehicles home that are just transportation.

Larry Brown: I was going to point out, and if I can summarize what Council was thinking, is that there is a person on call 24/7. Why can't a pool car be

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used with emergency capability and rotated amongst the people that will be on call rather than three people have take-home cars.

Roy Buskirk: Three people have take-home cars and only one of them is on call.

Darren Vogt: There have been a few instances where there have been two callouts. I asked him to break those numbers down. We have already voted on this and we need to move this along. I asked him to break that down between business hours and after business hours and that information didn't come. I am going to move this discussion on after your point.

Bill Brown: I initially voted for this on the last go-around and that was my leaning this time but after looking at the car and the type of car and the condition it was in, we are not saying never but not at this time. The car didn't appear to have issues about getting out to the scene. That is why I changed my vote.

Darren Vogt: All right, with that we will move to the Allen County Juvenile Justice Center. They request permission to apply for a Drug and Alcohol Consortium grant.

Jamie Mann: Jamie Mann with ACJC and Juvenile Probation.

Rob McComb: Rob McComb with ACJC Probation.

Jamie Mann: As President Vogt just indicated, we are here to request permission to apply for a Drug and Alcohol Consortium grant. Obviously the application has already been made. It has been several years since our department has participated in one of the DAC grants. It was somewhat of a last minute decision this year to make the application. Our planning was not as good as it should have been in regards to coming before you and getting permission beforehand. Nevertheless it appears that we are going to get part of our grant as they indicated earlier. The total amount that we had originally requested was \$9,584. I brought my Supervisor of the Detention Alternative Electronic Monitoring Program to go over the specifics but that was already brought to the table this morning. I guess if you have any questions, we would be happy to answer them.

Roy Buskirk: I am sorry, I messed up some of your presentation.

Jamie Mann: That's all right.

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Darren Vogt: That will move us along a lot faster that way. Now that we know the grant cycle is in March and we need to make sure that we get those on the front end of that.

Jamie Mann: Absolutely.

Darren Vogt: It is always good to know that the money is available even though sometimes you don't get the entire request.

Roy Buskirk: I have a question on that. Do you have any idea, you must not have been aware of this yesterday, that it was \$3,500.

Jamie Mann: No.

Roy Buskirk: We had a meeting yesterday afternoon.

Jamie Mann: They have not released any of that information to us yet.

Roy Buskirk: Okay, it is probably premature but do you have any idea how you are going to raise the other \$6,000?

Jamie Mann: I don't believe that we saw those transdermal units a necessity but as an opportunity to enhance our current program. I guess we will go back to the drawing board and maybe ask them to purchase them next year when the grant cycle comes around.

Roy Buskirk: I really thought that was very good on your part to lease them for a year to see how they actually work. To me, it is just amazing that the ankle bracelet can tell if they are consuming alcohol or drugs or anything.

Rob McComb: The purchase price, if I remember correctly, is around \$1,750 each. The thought of leasing them and seeing what kind of benefit we can get from them was kind of the idea. We have so many more kids coming in with the OWI charges, public intoxication and so on. To answer your question earlier, what it does is reads perspiration and then converts it to blood alcohol content.

Darren Vogt: It is probably not as accurate...

Rob McComb: It is Court Certified and can be utilized in Court. The one thing about them, and the ones that we priced were a little more expensive, is that they are cellular units because we are running into so many problems with landlines. Many people do not have home phones and it is a little more

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expensive to go with the cellular ones because of the wireless towers and so on. It was the idea to try to do a one-year pilot to see if it worked.

Darren Vogt: One of the things that they did in that grant is that they gave you the equipment to go with it. You need to think through that. If you are going to take the money, you need to get the equipment and there is no sense to buy the extra stuff if you can't use it.

Rob McComb: Sometimes my officers come across substances during home visits and instead of calling law enforcement to have it tested, I have made arrangements with Jason Bodie from New Haven Police to train them on how to work these drug test kits and stuff so that we won't have to call law enforcement.

Darren Vogt: Okay, great. Council, are there any further questions?

Roy Buskirk: I will make a motion to give permission to apply for the Drug and Alcohol Consortium grant.

Larry 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.

Bill Brown: Mr. President, I am going to have to excuse myself for a few minutes. I will be back.

Darren Vogt: All right, thank you. Next is Superior Court. We have consideration of salary ordinances to pay a CASA Director up to and a temporary salary ordinance.

Charles Pratt: Judge Charles Pratt from Superior Court.

Rex McFarren: Rex McFarren, Director of the Allen County CASA Program.

Jerry Noble: Jerry Noble, Court Executive in Superior Court.

Charles Pratt: We begin with sort of a sad note to report, at least as far as the community is concerned especially as it relates to children. Rex McFarren is retiring in August from the CASA Program. Some of you that have been around as long as I have can recall that Rex is our first Director coming onboard in 1985. He has been recognized State-wide as being one of the best Directors or the best Director in the State. He has maintained the certification of the CASA Program on both the National certification and the

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State certification helping the Court maintain its statutory responsibilities to provide volunteers to assist in child abuse and neglect cases. The track record of the savings of the CASA Program and the benefits that the CASA Program has brought to this community has been repeatedly recognized in my presentations to the Council, over the years. A great deal of that is due to Rex's hard work and dedication to that program. He will be sorely missed. The position that he has maintained and really has developed over the years has brought about a contingency of 165 volunteers currently. There is also a staff and an advisory board. It seemed to us that very similar to Jerry Noble's position, we do a couple of things. That is to make the salary ordinance, Jerry can talk a little more about this in detail, so that we can advertise the position appropriately and that whomever we hire can have the opportunity to work a week or two with Rex to make sure that the transition is as seamless as possible. Jerry?

Jerry Noble: Simply to request from the Council to grant the authority for the temporary salary ordinance for this training period. It is, as Judge Pratt alluded, a carbon copy of the request before you in the April meeting. Rex has been a tremendous asset for the Court and the community and we want to make the transition as smooth as possible. I had an opportunity to briefly go over this with Councilman Harris a while ago and our request is for the temporary salary ordinance and to amend the salary ordinance for his position to say "up to".

Darren Vogt: How many years do the two of you have?

Rex McFarren: Twenty-nine on the day that I retire.

Jerry Noble: Forty-three all together.

Darren Vogt: A lot of institutional knowledge. I am sure that your phones will be ringing. Council, are there any questions on this request?

Roy Buskirk: I keep hearing about this but is part of the reason for retirement because of the change in PERF?

Rex McFarren: Actually, my plans were to retire next spring and then with the changes in PERF it was not financially responsible on my part to add another eight months onto my employment.

Roy Buskirk: Okay, thank you. The other question is on the range of salary and what dollar amount are we talking about?

Nick Jordan: It is up to \$66,217 which is the current salary.

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Roy Buskirk: Wouldn't it be more likely that the replacement would not have the 29 years of experience?

Larry Brown: That is why it says "up to".

Roy Buskirk: Well, yeah, but I mean why...

Darren Vogt: If you don't put "up to" then you have to pay them that salary.

Roy Buskirk: I understand that but why would you go up what the current salary is? Why wouldn't it be somewhat less?

Bob Armstrong: It might take that to bring someone in.

Charles Pratt: We are advertising State-wide as opposed to just locally. It will be on the Indiana.gov, with the Judicial Center and other places. There is the possibility that the CASA Director from another County that may want to relocate here and assume this responsibility. There is a high probability that there is someone with a lot of experience that may be soliciting to us for that job.

Roy Buskirk: I have seen in the past when it says "up to" that it usually is the figure that it ends up being. That is the reason that I was questioning that.

Larry Brown: I will remind you that we have done the same thing lately.

Roy Buskirk: I know we have.

Tom Harris: I would like to move for consideration of the amended salary ordinance amending the pay within Superior Court 100-6204-412, CASA Director, 16-54, Executive classification up to \$66,217.

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 5-1(Buskirk)-1(B Brown absent).

Tom Harris: The next one is for the temporary salary ordinance for the training of someone that would be brought in for a period of overlap. I move for consideration of a temporary salary ordinance for training new employees and for establishing the pay within the budget of Superior Court, 100-6201-

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412, CASA Director, 16-78, Executive classification, up to \$66,217. This is effective August 11 through 22, 2014.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second.

Larry Brown: Would we be better off to say two weeks rather than specify a date since you don't have a candidate onboard?

Tom Harris: The intent would be that they would start then. If you hired them next month, you would still bring them on at that date which is two weeks prior to your retirement date.

Jerry Noble: That is correct. What we want to avoid is a situation where someone is trained for a couple of weeks and then were missing for a week or two and then they come back.

Larry Brown: Just trying to keep it effective.

Jerry Noble: I appreciate that.

Tom Harris: And they could be applying somewhere else.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 5-1(Buskirk)-1(B Brown absent).

Charles Pratt: I would like to let the Council know that the process by which we are going to select Rex's replacement, Rex and I talked in great detail and it is important that the community understands that the person that is a solicitor of volunteers is representative of the community. We are convening an advisory council of individuals that are familiar with CASA to help me screen the candidates for the final selection. We want to make sure that all of the sectors of the community are represented in the selection of this important position.

Darren Vogt: Rex, I want to thank you for your 29 years of service to this community.

Rex McFarren: Thank you. It has been a joy.

Darren Vogt: With that, we have the Commissioners' request for State-wide 911 Fund 837.

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David Ringer: David Ringer, President of Allen County Fire Chiefs Association. I am here today in reference to the Fire Chiefs Association on behalf of the County Fire Departments. If anyone is familiar with Spillman, the County departments don't utilize Spillman as the City of Fort Wayne does. There is a Spillman module that can be purchased from the County and that module will allow County Departments to get dispatched via cell phone or in the station on a screen. There are a lot of benefits to it. There are two portions, the Spillman module that we have to purchase and the Departments have purchased the I Am Responding. What this allows for is primarily in the County you have volunteer fire departments. We all get toned out via a pager. These pagers are one-way pagers. They do not communicate. We can't say that we are in route and based on relying on volunteers, we don't know how many personnel are responding to the station. This new technology, as people are walking out of their house, they can hit the I Am Responding on their phone and that shows up on a monitor when we walk in the station door. That way I will know if I have three people coming or twelve people coming. It is a great tool that allows us to know how many trucks we can get on the road. Some of the Chiefs have started carrying the iPad's in the Chiefs' vehicles and it will determine if we go to the station and get a truck or we stay in our command vehicles to go to the scene. There are so many benefits to it. The pagers are running about \$400 apiece. When someone comes on and we know they are going to be around, this is another tool and we can input them into the system and don't have to hand out that \$400 pager and they still get alerted. In addition to that, with the pager we get toned out and the dispatcher gives us our call and that is the end of it. In conjunction with that the Officer of the engine has his phone or iPad and it is giving us additional information. That is input into Spillman for the dispatch to see but we don't necessarily get relayed to us. It also maps it out. Not only do we carry the map books in our truck, it also gives us mapping. If we are going to a mutual aid with Northeast, instead of rifling through the Northeast side, our phone or iPad is actually directing us there. What we are looking for is all of the County Departments, we have everyone onboard with the exception of Hoagland, to contribute to half of this Spillman module. We are seeking the other half of that from County Council. In addition to that you probably have about 500 first responders that are currently using this program. We have had discussion after discussion, this has been going on since the first of the year, and we have not had any negativity on it. It is such a useful resource.

Darren Vogt: Have they paid for it themselves?

David Ringer: It is negotiated and we are on a temporary trial basis. It has been extended because of the money. This is a one-time fee. There was a \$1,400 maintenance fee that was initially going to be implemented from

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Spillman but I know Ed Steenman and a few others have negotiated and the annual fee is waived.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Harris.

Tom Harris: Why not Hoagland?

David Ringer: I can't speak on behalf of Hoagland. We've had the meeting and their Chief, I won't speak badly about Troy at all. Getting technology-driven has been an obstacle for him.

Tom Harris: So let's say that this gets passed and approved, what happens? Do they get it or do they not get it?

David Ringer: Every department...

Tom Harris: So they will receive it.

David Ringer: No they won't. They will still have their pager system until they contribute to it. There are two portions to this. You have the Spillman module that gets the information out. That is what we are going for. You have to purchase the I Am Responding program. Until Hoagland purchases that once we have purchased the module...other departments could ultimately utilize it. The City already has a paging system. This allows the distribution out to the iPads.

Tom Harris: And this software can save lives.

David Ringer: Absolutely.

Tom Harris: Because you are making decisions based on what you are gaining back to get there faster.

David Ringer: We are and as all departments in the County are making those decisions based on this software.

Larry Brown: Tom, to give you first-hand experience, there is nothing worse to show up to a fire scene as a first responder and not have any equipment because people aren't coming and you have no clue. You don't know if that truck is two miles down the road or if it is still sitting in the station. There is nothing worse, been there and done that.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Armstrong.

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Bob Armstrong: Another thing with that system, if I understand this, it is also giving you data so that if you are going into a factory with chemicals and everything it is giving you that updated information. Is it the Chief that is getting that information?

David Ringer: The information that we are receiving is what dispatch is putting into Spillman. All of us receive that. Not only does the Fire Chief have this in his vehicle but also the Officer that is riding in the cab of the truck. A prime example is a call we had this morning. It came in as a possible suicide. There was additional information in that. The gal was on narcotics and was seven months pregnant. All this additional information that really elevates that call because dispatch can only tell us so much and we are getting more information that we are responding too that we may change the way we respond.

Bob Armstrong: Not sending a ladder truck and stuff like that.

David Ringer: There is a wide variety of decisions that are made based on this program.

Larry Brown: This request is out of 911 funds. There is a cash balance of \$3,287,031 if I am reading it right. With that, I will make a motion to approve the request for the appropriation in the amount of \$7,640.

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 6-0-1 (B Brown absent).

Tom Harris: Whatever can be done to encourage or enlighten and help Hoagland, I would encourage you.

David Ringer: We are trying.

Darren Vogt: If Councilman Buskirk can get it, anyone can. You knew that was coming. We are at the point of Other Discussion. Nick, do you want to handle the Budget Timeline first?

Nick Jordan: Yes. It is not in your electronic packet but I set down at your places today...

Darren Vogt: Can you send it to us electronically too?

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Nick Jordan: Yes. It is the Allen County 2015 Budget Timeline. Next month we will be here with our projections. If you see any day on here that you are not going to be here or you see an error, let us know. Also, make sure that you are active with your liaison appointments. It is very important, come budget time, that you are essentially one of their voices. If you have any questions, I can definitely take them.

Darren Vogt: Do you think that the problems that the Treasurer is having will give us any static on the timeline?

Nick Jordan: No. It is just a delay. For her, it is a big deal because that is her function. As long as they are applied accurately, it is just a timing issue. In the event that it was something bigger that is when we could utilize the Auditor, Recorder and Assessor personnel to help her. I think if not during the budget time, at least in the fall, we may have the discussion about the kiosks.

Darren Vogt: My concern, just off the top of my head, is just getting people to know that they are there. That is the hard part. They know to come down here but I am not sure but maybe put one in this building so that there is not a line at it. You start spreading them out and people need to know that they are there may be a challenge.

Larry Brown: Nick, did I understand though that there are, so many people have escrow, and different financial institutions that are collecting this escrow are interpreting the law differently.

Nick Jordan: No, right now you can walk into certain financial institutions and PNC is one that quit doing it, you can walk into a Wells Fargo and other banks and make your property tax payment there.

Larry Brown: Okay.

Nick Jordan: Not through an escrow account. This is essentially if you are not escrowed. Instead of coming to the Treasurer's Office or mailing it, they go to a financial institution, one of the designated ones.

Darren Vogt: Escrow is easy.

Nick Jordan: Yes. There are multiple methods on getting the message out there like monthly payment plans and things like that can be done. If you pay with a credit card, there is a fee. There are other routes and it is just a matter of getting that knowledge out there.

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Roy Buskirk: Do you know, actually, what the problem is?

Nick Jordan: I do not know the guidelines that were passed down from Legislation or whomever. Becky, do you know?

Becky Butler: When the person goes into the bank, they have their spring payment and their fall payment. If they want to pay both of them, the bank has to take each one in as a deposit. They take that first one and process it and then they have to take the second one and process it. It is just hosing up the whole process. They get their statement from the bank and they have to go through and figure out which is what because they don't itemize. They give them a deposit slip that says they took in \$500,000 and they have to figure out what it was and who it went to. The banks started that January first.

Darren Vogt: It is easier on the bank, is my guess.

Roy Buskirk: They have to determine how much of that money was fall payments.

Becky Butler: Right.

Larry Brown: And who.

Nick Jordan: Yes, that is what I was going to say.

Becky Butler: They used to staple all of those deposit slips together and that was causing trouble and so she had to tell them to quit stapling and now they paperclip everything but they still have to pull them apart and decipher who's is what and where it goes.

Larry Brown: What a nightmare.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Armstrong.

Bob Armstrong: At next month's meeting, I would like to request that Sue comes and give us a report on the kiosk, how it worked and how many times it was down. Just a summary of what it is actually doing for us. I would be concerned, on my point, to appropriate additional money to put four more machines out in public libraries or township offices. If the machine goes down, who goes out and takes care of it? I just have some questions and concerns and really want to know how that machine is actually doing.

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Darren Vogt: Can we hold that discussion until her budget items? If she is going to ask for it, I assume that she is going to ask for it at budget time.

Becky Butler: I can tell you a little bit. It has been working very well. When it has gone down, Bill the Deputy has been able to somehow key into it and fix things. She was talking about having the additional kiosks in library branches to make them accessible to the public.

Nick Jordan: And I think they would not accept cash.

Becky Butler: Right, they would only take checks and credit cards.

Darren Vogt: I don't have a problem with it I was just thinking that if she is going to request those that it would be during the budget time.

Bob Armstrong: I didn't know if anyone else wanted to know. If you don't want to do that I can just send her my questions and have her answer them that way. I thought everyone would want to be involved and is the machine really doing what we expect it to do?

Darren Vogt: I don't disagree. I think it is a great conversation to have. I just didn't know when she was going to talk about it. She may not be ready to have all of that data put together while trying to get this other stuff done. Who is her liaison?

Bill Brown: I am.

Darren Vogt: Can you have that conversation with her and see when she might be ready. If it is June, that would be great but if she is trying to get all of this other stuff done that's okay too.

Bill Brown: I will do that.

Darren Vogt: Are there any other questions on the timeline?

Larry Brown: In the past, and correct me if I am wrong, we have had discussion on creation of the questionnaire.

Darren Vogt: We have sent that out early via email for input.

Nick Jordan: Since I have been here, we have done a draft in the Auditor's Office and sent it out. I am not sure if it was just to the President or to all. Nonetheless, on the 19th you will see the questionnaire before it gets sent out on the 20th.

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Darren Vogt: Usually they draft it and I sit down and send it out to everybody for comment.

Larry Brown: If we get it electronically to review and then at our next meeting we finalize it?

Nick Jordan: Yes. It will be before the next meeting that you will definitely get it.

Larry Brown: I understand that. We can finalize our discussion though.

Darren Vogt: Make sense? Okay. Are there any other questions on the timeline? The next item for discussion is the new law that adds motor driven cycles to the definition of motor vehicles and to impose the annual surtax/wheel tax. Nick, do you want to give us an overview on that?

Nick Jordan: As Darren noted, the law now has a classification of motor driven cycles. Should the Council not take any action today, that's fine. There is still going to be imposed an excise tax of ten dollars. That has nothing to do with your decision. Your decision will essentially impose a surtax of a certain dollar amount like you have done on other vehicles listed. You will see in your electronic packet that you have the proposed ordinance as well as the old ordinance that is already in place. I think that was revised back in 2009. I tried to understand the law as best as I could but essentially now there are two classes, Class A and Class B, with different requirements. Class B is essentially your scooters that are under 50cc and would have to be registered. If they pass a special examination designed by the BMV, they would have to possess a minimum of an ID card and be 15 years of age with no passengers allowed on the vehicle. This stuff still applies even if you do nothing today. This is all State-wide. All you are doing today is imposing surtax on these new motor driven cycles required to be registered.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Brown.

Larry Brown: I may look at this a little differently than some of you but being a motorcycle advocate, if we don't impose the same or similar flat rate then we are creating an exception. I am in favor of including the motor driven cycles the same as we have on the motorcycles. Otherwise we are creating an exception and I don't see any purpose in creating an exception.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Buskirk.

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Roy Buskirk: In following up with what Councilman Brown is saying, we have a flat rate listed here for motorcycles of \$20. You are saying that if we do nothing, the State is putting on ten dollars?

Nick Jordan: That is the excise tax. This is the surtax and it is for motor driven cycles. The State may have a different excise tax for motorcycles and could be based on price, year and things like that. I am not sure if it is worked like a car.

Roy Buskirk: So what is listed on this ordinance, page 37, is...

Nick Jordan: The surtax.

Roy Buskirk: The surtax and that is only the County. What has been suggested is that the blank here would have to be \$20.

Nick Jordan: It wouldn't have to be.

Darren Vogt: It can be any number we want.

Nick Jordan: There is a limitation on it.

Roy Buskirk: That is what is being suggested.

Nick Jordan: It can be up to \$25.

Roy Buskirk: What other fees are involved with that? I guess I should have researched this a little bit before this meeting. You would have the ten dollars from the State on top of the \$20 from the County.

Nick Jordan: Yes.

Roy Buskirk: Are there additional fees?

Larry Brown: They now have to register just like a motorcycle, a car or a truck.

Roy Buskirk: January first?

Nick Jordan: It starts January first of next year.

Larry Brown: Prior to that you didn't need anything, no registration, no insurance, no safety, no training and no limits.

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Nick Jordan: It says for moped registration, there would be no difference for registration fees for Class A and Class B of motor driven cycles. The fee for a new motorcycle registration is \$25.35. A renewal registration is \$26.05. Fees and renewals for motorcycle registrations are distributed exactly the same with the exception of the BMV Commission receiving \$4.30 for new registrations and \$5 for renewal registrations. The State has estimated that there would be 56,200 registrations. I am not sure how they got to that number.

Tom Harris: That is State-wide?

Nick Jordan: Yes.

Tom Harris: Do you have any idea what that revenue would be?

Nick Jordan: No. I don't know how they arrived at the number of scooters.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Brown.

Bill Brown: You kind of answered my question. I was curious as to how much went back to infrastructure. This whole notion of these fees is, in essence, to provide the transportation infrastructure and we've got a lot of infrastructure out there. These were originally motor driven cycles when basically they put motors on bicycles. They decided, over the years, there was no tax on a bicycle. I think when I was a little kid we had a license plate.

Bob Armstrong: Yes, we used to get them at the fire stations.

Bill Brown: We've got a lot of infrastructure out there and it is going to have to be maintained somehow.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Brown.

Larry Brown: I lost it, sorry.

Darren Vogt: Here is how I look at it. They use the public roadway just like everything else. Just like my boat trailer that uses it one time a year to go up and one time to come back. It still pays the freight that it is supposed to pay. We need to make sure that these things are doing the exact same thing. Now he got it back.

Larry Brown: I did see a news reporter interview a motor driven cycle dealer and the dealer was stating that this would place a financial burden and the purchasers and, I suppose, he is thinking that his business would go down.

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There is responsibility with being on the roadway. I still feel that this is the appropriate thing to do. There is responsibility not only of the individual but also the rest of us on the road. Up until January first, when it goes into effect, there is no insurance requirement, no registration requirement, no safety and no training. It has been a problem and the State has finally addressed it.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Armstrong.

Bob Armstrong: Being an insurance person, if I am driving down the road and one of them hit me or I hit them, what is the insurance?

Darren Vogt: Your insurance will cover it. It depends on them and if they have any coverage at all. If not, it will be onto your policy to cover your vehicle. If you had liability only you go to uninsured property damage. The average person that carries insurance, if they were struck by one, would probably be okay under their own policy. The insurance company would be the one to go after the person that actually did the damage. In reality, they probably wouldn't.

Roy Buskirk: So currently they are required to have any insurance or anything?

Darren Vogt: No.

Larry Brown: No.

Roy Buskirk: I will make a motion that we put the surtax in the amount of \$20.

Darren Vogt: Do we need to pass the ordinance?

Nick Jordan: Yes and we have a nice long one.

Darren Vogt: Do we need to say approve the ordinance and the ordinance number as well?

Nick Jordan: Yes.

Roy Buskirk: You are making it way too difficult.

Darren Vogt: We want to do it right and we don't want to mess it up. Withdraw your first motion.

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Roy Buskirk: I withdraw my first motion. This ordinance needs to be amended because all of the other stuff is in here.

Nick Jordan: Yes, it is going to be written in there and the State has their own documentation that we send to them. That is the new ordinance that you have with the schedule.

Roy Buskirk: Okay. I will make a motion to approve the Allen County Ordinance 2014-05-22-01 adding that the motor driven cycle flat tax will be \$20.

Larry Brown: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. Nick, does that cover us for the ordinance? Is there any discussion?

Tom Harris: I just wanted to share a thought. On one hand, it concerns me to see a new tax come to play but on the other hand, I have kind of pushed the idea that user fees are important for infrastructure and the expenses that we have to do. Secondly, we have read recently that there have been some accidents and possibly even a death of individuals riding these. The seriousness of folks buying that and being on the road is climbing. The use of it is climbing and not to do the responsible thing of raising the awareness and the importance of being on the road and the safety involved is crucial. I think this will help that as well as it is revenue back to paying for those roads that is necessary. I am going to be voting in favor of it.

Darren Vogt: Is there any other discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 7-0.

Nick Jordan: I just wanted to clarify that in 2017, when our current wheel tax/surtax ordinance expires it goes to the Income Tax Council. It does not automatically revert to the Income Tax Council, it is just the first to adopt at that time whether it is the County Council or the Allen County Income Tax Council. Whoever would first adopt it, if you did not amend the first one and continued past December 31, 2017.

Darren Vogt: Are there any recent or upcoming events or meetings?

Tom Harris: Yeah, I can report on a couple of things. One is I had the opportunity to attend the AIC Economic Development Training in Indianapolis this last week. Showing up, I realized it was part of the Auditors' Convention and the whole Auditor's team was there. In that process, one of the concerns that were raised was the length of the TIF's and

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how that is coming to play. Some of the Counties and some of the different agencies around the State have left their TIF statuses in place for length of years which continues to drive revenues to those communities. The State, and correct me if I am wrong here, is putting a limit to thirty years.

Nick Jordan: There was a certain window when some TIF Districts did not have an expiration date. There is new legislation in place that does set an expiration date on TIF Districts, if they did not have one. Unless there are bonds out there and the date is extended a little.

Tom Harris: And the crucial piece to that is that when some of these Districts stayed in place and are in place around the State, it becomes an economic advantage for a company to land in those locations. While we may not have as many TIF Districts or the length of TIF Districts is not long here in Allen County, they have been in other Counties. I won't mention those but those other Counties continued to win some of the bigger developments, from my opinion. That is the kind of thing that we need to keep thinking about. How do we compete with those Counties down-State, if you will?

Darren Vogt: The concept behind the TIF District was to do the infrastructure needed for the attraction that was the business to come. What has happened is those debts have been paid for and the TIF is still around collecting dollars...

Tom Harris: Which they use to continue to enhance.

Darren Vogt: Or incentivize the company to be there or move into there. It doesn't revert back to the taxing units that are out there and struggling under the tax caps. That is the rub. Where is that balance in economic development and the taxing units that are out there?

Tom Harris: So what is happening, and again correct me if I am wrong, the State is basically evening the playing field a little bit and saying that "Hey, you can't keep these TIF's in place forever. They have to stop, at some point."

Darren Vogt: Councilman Buskirk.

Roy Buskirk: What a lot of people don't realize with TIF Districts, it is every taxing unit in that area, the schools, the libraries, City, County and everything. Their taxes are reduced because it is going into the TIF funding for improvements. This is one thing, Darren was previously, and I am currently representing Council on the Redevelopment Commission. We are the ones that vote on that and do away with the TIF District. That is something, since I have been on the Redevelopment Commission, we've been

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watching very closely. When the funding has generated enough to take care of a bond issue, we have reduced some.

Nick Jordan: Each year, the Redevelopment Commission is required to send a letter to the Auditor by mid-July stating the revenues that they will need and not need. Essentially it is turning them on or off or specifying that they only need \$100,000 instead of \$4 million that may be generated. What happens sometimes is that those stay on and there possibly may not be a project or infrastructure for the funds that are necessary.

Tom Harris: And five years later when a company is trying to decide which County to go into, the County with the ongoing TIF says that they have all this money available for you. That is what makes the unfair advantage. It was good to hear that the State is trying to level that playing field. The other piece that is coming up is on June 21st and AIC has called for a State meeting of County Councils and I am planning to attend that.

Larry Brown: Since you are attending, would you give us the highlights when you return?

Tom Harris: Sure.

Darren Vogt: Are there any liaison reports? If we don't have any, that is fine but I am going to say that coming up in the next two months, you need to be working with your Department Heads and Elected Officials on the budget process that is coming up. As you see, it will be here before we know it. Make sure that relationship is there. To Nick's point, I don't know that we are an advocate but we are definitely supposed to have an in depth working knowledge of what their request is. We don't necessarily have to agree with it but we at least have to have a working knowledge and understand that. Advocacy is important but we also want to make sure that we are analyzing it whether it is a take-home car scenario or what. Does anybody have anything else?

Roy Buskirk: Yeah, I've got a couple. One of them is that I sat in for Bill Brown the other day at iMAP. One of the things that was brought up was the aerial photography of the County. They now have a process in which they take pictures on a 45 degree angle so it will give more information such as height on buildings. It is substantially more expensive. I asked the Assessor and she said they would be willing to put \$50,000 a year from the Reassessment Fund. The bill is around \$200,000. I asked her about the benefit of it and being able to obtain better assessments and if it would generate enough revenue to cover the cost and she did not think it would. During the budget hearings, this will be one of the items that will be brought

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up. Unless I receive more persuasion, I am not in favor of paying the additional money over the typical aerals that we have taken now. The other item is ACJC and we are working with other organizations on early education and on some of the studies that are currently taking place. I will forward to you, with the help of Nick, some videos that explain this. It is very interesting to me that as far as early childhood development and how to keep them involved with school. That reduces crime, for one thing. The other item is that Larry DeBoer, I know that Nick was in on the session, spoke on property taxes.

Nick Jordan: Income taxes.

Roy Buskirk: It was on property taxes.

Nick Jordan: It was more or less on income taxes.

Roy Buskirk: I don't know of any of it being on income. It was on property taxes that we pay. It was very interesting how some of the different taxes, over the years, and some of the different revenue for Counties and Cities vary because of sales tax and the Local Option Income Tax. I will also see that it gets forwarded to you. I would highly recommend it. It is almost two hours long.

Darren Vogt: Councilman Harris.

Tom Harris: I thought I would mention that while we have been sitting here, Group Delphi just broke ground and are having their ceremony at 10:00 this morning for a \$4 million lease and expansion. That is an abatement that we approved last year and is continued growth for Allen County.

Roy Buskirk: Following up on that there is a little debate on the fact that they are trying to take advantage of improvements that we made to the County-owned across from GM, Stonebridge. We have submitted a cost for them to tie into the streets and they are balking on it. This could possibly end up in court.

Darren Vogt: I think that agreement has been reached.

Tom Harris: They are actually working through it.

Darren Vogt: That agreement was reached via a meeting we had last week or the week before.

Roy Buskirk: I'm sorry but I wasn't brought up to date on that.

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Darren Vogt: I was getting ready to go in that direction. It was a collaboration of Redevelopment, Rich Beck, me, the Commissioners and the group. It's a win, it really is. There is a fine line between infrastructure and the dollars that are there from the public standpoint. We did reach an agreement and that all has been hammered out. Group Delphi was very concerned about that and it is one of those things that we have to make sure that we are responsive. I had a conversation with their CEO last week and it was definitely something that needed to be worked out and it is now.

Larry Brown: We are glad that a resolution was found. It is a fine line of maintaining and being responsible to the taxpayers and at the same time providing the necessary infrastructure and whatnot for industry or future business

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 May 22, 2014.

Larry Brown: Second.

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

Kevin Howell: 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 10:12.