

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 15, 2016
8:30 AM

The Allen County Council met on Thursday, September 15, 2016 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 appeals and any other business to come before Council.

Attending: Robert A. Armstrong, Joel M. Benz, Larry L. Brown, William E. Brown, Tom A. Harris and Sharon L. Tucker. Roy A. Buskirk was absent.

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

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

Larry Brown: Good morning everyone. I would ask that everybody keeps Roy Buskirk in your thoughts and prayers. He is again in Chicago at the Cancer Center of America for more treatment. He is expected back in town on Sunday or Monday and we will see what the next step is. First on the agenda is the approval of the August 18th meeting minutes. Are there any additions or corrections?

Bill Brown: Move to approve the minutes from August 18th.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

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

Tera Klutz: Good morning, Council. In your packet is the August 31st financial statements and we are still tracking expenses and revenue on track. We have about \$250,000 in requests coming before you today for additional appropriation from the General Fund. I would be happy to entertain any questions or concerns.

Larry Brown: Council, are there any questions?

Bill Brown: I will make a motion to approve the financial reports.

Joel Benz: Second.

Larry Brown: All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Buskirk absent). Nick, would you highlight, I like to say, employment rate?

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Nick Jordan: Good morning, Council. On the agenda you see the June and July non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rates. Allen County went from 4.4% to 4.1%. Indiana went from 4.6% to 4.4% and the National remained at 5.1%. Looking specifically at Allen County, if you look at July 2015 to July 2016, the labor force increased about 4.5%. Employment went up 4.8% and unemployment went down 2.7%.

Larry Brown: Very good, thank you. Before us today we have additional appropriation requests in the General Fund in the amount of \$503,395 and in Other Funds for \$3,191,395. The next item on the agenda is the Town of Grabill and we are intentionally going to delay that until about the 10:00 hour. That said Economic Development is next up.

Scott Harrold: Scott Harrold with the Department of Planning Services and with me is Tyler Kalachnik and Andrew Deuter representing the company. This was before you at the last meeting and since that time the County Economic Development Commission met and held a public hearing and approved the application. It is coming back to you for final approval. Should you approve this today, there will be some additional documents signed by the Commissioners. They have gotten their volume cap from the State and they are hoping to have the bond issued next week. I will just hit the basics and let them give some more detail and answer any questions. This is going to be north of Union Chapel near Parkview North. There will be 162 units, assisted living as well as independent living. There will be facilities for people with Alzheimer's and people that need just a little bit of assistance. The bond issue would be \$37 million and about a \$30 million building which they will pay property taxes on. This facility will employ just under 30 people and about half of those are part-time in the first year and then about 60 when it is up and running. Payroll will be just under a million to start and about \$1.4 million after three years. Again, you are just loaning your tax exempt status and there is no cost to the County and it doesn't affect your bond issuing ability or anything like that. I will let Tyler and Andrew give some more details on what you are approving today.

Tyler Kalachnik: Tyler Kalachnik with Ice Miller, we are Bond Counsel. Scott summarized it pretty well in terms of the project and at the EDC meeting this morning. They passed a resolution recommending passage of an ordinance and it is essentially a not-to-exceed the amount of \$37 million. It may be less than that depending on the pricing that is expected to occur next week with the Bank of America, Merrill Lynch purchasing the bonds. The issuance would come in early October. The ordinance also approves the transaction documents. There is a disclosure document that goes along with it and describes the project and borrower to potential investors. That is all tied up in the ordinance. A public hearing was held and there was no comment adverse or otherwise and we ask that you consider passage of the ordinance today. The Indiana Finance Authority would award volume at their meeting today so that there is authority to issue the bonds. There is no effect on the constitutional debt limit of the County and only the revenues from the project will be the repayment source. Andrew may have some color to add on the actual project. Some of it may be repetitive.

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Larry Brown: I do have a question. I think you told us last time but I have actually forgotten. Is this primarily assisted living?

Andrew Deuter: It is independent living and what we call enhanced living which is independent living with services provided by a third-party home healthcare company.

Larry Brown: Okay. Another thing I will comment on, being a contractor I am aware this is out for bid right now and the general contractor is aggressively actively seeking local contractors to bid the work. I am pretty confident that locals will be building the building. Are there any other questions or comments?

Sharon Tucker: I have a question. Just to refresh myself from the last time we met, you guys have facilities all throughout the northern part?

Andrew Deuter: Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. We have twelve campuses currently open and three more that will be opening in the spring.

Sharon Tucker: And this is a for-profit organization, correct?

Andrew Deuter: Correct.

Sharon Tucker: And you are bringing in thirty employees and half of those will be part-time.

Andrew Deuter: The thirty employee number is for the first year and once we are fully stabilized, we will be at about sixty people and about half of those will be full-time benefit positions.

Sharon Tucker: Can you tell me again about the average wage?

Andrew Deuter: I am not sure exactly what that comes out to but is probably around \$25,000 to \$30,000 on average with the Executive Director, the Chef and some of those positions higher than that.

Sharon Tucker: I think the last time you were before us, I had asked the question of whether we gave our bonding approval or not if you would still build the facility and it was yes, at that time?

Andrew Deuter: It is kind of hard to say. At this point, we definitely couldn't start construction in the next couple of weeks like we are currently anticipating. Hopefully we would be able to find another way but it probably wouldn't be starting this year.

Sharon Tucker: Thank you.

Larry Brown: Bill.

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Bill Brown: I voted against this the last time. As a for-profit entity, Allen County lends this to you so that you can float tax-free bonds and compete with other for-profit apartment entities. You are basically open for business for anyone to move into your facility. I just don't understand that methodology.

Scott Harrold: Bill, if I can address that it has been a while but the City and County have done projects like this in the past and it has been a long time since we have done one. This kind of incident is probably pretty common for this type of facility and I wouldn't be surprised if a lot of the existing companies have gotten some kind of assistance in the past and whether they are for-profit or not. It just helps the operator maintain the costs of operating a facility and keeping the cost down so that they don't have to charge so much.

Bill Brown: That goes to my point. If you are not getting a tax-free bond it is definitely a distinct advantage over and above the market. I need help understanding that.

Andrew Deuter: I would say it is probably not, really. Our cost of borrowing is almost seven percent whereas you can go to a bank these days and it is probably closer to 4.5%. The reason that we do it is because we can lock in our financing long-term and we are making a 35-year commitment to the project. Typically these projects would be done with a construction loan that would be maybe 4.5% to five percent and then you would be refinancing in a couple of years. Maybe that person would be selling and leaving the property but to us it is worth paying a little bit of a premium so that we know what our financing is and can just focus on operating and providing the best experience for our residents.

Tyler Kalachnik: I would like to also add that the distinction you see with other for-profits is that the Federal Tax Code permits this type of financing for these types of companies because they are setting aside a percentage of units for people below a level of area meeting income. That allows the tax exempt status to come into play.

Sharon Tucker: Wouldn't that be a large part of the residents with assisted living? Well, okay...

Larry Brown: You answered your own question.

Sharon Tucker: It would be a large part of the residents and for me it doesn't answer the argument but I am not going to go any further with it.

Larry Brown: Okay, Council, are there any other questions?

Bill Brown: Just so I am clear, by voting yes to this it means those bonds will not pay any Federal income taxes.

Tyler Kalachnik: The receipt of interest, the entity will not pay.

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Bill Brown: So this methodology basically means the Federal government loses revenue for a for-profit entity to build apartments.

Scott Harrold: There is a volume cap and the State allocates that. If they don't get it, someone else probably will.

Tyler Kalachnik: The Federal government understands that they are losing by providing the subsidy because they have deemed certain projects worthy of receiving the benefit.

Andrew Deuter: And we still do pay taxes.

Bill Brown: As a for-profit company, I would hope so.

Joel Benz: Move for approval of Ordinance 2016-09-15-01 authorizing the issuance of Economic Development Revenue Bonds for Senior Living Fort Wayne, LLC.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 4-2 (Tucker and B Brown) – 1 (Buskirk absent). Thank you and good luck. Remember, buy local. Let's get back to the agenda here. Next is the Treasurer.

Sue Orth: Sue Orth, Allen County Treasurer. I have two items today. The total is \$13,395. The first is a refresh and an upgrade to our kiosk. That is \$3,935. F & E Payment Pros is the company that created this for us. We were the first to have a kiosk to do this kind of work. They have made more since they made ours and have worked on the programs and made them better. They are upgrading our software program at no cost to the County. They are also installing a new computer with Windows 10 operating system and this is also no cost to the County. Since our kiosk was built, they have modified the kiosk design to give better functionality, security and professional appearance. With the funds that we are requesting, our kiosk would be upgraded with a built-in touch screen monitor, high capacity receipt printer, new barcode reader, new check scanner and a brushed stainless steel faceplate. All of these items will be at the cost to the company and no charge for installation. Safety and security will be increased and no components of the kiosk will be mounted on the front where they could be broken or bumped into. Everything will be secured flush.

Bill Brown: I have met with the Treasurer on this and I commend her for initially getting the kiosk system in and now negotiating this significant upgrade at a very nominal cost.

Sue Orth: We got this in August of 2013. It has been three years and it is time for it to be refreshed. You would do that with any computer.

Larry Brown: Personally, I have never used it but is it pretty user-friendly?

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Sue Orth: Oh, yes. A lot of the taxpayers really like it. We have several that use it every single day. We have taxpayers that come in to make monthly payments and they prefer to do that than to come into the office. We also have title searchers come in and use it every day.

Larry Brown: We have a reduction in County Council General and then an appropriation in Treasurer General. Do we want to combine that into one motion?

Bill Brown: I will make a motion for an appropriation reduction in County Council General Fund, 100-4201-413.49-10 Other Capital in the amount of \$11,060 and an appropriation in the Treasurer's County General Fund for 100-0301-415.43-03 Office/Computer Equipment for \$11,060 and Maintenance Agreement 100-0301-415.36-07 for \$2,335.

Joel Benz: I'll second that.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion? Bob.

Bob Armstrong: On here, the request for reduction was \$11,060 but you come down to the bottom and it shows Office/Computer Equipment for \$11,060. Where is the \$2,335...

Sue Orth: That is the second part. I have two parts.

Tera Klutz: It is coming from the unappropriated General Fund balance.

Nick Jordan: Council has Capital in their budget and that is why you only see the \$11,060 reduction.

Bill Brown: So maybe I shouldn't have combined them.

Tera Klutz: No, it is completely fine. The \$11,060 is more like a transfer. You can think of it like that.

Bob Armstrong: Right.

Tera Klutz: The \$2,335 is more like an additional appropriation coming out of the General Fund to appropriate. We have to advertise the full \$11,060.

Bob Armstrong: Right.

Tera Klutz: The net is going to be the \$2,335 coming off the amount available in the General Fund.

Bob Armstrong: Okay so up at the top with the request for today of \$503,395, the \$2,335 is coming out of that.

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Tera Klutz: Actually that number represents a gross appropriation and includes the \$13,395 and after today, when we net everything, the total requested appropriation is \$242,000 from the General Fund. Later on in the K9 Facility, you will see a \$250,000 request with a \$250,000 reduction in County Council. That \$250,000 is up in that \$503,395 too.

Bob Armstrong: Okay.

Tera Klutz: You almost have to net that out to see the bottom line.

Bob Armstrong: That is all I've got.

Sharon Tucker: The requested amount on the form was \$13,395.

Sue Orth: I have two parts and they combined them. I have two requests.

Larry Brown: It is in your notebook.

Nick Jordan: Sue didn't describe it yet.

Larry Brown: They added them together.

Sharon Tucker: In looking at the agenda, next is the Sheriff. Is there somewhere else that she has another part?

Nick Jordan: In your book, the first appropriation request that she was doing is on page 45. If you go to page 48, it starts the second request.

Sharon Tucker: Thank you. That is what I am looking for.

Larry Brown: **All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Buskirk absent).** Thank you, Sue.

Sue Orth: I have to do the other part.

Tera Klutz: It was approved.

Larry Brown: We did them both together.

Sue Orth: Well thank you.

Larry Brown: Next on the agenda is the Sheriff.

Dave Gladieux: Dave Gladieux, Sheriff of Allen County.

Charlie Edwards: Charlie Edwards, Chief Deputy.

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Dave Gladioux: Hopefully you have a copy of what I have in front of me that was sent over a couple weeks ago. I want to explain my current K9 program and the facility that we are putting up with. I don't know if you have had a chance to look at some of the photos but we are currently operating in basically a 40 to 50 years old oversized two-car garage. There is no heat and is a challenge every winter to keep the water supply from freezing up. It is basically in tear-down condition. Rather than dumping money into it to bring it up to livable standards even for a dog, it is a waste of money in my opinion. I have a unique opportunity to build a new facility on land already owned by the County at Adams Center and Paulding Roads. There is plenty of land out there. I have spoken to some business owners throughout the community and one in particular has agreed to be onboard with this project. They wanted to see what interest the County government, Commissioners and Council, had in this before they commit to an exact dollar amount. They have a community fund, if you will, grant fund. Last week, I was able to go in front of the Commissioners to explain this entire program, this public and private partnership. They seem to be onboard with it. No vote was taken but they were very receptive to the concept. The idea was to spread the burden, if you will, and request \$250,000 from the Commissioners and \$250,000 from Council and if need be, I can throw \$100,000 in myself. I would have done more but there is a current project at the range to build a garage onto the existing building to move the rest of my department's equipment off the Kidder property up north. I have opted to pay for that project that came up to about \$300,000. That is coming out of Commissary and/or the Federal Seizure Fund. I think if I can get \$250,000 from the Commissioners and \$250,000 from Council and I stick \$100,000 in, I think it is a good match. The community can see that County government is willing to be involved. My request today is \$250,000 towards this project. I don't know if you have any questions but I am more than willing to answer them.

Larry Brown: Tom.

Tom Harris: Just in regards to the Commissioners, what is their status? Are they planning to pass this?

Dave Gladioux: I left the meeting with a comment that they just need to figure out which fund they would take that from.

Tom Harris: And should they decide not to move forward with it, what happens?

Dave Gladioux: I would find more businesses to jump onboard with the public and private partnership. I don't anticipate that happening.

Tom Harris: I suspect that if Council would vote in favor of this, it gives direction to the Commissioners that they should come to the table too. Is that a fair position?

Dave Gladioux: I would like to argue that but I can't.

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Tom Harris: I think we would be sending a message to the Commissioners that this would be something that is good for the community. The length of use, you have mentioned that it is about 50 years at the current facility. What is the projection for the new facility? Will it be another 50 years?

Dave Gladieux: And then some with today's construction. As you can see, it is a very nice building. Please don't think this is just for dogs. It is a very expensive dog house but it actually comes with a training room that can be utilized by other parts of the department as well. One thing I failed to mention is that the City of Fort Wayne has also agreed to be involved in this. It will be an in-kind contribution with utilities to the site. If you see the price list, it is estimated at \$165,000.

Tom Harris: Over a 50 year period, it amounts to about \$25,000 a year for the investment if you spread that out. One of the concerns that we have in the County, or at least I have, is we are providing this resource to the entire County. The City is interested in using this facility and is there any way that the City, next year, would build their own K9 facility so that the residents of Fort Wayne get hit with not only the County paying for one but now the City pays for one?

Dave Gladieux: This building is designed to also be added onto. If it came to that I would most certainly offer that, to co-locate, if you will.

Tom Harris: But in other words, they are planning on using this facility. I want to make sure that is the case.

Dave Gladieux: The offer has been made to them and they returned with the offer to assist.

Joel Benz: I just have a comment. I have had the opportunity, over the years, to work with the K9 Officers and they are an exceptional addition to your force and the City's force. I think we would do well in giving them a new facility just for the simple fact of having good training quarters translates into better service in the streets and I think that is something that is needed.

Dave Gladieux: I appreciate your comments. The other thing is that I believe it will be more attractive to surrounding departments as well. We currently train in the Tri-State area and from as far away as Dayton, Ohio. To be quite honest, it is quite embarrassing to have some of these departments come in and see that garage. Bob, I am sure you have seen it and drive by it every day. To be quite honest, someone just needs to throw a fuse on it. I was in the K9 program for thirteen years and I went through two dogs and not once did I house my dog there. I paid out of my own pocket to find a decent boarding facility. I paid for it myself because I just wouldn't put my dog in it.

Larry Brown: Tera.

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Tera Klutz: Do you foresee hiring any additional staff for this building? Just so we can be prepared down the road, I think we need to think all the way around.

Dave Gladieux: I do not. Our program has been in existence and I just started my 30th year and we have operated with one and that is fine. Whenever a class is being put on, if it is a large enough class we have other dog trainers in the department that I can reassign temporarily for an academy class of that size. No, I do not anticipate adding staff.

Tom Harris: You mentioned the use for other communities or Counties to come to this. Is there a revenue stream that is tied to this? We get revenue back?

Dave Gladieux: Yes. I am glad you brought that up. We currently charge a very, very fair price with our current facility. I have never raised those because I wouldn't feel right raising the price for that facility. With this one here, I think we can raise the price and most definitely to operate in the black. There are going to be some additional expenses. The current facility has one or two lightbulbs and no heat. It is not a very expensive thing. I am very confident I can cover those costs.

Tom Harris: And not only for the use of the surrounding communities, which is not necessarily what we do this for but if it is a revenue process that we can gain from that is a good thing. Not only that, but the potential use of the facility for other kinds of things in the community could be open in the future as well. For all of those reasons, I will be voting for it.

Dave Gladieux: It is not a money-making venture. It never has been but we have always had enough to take care of the expenses. I am very confident that with this new facility, I will have the funds within my budget to take care of it.

Sharon Tucker: Sheriff that is not too far from Paul Harding and that corner has been kind of drab for a while and so it will be nice to see a beautiful facility go up and see some construction trucks on the southeast County portion. Will we be able to see the building from the street? I know there are some big mountains there.

Dave Gladieux: Absolutely. It is actually on the very southwest corner of the property and not mounted on the west side.

Sharon Tucker: We need construction southeast.

Tom Harris: I haven't seen any mountains in our part of Indiana.

Sharon Tucker: They are manmade hills and we can hear the Sheriff's training when you do the firing there.

Bill Brown: The mountains are there to actually screen the landfill. This is an exciting project and you said you have a maintenance fund and will be able to maintain the

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facility. With the riverfront that Fort Wayne is doing, that is the current training facility for the City and there is going to be a need for a place also.

Dave Gladieux: Yes.

Bill Brown: What I am hearing is that you have assurances that they are going to come together with you guys in the future when it comes to the dog training?

Dave Gladieux: Yes, the offer was made and they brought up the utility in-kind donation.

Bill Brown: So do you think they will take the training out there? Have you had that conversation?

Dave Gladieux: I don't see why they wouldn't and with their in-kind donation...

Bill Brown: That is why they are doing it.

Dave Gladieux: Sure they are. It is no different than their indoor shooting range. We swap all the time. In inclement weather, they offer their range all the time and in turn I offer mine to them.

Bill Brown: I was at a lunch meeting a couple of days ago with the new Police Chief Steve Reed and there is a big emphasis on more community oriented policing. With the dogs and connecting with kids and the different Resource Officers this is going to be cool to see a facility that we can be really proud of for the size of the K9 aspect. Unfortunately, due to the national press, the Police Departments are under some duress but we have a fantastic Police Force here in Fort Wayne and Allen County. The whole K9 element is a big deal for community oriented policing.

Tom Harris: Sheriff, back over the summer we talked a little bit about the overall cost and if there was any possibility of pulling some of those numbers down. Has there been any further discussion on that?

Dave Gladieux: I tried to do that with the second design by eliminating the training room and things like that. It would defeat the purpose of the argument for what has been presented here to utilize the building for other things if I went that route. If the price is an issue, nobody says I have to do this tomorrow but if I have to wait a little longer to have funds built back up and put more money from me to make this current design happen, I will. I don't foresee that happening to be quite honest with you.

Tom Harris: In a project like this, we wouldn't see any cost overruns? You wouldn't see that happen?

Dave Gladieux: I wouldn't anticipate that.

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Larry Brown: Dave, we can't really tell from what we see but perhaps you can educate us. A fifty-year expected life requires construction that is masonry and is that what you anticipate the finishes to be in this building?

Dave Gladieux: It was designed to have a masonry front but it is a steel building. I guess the only way I gauge that is the current facility has been around that long and it is made out of wood. I really do not anticipate this building, as currently designed, to be in that type of shape in fifty years from now.

Larry Brown: I guess my point is that I would expect this building to be better taken care of than a school but you don't put metal studs and drywall in a school and expect it to last for years. It just doesn't.

Bill Brown: And to the point on cost, this is a competitive bidding process should drive these costs down especially if it is built at a time work is a little bit more scarce than it is right now. That is just something to think about.

Larry Brown: Council, are there any other questions? If not, I will entertain a motion and we can combine the first two items.

Bob Armstrong: I will make a motion that we do an appropriation deduction in County Council General Fund, Other Capital in the amount of \$250,000 and an appropriation in the Sheriff's County General Fund for \$250,000.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion?

Tom Harris: Yes, I want to make a comment that this is on the basis that the Commissioners are also going to come through and if the Commissioners were to decide not to do this, I would entertain the idea that because it is not being funded entirely that it come back before Council which would happen anyway, right?

Tera Klutz: I am not sure. That wasn't the motion and he said he would try to get other public and private partnership to fund the project.

Tom Harris: So the question would be if the Commissioners would not fund the amount that you think, would you bring it back before Council?

Dave Gladieux: I am only asking for the \$250,000 from you. If they choose not to, I have more fund raising to do.

Sharon Tucker: My question was in the same line as Tom. We have basically moved it to their line item and if they run into problems raising the funds, is there a way that we can earmark this just for this project? Or does the motion have to be changed or does it come back to the General Fund?

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Tera Klutz: I think you can get a commitment from the Sheriff that it would only be used for this project.

Dave Gladieux: Absolutely. This request is for this project and this project only. If this project fails that \$250,000 would revert back to you.

Larry Brown: **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).**

Dave Gladieux: Thank you very much. I believe I have a couple of other things too. The appropriation in the Sheriff's Records Check Fund requesting \$4,691 is to finish out the year for the part-time employee that has worked more hours than anticipated due to short staffing. If you remember correctly, we came and we fixed that problem several meetings ago by hiring another full-time person but in the interim, my Comptroller doesn't feel we can finish out the year these additional funds.

Tom Harris: I will move for the appropriation in the Sheriff's Records Check Fund 207 for Extra Deputy Hire in the amount of \$4,398 and FICA for \$293 with a total of \$4,691.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Larry Brown: I have a question for the Auditor's staff. I am looking in my notebook and the numbers oh; I was looking in the wrong spot.

Sharon Tucker: You answered your own question.

Larry Brown: **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).** You have one more item.

Dave Gladieux: The next one is very similar to the last one. You know that we have recently contracted with QCC, Quality Correction Care, to take over the medical. With the inmate increase since January and everything else in regards to those inmates, that all increases as well. We also have had a handful of very expensive inmates with regards to healthcare that was not anticipated. I am requesting appropriation in the County Corrections Fund 210 of \$215,416. This is for making up the difference with regards to the healthcare. It also includes the contract that we have with the doctor and this takes care of his bill for the quarter.

Tom Harris: Just a question with that. When we adopted that contractual relationship, the thought was that they may even be able to come in and beat that number. Is this just the opposite and that is what is happening or not?

Dave Gladieux: No, this has more to do with expensive inmates.

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Tom Harris: So regardless of that contract, you would have had to move these funds anyway?

Dave Gladioux: Yes. I really do feel confident that the contract and service is going to work out well in 2017. When I moved the contract over to Diamond Pharmacy, the institutional supplier for pharmacy needs, it saved us almost \$400,000 in the first calendar year. These people at QCC feel that they can save even more money because they get a better rate because they are such a large company and are one of their bigger clients.

Tom Harris: I will move for the appropriation in County Corrections Fund 210 for Contractual in the amount of \$215,416.

Bill Brown: Second.

Larry Brown: 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 on our agenda is the Prosecutor's Office.

Mike McAlexander: I am Mike McAlexander, Chief Deputy Prosecutor.

Tracy Mitchener: Tracy Mitchener, Assistant Human Resources Director.

Mary Rian: Mary Rian, Human Resources Generalist and Recruiter.

Mike McAlexander: We are here requesting a reclassification of the Chief Administrative Officer. We created this position shortly after Prosecutor Richards was elected in 2003. I don't think it has every really been examined since then. Internally, in 2013, we took three positions that were administrative and merged them into two positions. We didn't come forward, at that time, because we wanted to make sure it was going to work and that we could do this with two people. We are satisfied that this has worked well for us but we were also concerned that the position was somewhat undervalued in Special Occupation. We asked Human Resources to re-evaluate it and they conducted their analysis. The recommendation is that this position should be moved from \$73,011 to \$79,742. It would also change the title of it part of which gets a little confusing. Statutorily, I am the Chief Deputy Prosecutor and you have to be an attorney for that and our Chief Deputy of Operations was more of an administrative position. As a result of that we feel that Chief of Staff better denotes its position and the position in our office. We ask your approval of this.

Bill Brown: In conversation about this position, in light of the study, this is an internal equity situation.

Mike McAlexander: Yes.

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Bill Brown: These are exact matches and are outside of the scope of the WIS study. It really makes it different and really doesn't relate to that and that was a point of clarity that I had. You are just basically right-sizing this position, salary-wise to duties. Maybe you can talk about that a little bit.

Mary Rian: We did have WIS include this position back into the study when it was originally done since the title was Chief Deputy and they didn't take a look at it. We wanted to make sure that they did since it wasn't actually a Chief Deputy position.

Sharon Tucker: Help me understand. I calculated a \$6,700 increase from where we are and the job responsibilities are the same? What did you measure with to get that it is undervalued right now?

Tracy Mitchener: They did have three different positions and now it is just two. Some of the duties have been combined. We also sent to the job description, after we created it, to Waggoner, Irwin, Scheele and they stated that it should be equal to another position that we currently have within the County. That is the pay for the person that is currently equal in responsibilities to the Prosecutor position. We are just trying now to make it equal. It had not been looked at when they combined the extra duties.

Joel Benz: Did you say when they combined them?

Tracy Mitchener: Yes.

Joel Benz: When was that?

Mike McAlexander: 2013.

Tom Harris: I was just going to add that the Personnel Committee discussed this and I think it was approved 2-1. There was confusion that this was part of the overall WIS analysis and that was not the case. HR and the Prosecutor's Office identified that this position should be looked at because of all of the changes that had taken place and that is what initiated the review and analysis.

Mike McAlexander: We looked at doing this last year and I wish we had because it would have avoided this confusion. It was evaluated by both HR and Waggoner Irwin.

Sharon Tucker: So you have combined three positions into two and is the other position already at this pay grade?

Mike McAlexander: No.

Sharon Tucker: Will we need to increase the second position?

Mike McAlexander: We have some other non-attorney administrative positions that we are in the process of having the job descriptions re-evaluated. There may come a time

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where at the end of this year or next year that we would come forward and ask to have them looked at. They are all on the grid. This is the only one we have that wasn't on a grid.

Bill Brown: And you are not asking to go retroactive to 2013, right?

Mike McAlexander: No, no.

Bill Brown: I didn't think so.

Mike McAlexander: The incumbent would probably appreciate that but no.

Bill Brown: Can we talk that this is an exempt position at 37.5 hours but typically, how many hours does this position work?

Mike McAlexander: It varies from a minimum of 42 up to 50 on average.

Larry Brown: Are there any other questions?

Sharon Tucker: Yes, I am sorry but I am struggling with this one. The position that you compared it to is the exact same or it is similar in title, responsibilities or what?

Tracy Mitchener: It is similar in the duties and responsibilities and difficulty of work. It is a position in Criminal Division Services.

Tom Harris: One of the things that was discussed in the Personnel Committee when we were concerned about equal pay for equal work was this would right that situation. Both jobs are then being paid the same amount.

Mary Rian: They don't do exactly the same thing but they are scored in the same manner and they score in the same range.

Mike McAlexander: One of the things that prompted us to make this inquiry was looking at salaries of folks particularly in the Criminal Justice arena that were similarly situated where they worked for an Elected Judge or Elected Official and that Official was in a professional capacity and this was a person who was the Chief Administrative Officer. There are several of those positions in Special Occupations and our feeling was that our position was somewhat undervalued compared to those. If we were ever in a position and needed to go out and replace the person, we were below where other people were getting paid.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion or questions?

Bill Brown: I will make a motion for a salary ordinance reclassifying the Chief Deputy of Operations to Chief of Staff, EXEC, from \$73,011 to \$79,742, Exempt at 37.5 hours per week.

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Bob Armstrong: Second.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. Is there any further discussion?

Sharon Tucker: I am sorry, no I am not. In the report that we have, where does this fall?

Tera Klutz: Waggoner Irwin did a Special OCC where they looked at some of them but they were kind of all across the board and are very unique and they had it going up even further than this.

Sharon Tucker: Let me ask this question, then. Let say it is approved to \$79,000 and then we come behind and do the suggested approval from that report, it would give an additional increase?

Tera Klutz: Yes, I suppose it would give an additional increase of \$200 max. I feel that Special OCC Waggoner Irwin Scheele study, those positions are so unique that they need to be looked at individually. I don't see this body adopting that full Special OCC schedule but if you would, it would go up \$79,902. We currently have an employee that is making \$79,742 and is scoring very similarly in the County and this is really about internal equity and not part of that discussion.

Sharon Tucker: It is hard for me and I am really struggling with this. I am just going to make this comment because I am usually so fair on making sure people are properly paid but this one is a struggle for me.

Mike McAlexander: Is there a specific question?

Sharon Tucker: No.

Mike McAlexander: There are some other positions where people work in the Criminal Justice System that will still be considerably below and even after this adjustment, it is still somewhat low compared to the range of folks that are Department Heads but working for an Elected Official. We feel that this one is very undervalued compared to some of the other positions.

Sharon Tucker: Thank you.

Larry Brown: Bob.

Bob Armstrong: Just a little insight and Mike can tell you that I struggled with this because in the beginning it was tied to the WIS. We had the further discussion and I made the motion to pass this without that because this Council has still not digested that report. I was struggling with that aspect of it but like Tera said a lot of that Special OCC stuff might not even be looked at, voted on, passed on or anything. I was uncomfortable

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throwing the report into this request and so my motion was made to let that out of this until this Council digests the report.

Mike McAlexander: And this is not tied to the WIS report at all.

Larry Brown: 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). Thank you. Next is the Commissioners Department.

Chris Cloud: Chris Cloud, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners. This item is pretty straightforward. We had a lawsuit come out of a vehicle accident last winter. It was a fairly nasty accident and we were at fault. It resulted in a lawsuit and we settled that lawsuit but unfortunately we did not have enough money in our Lawsuit Settlement Fund to pay the settlement. As it is not fair to make them wait until the next budget cycle, Nick was helpful enough to juggle around and so we paid \$100,000 out of the Settlement Fund and \$100,000 out of the General Fund account. This is now right-sizing that. This is \$100,000 out of our Vehicle Insurance Fund. Typically we like to keep all of our settlements in the Settlement Fund but we have had a number this year and are soon to be exhausting that line. Next year it resets, thankfully but we are always trying to avoid lawsuits but the County is doing a lot of things in a lot of places and sometimes accidents happen.

Larry Brown: Tom.

Tom Harris: We have talked in the past in terms of keeping track of those accidents and trying to pass some of those costs back to the departments and such. I don't need the details on this particular accident but has some discussion happened with that department or Elected Office?

Chris Cloud: I would assume so. If it was an accident, we already have a process in place for passing along a specific amount of cost but this was a lawsuit. We typically don't pass along the lawsuits but I am a little familiar with the department and the issue and I do believe actions were taken to address the situation. It was a winter driving issue and an unfortunate accident. On an accident, we definitely pass back the cost to the department.

Bill Brown: I will make a motion for the appropriation in Vehicle Insurance Fund 267 for the Settlement of Claims in the amount of \$100,000.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Larry Brown: 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).

Chris Cloud: The second item is that I came before you a couple of months ago about the Cook Road/Venture Lane facility. At that time we were hiring appraisers and the

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appraisals came back and the offer that we have with the bank right now is under the appraised value. We apparently made a great offer. There are a couple of hurdles that we have to climb before we can close the sale. One is a favorable contingent use, I believe, at Fort Wayne BZA. It is in an industrial park and so it is zoned industrial and we need them to approve the use of it as a correctional facility. That was its prior use and so we assume they will be favorable but you never know. The other hurdle relates to neighborhood covenants with the industrial park that we are working through. I won't say that we are definitely going to close on this in the next three weeks because if we cannot get a contingent use, then we cannot use the property and then why buy it? If the neighborhood covenant issue becomes protracted and problematic then it could cause some issues. That is next Thursday. Assuming that takes place and the covenants gets wrapped up, we will close after that.

Larry Brown: First of all, thank you very much for keeping us up-to-date and in the loop. You may have covered this the last time we met and I forget but did either the Buildings and Grounds people inspect that building and/or an independent contractor?

Chris Cloud: We had both. The Work Release crew has been out there. Our Maintenance staff has been out there. We have had our eyes on this building for seven years because it is a pre-built correctional facility and they don't come up on the market very often. We already had a local architect/engineering firm look at the mechanical and electrical systems. Are they up-to-date, are they okay or is anything failing. We had them update that study from about two years ago and got that back last week. Some stuff is just because of the age of it but nothing is failing because it is just sitting there. They still felt that it is in good working order. It is a solidly built building. We had an outside group and our own Maintenance staff look at it.

Larry Brown: What year was that built?

Chris Cloud: 2000 or 2001. It has been unoccupied for about seven years.

Larry Brown: Tom.

Tom Harris: How much did it come in under?

Chris Cloud: The appraisals? About \$200,000 and the Commissioners will be paying for this out of CEDIT.

Larry Brown: Bill.

Bill Brown: I was just going to mention that I was on the Board when the Juvenile Facility was there and it is really a high-quality facility. It is built to the standards that you mentioned, the block and that kind of thing.

Larry Brown: Thank you, Chris. Next on the agenda is Adult Probation.

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Eric Zimmerman: Eric Zimmerman, Director of Court Services and Chief Adult Probation Officer for the Adult Probation Department. This morning is kind of ministerial in nature. As you recall, the Adult Probation Department received 1006 grant money through the Community Corrections Grant Act. I am finding out that in my neophyte status, I didn't take care of all of the line item information that I needed to take care of. When we went to spend the money, it couldn't be spent because we didn't have line items associated with this specific budget detail. I can assure you that it won't happen any further. My compliments go out to the Auditor's Office for keeping me in line and making sure that I am doing what I am supposed to do. They are top-notch. With that I am requesting the \$9,700 that we got in the grant to have a line expenditure. I will be happy to entertain any questions.

Joel Benz: I think we discussed this in detail previously and if there are no questions, I will make a motion. Move for approval of the appropriation in the ACCC Adult Probation Grant Fund 853 in the amount of \$9,700 for Drug Testing Supplies.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Larry Brown: **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).** Thank you, Eric. Next is Superior Court.

Tracy Mitchener: Good morning, Tracy Mitchener, Assistant Human Resources Director. I am here to introduce Tom Fox, our new Human Resources Generalist and Compensation. He will be coming up and talking to you from now on.

Joel Benz: Welcome to the table.

Larry Brown: You are just glad you don't have to double duty, right?

Tracy Mitchener: I am always here as support for him.

Tom Fox: Tracy has been very nice to me for some reason.

Tracy Mitchener: I am just here today asking that the Administrator of the CHINS Division goes from exempt to non-exempt. December first, because of the new FLSA regulations, it is going to have to go to non-exempt anyway and since this is a person that just started this position, to make it cleaner and not have them be exempt for three months and then make them non-exempt, I think it is just a better idea to just start them off non-exempt right away. It does not meet the salary guidelines for the new regulations and so we really have no choice but to make it non-exempt December first and so we might as well just make it now.

Larry Brown: And that is the only change, right?

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Tracy Mitchener: That is the only change. There is no change in pay or anything and Superior Court is requesting this also.

Bill Brown: Typically, as an exempt position, what kind of hours was being put in?

Tracy Mitchener: I know that in the past, the person put in a lot of extra hours. We really don't have a choice now though.

Tom Harris: I was just going to mention that we have had numerous discussions about this and frankly, I caused this at the Council table about two months ago. The HR Department had come back and suggested that this be a non-exempt position but the previous incumbent was an exempt position. I moved for it to become an exempt position to only find out this is one of those jobs that will become non-exempt as of December first. During the Personnel Committee, we discussed correcting it now rather than waiting. With that I will make a motion for approval of a salary ordinance change the Administrator of the CHINS Division, PAT 4/2, \$43,315 from exempt to non-exempt at 37.5 hours per week. Effective September 1, 2016.

Joel Benz: I'll second that.

Larry Brown: **We have a motion and a second. Is there further discussion?**

Bill Brown: The only thing I want to mention is that this is an example of this ruling coming from the Federal government basically as an edict saying that we can no longer have these exempt positions. An exempt position allows an individual to actually take a position, grow the position and build their career opportunities by doing more within the framework of whatever their career is. I just wanted to bring that up because I realize that part of the reason for this is to keep people from working overtime and being taken advantage of but there is definitely a part of this in not only government but also the private sector to where if there is opportunity for people to grow a department or whatever there might be, they lose that opportunity especially in the private sector because they can't be put into those opportunities.

Tera Klutz: They can still do it.

Bill Brown: But it has to go to overtime.

Tera Klutz: But you pay them for it. You just pay them for it.

Tom Harris: But in a bigger sense, for my two cents, the Federal government is allowing the trial lawyers to have more of a case against private sector employers that are violating that. We increase the risk for private sector.

Bill Brown: That was an editorial comment on my part.

Tom Harris: And mine.

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Larry Brown: Thank you very much. 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 Public Defender's Office.

Randy Hammond: I am Randy Hammond, Chief Public Defender and this is Eric Ortiz, our Executive Director. I don't know if you have a short letter I did to Councilman Brown, as a part of your materials today. If you don't, I can circulate that.

Nick Jordan: You should and it is on page 75.

Randy Hammond: There was a second letter that I submitted to Councilman Brown from DCS, Department of Children Services, verifying the substantial increase in CHINS and TPR cases. We are asking for additional money because we are out and this is to pay Public Defender services for this current year. Because of the increase in CHINS cases, we have no control over that. The Courts are appointing Public Defenders to represent the parents in those kinds of cases and the caseload is just extremely high.

Larry Brown: Council, are there any questions?

Tom Harris: What does the future look like?

Randy Hammond: Who knows? We are asking for \$240,000 which is a net to the County of \$144,000 because of the reimbursement from the State. We are asking for that much as a projection that it is what we need to get through this year, add that budget to next year and see what happens. It may be enough, it may not.

Tom Harris: When you say add that...

Nick Jordan: They are appealing that amount.

Tom Harris: Oh that is true.

Joel Benz: Can I make a comment?

Larry Brown: Yes.

Joel Benz: I have heard that you guys are struggling over there and it seems like your volume is up. I know you have tried to make some changes internally to try to help streamline some of this but I think this is warranted, certainly. I don't know, in our future discussion, if it is better to put it into your budget for next year or just have you come back to us. For now, I think this is worth passing and I think we should go ahead and take a vote. Does anyone else have questions?

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Bill Brown: I do want to say that this has been well explained and is definitely warranted. Between CHINS and Pauper Attorney, there is a lot of duress there with the workload. It is something that we need to keep an eye on.

Sharon Tucker: What does the acronym stand for?

Randy Hammond: Children in Need of Services. A report is made of neglect or abuse and then a case gets generated in the Courts. The parents are then appointed Public Defenders for representation.

Sharon Tucker: What is the TPR part?

Randy Hammond: Termination of Parental Rights. If the parents don't comply, there could be a trial as to whether or not their rights should be terminated and the children placed for adoption.

Bill Brown: I will go ahead and make a motion for the Public Defender's Office to appropriate in the County General Fund for Pauper Attorney for \$240,000.

Joel Benz: I would be happy to second it.

Larry Brown: **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 Highway Department.

Kim Yagodinski: Good morning, Council, Kim Yagodinski, Finance and Personnel Manager for the Highway Department.

Bill Hartman: Bill Hartman, Director of Allen County Highway Department. We have money that we have been reimbursed on from other Federal Aid projects that we would like. It is \$561,588 that we would like to reinvest in the Tillman and Minnich Roundabout intersection. We hope to bid the project in January on 2018.

Larry Brown: This is a repetitive thing. Does anybody have any questions? This happens periodically.

Bill Brown: My comment is that I have been meeting with the Highway Department and they have been keeping me up-to-date on these particular issues. It is good to see all of the great information that they generate. I will make a motion to appropriate in the County CREDIT Fund 329, \$561,588 for the Tillman/Minnich Intersection.

Tom Harris: Second.

Larry Brown: **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).**

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Bill Hartman: July 29th, we made an application to the Community Crossings Matching Grant Fund with the State of Indiana. We submitted five projects and hoped we would get a maximum of \$1 million in reimbursement towards a project. We are asking to appropriate \$2.3 million towards repair of the streets in Havenwood Forest. This reimbursement program, we actually have to bid the project, they will evaluate it and then actually give us the money. We will find more exact details in a Monday 10:00 meeting next week. We would like to get this underway, if possible.

Bill Brown: Could you maybe do a quick explanation of this bid process and where those dollars came from? I know the State brought this money back to us.

Bill Hartman: Right and we got \$4.1 million earlier. I will let Kim elaborate on that.

Kim Yagodinski: It was 75% of the LOIT Distribution. There is actually more money in that fund right now. We had budgeted that for 2017 but we are hoping that we will be able to bid this project yet this year. We will find out more from the State, like Bill said, on Monday. Our understanding is that once we have accepted the bids then the State will give us that \$1 million that they have awarded to us. As long as we spend that amount plus the \$1 million that we have to put in, then that will be reimbursed to us. We believe it is going to come before the end of the project. We would have had to come and have those dollars appropriated anyway so by asking for this request now, the dollars are already appropriated. We have enough balance in that fund to cover it.

Bill Brown: Thanks. I think that is good awareness for the public. I will make a motion for the Highway Department to appropriate into LOIT 2016 Special Distribution Fund 860 for Contractual in the amount of \$2,300,000.

Joel Benz: Second.

Larry Brown: Are there questions?

Sharon Tucker: I do but not on this.

Larry Brown: **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).** Thank you, I appreciate your explanations and all of the additional information you have provided us over the last month on the Wheel Tax/Surplus thing.

Sharon Tucker: Bill, you know what I am going to ask you.

Bill Hartman: The Edsall Avenue Bridge.

Sharon Tucker: Yes, the Edsall Avenue Bridge. It is totally out of commission and has been for a year and a half or two years. When you and I have communicated, we are looking at maybe a start date of 2018. We have taken a lot of flak, both you and I for that bridge being completely closed. It is now becoming a safety issue because emergency

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care has to go around in order to get to people in that community. How do we get that bridge moved up for repair since it is completely closed down?

Bill Hartman: We have it open to pedestrian traffic only, at this point. We have it fenced off so that we can allow pedestrian traffic over the bridge but there is no vehicular traffic. That bridge poses a very unique problem. The last bridge inventory recommended that we abandon that bridge.

Sharon Tucker: Really? Wow.

Bill Hartman: Yes. We went to the City. We talked to you. We talked to Councilman Hines and we came to the conclusion that we should not abandon the bridge because there was enough interest to replace it. The biggest problem with that is there is about a nine percent grade on either side of that bridge and current ADA standards will only allow about a 4.5% grade. That was built in early 1950 and the railroad minimum clearances have changed since then. We are going to have to raise that bridge up one to two feet which raises the grades even higher. By the time we put those new profiles out, we are going to have to go twice as far. There are streets that we are going to have to close off and businesses will be impacted. Storm drainage will have to be redesigned and other utilities as well. It is quite a complicated project and then we have to work over the railroad and they will only allow you to work over the railroad on Mondays when you get track time. They have to review all of our plans. You have to be so far back with crash wall designs in case they get a derailment and those kinds of things. We will make it happen as soon as we possibly can.

Sharon Tucker: With everything that is possible, this one is working against us. You have been so responsive to all of my questions and I want to say thank you to all of that because when I say that we have taken a lot of flak, we have taken a lot of flak. Thank you for your help.

Bill Hartman: You are very welcome.

Larry Brown: Thank you. Next on our agenda is the Board of Health.

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

Mindy Waldron: Mindy Waldron, Administrator of Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health.

Tracy Mitchener: This position is a Medical Coding and Credentialing Specialist, OSS 5/2. Currently these duties are being performed by a part-time person and Mindy is here to request that this becomes a full-time position.

Mindy Waldron: It is actually grand funded and have already received approval to take this position with full benefits onto the grant as of next year. This will not become

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effective until January 1, 2017. The position is currently part-time, working four days a week and on that same grant. To take it to full-time, we would post that and do all of the normal things but it is definitely increasing in the number of duties we need. We are about ready to pull the trigger on being able to bill private insurances which opens us up to a lot more billing and coding issues. We do not have the expertise in our general staff and this is a position that we used to contractually bid out. We got this grant through the State for Immunization Programs and were able to bring a part-time position on at the time and in-house which made things a lot smoother. Now that we will be billing personal insurance or private insurance here very soon and we are switching our electronic medical record in the next month, we want to change how this position interacts with the staff and do a little more with pre-credentialing and all of those things. We want to add that extra day and again, it is fully grant funded. As usual, if we lost that grant, we would not ask for that position.

Sharon Tucker: Is this different from the one we just approved?

Mindy Waldron: Yes that was an Environmental Health Specialist. This is a Coder at our Annex. Similar concept of four days to five days and grant funded.

Sharon Tucker: Thank you.

Tom Harris: The piece that I was perplexed a little bit about was that you are beginning to bill and help us understand why that is so the bureaucracy from the State is growing and there is more and more stuff that you need to do. This person is going to help you do that.

Mindy Waldron: When we had the losses from the Tax Caps and some of the other grant loses that we had, in 2011 we began charging for some of our services which used to be free. As you probably know, we have four fully functioning clinics. A lot of those services were provided free and for those services and medications that are not provided by the State, we had to begin assuming those charges. We started charging small fees and at the same time we began trying to become credentialed for Medicare and Medicaid. We got that and were one of the first in the State. To date, we have not been able to bill private insurance and folks that want to get immunizations from us and don't meet certain insurance requirements, we can't provide that and so they have to go to a provider. Many of the pediatricians don't carry those things and so it has become a bear and our STD Clinic is quite busy. We want to be able to bill private insurance for the services that we are providing just like a regular clinic would. We have been unable to do that and we are now nearly credentialed with all of them. There are a few stumbling blocks. We don't want to say that we only take these insurances. We want to pull the trigger when we are ready for all.

Tom Harris: Is that Allen County or is that all Health Departments in each County?

Mindy Waldron: That has to do this? Yes, each has to do that.

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Tom Harris: So the State is asking you to get to that position.

Mindy Waldron: Yes, they have been asking since 2011. It is not a norm for a Health Department type of clinic. It seems competitive with private and it is not. We provide communicable disease which is not covered by anyone else. They are all referred to us, under State law. What has been a stumbling block in getting ready, credentialed and contracted, we have paid over \$100,000 to get there and it appears competitive when you send these out to private insurance companies to contract you and they often turn you down. It takes years but we are nearly there though.

Tom Harris: The grant is coming from?

Mindy Waldron: It is actually coming from the State. It is an Immunization Awareness/Promotion grant that they get from the CDC. Two years ago, they began to realize the onus they were putting on local Health Departments to begin recouping their own funds. Ninety-two Health Departments doing it 92 times and so they put out these funds to anything related to promotion of immunizations and some of their other medical services could be recouped. It has worked well. We have had it for three years now and they have kind of made it sound like this would be ongoing.

Tom Harris: When you recoup those funds, they don't go back to the State but stay local?

Mindy Waldron: Correct.

Tom Harris: To pay for a percentage of your cost but not all of the cost.

Mindy Waldron: Correct. Many things that we do we cannot charge for under statutes. They do not allow recouping for certain disease follow-ups so that there are no barriers to care because they are such detrimental issues. We will never see those. This recaptures a percentage of things where people come to us versus going to an ER, a Redimed or their physician if they are underinsured. This way we will be able to recoup a fee or recoup an insurance cost to cover it.

Tom Harris: You can see the trend, or at least my perception would be that you are going to get more and more people coming your way.

Mindy Waldron: Oh, we are. That whole safety net issue with HIP 2.0 and those things doesn't really pan out. People are still underinsured and they do still seek the safety net care when they can't afford those ER costs.

Bob Armstrong: You have a part-time person doing this now?

Mindy Waldron: Correct.

Bob Armstrong: Will this part-time person be slotted to the full-time position?

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Mindy Waldron: Yes, we will post it but then probably hire that person.

Bob Armstrong: Then will you hire someone to do the part-time? It will be vacated and just go to full-time.

Mindy Waldron: Correct. We are just taking this position from a part-time to full-time.

Joel Benz: I certainly think this is a need thing considering the direction of healthcare. I am going to go ahead and make a motion for consideration of a salary ordinance establishing the pay for Medical Coding and Credentialing Specialist, OSS 5/2, \$35,905, non-exempt at 37.5 hours per week.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Larry Brown: 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). Thank you. Next is a transfer within County Council.

Tera Klutz: I can take this. In Roy's absence, he is handling all of the bills that the County gets for the WIS study as well as the Council Attorney Jim Posey's work on the lawsuit. This is just to put more money into your Contractual line item so that we can pay those bills.

Larry Brown: Does anybody have any questions on that?

Bob Armstrong: What was the total cost on the WIS study?

Tom Harris: It is approximately \$16,000.

Nick Jordan: I know it was less than \$17,000.

Joel Benz: I will make a motion that we transfer \$50,000 from County Wide Compensation to Contractual.

Bill Brown: Second. That seems like a good value for that study.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, same sign. The motion passes 5-0-2 (Buskirk and Tucker absent). At this time we will go back and pick up the Town of Grabill. Nobody is here? Let's move onto the Board Appointments. I think this is just to make you aware of what is coming up.

Becky Butler: This is so you can make the appointments before the end of the year.

Larry Brown: We typically do that at our December meeting.

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Becky Butler: Correct.

Larry Brown: If you are the liaison to any one of these, if you have an opportunity... I think in the past, haven't we leaned on you, Becky, to contact these people?

Becky Butler: In the past, Darren always called them but if you want, I will be happy to call them.

Larry Brown: Sounds like a volunteer to me. Would you please contact all of these and confirm their interest?

Becky Butler: Yes. The last one on the list, I would like to have an opinion on this. It has been Lanni Connelly but last year you guys talked about making that a Council member appointment. I would like a little direction.

Tom Harris: I like County Council for that one.

Larry Brown: Council, what is your preference?

Tom Harris: I would like for County Council to have that position.

Larry Brown: I think that is an excellent recommendation.

Bill Brown: It makes sense.

Larry Brown: Since Chris Cloud is in the audience, would you review this list and if the Commissioners have any input, please provide it to us.

Chris Cloud: Sure.

Larry Brown: Thank you. Next thing on our agenda is discussion...

Nick Jordan: Zach is here.

Larry Brown: Are you by yourself, Zach? I thought Mr. Delagrange was going to join you.

Zach Klutz: Hi, Zach Klutz with Barrett McNagny Law Firm. We are serving as Bond Counsel for the Town of Grabill Economic Development Revenue Bonds. These were originally issued in 2008 and I was before you almost eleven months to the day seeking the Council's consent. The Town of Grabill intends to reissue bonds strictly to refinance the 2008 bonds. The reason that we need consent is because the Cedars Project that this is going to benefit sits outside the incorporated limits of Grabill. When that happens, they look to Grabill as their municipality to issue the bonds and we need the consent of the fiscal body of the location where the beneficiary of the bond proceeds is located. This is the Cedars Retirement Community which is just west of Grabill on Grabill Road. The

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original bond in 2008 was \$3.25 million. They are refinancing and there is no new money. It is strictly financing to take advantage of the interest rate decrease since 2008. This bond will go from a 5.25% interest rate to a 2.75% interest rate. The same bank is buying the bond and it is simply a procedural matter to seek the Council's consent so that Grabill can then pass the bond resolution. The resolution before you is in the identical form that was passed by this body in 2015. We just didn't feel comfortable using and relying on this resolution because it references a Series 2015 Bond. These will be Series 2016 bonds. The principle amount outstanding when we sought this Council's consent was \$2.2 million but is now \$2,033,000. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Tom Harris: Just to repeat, it is moving from a 5.25% to 2.75%.

Zach Klutz: Correct.

Larry Brown: Considerable savings.

Zach Klutz: Again, the issuer of the bonds will be the Town of Grabill.

Bill Brown: I will make a motion to approve Resolution 2016-09-15-02 and application for consent to the issuance of the Town of Grabill, Indiana Economic Development Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2016 the Cedars Project.

Tom Harris: Second.

Larry Brown: 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). Back to our agenda, we are going to continue discussion on the Wheel Tax/Surtax Ordinance. Do you want Mr. Fishing to join you?

Chris Cloud: His billable rate increases if he has to talk.

Larry Brown: Sit still, Bill.

Chris Cloud: Chris Cloud, Executive Assistant for the Board of Commissioners. I am going to hand it over to Beth Lock, Director of Government Affairs.

Beth Lock: I am also Chris' assistant. I am going to go ahead, if Council does not have a copy of the presentation, and pass that around. You each should have received this via email or in person. I will go quickly through this and give you some background on the Wheel Tax/Surtax. Prior to 2009, we funded our bridges historically through bonding. In 2004 the Legislature eliminated the ability to use property taxes for bridge funding and so it kind of limited our bonding capacity. Additionally we dissolved the CUM Bridge Fund in 2002. We recognize there were a lot of issues and a lot of bridge repairs that were coming before us and so in 2009, there was an effort by Councilman Buskirk and Commissioner Peters to go to each of the municipalities and towns in the County and solidify some interlocal agreements. The Council raised the rates of the wheel tax and

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surtax along with those interlocal agreements and has funded \$3.7 million annually to Allen County bridges and \$1.4 million of that is given back from those interlocal agreements. Additionally, in 2009, the Wheel Tax/Surtax was a secondary finance pledge to the Maplecrest Road Extension Bond. The sunset was put in place because Council believed the TIF revenue would cover the Maplecrest Bond and therefore Major Bridge would be opened up to cover all of the bridges however, because the TIF has not generated revenue because of the recession and not a lot of development along that corridor. Major Bridge was utilized to cover the Maplecrest Bond. Today we are asking for an extension of the sunset on the Wheel Tax/Surtax from 2017 to 2029. I will go quickly through why we are asking for that. One is simply to comply with the Maplecrest Bond agreement and also to save an additional \$1.3 million in debt service by refinancing them. Especially if the bonds are sold before the Federal Reserve rates are raised. Also to maintain Allen County's current bond rating for future bonding capabilities. We currently have a double-A bond rating and if we do not have that secondary pledge, we could drop to a B and then of course to continue funding and maintenance of the Wheel Tax/Surtax on bridges. I know there has been discussion about potentially paying down the principle unfortunately even if we do that it does not comply with the bond agreement. We still need a good interest rate and a good bond rating and need to extend it for that reason. Also, Major Bridge only gives about 90% coverage to the bonds. The 2008 rates on the Wheel Tax/Surtax gave about 150% coverage but if we extend the sunset provision to 2029, those 2009 rates that were raised gives about 200% coverage and the best ability to save revenue and have the best bond rating. Technically we cannot pay down the bonds until 2019. That is something to keep in mind. The next few slides are simply some background history because I know people have asked what the Wheel Tax/Surtax currently used for and what was it used for and I will go quickly through these. Prior to the 2009 increase, we had a portion of about \$1 million coming to that and it was utilized for the same purposes as the Motor Vehicle Highway Account, for salaries, roads and street repairs. Following the increase, every portion that Allen County receives through interlocals or our distribution is dedicated to bridge funding. Since 2009, we have spent \$26 million on bridges, again \$3.7 million annually. You will see here some of the notable Allen County bridge projects and Fort Wayne bridge projects that we have done. This is just a small sample list and not all of them. Moving further you will look at our current state of bridges slide. In 2008 we had 364 bridges and in 2016 we have 395. I want to point out that we are second to Marion County in bridges with the three major rivers that come into Allen County. Marion has a little over 500 and then we have the most bridges in our inventory. In 2008, we had six with weight limits posted and has increased to 17 which is a concern. We still have one bridge closed but our average sufficiency rating has decreased. There is a proposed 2017 bridge project list in front of you and you will see estimated cost as well as the phase that it is in. I want to draw your attention to some of these are just in design phases and it does not mean that we currently have the money for construction. We are going to have to prioritize them going forward on how those bridges get done. I just want to throw that out there that this is the plan for 2017. Right now, the budgeted amount that you see and the estimated cost is specific to the phase of the project that the bridge is in. Moving on, I want to go as quickly as possible, this chart illustrates on future bridge needs that there was a wave of replacements back in the 1970's under some bridge bonding that we did. The useful life

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of a bridge is forty to fifty years and we are approaching a need for bridge repair funding. In fact, in the next few years we are looking at \$57 million of bridge funding over the next nine years. Highway had an excel spreadsheet that they sent to me and it is about four or five pages long with each of the bridges that are going to need to be done either replaced, rehabilitated or preserved with the cost estimates. I condensed it down to one spreadsheet so you guys can see where we are over the next nine years and what the cost needs to be in each of those categories. I have a couple more slides here. Future bridge projects, these are examples taken from the four or five page spreadsheet and some of these are future projects and we are going to need to be looking at. If you look to the second to the last line, the current state of funding, this is overall funding for the Highway Department and is something that we had on our Legislative Preview last year. In 2016, in order to just maintain, we should have been doing the 80 miles of reseal and we were doing 48. We should have been doing ten miles of hot mix asphalt and we did 6.4 miles. We should have been doing six bridges and we did four. Our conversion stayed the same and we did about four miles of conversion. This is a trend that is actually happening across the State and not just in Allen County. Transportation funding has been on our Legislative Priority Platform for at least six of the ten sessions that I have been here. It continues to be something that the General Assembly is looking at. I want to make you aware that in general, transportation is an issue across the State. Last slide, I promise and hope that I haven't talked too quickly, just a couple of legislative changes I want you to be aware of since the 2009 increase. In 2013, the County Wheel Tax/Surtax was changed that the adopting body can either be the County Council or the County Income Tax Council and as you know, in Allen County the COIT Council is the City Council. If this was ever to be rescinded, and I don't think that has been the discussion, it would give the COIT Council the ability to adopt the County-wide Wheel Tax/Surtax. For County Council to maintain that control, you have to continue to have that tax in place. We are not here to talk about increases but strictly here to talk about the extension of the sunset for the purposes of the bond but I did want to let you know there were increases on the County Wheel Tax/Surtax in last year's legislation. The former threshold for the Wheel Tax was \$40 and is now \$80. The prior maximum was \$25 and is now \$50 per State statute as long as you have transportation asset management plans in place. With that I will answer any questions or turn it back over to Chris for any future discussion.

Larry Brown: Please take a breath. If I might, I use the KISS system, Keep it Simple. With all of the data and God love her, Kim buried me in data but I asked some questions of Highway. It is very evident after I look at the summarization, and that is all I was after summarization, but over the last seven years we have had a net of about \$25 million available. Over the next nine, we are going to need \$57 million. We are collecting, on average, \$3.5 million a year. We need \$6.3 million. Duh! The Wheel Tax/Surtax needs to stay in place and the next discussion, not today, is increasing the user fee, if you will to these allowable figures.

Chris Cloud: We had internally an outline of a calendar to start those discussions late this fall or early winter with you and Cities and Towns for the discussion of what the appropriate rate is. When we went through the refinancing process is when we discovered

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the need to extend the sunset. That conversation was on the radar screen and just moved up a little. I appreciate that because they are two separate discussions. They may lead to different conclusions. From our perspective there is a need not only for the current one but I think the Commissioners would advocate the need for increasing. Again that is a discussion for another day. With the changes in legislation that will allow municipalities to do their own Wheel Tax/Surtax, I think that further complicates the discussion because we now have to include Fort Wayne in that because if they can do their own, New Haven can do their own, we don't want to be doubling up on people. We need to collectively, as a community, make sure that we have the most appropriate rate that meets everyone's needs but is not over-delivering revenue. You want enough revenue but you don't want everyone piling on so that there is too much revenue.

Joel Benz: Further complicating matters is our City of Fort Wayne has already adopted a Wheel Tax.

Chris Cloud: And not knowing what would happen with this. We will be having those conversations and they will probably involve way more spreadsheets and confusing numbers. That is definitely going to happen down the road.

Tom Harris: I have some questions but some comments as well. One would be our continued strategy in asking the State for additional funding. By extending this process today, does this put us in a better position to ask the State or require the State to consider more revenue coming back to Allen County?

Beth Lock: I would say that in looking ahead and summarizing where Allen County is at our Legislative Preview, I would say that we had a sunset provision on this however, we have extended that. It does get us into a better position because otherwise they are going to say you are asking for funding however, you have a sunset that you still haven't renewed and you still haven't raised to the max. Yes, in a way, it does help us but it is miniscule. I think if you were going to the thresholds at the very top that would definitely help us like today. That is not the discussion today. I think it is just extending it and making sure it is in place.

Tom Harris: So the State looks to local communities to raise more of their own funding before they will give us more money to help us.

Beth Lock: Because essentially out of 92 Counties, there are over thirty that have not adopted Wheel Tax/Surtax. They are saying that you haven't taken full advantage of the tools that we have given you.

Tom Harris: Now, our Wheel Tax has been in place how long?

Chris Cloud: Decades.

Tom Harris: And the City of Fort Wayne has just adopted a Wheel Tax.

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Beth Lock: Correct but it is not billable until January first.

Tom Harris: They adopted that for a one-year period or is it for longer?

Chris Cloud: I think they adopted our rate. If they choose to rescind before July of next year, it would go away January 1, 2018.

Tom Harris: So they have to choose to make it go away or it will stay in place.

Chris Cloud: I don't believe they put any conditions on there.

Tom Harris: What percent of the County's Wheel Tax/Surtax presently goes to the City of Fort Wayne?

Beth Lock: Out of \$7 million, I believe \$4.5 million goes to them.

Tom Harris: So the County's Wheel Tax that we adopted and has been there for a long time, we have been giving \$4.5 million to the City of Fort Wayne.

Chris Cloud: It is a proportional division.

Tom Harris: That is what I was looking for, the percent.

Beth Lock: I think it is 65% but don't quote me on that.

Tom Harris: Approximately 60% of this County's tax goes to the City of Fort Wayne but they felt it was necessary to adopt an additional tax to help them with some specific road projects.

Chris Cloud: And I would say in not knowing what you all might do. You, as adopters of the rate can also lower the rate. If you lowered it back to what it was or got rid of it, you were in the driver's seat. Speaking for them and not knowing intimately what their policy decision was, I think they were just making sure they weren't in a bad position.

Tom Harris: It would be in our thought, or at least my thought, that the City of Fort Wayne would be in a position next year to eliminate that and not keep that because the concern I have is the City of Fort Wayne residents are now paying two taxes. That has been added on from the City of Fort Wayne but it is our hope, on County government, that it goes away in one year so that the City of Fort Wayne residents don't have to continue to pay two taxes.

Chris Cloud: I would say lower it or eliminate it for bridge funding. If they would make a public policy decision that they need to increase road funding outside of bridges, that is their political decision to raise taxes. As far as bridge funding, yes, it would be our hope that they would take that away.

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Tom Harris: This whole issue is coming up as a result of the TIF process not generating enough funds for the Maplecrest Project.

Chris Cloud: Correct.

Tom Harris: What are we doing from an economic development standpoint to enhance the ability of TIF to generate more funds for this project?

Chris Cloud: That would probably be a better question for Elissa McGauley but we have an existing EDA and TIF area covering all of Adams Center, our portion of it. Fort Wayne has a TIF for their portion and New Haven has an area for their TIF portion. Fort Wayne has recently done an intermodal facility which is in their TIF District. They gave us a \$100,000 check this year and that is the revenue their TIF has generated. It went from nothing a few years ago to finally coming in. I do know their concerns are that they will need some of that TIF revenue to do infrastructure in their TIF if they want to grow it. What the TIF agreement between the three groups says is all of us agree to that it is fine. If they came to us and said that someone wants to put a huge factory in here but they are going to need some water improvements, we can do that. Generally speaking, all TIF revenue that is received should come to Allen County to pay the bonds.

Tom Harris: It would behoove the County to really place some emphasis on the development of economic development in that area.

Chris Cloud: We will be doing a study on Adams Center Road because that road needs to be improved. If you want development on that corridor, a two-lane road with no shoulder is not really going to be helpful with that. We know there needs to be improvements past 930 on Adams Center and additionally our EDA TIF area.

Tom Harris: So this process today and what you are looking for is for us to continue, not create a new tax, but just continue the existing tax. Further, it behooves the County to make sure it doesn't go to a COIT Income Tax Council because the City of Fort Wayne would have the ability to not only come in where we are at but maybe even raise it.

Beth Lock: And they would still have control of the municipal tax.

Tom Harris: So the COIT Income Tax Council is the City of Fort Wayne and would be able to kind of oversee what the County is doing in terms of this particular tax.

Chris Cloud: The COIT Income Tax Council is proportional to the population and they have the population center.

Bill Brown: Having been there when the Maplecrest Bond was put together, as a Commissioner, Umbaugh did a study for us to the tune of about \$50,000. I will never forget that day when they were making those projections saying what if 100%, 75% of the projected projects, it would be interesting to dig out that study and take a look at it.

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Chris Cloud: I have. Their worst-case scenario still had TIF being able to cover it. The recession really did just wipe out the momentum that was taking place in the economy.

Bill Brown: We tried to get the best projection that we could.

Chris Cloud: But we had Major Bridge in place to cover it. We knew we had bond coverage but it was still a gamble.

Bill Brown: The value of having the sunset with Council putting this in when this was is now the fact that it is getting thoroughly discussed. I too believe we are going to have to remove the sunset or it is going to have too dramatic of an effect on our bond rating and will ultimately cost us money. However, when we start looking down the road, we really have to understand if the State wants communities and Counties to use the tools in the toolbox like this hypothetically if we would raise out Wheel Tax and max that out and there are other Counties that have not done that it should create an advantage for us having used the tools to get more money from the State. I think this is a key point if communities, whether it is the City of Fort Wayne, the County of Allen or what have you, if there is a community standard that they feel is important for quality of life whether it is the alleys of Fort Wayne, sidewalks or subdivision streets that they are responsible for, I think we really need to take a good look at what is the community standard. We want to be known for having high quality infrastructure. In my mind, a budget isn't balanced when you have inferior infrastructure. I think moving forward we really need to look at this through a different lens of what the community standard really is. Just a couple more pieces to this, we know we have a deficiency of street and road funding because of the great job of energy efficient vehicles. Less gas is being purchased. We are also seeing a trend of leaning towards Wheel Tax/Surtax on vehicles but we are seeing a trend with the millennials of fewer drivers and fewer people owning cars. Uber is coming on in a big way and Lift. There are more people who will be using Ride and Share. Granted, I am projecting this way out into the future, however we need to continue to keep our eye on the main ball. That is, what is the quality of infrastructure that is this community standard? There is going to have to be other ways in the future to offset those costs. I will say, in closing, I think Allen County does an excellent job in their asset management. We have the assets and we understand the future and what we need and I think we need to keep the City of Fort Wayne, Allen County and all of the communities to really understand what neighborhoods want and what people want for a quality of infrastructure and continue to figure out ways to fund it. It may be in advocating getting more money from the State or Federal dollars. One more thing, when it comes to asset management we all know that when you take Federal dollars and bring them back locally and go through all of the regulations, it costs roughly twice as much to do something. You can't find a clear example of an asset management plan and safe sidewalks to schools than in Hoagland, Indiana. We used the Federal fund for part of that and the folks in Hoagland got together and put in those sidewalks and the cost is just incredibly low. That is another piece to plug into this and is probably more information for this particular conversation however I am not going to be on Council next year and wanted to have the opportunity to get it on the record.

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Joel Benz: I appreciate your words, Councilman Brown and also Councilman Harris. I think those are important issues and I think there is one more piece to this that should be brought up. That is there is already, and correct me if I am wrong, four bonds that have been restructured and are using this as a backing, if they were to default, this would be pledged.

Tera Klutz: No, I think there are just a couple. What I was referring to is we have refunded four bonds and taken advantage of a lower interest rate and Maplecrest is the last one to refund.

Joel Benz: So this is the only one tied to that?

Chris Cloud: I think it is the only bond with the Wheel Tax/Surtax as a secondary.

Tom Harris: The savings to the taxpayers in \$1.3 million because we are refinancing this bond.

Tera Klutz: I probably misspoke.

Chris Cloud: That is the estimate. You don't know until you sell it and that is over the life of the bond. It may only be a couple thousand a year.

Larry Brown: Okay, Council, we are referring to Ordinance 2016-08-18-02.

Tera Klutz: That ordinance is in your packet. It has the sunset extending to December 31, 2029. It doesn't remove it.

Larry Brown: What do you want to do?

Bill Brown: I will make a motion to extend the sunset, Allen County Ordinance 2016-08-18-02 the County Council hereby amends the 2009 Ordinance shall not expire until December 31, 2029.

Tom Harris: I'll second it.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion?

Bill Brown: To sum up what I said, things like this are essential to keep us at a high quality of infrastructure. I would advocate a higher quality of infrastructure.

Tom Harris: The other piece that I would like to mention is that we have had a chance to review this and is there an interest with Council to have this come back before us in maybe five years to review how we are doing? I don't know that it needs to be an amendment to this but somehow getting an update and I am going to personally push to see that we enhance economic development in this arena. When we are going to be coming before Council and there is going to be an interest in buying additional land and

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additional kinds of economic development, why are we not focused in this TIF District and if it is going to have a burden on taxpayers?

Chris Cloud: I think I can tell you that we all have a vested interest in this TIF generating lots and lots of money.

Nick Jordan: There are actually three. The City of New Haven has one. The City of Fort Wayne has one and the County has one. Ours is farther out and the Cities of New Haven and Fort Wayne are actually closer to the bridge.

Chris Cloud: I understand your point of making sure our staff is tasked with putting an emphasis on this.

Tom Harris: The idea that we come back and review this in a five-year period, I guess I would like to suggest that it is something that Council should do on a periodic basis.

Joel Benz: I would just like to mention that this is worth doing just for the simple reason that it is going to save us \$1.4 million or \$1 million, I should say, in refinancing the bond and continuing the bridge funding. I don't think Edsall Bridge will get done without this.

Sharon Tucker: Did you say Edsall Bridge? I have heard three things said that I thought you guys took the words out of my mouth. Edsall Bridge, Southeast Economic Development and the TIF District and this just goes to prove the point in what I said when running and every time I have spoken you will see me say something about economic development in the southeast of the County. This proves my point. We cannot afford to keep overlooking pockets of communities if we are looking to keep our tax dollars and revenue level so that it doesn't have a burden on the incomes of households in our community. This just speaks to why economic development has to be shown the entire community, I am not saying that it is not happening but for development not to be taking place in this quadrant worries me. I speak to it every single time which is why I was elected to help bring this forward and be the voice for our community. We have to focus and hone in on this area.

Bill Brown: I would like to add to this because that was my comment when we put this last piece of infrastructure in. When you look at our community and the interstate circling us, we have our East and West corridors and the North and South corridors. We have built out Ardmore to Baer Field or Fort Wayne International and then Maplecrest and it all stops southeast. The Commissioners had garnered Federal funds and had it in the bank. The Maplecrest Bridge and extension was built actually at a time of recession and was a \$50 million engineer's estimate and we built it at a \$30 million bid price and with additional cost it was less than \$35 million.

Chris Cloud: I was going to say it was \$40 million all in.

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Bill Brown: Considerably less money but to your point, it was an example of unincorporated Allen County's leadership saying to build out this last key piece of infrastructure and now we need to do more and continue to grow that area.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. All in favor please signify by saying aye. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Buskirk absent). Now to conclude the conversation, don't lose track of this spreadsheet that Nick put together for us. Keep this on your iPad. This is very beneficial to remind you of how much is collected and how much is given back through the interlocal agreement for bridge repair.

Bob Armstrong: Do we get a copy of that blown up? The one I have is so small that I can't read it.

Nick Jordan: Zoom in.

Larry Brown: Here, this is for the visually impaired. Executive decision, we are going to take a ten-minute break.

Joel Benz: Move for approval to waive the second reading on any matter approved today for which it may be deemed necessary for the County Council meeting of September 15, 2016.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 6-0-1 (Buskirk absent). The next regular meeting of County Council will be Thursday, October 20, 2016 in this room. The regular meeting is over and we now go to our binding review. First on the agenda is the Allen County Solid Waste District.

Nick Jordan: Council, as they are coming up here, I want to remind you that these are the tax units that do not have governing boards comprised of a majority of Elected Officials and they must have their budgets reviewed and adopted by the County Fiscal Body. Solid Waste, Southwest Fire District and the Airport Authority, you can reduce or modify the budget that is presented. On page three, there is a summary and I have provided a hard-copy of that summary and it summarizes the remaining 40 pages and the information presented is as the taxing unit entered it into Gateway. It is the advertised information and should you or they choose to modify it between now and the October adoption that will be reflected come October.

Tony Burrus: Good morning, Tony Burrus with Allen County Solid Waste District. We are proposing for the 2017 budget of \$1,622,561. This is a 6% increase in our programming. And a three percent increase overall. Our programming is continuing to grow. Last year we processed over ten tons of batteries of various types; 116 tons of tires; 17,000 tons of yard waste and electronics are killing us. Those things between electronics and mercury, they redefined the statute after 1990 and basically in 2006 provided that we

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had to handle e-waste and mercury. One of the problems that we are having is that one time the State provided credits to the manufacturers to offset the cost of that. Those credits have gone away and we are working with the Legislature this year to address that. The problem is that televisions and CRT's are beginning to cost us heavily. There is no mechanism in place to address the leaded glass. There are probably two de-manufacturers in the world for leaded glass. So where the e-waste contractors were taking those materials from us if we had 2,000 pounds or more were free, now they are beginning to charge anywhere from \$35 to \$75 a television or CRT. They used to take elemental mercury from us for free and now it is \$35 a pound. Our programs are very successful and if we shut them off, we would all hear about it. Though the Solid Waste Board isn't Elected Officials, people like yourself, would hear those cries from the public. They are responsible to the community.

Larry Brown: Tony, what kind of participation you get from the general public on proper disposal versus throwing it amongst everything else that ends up in the landfill?

Tony Burrus: It depends on the items. There is probably a 40% participation in household hazardous materials or hazardous waste. E-waste is probably 80% because it is prohibitive to go to the landfill. If they can be seen, we probably have more failure on those with the larger containers like commercial because they can hide them in there. We are getting significant participation as our programs continue to grow each year. I would say about 25% each year on some of the programs.

Larry Brown: Cool that's good. Tom.

Tom Harris: I would ask a couple of thoughts. Your biggest challenge and maybe you just told us, for your function and department is what and secondarily you show the estimated miscellaneous revenue is going to almost double from other receipts is what you show, \$575,000 going to \$1.1 million. I am just trying to understand what that means.

Nick Jordan: One point of clarification, the \$575 you see is from July first through December 31st of 2016 and so it is a six-month comparison to the full year.

Tony Burrus: We are 90% tipping fees. That is the fee that is assessed by the Solid Waste Board and imposed on the local landfills. We currently only have the one landfill that is open, Republic Services. We have a two-tiered system that was approved by the owners, the Board and the Citizens Advisory Committee. We charge \$2.50 for all waste generated outside of Allen County and disposed of in the landfill. Allen County residents are charged \$1.35. That is what generates those revenues. Along with some of the fees, we have always charged the minimum fee for any of our programs, tires, electronics and mercury, and so we start looking at those things because the push today is that industry goes to zero landfill.

Tom Harris: Maybe say that last part again just to clarify that.

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Tony Burrus: Many of the industries are trying to be zero landfill that they do not dispose of their waste in the landfill. They are finding other methods.

Tom Harris: So it would be a positive to increase the tipping fees.

Tony Burrus: We can only increase right now the Allen County rate which affects your industries. That is because the \$2.50 a ton is the maximum that the statute permits. We are looking at doing that.

Tom Harris: What is interesting about that concept is that we're to bring industry into Allen County and so the very fact of you raising that rate is a detraction of saying "Gosh, it is going to cost me more to live in the County and throw away my waste." On the other hand, it is enhancing businesses to say "How can I eliminate waste?"

Tony Burrus: Currently, it is enhancing because we are encouraging them to because it is a lower rate and if they go outside the County, it is a higher rate.

Tom Harris: Interesting, thank you.

Bill Brown: I will say that I attended the Allen County Solid Waste Awards Ceremony and have been there the last two or three years and they really do emphasize the zero landfill and there are several entities that are getting there. That is a good thing.

Tony Burrus: The bottom line for us is that if it is not going to the landfill, we are not receiving fees. We are beginning to do a long-term assessment of that.

Sharon Tucker: Do we think the investments are going to be that low next year when you look at the six months compared to the year?

Tony Burrus: Our earnings, we project that our income will be \$1.1 million and yes, it will probably be at a \$400,000 deficit. However, what we have done and we have projected a deficit each year. I monitor that fund very tightly. We try to spend only when it is absolutely necessary. We generally project about a \$400,000 deficit for the past three years and we probably have only a deficit of \$100,000 or less.

Bob Armstrong: When was the Solid Waste created?

Tony Burrus: The district was created March 2, 1991.

Larry Brown: Are there any other questions for Tony? I don't think we take any action.

Nick Jordan: Not unless you want to discuss reducing or modifying, you will adopt it in October.

Larry Brown: Thank you, Tony. Next on the agenda is Southwest Fire.

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Ellis McFadden: Good morning, Council and Auditor's staff. I am Ellis McFadden, the Fiscal Officer of the Southwest Fire District.

Larry Owen: Larry Owen, Trustee.

Don Patnoudé: Don Patnoudé, Fire Chief.

Ellis McFadden: On the budget that you have before you, this is a two percent increase on the employees. We kept that down because with the pending lawsuit, we don't know where we are headed. This has been a challenge that we try to keep more money in for the legal fees. We have increased the amount for the part-time firefighters that fill in. Presently we had one of our good people who was full-time leave. He had been there four years and I am not sure if we weren't paying him enough or he saw a better opportunity. In order to get more part-time, the first of October we are going to increase them from \$12 to \$15. It is a juggle to get that many to fill in for these spaces and also get under the thirty hours. The Chief has done an excellent job of doing that. The other increase was obviously for the professional fees and we have increased for the equipment. We have kept the payroll down to try to fill in these other spaces but it seems that the some of the City doesn't realize where the city limits are. The Chief had a call a few days ago that there was a fire truck at the Trinity Health just north of General Mills and I will let him answer that.

Don Patnoudé: I really don't have an answer for it but we kind of set them straight on it. The issue comes in when you have that happen in that we have key systems for individual fire departments and you want to make sure they have the right keys because if someone goes in there and gives them the wrong information, it could be a \$300 to \$400 mistake.

Larry Brown: Council, any questions or comments? Bob.

Bob Armstrong: The only question I have is, the gentleman that left, how many years was he with you?

Ellis McFadden: Four years. He was the most recent one.

Bob Armstrong: I thought you said forty and I thought why would you be upset if he is leaving after 40 years?

Ellis McFadden: His pay, this coming year, would have been \$54,000 a year. Those people work 24-hour shifts and have two days to have the opportunity to have another job. This is the task that we have to kind of work on to make sure we can get the people trained and fill those spots.

Bob Armstrong: That is my next question. I traveled this summer on vacation into Kentucky and Tennessee and as we were traveling, you drive by a volunteer fire station with a sign out front that says "Help wanted". I kept on driving and saw another one and I thought that the next one I came to, I am stopping. I was going to ask them about it. I

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stopped at three different stations in three States and they said there is just that the young people just don't want to be involved. I asked the one guy what you do if you don't get your volunteer staff for your houses and he said they pray that they don't have any fires. He said that they go out and campaign into the schools and the technical centers in the area and it is a real problem. Are we seeing that also?

Don Patnoudé: Absolutely. Every department in Allen County is. I don't know what you do to fight that problem because it goes beyond the fire department. You see it everywhere. When you look at the number of jobs some of these people are working, it used to be that they would get off work and come to the fire station, do their training and go on runs and things like that. A lot of people today go home and get on their Play Station or the internet. The things they join the fire department for, to go on the different types of incidents for the community, they kind of fill that doing that. There is always the training aspect and the number of hours our people put in, they always put in at least three hours a week but typically we have many of the people doing six hours. This is to maintain their certifications, whether EMS or just fire, and we have specialty personnel that do confined space and trench rescue and these all add up in hours. It is a challenge and it is not just us. I talk to Chiefs all over and every one of them has the same problem.

Bob Armstrong: How is the volunteer housing program that you had started?

Don Patnoudé: We have had the facility filled and right now we are down to six from the eight. We always have prospects looking and it is a great program. I can tell you that one of them that had been living there since the beginning saved up enough money to buy a house and is buying it up near one of our other stations and so he will just be transferring up there. In a way that is what this has always been meant to do.

Bob Armstrong: It is that tactic and I was talking to another Councilperson about this that it comes back to that train and retain. It is an opportunity for them. Do they still have fire science classes at Anthis or whatever?

Don Patnoudé: Yes, they actually have it at Anthis where they can get a Firefighter One and Firefighter Two certification. At Ivy Tech, they can get an Associate Degree.

Bob Armstrong: I appreciate all you guys do.

Ellis McFadden: One of the things you mentioned was that the departments say they just pray. We don't do that because we have General Motors, General Mills, Delphi and all of these new ones that are coming online. We are trying to get up to speed to cover those areas.

Bob Armstrong: Being proactive instead of reactive.

Ellis McFadden: Exactly right.

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Tom Harris: That is one of the questions that I was going to ask. The CUM CAP fund is down 20%. Is that a strategy or why did that happen? Is that meeting some of the needs of the new building and those kinds of things going in out there?

Ellis McFadden: We keep that at the limit to bring in new equipment.

Tom Harris: And you are going down 20% next year, right?

Ellis McFadden: We went to the limit.

Nick Jordan: Are you saying that you were going to the limit on the levy?

Ellis McFadden: Yes.

Nick Jordan: You have reduced your budget by about \$78,000. Do you anticipate spending less on capital in the CUM fund for next year?

Ellis McFadden: Correct.

Nick Jordan: That is what Councilman Harris was asking why you reduced the budget.

Ellis McFadden: That is due to the tax rate.

Nick Jordan: So essentially you are only going to have enough funds even with collecting the new levy of \$266,000 to spend \$295,000?

Ellis McFadden: The other thing that fell into that is the tax cap impact too.

Tom Harris: What was crossing my mind, I don't know the age of your equipment presently, was all of the new buildings going up and the industry that we are bringing in.

Ellis McFadden: Last year the CUM fund was \$190,000 and this year it is \$195,000.

Tom Harris: We are showing a different number on ours and I'm not sure if we are lost in the weeds a little bit. I am showing \$373,000 last year and it is going to \$295,000 next year.

Nick Jordan: And the levy was \$266,253 last year.

Ellis McFadden: \$245,000 last year.

Nick Jordan: I will have to double check my figures.

Tom Harris: That might be good to understand. You are using the CUM CAP fund to the fullest extent. I didn't know if it was a strategy because all of your equipment was in good shape.

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Ellis McFadden: That is not true.

Tom Harris: And as we are getting more and more businesses in that area I am thinking maybe we should be pulling back.

Don Patnoudé: Our big goal right now is that our oldest ladder truck is a 1989 and I could go through the whole list. Most of them are in the 1990's. Our primary goal is to replace one of our ladder trucks that is the highest responding vehicle that we have. The price tag on that is probably going to be well over \$800,000. It takes a while for us to build up that money to a point where we can go out and get one.

Tom Harris: When we are seeing a reduction of 20%, I was wondering. We will have to check those numbers a little bit.

Ellis McFadden: On the General Fund, it is zero to the limit.

Nick Jordan: Last year the budget was \$373,686 for the CUM and then the advertised for next year is only \$295,000 for the budget. This is from the budget order entered into Gateway.

Ellis McFadden: We will have to look at that.

Sharon Tucker: Chief, last year you came in to get some more hardware and equipment packs updated. Was that last year?

Nick Jordan: It was about some of the equipment expiring after so long.

Don Patnoudé: Turn out gear. We are still plugging away at that. I think we have replaced forty sets and are probably within twenty sets of being finished. Then that gets replaced by our air bottles because that is the next one up. Those run around \$1,100 and we have about 100 of those. They reach a fifteen year, DOT requirement, and then they have to be destroyed. We are approaching that in 2020.

Sharon Tucker: I thought we were moving in the right direction. Thank you.

Larry Brown: Council, are there any more questions? Thank you. Next is the Airport Authority.

Nick Jordan: The Airport Authority did provide a PowerPoint presentation that is in you notebook and that is starting on page 18.

Ron Portis: Ron Portis, Controller.

Robin Strasser: Robin Strasser, Director of Administration and Finance.

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Larry Brown: Tell us about your budget.

Robin Strasser: We put together a budget that we feel is very conscientious of spending. We are coming off a really good year. This past year, we have had a lot of good accomplishments and recent recognition in national publications for giving out our two millionth cookie. That is the fun side of what we do. Some new air service opportunities, the Newark service started last week on the seventh. We are very happy and excited about that. We are very excited that in November we are going to have up-gauged aircraft coming to Fort Wayne. That means we will have two flights a day to Dallas with 76 seats and first class opportunities. We are trying to continue the community awareness and keeping the passenger traffic up and staying out there in front of everyone. Per our agreement with the airlines, staff has presented the budget to the air carriers and they have approved our 2017 budget as presented per the agreement. We have also presented the budget to the Airport Authority Board and they have approved the budget as well. The overview of the budget meets all of the Federal and State regulations and guidelines. Some of our highlights are capital outlay and we have some large projects coming up however capital is coming down quite a bit from what it has been for the last couple of years. We are completing some major runway renovations. Next year we will begin the runway 523 rehab and are looking at the terminal entrance road relocation, some hangar relocations, terminal roof replacement, continuing to replace snow blowers and terminal apron improvement design. We are also continuing our capital outlay at Smith Field for some taxiway rehabilitation. Also the automated weather observation system computer needs to be replaced. Our property tax levies, the increase is at the 3.8% average growth quotient which is set by the State. The rates are presented a little bit higher because we are not sure what the assessed values will be. We expect that to be at three cents per \$100 of assessed value. For the Cumulative Building Fund and Debt Service is set by the Local Government Finance. The bond issue will be paid off in January of 2020. We are presenting a balanced budget and on the revenue side, there is not anything unusual. Our operating fund and other outlays reflect a reduction with the implementation of the new FBO at FWA. We are seeing the actual expenses and what it takes to run that and what the actual revenues are able to offset that and have a reduction of about 11%.

Tom Harris: And that is 11% for the FBO or overall?

Robin Strasser: Overall.

Tom Harris: In essence the revenue is coming in for that extra...

Ron Portis: We overestimated the expenses from last year.

Tom Harris.: Okay so not necessarily the revenue but the expenses came down.

Ron Portis: The revenue did too. We overestimated both ways.

Tom Harris: Okay.

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Bill Brown: It hasn't been that many years ago that Smith Field was in the process of being sold and shuttered to a developer. I think part of that was for fiscal reasons. I know there has been a push to reinvigorate general aviation. Do you anticipate that Smith Field will be around for quite a while or is that hard to say?

Ron Portis: We anticipate it being around. The activity there has been pretty stable. It was about three years ago that we began to have an increase in activity. Last year was an increase and this year is pretty close to last year.

Bill Brown: It is nice that it has stayed around and I am glad to hear it is doing well. I think it would have been a big loss if it had gone away.

Ron Portis: We intend for it to be around for a long time.

Tom Harris: Your biggest challenge for the airport is what?

Robin Strasser: I would probably say that our biggest challenge is doing some longer range planning and based on our current levels of activity and the projections. What does the next ten to twenty years look like so that we can have some good plans in place and be ready for any potential funding that we may need to have?

Tom Harris: So, infrastructure.

Robin Strasser: Yes, infrastructure and that can be very costly. We have to figure out how we are going to fund that.

Ron Portis: I was just going to say to maintain our service levels. Airlines are having problems with pilot shortages.

Tom Harris: So you are seeing less service being provided by the airlines because of the shortage.

Ron Portis: Some of the airports are but we haven't seen that yet.

Tom Harris: In terms of corporate use versus non-corporate use, are you seeing an increase in corporate or not? Do you break it out that way?

Robin Strasser: We don't get all of the data that the airlines have but based on some of the information that we have, we are roughly 70% business and 30% leisure. That really hasn't changed much in the last few years.

Tom Harris: In terms of the 2017 revenue, you show that tax revenue is about 26.7 and airport is 73. How is that compared to last year?

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Robin Strasser: The tax revenue is slightly higher but that is because some of our large Federal funding for the runway project is happening this year. We are not getting as much Federal funding next year.

Tom Harris: Okay. The FBO help me with that acronym.

Ron Portis: Fixed Base Operations.

Tom Harris: That is the other piece that opened up and how is that going?

Robin Strasser: It is doing well.

Tom Harris: That is the other place where the private sector that planes can take off from.

Robin Strasser: Yes. It is for the private pilots. We have been providing good service levels. Revenue has been up and down each month depending on weather or just whatever is going on. So far it is holding its own.

Tom Harris: I know there was some controversy a year and a half ago or so but have we gotten through that? Have you increased the usage of that facility?

Ron Portis: It is hard to detect trends because one month we are way up and the next month we are kind of down. We sold 87, 000 gallons of jet fuel in August and 60,000 in July. It is hard to detect a pattern in just one year.

Tom Harris: That makes sense.

Bill Brown: When it comes to the fiscal aspect of dollars that are spent at the airport, there is the high quality of the facility, the FBO and the infrastructure it is just an excellent front door representation to our community. The money, over the last three or four decades, has been really well spent.

Tom Harris: I would concur and keep it up, it is tremendous out there.

Larry Brown: Are there any other questions, Council? Thank you very much. It has been suggested that we break for lunch. What do you want to do?

Tom Harris: Just for clarification in moving forward, what is left on the plate?

Tera Klutz: We pretty much have all of Allen County's budget hearings.

Larry Brown: We have five appeals.

Tera Klutz: The Prosecutor has withdrawn.

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Tom Harris: We have four and they are here in the audience and have been waiting patiently. One thought is to have their appeals in front of us and then they would not have to be back for the rest of the discussions.

Larry Brown: Okay, moving forward. How about the Coroner's Office?

Mike Burris: Mike Burris, Chief Investigator with the Coroner's Office. For the 2017 budget, we have appealed requesting an additional \$61,099. Those funds are going to be used in four lines of our budget. Starting with the overtime, in 2013 we eliminated the overtime line out of our budget. In 2016, we had the retirement of Pat Kite which left just two of us in the office. Becky received quite a few hours of overtime between Pat's retirement and the hiring of the new employee. She is carrying hours, I don't have the amount, and I would like to pay those down as opposed to having her take those hours off. Our new employee has started to gain his overtime. With an office staff of three and with the on-call schedule that we have, those two are earning overtime on a weekly basis. That will help us get those numbers down and paid out. The second line that I wish to add funds to would be the Autopsy line. Historically, in the fall, I come back to Council for an additional and it is usually right around \$50,000 to carry us through to the end of the year. This year is not going to be any different and I anticipate coming next month to request the additional funds. The numbers are up again this year and autopsies are up also. We are seeing a larger number of drug overdoses and with a drug overdose case, I don't have a medical condition on the individual to fall back on for the cause of death and so an autopsy is necessary. Usually it is a younger person. Homicide rates are up this year. I am also finding that we are up in our naturals. We are having fewer physicians signing death certificates because their patients aren't coming in to see them nearly as frequently as they had been probably due to medical costs.

Tom Harris: Meaning that they are passing away at home or something. Is that what you mean?

Mike Burris: The at-home deaths, the physicians are contacted by either law enforcement or the medics and they are asked if they would be willing to sign the death certificate. The physician's response is that he hasn't seen them in a couple of years and so no. Then it falls back on the Coroner's Office, we pull medical records and if there is nothing documented as a medical reason, the autopsy is performed.

Sharon Tucker: So of the \$61,000, \$50,000 is for autopsy.

Mike Burris: Yes, \$53,489. The next line with an increase is \$50 into Postage. The families are entitled to autopsy reports and they are mailed out to the family. With the increased number of autopsies, I would anticipate an increased number of mailing those out. Lastly, it is kind of a plus for the County, asking for an increase of \$2,560. We use a photo management system called Veri-pic. We upload our photos into the system and are maintained in the system and we can retrieve those photos as necessary. There is a yearly maintenance agreement of \$1,050 and there is a five-year that we can get at a reduced cost of \$3,610 for a five-year plan. Over those five years, it will save the County \$2,640.

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Tom Harris: Your photo management system is taking pictures of?

Mike Burris: We take scene photos and autopsy photos and we maintain those. Yearly we are paying \$1,050 but with a five-year plan, it is a cost of \$3,610.

Tom Harris: Is there an anticipated amount that you are coming back for next month?

Mike Burris: I don't have my exact numbers but is probably really close to the \$50,000.

Sharon Tucker: So last year you requested \$50,000 and that \$50,000 will be included in your budget this year?

Mike Burris: That is what my additional request is for this year. That is to get the \$50,000 to cover the beginning of the year as opposed to coming back in October of 2017.

Sharon Tucker: Do you remember if we had you come back?

Larry Brown: We sure did.

Mike Burris: I was here in October of 2015.

Sharon Tucker: So we didn't approve it at the budget but had you come back later.

Bill Brown: And you are trying to alleviate that for 2017.

Mike Burris: Right. In 2015, we were at 180 autopsies at this time and this year we are at 189. We are nine more than we were last year. In 2014, at this time, we were at 156. We are up 30 more than we were two years ago.

Bill Brown: For the same time frame?

Mike Burris: Same time frame.

Tom Harris: How many of those are coming from outside of Allen County?

Mike Burris: This year, the transfer autopsies are at sixteen. Last year, at this same time, it was 28. The reason he is asking is because we bill for outside autopsies. State law allows us to bill for the autopsy at our cost.

Larry Brown: Do we want to handle these one at a time?

Tera Klutz: We haven't had an opportunity to go through our budget and I think we should hear them individually.

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Tom Harris: And then come back and take a vote up or down as a group. I would agree.

Larry Brown: Okay. Are there any further questions? Thank you very much. You said the Prosecutor withdrew?

Tera Klutz: Yes.

Larry Brown: Next is County Extension. The amount is \$1,485.

Barb Thuma: I am Barb Thuma, Extension Educator.

James Wolff: I am James Wolff, Agriculture Educator.

Sam Johnson: Sam Johnson, Youth Development.

Larry Brown: Tell us about your budget appeal.

Sam Johnson: What we are asking for, \$1,485, for Contractual Services. That is for the five educators that work in Allen County.

James Wolff: This is basically to continue the work that we are doing to improve the lives of individuals in the community. As we have it broken down there is \$85 for building rent and maintenance; \$800 for office computer equipment and \$600 for dues and subscriptions. That is for partnerships that we have the Health and Disparity Coalition, Greater Fort Wayne, Inc and New Haven Chamber of Commerce. This helps us improve the services and what we are supplying to the community as we go out and do our work. You have requested us to do some fundraising and we plan to continue the fundraising efforts. We have our fall fundraising which will be out next month and there should be some information coming out. Do you have any questions?

Sharon Tucker: I would like to interject that I have talked with Vickie extensively who unfortunately had to be out of town today. It seems like a trivial or miniscule amount compared to a lot of other things we have in our budget but some of the things that we have looked at and worked on to move forward and don't have to keep going back and forth is increasing their fundraising and fees. We have even looked at implementing some outside donations but for this budget process, they need the support. One of the things that we have talked about is that this is a push back from Purdue and they are pushing it down to other Counties. At the Council table, we have talked about the danger of that from the higher ups pushing it down to local government. I just wanted to make sure that with all we are doing we try to make sure that we come up with the small fund to support it at this time. We are going to look at increasing some of those fees so that this doesn't come to us every single time and not punishing them for what is out of their control.

Tom Harris: I have a couple of thoughts. One is what did you do in terms of fundraising in 2015?

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Sam Johnson: Our Extension Board formed a subcommittee of their Board and we did poinsettias in the fall and are delivered before winter.

Tom Harris: How much did you raise?

Barb Thuma: \$599.

Tom Harris: Is that the only fundraiser that you have?

Barb Thuma: In 2016, we did a letter writing campaign asking companies for donations. That brought \$600.

Tom Harris: And with the additional poinsettias for this year?

Barb Thuma: It has not been held yet.

Tom Harris: But you are planning to do that?

Sam Johnson: Yes.

Tom Harris: So that is 2016 and last year you did \$599 and so it is probably \$1,200 you are going to do this year.

Barb Thuma: I don't know if the committee has decided if they will do the letter writing campaign yet.

Tom Harris: I am trying to figure out this year. Last year you had one fundraiser at \$599. This year you have two fundraisers?

Barb Thuma: Some of the \$600 came in very late in December and some came in January. The letter writing went out in December and some came in December and some in January.

Tom Harris: What else do you have planned for this year? You have the poinsettias? What about next year?

Barb Thuma: The fundraising committee has not discussed that.

Sam Johnson: I would assume they would continue the poinsettias. Each year, more and more people find out about it and we have a little bit of growth.

Tom Harris: How about fees?

Sam Johnson: We do collect user fees.

Tom Harris: How about user fees for this year compared to next year?

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Barb Thuma: We have user fees in Diagnostics, Soil Testing and in some of the programming that we do. One of the deals there is we cannot predict how much income we will have.

James Wolff: I will say that as we have increased user fees we have started losing clientele. Even people coming into the office to do the simple diagnostics, they are opposed to paying the three dollars in a lot of cases.

Tom Harris: What are their options? If they chose not to do diagnostics, what happens?

James Wolff: Basically to look it up themselves and hope they get the right answer or go to a professional that is probably going to charge them a lot more. In most cases, people are just going to go with what the internet says.

Sharon Tucker: Using Soil MD.

James Wolff: Yes. Most of the surrounding Counties have not charged fees yet for those services.

Sam Johnson: Our clientele who live bordering other Counties can go to those Counties and get those same services for free.

Tom Harris: I guess I won't put you through as many questions as I did last year but one of the challenges is that you provide a value to the community. We know that and some of the community members know that. As you identify that value and promote that value, you would think that people would want to help you in that process. You are up to two fundraisers and fees have slightly increased to three dollars but I challenge you at \$1,485 to not be able to come up with \$1,485 for the year for your organization is incredible to me. I think you should be able to reach out and do that in all kinds of ways.

Sharon Tucker: Just remembering that's on top of what we have asked them to fundraise with before. You take the \$1,500 plus what we have not given them before in total of what they have added.

Larry Brown: Council, are there any further questions? Thank you very much. Oh, wait a minute.

Bill Brown: I want to chime in on fees. I know the fee-concept and people don't like to pay fees. We are looking at some of our other discussions today but if you start looking at Wheel Tax/Surtax charges for essential services and more and more fees are being added. The Recorder's Office, for example, had funded their office for a long time completely on fees. I do think it is important when you are adding a value especially when you are going to be less than market rate that you strongly emphasize user fees. Those fees are important as opposed to the Board of Health where they don't charge fees for certain

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things because of a barrier to good health through spreading disease. You are probably going to have to push those user fees up a little bit.

Sam Johnson: We all realize that user fees are necessary. Many of our long time clientele don't really love the changes. There is a bit of resistance there but everyone here does understand that for services, prices go up.

Bill Brown: The message from us probably would be that we are asking that to take place.

Larry Brown: Council, anything else? Thank you very much. Next is Superior Court.

John McGauley: Good morning, Council. John McGauley, Court Executive for Superior Court.

Fran Gull: I am Fran Gull, Judge in the Criminal Division.

Jeff Yoder: Jeff Yoder, Executive Director of Criminal Division Services.

Leslie Blevins: Leslie Blevins, Financial Coordinator.

John McGauley: I am not sure how you want to walk through this but I wanted to start with a couple of things.

Larry Brown: You are never at a loss for words so just go ahead.

John McGauley: Just a couple of quick thanks. I wanted to thank you on behalf of Judge Pratt for taking another look at his position for the CHINS Supervisor that I believe you did this morning. It will still save quite a bit of money but is a better deal for the employee. I wanted to thank someone who is going to be surprised, Jackie Scheuman. She helped us out not too long ago. Our original appeal was \$35,000 to \$40,000 higher than what we are talking about this morning. Jackie helped us find some money within our existing budget to get that taken care of and so our thanks to her. You are looking at a big number this morning that is a blunt assessment of where we think we are in terms of our costs on Guardian ad Litem and Pauper Counsel. Plus there is a modest tweak in the way we do business in some operational areas that are geared toward reducing jail population and reducing the number of people that we have to send to jail. I will start, since Judge Gull is with us this morning and why we are asking for more in the area of Pauper Counsel as well as our Drug Court Case Manager position.

Fran Gull: As you know, Pauper Counsel is a nondiscretionary line item in which we need to pay attorneys for appeals. Every case that comes before me and my colleagues in the Criminal Division, if there is a conviction they have the right to appeal that conviction. They also have the right to appeal an open sentence. If they plead straight up without a plea agreement, they have the right to appeal the sentence imposed by the Court. They have to have attorneys to do so and we are required to pay those attorneys

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and the appeals just continue to go up. Right now we have about 4,500 appeals per year and there is nothing I can do to make that go down. There is nothing that I can change. If they get convicted, they are entitled to an appeal. Are there any questions about the Pauper Attorney? You have always been gracious about understanding that our hands are pretty much tied by the Constitutional rights. The other thing I wanted to talk about is the addition of a Drug Court Case Manager. You have been tremendous supporters of the Drug Court Program over the years since it started back in 1996 under a Federal grant. We have taken that into the Court's budget and the numbers continue to increase and Jeff Yoder, as the Executive Director of the Criminal Division Services and one of the programs is the Drug Court Program. It has exploded. If you see the headlines, several of the local pain doctors have gotten arrested and that forced a lot of folks into going into the street for heroin and the abuse of prescription drugs has taken a tremendous toll. We are seeing a lot of those folks, I heard the Coroner talking about overdose deaths. If they don't manage to kill themselves with the heroin that they are taking, when the first responders are coming to revive them, if they have paraphernalia on or about their person, they are getting arrested. We are seeing an increase in those numbers coming in. We've got five Case Managers and one just does assessments and carries a very small caseload. Each Case Manager, several years ago, had 25 clients. Each Case Manager is now up to about 40 clients. That is a number that we can just not sustain. Jeff, I know you have more numbers as far as the types of clients we are seeing.

Jeff Yoder: I will just add to Judge Gull's comment about the five Case Managers. Two of those are also Field Officers and they are very busy in the field as well as maintaining a caseload. In terms of types of cases, we are dealing with drastic, sharp increase from low risk assessed offenders to high risk offenders. I have some numbers here this morning. In 2014, 38% of our caseload assessed as being moderate and high risk. Now, 92% are assessed as high moderate risk. The remaining 8% are low risk. We are getting higher risk offenders and what that means because we address each case pursuant to their risk. We allocate more time and resources to the higher risk people. The low risk person, who tends to be more self-correcting, let me go back that we are keeping the higher risk folks in the program for a longer amount of time and our retention rate has increased from what used to be about 50% and is about 84% at this point. Those folks are in the program for upwards to two years. When you have a high risk caseload of 92%, our staff is extremely busy. Without compromising the integrity and effectiveness of Drug Court by increasing client to Case Manager ratios we are in dire need for an additional body. I would just ask that the Council consider this as we move forward.

Larry Brown: Can you help give us a better understanding of what risk means? What does it mean to us as taxpayers and citizens?

Jeff Yoder: Risk means a couple of things, obviously risk of reoffending while out of jail or prison. In the sense of Drug Court, it is to continue their vapid use of drugs or alcohol. We are dealing with a lot of heroin related issues right now. To me that is a risk to the public and the clients themselves. We do a 36 question risk assessment to every person coming into the program. Along with that is a 26 page interview style assessment. The assessments last upwards of three hours. We know just about everything about the

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individual that we possibly can and we validate their information through their support systems. That is so we can develop the appropriate treatment program. Risk to me is the same thing that I think it would be to the community, at large.

Sharon Tucker: The 92% that is now moderate to high is in the category that you just described?

Jeff Yoder: Correct.

Sharon Tucker: And what would be a low risk?

Fran Gull: Generally, the low risk offenders tend to be self-correctors. Those individuals that get arrested and have the shock and embarrassment and the shame of the offense and the arrest tends to get them back on track. They don't need as much supervision or as much services. They tend to fix themselves. They have a criminal matter that is going through the system and we supervise them as long as they are on the program but they don't consume as much service.

Bill Brown: I was told recently that there is a new brand of heroin that is fentanyl or something like that.

Fran Gull: Fentanyl and there is a new one that has an elephant tranquilizer in it. A tiny, tiny bit of that will kill you.

Bill Brown: As this whole trend just explodes, I was at a meeting with some law enforcement folks a couple of days ago and the comment was made that the doctors that prescribed all of these opioids had probably done more damage than from a drug addiction standpoint than probably any large drug dealer in memory. When you look at that and the fact that there was a big heroin bust not too long ago, we have that cartel off the street for the time being anyway, there are more folks going into methamphetamine and new sources of heroin, your work was mentioned at this meeting. When these folks get arrested, to take them to jail, you very well understand that your work is essential to stem the tide. This is just a mounting threat. It is bracing for what is happening in the future.

Tom Harris: The assessment process is that a new process to identify that risk? I was thinking that the people had been trained this year or something.

Jeff Yoder: We use the Indiana Risk Assessment system. There are a variety of tools and one that we use for Drug Court is a community supervision tool. Our staff is certified.

Tom Harris: Is that the new one that was applied through Community Corrections? I was thinking that there was something new and a new assessment. Maybe I am crisscrossing.

Leslie Blevins: The pre-trial program is what we were in the last time for.

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Tom Harris: Okay. Is that what this is?

Jeff Yoder: It is totally different. It is a community based tool where pre-trial is specifically validated for pre-trial in terms of intensity or length.

Tom Harris: I was trying to understand if we are assessing better and/or there is a greater need, right? You are saying a lot of those are up in risk but we are assessing better than we were a year ago.

Jeff Yoder: I can say we are a very tenured experienced staff.

Tom Harris: But they are using some new tools.

Jeff Yoder: It isn't necessarily new.

Fran Gull: We have been using this for a while. Part of it is the referrals have increased from the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor is the gatekeeper of the program. The Deputy Prosecutors are looking more intently at their cases and making determinations and the root of the criminal problem seems to be a drug or alcohol issue. In recent memory, they have not been looking as closely as they are now. They look at Drug Court as a tool they can use to dispose of a case and get an offender out of jail, off the books and back on track with their life.

Tom Harris: In my head, I was trying to think of the downturn in terms of seriousness of the people coming before you may not be as bad because we are assessing better. Saying they need better resources so they aren't coming back. That is in regards to the Drug Court Case Manager, correct?

Jeff Yoder: Yes.

Sharon Tucker: This goes back more towards the frequency of budgeting or coming back. It seems that throughout this year, as much as I love to see you John, we have seen you an awful lot. Is this a conservative approach and we will see you coming back again or is this a liberal approach and is hopefully one and done? Will we be nickeling and diming again throughout the course of 2017?

John McGauley: I don't believe so. That is based on some projections that I have gotten from the Judges and historical experience. We experienced a big jump this year and all of the projections that I have seen and the Judges have told me, this is where it is going to stay. The numbers that we have asked you for are pretty dramatic jumps over last year and the year before. My educated projection here is that this would cover us next year.

Leslie Blevins: I agree.

John McGauley: A lot of what we came for this year is appropriations of grants and capital items.

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Tom Harris: I forget the terminology but it is not for the translation piece, right?

Leslie Blevins: The interpreters are not in there.

Tom Harris: So that means you feel pretty good about that number.

John McGauley: We have been pretty successful in getting more money out of the State of Indiana for that. They see it and know we need the help.

Larry Brown: Are there any more questions? Thank you.

John McGauley: We have a couple of other items that we haven't explained to you yet. We have \$15,000 for dual-status assessments. We are one of five pilot Counties in the State that have been empowered to take a look at juvenile offenders to make sure they are where they need to be in the system. Is the juvenile being a delinquent or offender because they are being abused at home? We are authorized, on a contractual basis, to bring in experts to take a look at these kids to make sure they are receiving the services that they need. I have some projections for this year that we are going to do about 60 of those with the expectation that the number will double next year.

Tom Harris: How do you predict that?

John McGauley: It is based on the number that we were able to do this year. The pilot project has just really gotten rolling. We will be able to do it for a full year in 2017. We have asked for additional money for Guardian ad Litem. It is essentially a carbon copy of what we came for in July or August in terms of an additional appropriation. It is a lot of the same factors coming into play here. Substance abuse is making it harder to get families back together and there has been some tightening of the rules. A couple of years ago the Department of Child Services put some strict rules down on when they need to pursue a termination of parental rights. That is where a vast majority of our increase is coming from. Our number of termination of parental rights has doubled from 2014 to this year. When you look at the fact that is 200 or 300 cases out of 1,000 a year, it starts to add money very quickly because of the number of hearings and proceedings that are required in a termination of parental rights. Judge Pratt provided me with some information here that each termination of parental rights requires a minimum of four different proceedings. And in each case, you have a guardian to represent the interest of the child. That is where the most dramatic increase is coming from.

Sharon Tucker: So this \$123,000 consists of fees that are paid to...

John McGauley: To attorneys. We try to do as much as we can through CASA volunteers but they are tapped out. They are providing us with all of the resources that they can and when we need to, we hire attorneys at a drastically discounted hourly rate.

Sharon Tucker: No staff salaries are coming out of this \$123,000.

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John McGauley: No. That is a blunt assessment of where we think we are. The Pauper Counsel and the GAL are what we came back for from real world experience. I think the only other thing we have in there is transcript fees. Those costs went up fifty cents per page this year. That reflects that the Court Reporters have half as much time to deliver those. It halved from 90 days down to 45.

Larry Brown: Thank you very much. Public Defender is next.

Randy Hammond: This is the same issue that we discussed a little while ago. The \$330,000 was in our budget this year and we ran out and you have given us another \$240,000. It is going to happen again next year and so the question is to allocate the additional now or have us come back next summer.

Tom Harris: I was thinking in my head about the Pauper Attorney and you are the defense, help me understand this.

Randy Hammond: Sure. In the Superior Court budget, the Guardian ad Litem is appointed by the Court to represent the child's interest. Two years ago, the Public Defender representation of parents in CHINS cases was transferred from the Superior Court budget to our budget. It was mandated by the Public Defender Commission and we get forty percent back. When we did that two years ago, we saved the County a lot of money. That was about \$130,000. The caseloads are up so high that we don't have enough to cover the expense.

Sharon Tucker: Superior Court is protecting the child and you are on the end of defending the parent?

Randy Hammond: Yes.

Tom Harris: That is Guardian ad Litem and Pauper Attorney, what is the difference for you?

Randy Hammond: Nothing. Pauper and Public Defender is the same thing. Pauper Attorney for parents is the same thing as Public Defender for parents.

Tom Harris: So Pauper Attorney for Superior Court is for the parents.

Randy Hammond: The Court appoints a Public Defender for the parents. That comes under the Public Defender's office. Our staff assumes that representation for those parents. There is an increase in moving these cases forward. These cases used to linger for a long time before the termination of parental rights. In any CHINS case, the goal is reunification, fix the problem, stop the abuse and get the family back together. Now there is a fifteen month rule that they have to move forward with termination if there has been no compliance by the parents, doing the right thing or fixing the problem.

Tera Klutz: I guess the question is Superior Court used to spend \$500,000 on Pauper Attorney before that mandate occurred and most of it was transferred to the Public

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Defender. In 2015, Superior Court spent \$158,000 on Pauper Attorney. Superior Court is asking for a budget of \$208,000 and you might want to bring them up and ask them how that is different Pauper Attorney or is it the same? I think that is what you are trying to get at. It really doesn't relate to you and your request.

Larry Brown: John, could you please come up?

Randy Hammond: The \$330,000 was in Superior Court budget until 2015 when the Public Defender Commission, who oversees the reimbursement of the 40% and we made them Public Defenders. It is just the huge spike in cases going through the system.

John McGauley: I know you invited me back up but I brought the boss with me. There is a very clear distinction between what those line items do.

Fran Gull: I think what you are getting confused with is Pauper Attorney which is in both. Pauper Attorney in Superior Court is to pay for criminal defense appeals. Pauper in Public Defender is to pay Public Defenders to represent parents in a CHINS matter.

Tera Klutz: Thank you very much.

Larry Brown: Thank you. Tom, did that clarify for you?

Tom Harris: The fact that you moved some of that from Superior Court to you brought your budget down but you are still in a position where you need to take it back up because of the demand.

Randy Hammond: The other part of our increase for next year is that the Public Defender Commission increased the rate from \$80 to \$90 an hour starting next January. That is going to be give or take \$60,000 even at the same number of cases that we are on now. It will eat up our allocation next year.

Larry Brown: We knew that was coming. Are there any more questions, Council? Thank you. This is a good break time. We will break for lunch and can we hold it to 45 minutes? We are recessed.

BREAK

Tera Klutz: If you can find your 2017 Allen County Budget Hearing Summary, we can go over the revised revenue estimates for 2017. For the General Fund and Local Income Tax Funds we are projecting about \$94.3 million total. That is up just a little over \$1 million from previous estimates due to income tax certification being more than we thought. Nick had already estimated a four to five percent increase, or is it three? We are pretty conservative. In July, during the Council Pre-Allocation meetings, you allocated \$91.6 million of that. In that \$91.6 million, is the three percent County raise, \$700,000 budgeted for one-time capital expenses, \$500,000 for pending litigation, \$570,000 for implementation of the compensation study and then below that we have recommended

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the additional allocation to increase the payroll grids to market at six months for an additional amount of \$1.7 million and that would include raising the PAT, OSS, LTC and POLE grids to market at six months as reflected by the compensation study that we had conducted. So for a total of 2017 General Fund recommended allocations of \$93.3 million, after we take that from the estimated revenue of \$94.2 million, we get approximately \$1 million of projected revenue exceeding projected allocations. That is before awarding any appeals or any other items that Council may want to address. We went through the appeals individually and I want to take just a moment to explain the recommendation. I think Bob was the only one who wasn't able to or did not respond to my request. I was able to go over the rationale behind moving the market to six months. I have some handouts here just so that we are all on the same page. I have historical turnover for the last fourteen years. This is just showing where Allen County has trended for turnover. Turnover has started increasing. It would have been 13.8% but we took out from our analysis the Nursing jobs that we just eliminated by going to the contractual medical. After factoring those out, we are increasing to 12.4% for 2016 but I honestly think that when this year is over it will even be higher than that. Each month it is picking up. I believe that was the main reason that we even had the study to begin with. Also, HR was concerned about the different grids not being enough up to market to even get new employees but also keep existing ones. The full study was conducted by Waggoner, Irwin and Scheele. After we looked at turnover, 12.4% is not all that bad. There is healthy turnover and there is unhealthy turnover. What we are trying to do is stop it. The trend is that this will keep going up as the economy goes up and it is going up pretty fast right now. The next sheet just shows the number of employees we have in each of those grid classifications. We have 322 from zero to five years, 191 employees from five to ten years, 151 from ten years to fifteen years, 127 after that and 150 employees who have been here twenty years or more. We looked at the terms for the same twelve-month period and tied those terms by grid classifications to the number of employees and came up with a turnover percent per grid. The LTC turnover was 11%. OSS was 9%. PAT was 9% and POLE was 18%. The next page shows that if you entertain the recommendation to go to market at six months, how those salaries would compare to the City of Fort Wayne salaries. You will note, by and large, the majority would still be well below the City of Fort Wayne even though on average our employees would be getting a seven percent raise in these grids. That includes the three percent, of course. But they would still be below the City of Fort Wayne. My last sheet, I was just pausing for people to look at it.

Tom Harris: I was going to ask a quick question. I just want to make sure we are all on the same page. The thought is to apply a three percent raise across the board and then move the grid? Or is the thought to move everybody on the grid and then apply the three percent.

Tera Klutz: It is to apply the three percent first and that is the cheapest route. Then apply the grid even though it was recommended originally for 2016, move it to 2017. Start at that recommended amount for 2017.

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Sharon Tucker: So, the overall average would be seven percent but depends on where it falls. You have your three plus the difference.

Tera Klutz: And that only includes, the average would be lower if we included all County employees. For Elected Officials and Special Occupations and Sworn Officers and Probation Officers, they are all getting the three percent raise but that is all they would be getting for now. The grids that we are talking about are LTC, PAT, OSS and POLE grids. My recommendation is to not do anything with those other categories because of the inconsistencies and the unique positions that the Elected Officials offer as well as the Special Occupations which are very unique. For some reason or another, they are so unique they couldn't be placed on a grid. I think all of those should be looked at individually. Tom had me run an analysis that after the three percent raise, how many are close to the midpoint anyway and almost all were at that or exceeded it after the three percent raise leaving only about five Special Occupations. The last sheet just gives a synopsis of all of the compensation study options. The market at three years, market at six months, market immediately as well as breaks out the three percent raise. Our recommendation and the one that we can afford is and also sustain is the market at six months. That means that we would bring employees in at a little below market to begin with but then try to reach the market as recommended by this study within six months. The total cost of that to the General Fund is \$2.2 million of which we already had \$570,000 set aside and so it would be an additional \$1.7 million. Bob, if you have any extra questions, please feel free because this is the first time you are basically hearing this. We wanted to pull all of the information that we had over the last few months in order for Council to be able to make a decision or study the WIS recommendations in light of data from Allen County like turnover and terms and grid allocations.

Bill Brown: I did have one question on this sheet right here where we talk about the number of terminations from July 2015 through June 2016 by grid. The totals on the right, the 22 and the 36, I believe you told me that 83% of those folks resigned.

Tera Klutz: Yes. Not the top two but of the total 109 terminations that includes the total separations from Allen County. That includes 19 positions where someone retired, which was the majority of the 19, someone failed probation, they were discharged for cause and we had one person die. Eighty-three percent resigned.

Bill Brown: Of the 109.

Tera Klutz: Yes. That was especially for Roy. He always says that just because someone terminated doesn't mean they are going somewhere else for the pay which is a valid point but then this enables you to see how many were retiring.

Tom Harris: So approximately 83% against 109 is pretty close to that anyway. They have left but we don't know why they have left. We are assuming it is a compensation related issue but we don't know that at this time, right?

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Tera Klutz: I would say for a majority, we know they are leaving for the City of Fort Wayne. There are several others that we don't know because we don't do a formal follow-up like a phone call follow-up after they have left. We kind of leave it to "Do you want to do an exit interview?" Most people do not. We do not know why all of them left.

Bill Brown: There is an issue here that is hard to discern because there is no exit interview. When we got rid of PERF and went to a simply IRA type fund, I had some concerns that we would become this sort of anomaly between State, Federal and Local government and not have this defined pension plan until death do we part and pass on the PERF plan to your spouse. My point that I am trying to say here is I would be curious with a lot of these folks that are leaving to go to Fort Wayne, it could be for higher pay but that whole emotion of having a pension that could last forever if you were working in the public sector is pretty attractive. I am wondering if that is putting us at a disadvantage from a turnover standpoint. I know the Commissioners are very generous with the five percent match however when you look at schools and on and on, the rule of 85, that is pretty attractive. When you start looking at folks and the turnover rate after three, five and ten years, those folks are already in PERF and would stay in PERF. That is where an exit interview would be pretty interesting.

Tera Klutz: Good points, good points.

Tom Harris: Back to the 80%. Did that include the POLE positions too?

Tera Klutz: Yes.

Tom Harris: The turnover rate that the Sheriff has indicated, from his perception it was due to a leadership issue and he feels that he has corrected that. Some portion of that 80% is tied to POLE.

Larry Brown: Half, currently it is half.

Tera Klutz: If you look at the top part of that graph, you are going to see the POLE and 18% of them have turned over. I am hoping that this will be reduced in half after this new management team. It will bring it more in line with the turnover rate of the other grids. They were also one of the grids that were below market, according to the study.

Larry Brown: Tera, in the statistics of terminations, if a person transfers from a POLE to a Sworn Officer, is that considered a termination?

Tera Klutz: No. This is one thing I would like you to consider today is adopting those four grids to market at six months for an additional \$1.7 million. We have heard the appeals. The other hard copy of handouts that you got is all of the funds. This is a summary of the General Fund allocations and this is all of the funds for a total of \$195 million. The detail behind each and every one of these budgets is in the document that we emailed out and is also on our website. It is bookmarked so you can easily go to which fund you might want to see.

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Larry Brown: Okay, so, could we address individually the four appeals that we heard today? Starting with the Coroner asking for \$61,099 additional you heard his explanation. Overtime for \$5,000; roughly \$53,500 was autopsy fees and supplies; postage for \$50 and \$2,560 on Vera-pic. As I see it, the autopsy fee we either see him now or we see him later.

Bob Armstrong: Right.

Larry Brown: So what do you want to do?

Bill Brown: We did ask him to appeal this and I think he is correcting that next year.

Bob Armstrong: So that he doesn't have to come back.

Sharon Tucker: When it was done, did we receive any reductions, can you answer that? When the autopsy rate was down, did they reduce their budget or have we always seen their budget increase?

Tera Klutz: Sharon is talking about, I ran an analysis for when the last time we permanently increased the Coroner's autopsy fees was in 2004. It was for \$50,000 and that was to get it to the same level that it is trying to get to for 2017 which is \$300,000. The first couple of years, the autopsy fees fell and the difference rolled to the General Fund bottom line. Over the next couple of years, the trend stayed low on autopsy fees and as a result the Coroner came to Council and hired an additional investigator which they just used this money to fund it. And they bought a couple of vehicles with it. The answer is no, we didn't see a reduced allocation in the years that he didn't spend it and the first few came back to the General Fund. If you permanently increase it again, could that happen in three years? Possibly but I think it is completely up to you guys as to how you want to operate.

Tom Harris: I have a question, maybe on the next item which is the Prosecutor. I want to understand why they withdrew. Are they indicating that they are basically going to pay for that next year?

Tera Klutz: Yes, they decided that...

Tom Harris: I asked that because I wanted to make sure that they are not going to come back and ask for that at a later time. The appearance is that they are not going to do that, right?

Tera Klutz: They were able to find money in their 2017 budget or maybe they felt you were going to ask them why they couldn't fine \$11,646 in their budget and so they decided to try their hardest.

Tom Harris: In that case it worked.

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Tera Klutz: Just kidding.

Larry Brown: So Council, what do you want to do?

Tom Harris: I think based on the funds that we are projecting for next year and the number of things we have been conservative on, it gives us more flexibility. Unfortunately we are reading about the demands in that department and it is a sad situation. I will make the motion to accept the \$61,099.

Bill Brown: Second.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 5-0-2 (Buskirk and Benz absent). Next is the County Extension Office in the amount of \$1,485.

Sharon Tucker: I will talk on that one. I know we are big on the fees and I truly believe they are working on the things that they need to do. I also want us to be cautious of not punishing the County Extension for their leadership pushback. At the same time, I have been working with Vickie and we have talked extensively about finding additional ways to find the money. I will make a motion to approve their \$1,485 appeal knowing that we are putting the proper steps in place so that they will have additional funding on their own in 2018.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Bill Brown: Would you anticipate that they would maybe immediately to increase their fee structure?

Sharon Tucker: I will be honest with you that it is one of the things that I have talked to her at 5:00 a.m. this morning and that we would love to see them increase the fees. We would also like to see them do some additional fundraising which is kind of a double-edged sword because it cost funds to raise funds. They are spending and raising at the same time. To reach out to some of their community partners to see if they can bring in the donations but the downside is last year we saw Purdue push back 1.7%. This year we are seeing them push back another almost two percent. What will they push back next year? It just keeps snowballing. It is either do we do it now or do we do it later because Purdue keeps pushing back on their budget to them.

Bill Brown: They do provide a service that is Ag oriented. I would also like to mention that I think people know I am a fan of the extension but maybe a little more timing on when they come to Council and the duration of the time they are here. That probably needs to be looked at.

Sharon Tucker: We talked about that too. I suggested strongly that the attendance only be when they are on the agenda and that we utilize that time to do some additional

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fundraising in lieu of being in Council when we don't have to be. We did take into consideration all of the elements that could be better time spent in other places.

Larry Brown: You are political.

Sharon Tucker: Thank you for the compliment.

Tom Harris: My concern is one of your points. The President of Purdue is being applauded for his financial conservativeness and leadership and we can anticipate this happening year after year. When the President of Purdue says that this is something they feel they should cut back on, the question becomes for us is if this is Purdue's agency, why are we making up that difference? The piece of the fundraising, while it is into the weeds if you will, the bottom line on fundraising is that it can raise the awareness on the very service they are providing to the community. I believe that is a valuable service. A lot of the community doesn't even know what they do. They don't know that they exist. Part of my initiative is to try to push them to get out and communicate. They talked to us last year or the year before about this urban initiative and I don't know how successful that has been but there has got to be a lot of people behind their programs and supporting them. Why don't they see if they can get those people buying into it in terms of their service? I am for them but when I see a request for \$1,400, they can come up with that within their own budget. As you and I have talked, I am willing to vote in favor of this but this may be the last time that I do that without seeing some kind of strategic initiative moving forward to help them in terms of being able to run their own organization without asking for \$1,400 to make it next year.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 5-0-2 (Buskirk and Benz absent). Next is Superior Court in the amount of \$261,203.

Bill Brown: I see it and I think we have all seen it and I feel it is necessary. I will go ahead and make a motion...

Sharon Tucker: What! No discussion?

Larry Brown: We are going to have discussion.

Bill Brown: for Superior Court in the amount of \$261,203.

Bob Armstrong: Second.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. Is there any discussion?

Sharon Tucker: Let's talk about it.

Tom Harris: I don't have much to say.

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Sharon Tucker: I think they can raise this, Tom.

Tom Harris: Very well put, Sharon, thank you.

Bob Armstrong: They could have a fish fry or something.

Tera Klutz: They need to make people aware of their services.

Bob Armstrong: That's right.

Larry Brown: We have obviously been around this table too long. Is there any more serious discussion?

Tom Harris: I guess in terms of that request, each year we see these needs come and they just keep coming. In supporting this appeal is that we would not see them come back for these numbers next year. One of the things that Tera handed out earlier was all of the different funds and I think some analysis and some understanding from Council ought to be looking at additional funds that exist within the Superior Court system. That trend that we have been watching is that these extra funds all over the place have been going down and we are going to anticipate that it continues but possibly that could correct itself or not be as bad next year. In any case, I do see the need and I would be in favor of passing this but I am really hoping not to see Superior Court coming back for more money.

Sharon Tucker: That is my concern too because it does seem like they have been here a lot. I know we have a lot of grant appropriations that we have to do for them but it seems like they are before us for one reason or another with training for an employee, they have hired several new and needed to have double training for that, temporary salary ordinances, then there were a couple of grid movements. I hate to say that we don't want you to come but it seems that every month there is something that we are nickel and diming and we are just approving and approving. That is why I asked if this is a liberal approach or a conservative approach. At some time, the conservative approach is working against them and they keep coming back. Let's get one and done so we can be done with it.

Larry Brown: One thing I want to point out is that there is one heck of a big push to grow our population to one million. If you think that isn't going to grow the population in criminal justice, you have your head in the sand.

Sharon Tucker: Not me.

Larry Brown: I hate it but those numbers keep growing. Until parents learn how to become parents, it is going to continue to grow. I will get off my soapbox.

Bill Brown: I was going to repeat the motion. I will make the motion to approve the appeal for Superior Court for \$261,203.

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Bob Armstrong: Second.

Larry Brown: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 5-0-2 (Buskirk and Benz absent). Last but not least is Public Defender in the amount of \$240,000. We heard their explanation.

Bill Brown: The key element there is we get 40% back from the State. I will make a motion for approval of the appeal of \$240,000 for the Public Defender's Office.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Larry Brown: Is there any further discussion?

Sharon Tucker: It is the same, our Court system, Safety, Court and Coroner.

Larry Brown: All in favor say aye, those opposed, like sign. The motion passes 5-0-2 (Buskirk and Benz absent). Thank you very much. That exercise is over with. Now, Tera, please help me. Let me be straight up about it. I would like to see us delay a decision on the Waggoner, Irwin and Scheele report and compensation adjustments for approximately two weeks until we can schedule a special Council meeting. It will be scheduled around Roy Buskirk's schedule for the purpose only of making a decision on altering the grids or not and moving that forward. That said, where do we go from here?

Tera Klutz: Since it would not require additional appropriation, you will only need a 48-hour notice and so working around Roy's schedule is a possibility.

Tom Harris: I would also just comment that with Joel also out, it is a pretty significant decision and it would be good to have full Council participate in this decision.

Larry Brown: If it is acceptable with all of you, when Roy gets back in town Sunday night or Monday, I will try to find out what his schedule is and then give us about ten days to two weeks' notice so that we can schedule again. Does anyone know if two weeks from today would work for you?

Nick Jordan: That is AIC, isn't it?

Tera Klutz: Yes.

Bill Brown: I have jury duty, actually.

Tom Harris: Is the AIC through Thursday?

Tera Klutz: Yes, through Thursday morning.

Larry Brown: Is there a better time? Do you prefer first thing in the morning or 3:00 in the afternoon?

ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tom Harris: Could it be Thursday afternoon and miss the AIC finale?

Tera Klutz: I don't think there is a finale. Thursday afternoon is wide open.

Larry Brown: The afternoon of the 29th, I am hearing will work?

Sharon Tucker: Should.

Tom Harris: That will be based on Roy's schedule.

Larry Brown: Yes.

Bill Brown: I am not sure it will work for me but we will see.

Larry Brown: Make another suggestion.

Bill Brown: September 28th is open but that is AIC. If we then went into the following week...

Tera Klutz: We are out of town for the Auditor's Conference.

Bill Brown: The last time I was called for jury duty...

Larry Brown: Are you being called for local or Federal?

Bill Brown: Local.

Larry Brown: They will never select you. Tell you what, why don't you email me.

Bill Brown: I think we can stick with that afternoon.

Larry Brown: At that meeting, it has already been suggested that we have a representative or two from Waggoner, Irwin and Scheele. We will need the HR Department and I think we should have a representative from the Commissioners' Office. It doesn't have to be a Commissioner per se but at least Chris. We want to be able to have questions and answers at that meeting so that we can make a decision.

Tom Harris: I guess I would like to ask if at all possible that the Commissioners do make that meeting.

Larry Brown: That is fine.

Tom Harris: That is a pretty significant discussion in terms of the overall grid program for all County employees. I would prefer to have the Commissioners. We have had a number of issues including today that I think it would be good to have them here.

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Larry Brown: Can you take care of that Becky?

Becky Butler: Yes.

Larry Brown: Tera, is there anything else we need to do today?

Tera Klutz: Not to my knowledge but let me check with the experts. Jackie? Nick? I think we are good.

Larry Brown: Council, is there anything else?

Tom Harris: Move to adjourn.

Sharon Tucker: Second.

Larry Brown: **All in favor please signify by saying aye. Opposed like sign. The motion carries 5-0-2 (Buskirk and Benz absent).** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:41.