

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167
 JANUARY 2, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON JANUARY 2, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. PRESENT WERE COUNCILMEMBERS MARK ABBOTT, PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, GERALD FLEMING, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, KAREN WISCHMEIER, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

REORGANIZATION OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO NOMINATE COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL AS PRESIDENT AND COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER AS VICE-PRESIDENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENTS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

APPOINTMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT JOHN MEAD AS COUNCIL ATTORNEY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER ABSTAINING.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT BARBARA SUMMERS TO THE ABC BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL AND RYAN WATSON TO THE REDEVELOPMENT BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT TO THE RIVER HILLS BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT JUDY CHASTAIN TO THE PTABOA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT RODNEY COATS TO THE PARK BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT PRESTON SHELL TO THE SOLID WASTE BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILMEMBERS WISCHMEIER AND WALKER TO THE PERSONNEL ADVISORY BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILMEMBERS ABBOTT AND BRISHABER TO THE AMBULANCE BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER RYAN BOWER AND OFFICE MANAGER SANDY SAULMON APPEARED BEFORE THE BOARD TO DISCUSS A NEW SYSTEM NAVIGATOR PROGRAM THROUGH THE PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION. THE NAVIGATOR WOULD PROVIDE DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO PARENTS AND JUVENILES IN UNDERSTANDING AND NAVIGATING THEIR INTERACTIONS THROUGH THE ENTIRE CHINS AND JUVENILE DELINQUENT SYSTEM. THE PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION WILL FUND THE POSITION FOR TWO YEARS THEN YEAR THREE WOULD PROBABLY BE PARTIALLY FUNDED. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE REQUEST. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

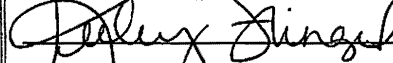
OTHER BUSINESS/BOARD COMMENTS

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT RICK VOYLES INVITED THE COUNCIL TO TOUR THE HIGHWAY BUILDING. THE COUNCIL THANKED THE HIGHWAY FOR THE CLEARING OF THE SNOW.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER SUGGESTED THE COUNCIL TABLE ITEMS FOR THIRTY DAYS BEFORE MAKING A DECISION AND TO NOT ADD NEW EMPLOYEES WITHOUT SERIOUS DISCUSSION DUE TO INCOME LIMITATIONS IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

COMMISSIONER TODD EWEN INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE IS ORDERING THAT THE CIRCUIT/SUPERIOR COURT EMPLOYEES BE GIVEN NEW YEARS DAY (ONLY CIRCUIT), CITY PRIMARY ELECTION AND CITY GENERAL ELECTION PAID DAYS OFF. THESE HOLIDAYS WERE NOT INCLUDED ON THE COUNTY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE. THE COMMISSIONERS ARE DISCUSSING THIS WITH THE JUDGES AND WILL KEEP THE COUNCIL UPDATED.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER. THE MOTION PASSED.


 COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167

FEBRUARY 6, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON FEBRUARY 6, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. IN JOINT SESSION WITH THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. PRESENT WERE COUNCILMEMBERS MARK ABBOTT, PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, GERALD FLEMING, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD, COMMISSIONER TODD EWEN, COMMISSIONER RICK ROBERTS, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. ABSENT WERE COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER AND COMMISSIONER PHILLIP MARSHALL.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL ABOUT THE SYSTEM NAVIGATOR GRANT THAT WAS TABLED FROM THE JANUARY 2023 COUNCIL MEETING. THE POSITION WOULD BE FULLY FUNDED FOR TWO YEARS. COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE GRANT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL REQUESTED THAT THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENTS HAVE MORE CONVERSATION IN THE FUTURE ON HOW PROGRAMS WILL WORK WITHIN THE JUDICIAL BRANCH. STINGEL WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE ALL REQUESTS GO BEFORE THE JRAC BOARD SO THEY MAY GIVE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL. AFTER NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, THE MOTION PASSED.

BOWER ALSO REQUESTED SOME FUNDING FROM THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT MONIES THE COUNTY RECEIVED. THE COUNCIL INFORMED BOWER THAT THE MONIES WAS REFERRED TO THE JRAC COMMITTEE AND ALL REQUESTS SHOULD GO THROUGH THAT BOARD. COUNCILMEMBER WALKER MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE REQUEST. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

SUPERIOR COURT

SUPERIOR JUDGE DUSTIN HOUCHIN APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE SUPERIOR COURT. JUDGE HOUCHIN STATED THEY HAVE MOVED OUT ALL THE PAPER FILES, CUT DOWN ON CERTIFIED MAIL, ELIMINATED LAW BOOKS AND ELIMINATED THE OFFICE MANAGER POSITION. MOST OF THE CHANGES RESULT FROM BEING ABLE TO DIGITIZE THE RECORDS AND BOOKS. IT HAS FREED UP A LOT OF SPACE THAT MAY POSSIBLY BE UTILIZED IN THE FUTURE. THE COURT IS GOING TO TRY AND OPERATE WITH THREE PEOPLE INSTEAD OF FOUR BUT IF THE FOURTH POSITION IS NEEDED THEN IT WOULD ONLY NEED TO BE COURT REPORTER SALARY. THE COUNCIL THANKED HOUCHIN FOR THE UPDATE.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

REGISTRAR MAGGIE BORDEN APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO TALK ABOUT THE GOVERNORS PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION. THE COMMISSION WOULD BE REPEALING THE TRUST ACCOUNT AND PUTTING MONIES INTO THE LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE INSTEAD. THE COUNTY COULD BENEFIT BY RECEIVING UP TO A MILLION DOLLARS. THE ACT HASN'T PASSED THE LEGISLATURE YET AND BORDEN HOPES TO HAVE MORE INFORMATION IN THE COMING MONTHS.

HIGHWAY - COMMISSIONERS

THE COMMISSIONERS INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HAS OUTGROWN ITS CURRENT LOCATION. THE COMMISSIONERS ALSO CITED DRAINAGE PROBLEMS, TRAFFIC CONCERNS AND THE NEED FOR NEW FUEL TANKS. THE COMMISSIONERS WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE LAND AND CONSTRUCT A NEW HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT. THE ESTIMATED COST COULD BE FOUR TO FIVE MILLION DOLLARS.

SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

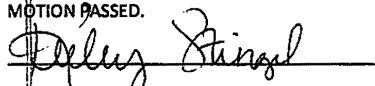
COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT THAT MOVES THE ASSISTANT 911 COORDINATOR TO A REGULAR DISPATCH POSITION. THIS IS A DECREASE OF \$5,000.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED.

ARP MONIES

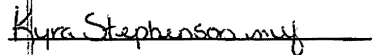
COUNCILMEMBER WALKER MADE A MOTION TO GIVE CONTROL OF THE ARP MONIES TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE YEAR 2023. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER EWEN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COMMISSIONERS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROBERTS. THE MOTION PASSED.



COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT



ATTEST: AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167

MARCH 6, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON MARCH 6, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. PRESENT WERE COUNCILMEMBERS MARK ABBOTT, PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, GERALD FLEMING, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, KAREN WISCHMEIER, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER ABSTAINING DUE TO NOT ATTENDING THE FEBRUARY MEETING.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

8950 ARP FUND	\$1,930,606.45
1000 GENERAL	\$ 51,500.00
1206 TOBACCO SETTLEMENT	\$ 6,500.00
4952 TOWN OF HARDINSBURG	\$ 36,000.00

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WALKER RECUSING HIMSELF FROM ONLY THE VOTE ON THE 1000 GENERAL CEMETERY. WALKER APPROVED THE OTHER ADDITIONALS.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT/BOT ORDINANCE

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED HOW A BUILD, OPERATE AND TRANSFER PLAN WORKS WITH GOVERNMENTAL UNITS. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL OUTLINED THE STEPS INVOLVED IN A BOT. SEVERAL OF THE COUNCILMEMBERS HAD QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROCESS. STINGEL RECOMMENDED REACHING OUT TO OTHER UNITS THAT HAVE UTILIZED THIS TYPE OF PLAN. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL ALSO ADVISED THE COUNCIL THAT THE COUNTY SHOULD NOT MOVE FORWARD UNTIL EVERYONE IS ON BOARD AND THE COUNCIL FULLY UNDERSTANDS.

OTHER BUSINESS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL AND COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER ATTENDED THE DISTRICT COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING. THEY RECEIVED A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE ON SEVERAL BILLS THAT THE STATE IS PROPOSING AND THERE WAS A DISCUSSION ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH MONIES FROM THE GOVERNORS HEALTH INITIATIVE. STINGEL BELIEVES THERE MAY BE MORE "STRINGS" ATTACHED TO THIS MONEY THAN FIRST BELIEVED AND THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO WATCH THIS LEGISLATION CLOSELY.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.


 COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
 AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200

SALEM, INDIANA 47167

APRIL 3, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN JOINT SESSION WITH THE COMMISSIONERS ON APRIL 3, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. PRESENT WERE COUNCILMEMBERS MARK ABBOTT, PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, GERALD FLEMING, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, KAREN WISCHMEIER, COMMISSIONERS PHILLIP MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD AND DUSTIN HOWARD WERE ABSENT.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT MARSHALL CALLED THE COMMISSIONERS TO ORDER.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

1135 CUM BRIDGE FUND	\$50,000.00
1169 LOCAL ROAD & STREET	\$20,000.00

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

TAX ABATEMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TAX ABATEMENTS:

JACKSON COUNTY REMC/CONNECT PHASE 1, PHASE 2 AND PHASE 3

ORANGE COUNTY FIBER PROJECT

TELEMEDIA SOLUTIONS FIBER PROJECT

SALEM HARDWOODS

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED.

BRAD ISAACS-B.O.T.-HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

BRAD ISAACS APPEARED BEFORE THE BOARDS TO GIVE MORE INFORMATION ON A BUILD-OPERATE-TRANSFER METHOD. A GOVERNMENTAL BODY MAY ENTER INTO A BOT AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION, PLANNING, DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, RECONSTRUCTION, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, OPERATION, AND/OR FINANCING OF ANY PUBLIC FACILITY FOR USE BY THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY. SOME OF THE PRIMARY POSITIVES ARE THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY HAS THE ABILITY TO NEGOTIATE BEST AND FINAL OFFERS, HOLD A SINGLE CONTRACT WITH A DEVELOPER TEAM, LIMITATIONS MAY BE IMPOSED ON WHO MAY BE AN ACCEPTABLE RESPONDENT AND GENERALLY REQUIRES LESS INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT BY THE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY. SOME OF THE PRIMARY NEGATIVES ARE THE TIMELINE FOR THE PROCESS AND THE PREPARATION TO BE DONE MAY REDUCE THE POOL OF RESPONDENTS, NO PUBLIC BIDDING REQUIRED SO IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER THERE ARE COST SAVINGS, THE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT MAY LOSE CONTROL OVER THE PROJECT AND POTENTIAL HIDDEN COSTS (DEVELOPER FEES, DEVELOPER COUNSEL FEES, MARK UP ON INTEREST RATES).

COMMISSIONERS

THE COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSED WITH THE COUNCIL THAT THE CREDIT MONIES COULD BE A 75/25 SPLIT FOR 2024 TO ACCOMMODATE PAYMENT FOR THE NEW HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT. THE AMOUNT IS AROUND \$270,000.00.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

DIRECTOR TAMMI GIBSON GAVE THE COUNCIL UPDATES ON PROJECTS THAT ARE BEING DONE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT MONIES FROM THE STATE.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS MADE A MOTION FOR THE COMMISSIONERS TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. THE MOTION PASSED.


COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
Kyra Stephenson, Auditor

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167

MAY 1, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN JOINT SESSION WITH THE COMMISSIONERS ON MAY 1, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. PRESENT WERE COUNCILMEMBERS MARK ABBOTT, PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, GERALD FLEMING, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, COMMISSIONERS PHILLIP MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD AND ATTORNEY DUSTIN HOWARD WERE ABSENT.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT MARSHALL CALLED THE COMMISSIONERS TO ORDER.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED.

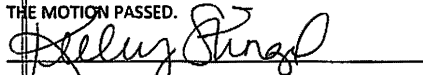
WHEATLEY GROUP/COMMISSIONERS/HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

JILL SAEGESSER FROM WHEATLEY GROUP GAVE A SHORT PRESENTATION ON BUILD-OPERATE-TRANSFER AGREEMENTS (BOT) THAT MUNICIPALITIES HAVE BEEN USING FOR PROJECTS. SAEGESSER STATED THAT THE ADVANTAGES ARE TRANSPARENCY TO THE PUBLIC AND THE DESIGNER/CONTRACTOR/MUNICIPALITY WORK TOGETHER ARE THE TWO OF THE BIGGEST ADVANTAGES. SO FAR, WHEATLEY GROUP HAVE NOT EXPERIENCED ANY DISADVANTAGES IN THE PROJECTS THEY HAVE WORKED ON. SAEGESSER ALSO STATED THAT THE CITY OF CLARKSVILLE IS IN THE PROCESS OF A BOT RIGHT NOW ALONG WITH SEVERAL OTHER MUNICIPALITIES.

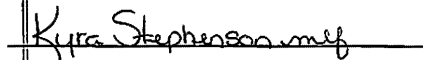
THE COMMISSIONERS STATED THAT THEY FEEL A BUDGET OF FOUR MILLION DOLLARS WILL BE ADEQUATE FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PROJECT. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL WANTS EVERY COUNCILMEMBER TO FEEL COMFORTABLE IN THEIR DECISION OF SUPPORTING OR NOT SUPPORTING THE PROJECT AND ENCOURAGED THE COUNCIL TO DO THEIR OWN RESEARCH ON THE SUBJECT OF BOT AGREEMENTS. PRESIDENT STINGEL SUGGESTED THE COUNCIL TABLE THE ISSUE UNTIL THE JUNE MEETING. SEVERAL COUNCILMEMBERS FELT THEY COULD MAKE A DECISION TODAY. AFTER A SHORT DISCUSSION, THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL IS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COMMISSIONERS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. THE MOTION PASSED.



COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT



ATTEST: AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167

JUNE 5, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON JUNE 5, 2023, PURSUANT TO NOTICE FROM 8:15 A.M. TO 8:45 A.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL, KAREN WISCHMEIER, KEELEY STINGEL, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, GERALD FLEMING, MARK ABBOTT, COMMISSIONER TODD EWEN, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD WAS ABSENT. THE ONLY ITEM DISCUSSED WAS LITIGATION THAT IS EITHER PENDING OR HAS BEEN THREATENED SPECIFICALLY IN WRITING IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B). THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL BY PASSAGE OF THESE MINUTES CERTIFY THAT NO SUBJECT MATTER WAS DISCUSSED IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OTHER THAN THE SUBJECT MATTER SPECIFIED.

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT KEELEY STINGEL AT 9:00 A.M.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MAY COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER ABSTAINING.

EXTENSION

THE EXTENSION OFFICE INTRODUCED TAYLOR CHASTAIN AS THE NEW 4H EDUCATOR.

B.O.T. PROJECT-HIGHWAY

COMMISSIONER EWEN STATED THE COMMISSIONERS GRANTED A ONE WEEK EXTENSION ON THE B.O.T. PROJECT QUOTES.

WASHINGTON COUNTY EMS

DIRECTOR TONY FLOYD APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO REQUEST AN ADDITIONAL FULL TIME EMT AND FOR THE ON CALL RATE TO RAISE FROM \$3.15 TO \$5.00 PER HOUR. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE REQUEST UNTIL THE JULY MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

CLERK

CLERK STEPHANIE ROCKEY GAVE UPDATES ON THE ELECTION. ROCKEY ALSO SUGGESTED THE COUNCIL POSSIBLY CONTRACT WITH A COMPANY TO CREATE JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND PAY SCALES FOR EMPLOYEES.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

REGISTRAR MAGGIE BORDEN DISCUSSED THE GOVERNOR'S HEALTH INITIATIVE FUNDING THAT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL BE RECEIVING. SOME OF THE REQUIRED USES OF THE FUNDS SHALL BE:

LHDS SHALL INVESTIGATE HOUSING/NUISANCE/SEWAGE COMPLAINTS IN A TIME FRAME REFLECTING THE URGENCY OF THE COMPLAINT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH 410 IAC 6.

LHDS SHALL CONDUCT PLAN REVIEW, ISSUE CONSTRUCTION PERMITS, AND CONDUCT INSPECTIONS OF ONSITE SEWAGE SYSTEMS WITHIN THE TIMEFRAMES LISTED IN STATE STATUTE.

LHDS SHALL ENGAGE IN THE INSPECTION AND SURVEY OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS UNDER IC 16-20-1-22.

LHDS SHALL ISSUE ORDERS FOR DECONTAMINATION OF PROPERTY USED TO ILLEGALLY MANUFACTURE A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE UNDER IC 16-19-3.1 AND IC 16-41-21.

LHDS SHALL BE ENGAGED IN PEST AND VECTOR CONTROL AND SHOULD BE ENGAGED IN ROUTINE MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE THROUGH STANDARDIZED TRAPPING AND TESTING PROCEDURES.

LHDS SHALL CONDUCT ROUTINE INSPECTIONS AND MONITOR TESTING RESULTS OF PUBLIC AND SEMI-PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS AND PROMPTLY PROVIDE AN INSPECTION REPORT OUTLINING ANY DEFICIENCIES TO THE FACILITY AS OUTLINED IN 410 IAC 6.

LHDS SHALL HAVE A SCHOOL HEALTH LIAISON, WITH SCHEDULE TO BE BASED ON COMMUNITY NEED, WHOSE FOCUS IS SCHOOLS AND SERVES AS A LOCAL RESOURCE FOR ALL K-12 SCHOOLS WITHIN THE COUNTY AND LOCAL PUBLIC RESOURCE FOR ALL SCHOOLS.

LHDS SHALL ENSURE THERE IS AN IDOH-TRAINED LEAD CASE MANAGER ON STAFF, OR ONE AVAILABLE TO THEIR JURISDICTION, TO CONDUCT CASE MANAGEMENT WITHIN TIMEFRAMES OUTLINED IN 410 IAC 29.

LHDS SHALL ENSURE THERE IS A LICENSED LEAD RISK ASSESSOR ON STAFF, OR AVAILABLE TO THEIR JURISDICTION, TO CONDUCT ASSESSMENTS WITHIN TIMEFRAMES OUTLINED IN 410 IAC 29.

LHDS SHALL MAINTAIN AT LEAST A 0.5 FTE DEDICATED PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR WHO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATES IN THEIR DISTRICT HEALTHCARE COALITION AND ENGAGES IN COUNTY-LEVEL EMERGENCY PLANNING, INCLUDING OUTBREAK AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESPONSES, TO LINK PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT DISCUSSED THE STAFFING PROBLEM AT EMS.

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
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99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167

JULY 3, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON JULY 3, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, GERALD FLEMING, MARK ABBOTT, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER WAS ABSENT.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER.

PROBATION ADDITIONAL

CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER MYRA ALBERTSON APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL REQUESTING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR \$4,000.00 IN FUND 2100 ADULT PROBATION. THE FUNDS WILL BE USED AS A STARTUP FOR A MENS NON-VIOLENCE PROGRAM. A NEW FUND WILL BE CREATED FOR THE COURT-MANADATED FEES TO BE PAID. COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

ALBERTSON ALSO ASKED THE COUNCIL TO REVIEW THE MEAL PER DIEM POLICY STATING THAT THE CURRENT \$30.00 POLICY ISN'T COVERING THE RISING COSTS OF MEALS WHEN AT CONFERENCES.

LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT

LIBRARY DIRECTOR JILL DUCHEMIN GAVE UPDATES ON THE LIBRARY AND ASKED THE COUNCIL TO REAPPOINT CHRISTINA LINDBERGH TO THE LIBRARY BOARD. COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTIN TO APPROVE A \$39,000.00 ADDITIONAL FOR THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER SHELL ABSTAINING.

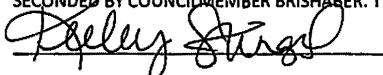
TWIN CREEK-LICK BRANCH PROJECT

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE SOIL & WATER DEPARTMENT TWIN CREEK-LICK BRANCH PROJECT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

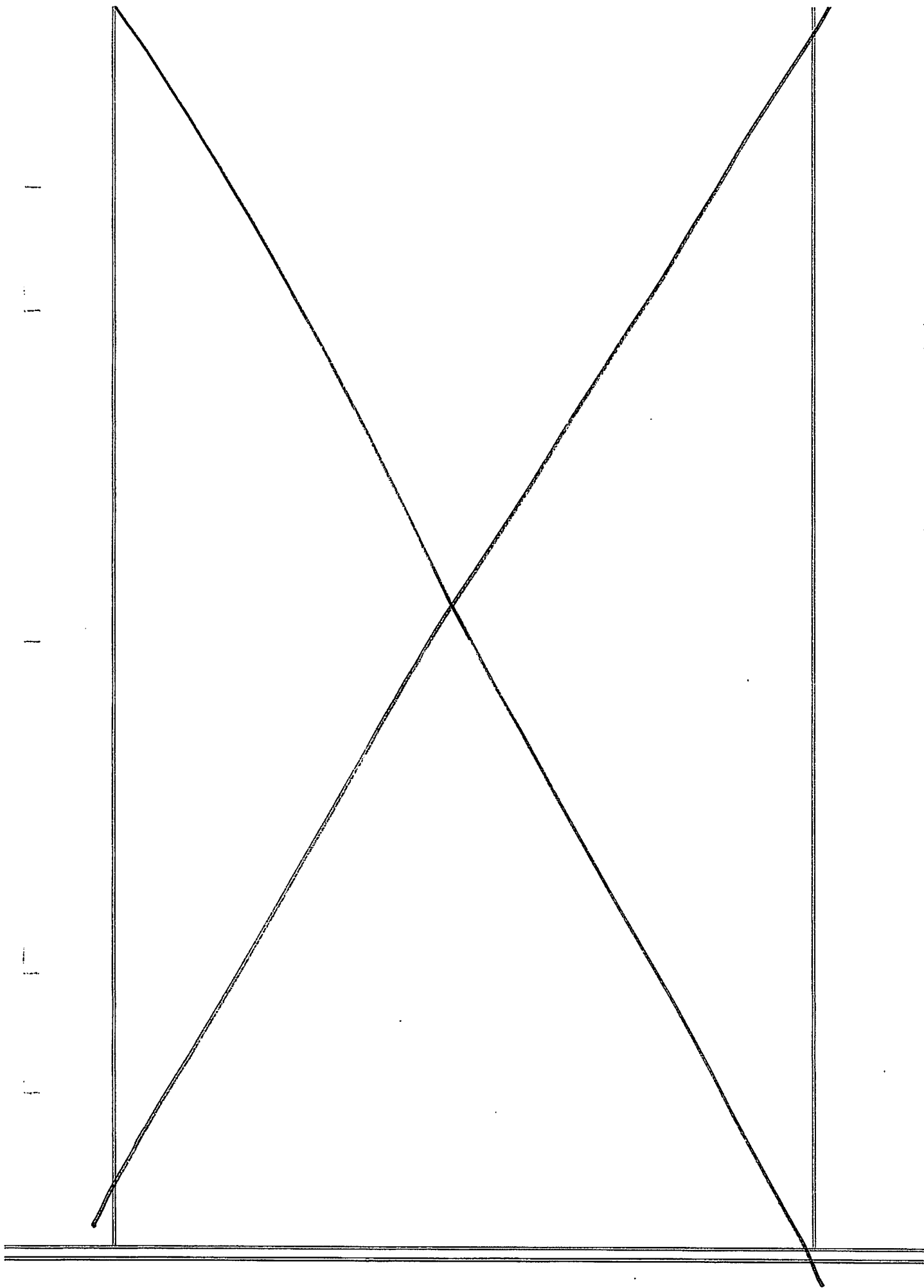
EMS REQUEST FOR ON CALL AND NEW EMPLOYEE

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO RETABLE THE ISSUE UNTIL BUDGET TIME. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ADOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.



COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

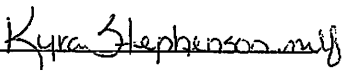


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WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.



COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 SPECIAL MEETING
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167
 AUGUST 15, 2023

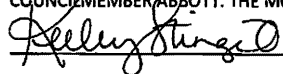
THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON AUGUST 15, 2023 AT 8:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, RONDALE BRISHABER, GERALD FLEMING, MARK ABBOTT, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER AND JOE WALKER WERE ABSENT ALONG WITH ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

NON-BINDING REVIEWS/RECOMMENDATIONS

THE COUNTY COUNCIL REVIEWED THE ESTIMATED CIRCUIT BREAKER CREDITS, ESTIMATED TAXING DISTRICT RATES AND THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM LEVIES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE FOR ALL TAXING UNITS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND RECOMMEND THE INFORMATION PROVIDED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED.



COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
 AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 BUDGET HEARINGS
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167
 AUGUST 15TH – 17TH, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET AUGUST 15TH – 17TH, 2023 BEGINNING AT 8:00 A.M. FOR THE 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET HEARINGS. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, RONDALE BRISHABER, GERALD FLEMING, MARK ABBOTT, KAREN WISCHMEIER, JOE WALKER, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD WAS ABSENT. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE COMMISSIONERS PHILLIP MARSHALL, TODD EWEN AND RICK ROBERTS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT MARSHALL CALLED THE COMMISSIONERS TO ORDER.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

THE COUNCIL MET WITH THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS:

CIRCUIT COURT
 SUPERIOR COURT
 PUBLIC DEFENDER
 PROSECUTOR
 PROBATION

SOUTHERN INDIANA ADULT GUARDINSHIP – REQUESTING \$5,000.00; COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL BELIEVES THE COMMISSIONERS SHOULD PLACE IT IN THEIR BUDGET IF THEY DESIRE TO HELP FUND THE AGENCY.

VETERANS – NEEDS NEW VEHICLE; ALSO WILL BE GETTING ANOTHER DAV VEHICLE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

SHERIFF – PRESENTED A STUDY THAT WAS DONE BY THE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION CONCERNING SALARIES FOR JAIL OFFICERS AND DISPATCHERS. THE AVERAGE SALARY IS \$42,629.00. THE DEPARTMENT IS EXPERIENCING A HIGH TURNOVER RATE. MILLER WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE JAIL ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF DISPATCHER INCREASED TO CREATE A BIGGER GAP BETWEEN EMPLOYEES AND SUPERVISORS.

SURVEYOR

EXTENSION

WEED BOARD

HEALTH

AUDITOR

CEMETERY

COMMISSIONERS

ASSESSOR

CORONER

THE COUNCIL RECESSED UNTIL AUGUST 16, 2023.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL BACK TO ORDER ON AUGUST 16, 2023 AT 8:00 A.M.

THE COUNCIL MET WITH THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS:

HIGHWAY

PARK & RECREATION

WASHINGTON COUNTY ECONOMIC GROWTH PARTNERSHIP – REQUESTING \$70,000.00; DISCUSSED READI GRANT OPPORTUNITIES.

BLUE RIVER SERVICES

HOOSIER HILLS PACT

BUILDING AND PLAN COMMISSION

DRUG FREE COMMUNITY

EMS – DISCUSSED COUNTY EXPENSE; ACCOUNTABILITY ON SPENDING; POSSIBLE INACTIVATION OF FUND 4941 AND MOVE FUNDS TO 1151; ON CALL FROM \$3.15 TO \$5.00.

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED EMS FLOATER POSITION, ON CALL PAY, COUNTY EMS EXPENSE. THE COUNCIL ALSO DISCUSSED THE BEGINNING PAY FOR A SHERIFF MERIT DEPUTY. BEGINNING SALARY OF \$44,980.00 IS THE COUNCILS UNDERSTANDING. AUDITORS OFFICE WILL MEET WITH SHERIFF MILLER CONCERNING THE PAY ISSUE.

THE COUNCIL RECESSED UNTIL AUGUST 17, 2023.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL BACK TO ORDER ON AUGUST 17, 2023.

THE COUNCIL MADE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET:

*NO SALARY INCREASES DUE TO SHORTFALLS BETWEEN REVENUE AND EXPENSES.

*ELECTION – REDUCED ELECTION BOARD AT PRECINCTS TO \$15,000.00; REDUCED ELECTION BOARD TO \$6,000.00; REDUCED AVM MECHANICS TO \$6,000.00; REDUCED BALLOTS TO \$15,000.00; NO PART TIME POSITION WAS ALLOWED

*AUDITOR – NO SCANNING PROJECT WAS ALLOWED.

*TREASURER – REDUCED TAX STATEMENTS TO \$7,300.00; REDUCED EDUCATION TO \$1,200.00; REDUCED EQUIPMENT TO \$2,500.00

*PUBLIC SAFETY – REDUCED MEALS FOR INMATES TO \$195,000.00; ADDED \$30,000.00 TO EQUIPMENT

*COUNTY CORRECTIONAL – REDUCED MOTOR VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT TO \$17,441.00

*SURVEYOR – REDUCED OFFICE SUPPLIES TO \$3,000.00; REDUCED CONTRACT TO \$4,000.00

*ASSESSOR – REDUCED LEVEL I-III CERTIFICATION TO \$3,500.00; REDUCED OFFICE SUPPLIES TO \$2,800.00; REDUCED MILEAGE/LODGING TO \$4,200.00

*REASSESSMENT – REDUCED PRINTING & ADVERTISING TO \$16,000.00; REDUCED CONTRACT/TRENDING DATA TO \$200,000.00; DID NOT ALLOW TWO THIRD DEPUTIES TO BE MOVED TO SECOND DEPUTIES.

*VETERANS AFFAIRS – REDUCED MILEAGE/LODGING TO \$50,000.00; REDUCED VEHICLE TO \$32,000.00

*COMMISSIONERS – REDUCED AMBULANCE COUNTY EXPENSE TO \$700,000.00; REDUCED MENTAL HEALTH TO \$163,125.00

*COURTHOUSE & COUNTY BLDGS – NO PART TIME POSITION WAS ALLOWED

*CREDIT – REDUCED PAVING TO \$961,772; INCREASED NON PAVING TO \$313,289

*PLAN COMMISSION – REDUCED PLAN COMMISSION ATTORNEY TO \$15,750

*SUPERIOR COURT – REDUCED JUDGES SUPPLEMENTAL TO \$0.00

*CIRCUIT COURT – REDUCED JUDGES SUPPLEMENTAL TO \$0.00

*EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – REDUCED EMA/911 DIRECTOR TO \$24,583

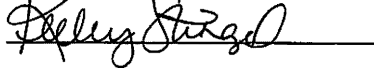
*STATEWIDE 911 – REDUCED EMA/911 DIRECTOR TO \$24,583.00

*TRAINING BUREAU – ELIMINATED ENTIRE BUDGET

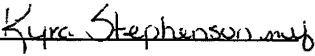
THE COUNCIL REMINDED DEPARTMENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT THE COUNCIL COULD MADE CHANGES/AMENDMENTS UP UNTIL THE ADOPTION ON OCTOBER 2, 2023.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET, COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE BUDGET HEARINGS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COMMISSIONERS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. THE MOTION PASSED.



COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, GERALD FLEMING, MARK ABBOTT, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER WAS ABSENT.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ALL PREVIOUS COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER.

SOUTHERN INDIANA ADULT GUARDIANSHIP

THE ORGANIZATION APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO REQUEST FUNDING FOR 2024. PRESIDENT STINGEL REFERRED THE GROUP TO THE COMMISSIONERS. COMMISSIONER TODD EWEN ASKED THE GROUP TO SPEAK WITH THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT AS IT HAS BEEN INDICATED THAT A GRANT MAY BE AVAILABLE.

SHERIFF – COMMISSARY FUND

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE APPROVED USES OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY JAIL COMMISSARY FUND. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

RHONDA GREEN

RHONDA GREEN ASKED THE COUNCIL IF THE HIGHWAY PROJECT HAS BEEN APPROVED. PRESIDENT STINGEL STATED THAT IT IS MAINLY A COMMISSIONER DECISION ON THE PROJECT. THE COUNCIL WILL IDENTIFY THE REPAYMENT SOURCE ONCE THE COMMISSIONERS DECIDE WHETHER TO MOVE FORWARD ON THE PROJECT.

WASHINGTON COUNTY EMS

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO AMEND THE 2023 SALARY ORDINANCE TO RAISE ON CALL PAY FROM \$3.15 TO \$5.00 AN HOUR EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. AFTER A DISCUSSION WITH THE AUDITORS OFFICE, COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT REVISED THE MOTION TO BE \$5.00 AN HOUR EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 10, 2023 WHICH IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW PAY PERIOD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

2024 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARINGS

DELANEY CREEK CONSERVANCY – NO PUBLIC COMMENT

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

BLUE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT – NO PUBLIC COMMENT

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

BROWN VERNON FIRE DISTRICT – NO PUBLIC COMMENT

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT – NO PUBLIC COMMENT

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

WASHINGTON COUNTY – NO PUBLIC COMMENT

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

THE COUNCIL REINSTATED THE JUDGES SUPPLEMENT AFTER ATTORNEY MEAD REVIEWED THE STATE CONSTITUTION PERTAINING TO THE SUPPLEMENT.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.


COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200

SALEM, INDIANA 47167

OCTOBER 2, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON OCTOBER 2, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL, KEELEY STINGEL, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, GERALD FLEMING, MARK ABBOTT, KAREN WISCHMEIER, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD, COMMISSIONERS PHIL MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

COMMISSIONER VICE PRESIDENT ROBERTS CALLED THE COMMISSIONERS TO ORDER.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ALL PREVIOUS COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT.

GIBSON TOWNSHIP

THE COUNCIL HELD A PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION REGARDING THE GIBSON TOWNSHIP 2024 BUDGET. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS RECEIVED. COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE GIBSON TOWNSHIP 2024 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER ABSTAINING.

SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO AMEND THE CORONER DEPUTY RESERVE (1000.10501.0007) TO \$250.00 PER CASE AND WILL BE PAID THROUGH ACCOUNTS PAYABLE EFFECTIVE 9-11-2023. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER OPPOSING.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO AMEND THE SHERIFF MERIT DEPUTIES TO READ "A STARTING DEPUTY SALARY SHALL BE THE FOLLOWING ON THE DEPUTY'S HIRE DATE: YEAR 1 \$44,980; YEAR 2 \$46,329 PLUS ANY SALARY INCREASES GIVEN BY COUNCIL; YEAR 3 \$47,719 PLUS ANY SALARY INCREASES GIVEN BY COUNCIL; YEAR 4 AND THE YEARS THEREAFTER THE SALARY WILL FOLLOW THE YEARLY COUNTY SALARY INCREASES GIVEN BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL." THIS AMENDMENT IS RETROACTIVE BACK TO 8-15-2023. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER OPPOSING.

2024 BUDGET ADOPTIONS

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 BLUE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 BROWN VERNON FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 DELANEY CREEK CONSERVANCY BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER SHELL ABSTAINING.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 WASHINGTON COUNTY BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER OPPOSING.

2024 SALARY ORDINANCE

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 SALARY ORDINANCE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER OPPOSING.

BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL GAVE UPDATES AND INFORMATION ON THE READI 2.0 GRANT.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING ASKED ABOUT THE INCREASE IN PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING.

DATA PITSTOP

DARREN BATES APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO DISCUSS NEW REVENUE AVENUES WITH LOCAL INCOME TAXES. ONE OF THE NEW ALLOCATIONS IS A PERCENTAGE ALLOTMENT TO EMS. BATES ALSO DISCUSSED TAX CAPS AND HOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE LOSING MORE FUNDING EVERY YEAR. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY BUDGETING STRATEGIES OR ADVICE FOR THE COUNCIL. BATES STATED IT LOOKED LIKE WASHINGTON COUNTY WAS DOING EVERYTHING IT COULD AND THE ONLY NEW REVENUE WOULD COME FROM RAISING THE INCOME TAX RATE. THE COUNCIL ALL AGREED THAT THEY ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF RAISING TAXES.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER EWEN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROBERTS. THE MOTION PASSED.

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167

NOVEMBER 6, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON NOVEMBER 6, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, GERALD FLEMING, MARK ABBOTT, KAREN WISCHMEIER, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL AND AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON WAS ABSENT.

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT BRISHABER CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MAGGIE ENGLAND GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE GOVENORS HEALTH FUNDING INIATIVE.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CORONERS AUTOPSY LINE ITEM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT CAPITAL OUTLAY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,000.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL ABSTAINED.

TRANSFERS

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A TRANSFER FROM 1000.15300.0271 (PUBLIC DEFENDER HEALTH INSURANCE) TO 1000.30600.0271 (PUBLIC DEFENDER MAINT/REPAIRS) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.00 AND A TRANSFER FROM 1000.12402.0271 (PUBLIC DEFENDER LEGAL SECRETARY) TO 1000.30600.0271 (PUBLIC DEFENDER MAINT/REPAIRS). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A TRANSFER FROM 1000.13900.0068 (COMMISSIONER COUNTY ATTORNEY) TO 1000.34001.0068 (COMMISSIONER ATTORNEY) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,272.02. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

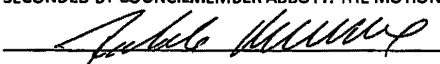
SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

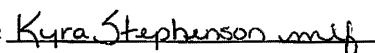
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT ALLOWING THE TREASURER TO COMPENSATE TWO EMPLOYEES AT THIRD DEPUTY PAY RATE UNTIL IT IS DECIDED WHO WILL BE THE SECOND DEPUTY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD

ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR ALLOWING HIM TO BE THEIR ATTORNEY AND STATED THAT HE WILL NOT BE RENEWING HIS CONTRACT FOR 2024.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED.


 COUNCILMEMBER RONDALE BRISHABER, VICE-PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
 AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167
 NOVEMBER 20, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON NOVEMBER 20, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, GERALD FLEMING, MARK ABBOTT, KAREN WISCHMEIER, COMMISSIONERS PHIL MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, ATTORNEY APRIL GELTMAKER, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

STATEWIDE 911

SHERIFF BRENT MILLER AND 911 DIRECTOR DESI ALEXANDER APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO REQUEST THAT THE 911 AND EMA POSITION BE SPLIT INTO TWO DIFFERENT POSITIONS. SHERIFF MILLER BELIEVES THE EMA POSITION COULD BE PART TIME AT THIS TIME BUT THE 911 DIRECTOR WOULD NEED TO BE FULL TIME. ONE APPLICATION WAS RECEIVED WHEN THE POSITION WAS ADVERTISED AS A JOINT POSITION AND THAT APPLICANT IS ONLY INTERESTED IN THE EMA POSITION PART TIME. THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL IS TO MAKE A DECISION AT THEIR DECEMBER MEETING.

COMMISSIONERS

THE COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSED THE HIGHWAY PROJECT WITH THE COUNCIL. COMMISSIONER EWEN OUTLINED THE FOUR MAIN REASONS FOR NEEDING A NEW HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

- *OUTGROWN THE CURRENT FACILITY
- *GROUND WATER ISSUES
- *FUEL TANKS
- *TRAFFIC

THE CONSENSUS IN MARCH FROM THE COUNCIL WAS A PROJECT COST OF \$4,000,000.00. THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE BEEN WORKING IN THE SCOPING PERIOD WITH THE DEVELOPER AND ENGINEER TO TRY AND MEET THAT COST BUT THE COST HOLDS AT \$4,800,000.00. THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE TRIMMED THE PROJECT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. THE COMMISSIONERS ARE REQUESTING \$800,000.00 FROM THE CAGIT FUND (1110) TO HELP FUND THE PROJECT. THE COMMISSIONERS WOULD THEN NEED TO FINANCE \$2,000,000.00. FIRST SAVINGS BANK REPRESENTATIVE AARON WELLER DISCUSSED BORROWING AGAINST EXISTING INVESTMENT FUNDS WITH TAX EXEMPT STATUS WHICH WOULD YIELD AN INTEREST RATE OF 5.73% AND A PAYMENT OF \$357,529.00 PER YEAR FOR SEVEN YEARS.

THE QUOTE OF \$4,800,000.00 IS CORRECT UNTIL DECEMBER 15, 2023.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL STATED THE BANK FINANCING LOOKED GOOD BUT THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO DECIDE EXACTLY HOW MUCH TO SPEND. SHELL ALSO ASKED IF THE OFFICE NEEDED TO BE THAT BIG.

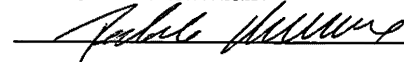
COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO DARREN BATES CONCERNING THE LOSS OF REVENUE WITH THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION CHANGES.

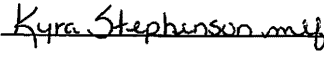
THE COUNCIL THANKED THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE TIME THEY HAVE PUT INTO THE PROJECT.

THE COUNCIL STATED THEY WOULD MAKE A DECISION AT THEIR DECEMBER MEETING.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER EWEN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COMMISSIONERS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROBERTS. THE MOTION PASSED.


COUNCILMEMBER RONDALE BRISHABER, VICE-PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
 SALEM, INDIANA 47167
 DECEMBER 4, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN JOINT SESSION WITH THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON DECEMBER 4, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS KEELEY STINGEL, RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, MARK ABBOTT, KAREN WISCHMEIER, COMMISSIONERS PHIL MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, ATTORNEY APRIL GELTMAKER, ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL AND GERALD FLEMING WERE ABSENT.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT MARSHALL CALLED THE COMMISSIONERS TO ORDER.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 6, 2023 AND THE NOVEMBER 20, 2023 COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

PROSECUTOR – TRANSFERS

PROSECUTOR TARA COATS HUNT CAME BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO REQUEST UNUSED SALARY AMOUNTS BE TRANSFERRED TO OFFICE SUPPLIES. THE FUNDS WOULD BE USED FOR NEW FLOORING AND PAINT. COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER RYAN BOWER CAME BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO REQUEST AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2024 SALARY ORDINANCE. BOWER WOULD LIKE LEGAL SECRETARY 2 TO HAVE A SALARY OF \$37,500.00 AS THE SENIOR LEGAL SECRETARY AND LEGAL SECRETARY 3 HAVE A SALARY OF \$35,000.00. COUNCILMEMBER WALKER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED.

STATEWIDE 911 AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT TO SEPARATE THE POSITIONS. THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR WOULD HAVE A SALARY OF \$25,000.00 AND THE STATEWIDE 911 DIRECTOR WOULD HAVE A SALARY OF \$50,000.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

2024 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2024 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION PASSED.

DORMANT FUND CLOSURE

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE FUNDS 8105 AND 8116 DUE TO BEING DORMANT FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS. THE MONIES TOTALING \$22.25 WILL BE RECEIPTED INTO THE GENERAL FUND. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PROJECT

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO TABLE A VOTE ON THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PROJECT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER. THE COUNCIL HELD A DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE COST OF THE PROJECT AND FINANCING. THE MOTION TO TABLE PASSED. A SPECIAL MEETING WILL BE SET FOR DECEMBER 11, 2023.

JOHN MEAD

THE COUNCIL PRESENTED A PLAQUE TO JOHN MEAD FOR HIS SERVICE AS COUNCIL ATTORNEY AND WISHED HIM THE BEST IN RETIREMENT.

WITH THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS AT HAND, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COMMISSIONERS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. THE MOTION PASSED.


 COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
 AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167
DECEMBER 11, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN JOINT SESSION WITH THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON DECEMBER 11, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, MARK ABBOTT, KAREN WISCHMEIER, GERALD FLEMING, COMMISSIONERS PHIL MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, ATTORNEY APRIL GELTMAKER, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBERS PRESTON SHELL AND KEELEY STINGEL WERE ABSENT.

COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT BRISHABER CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT MARSHALL CALLED THE COMMISSIONERS TO ORDER.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING.

THE PURPOSED OF THE JOINT MEETING WAS TO DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THE HIGHWAY PROJECT.

COMMISSIONER EWEN POINTED OUT TO THE COUNCIL THAT THEY WERE TOLD THE PROJECT COULD BE \$4 TO \$5 MILLION. THE BOT COMMITTEE HAS SPENT NUMEROUS HOURS ON ENSURING THE COUNTY RECEIVES THE BEST PRICE, WHICH AT THIS TIME IS \$4,800,000.00. THE COUNTY IS IN A UNIQUE SITUATION WITH OUR INVESTMENTS AND THE INTEREST THE INVESTMENTS ARE EARNING TO QUALIFY FOR A COMPETITIVE INTEREST RATE ON A LOAN. EWEN CAUTIONED IF THE PROJECT WERE TO BE HELD OFF UNTIL A LATER TIME THEN THE COUNTY WILL RISK THE COST GOING UP AT LEAST TEN PERCENT PER YEAR.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE \$4,800,000.00 STATING THAT TIMING IS EVERYTHING AND IF WE PUT THIS PROJECT OFF THEN IT WILL COST TAXPAYERS MORE MONEY DOWN THE ROAD. ABBOTT AGREES WITH THE COMMISSIONERS AND THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF TIME PUT INTO THE PROJECT ALREADY AND FEELS LIKE THE COUNTY IS GOING TO MISS AN OPPORTUNITY IF THE COUNCIL VOTES NO. THE MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF A SECOND.

COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER MADE A MOTION TO REJECT THE \$4,800,000.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE REJECTION PASSED 4-1 WITH COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT VOTING AGAINST.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING STATED THE COUNCIL HAS NOT BEEN CONVINCED IT IS A \$4,800,000.00 PROJECT. FLEMING ALSO FEELS THE COUNCIL HAS NOT BEEN KEPT INFORMED ON THE PROJECT WHETHER IT WAS DUE TO FLEMING NOT ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS OR A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COUNCIL BEING ON THE COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER ROBERTS STATED BRISHABER HAD THE QUOTES AND ASKED IF BRISHABER SHARED THAT INFORMATION WITH THE OTHER COUNCILMEMBERS. COMMISSIONER EWEN STATED THE ENGINEER FOR THE PROJECT WAS AT A COUNCIL MEETING IN FEBRUARY AND INVITED ALL COUNCIL TO CONTACT HIM ANYTIME ABOUT THE PROJECT. COMMISSIONER EWEN WANTED TO KNOW IF ANY OF THE COUNCIL KNEW ENOUGH ABOUT CONSTRUCTION TO SAY IT IS ONLY A \$4 MILLION PROJECT. FLEMING STATED HE HAS TO MAKE A DECISION BASED ON THE INFORMATION HE HAS AVAILABLE AND BELIEVES THE COUNCIL AND COMMISSIONERS CAN WORK TOGETHER TO GET A SOLUTION.

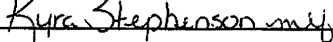
COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE \$4,600,000.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT. THE MOTION FAILED 2-3 WITH COUNCILMEMBERS WISCHMEIER, WALKER AND BRISHABER VOTING AGAINST.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COUNCIL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COMMISSIONERS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EWEN. THE MOTION PASSED.



COUNCILMEMBER RONDALE BRISHABER, VICE-PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167
DECEMBER 22, 2023

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN JOINT SESSION WITH THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON DECEMBER 22, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS KEELEY STINGEL, PRESTON SHELL RONDALE BRISHABER, JOE WALKER, MARK ABBOTT, KAREN WISCHMEIER, GERALD FLEMING, COMMISSIONERS PHIL MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, ATTORNEY APRIL GELTMAKER, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. ATTORNEY JOHN MEAD WAS ABSENT.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT MARSHALL CALLED THE COMMISSIONERS TO ORDER.

COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY PRAYER LED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL.

THE PURPOSED OF THE JOINT MEETING WAS TO DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THE HIGHWAY PROJECT.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER ASKED THE COMMISSIONERS IF THE COUNTY HAD THE ACCESS/RIGHTS TO 19 ACRES AT THE AIRPORT THAT COULD BE A LOCATION FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER EWEN STATED THE COUNTY COULD TAKE OWNERSHIP OF THE PROPERTY. THE COMMISSIONERS STATED THE ACREAGE AT THE INTERSECTION OF 135/BYPASS WAS A BETTER SITE. BRISHABER ALSO QUESTIONED ENGINEER BRAD ISAACS CONCERNING THE PRICE OF THE PROJECT. ISAACS STATED THE GOAL AT THE BEGINNING WAS FOUR MILLION BUT AS TIME PROGRESSED WITH THE QUOTES COMING IN THAT PRICE WAS NOT ATTAINABLE IN MAKING SURE THE STRUCTURES WERE IN PLACE TO HAVE THE HIGHWAY OPERATIONAL WITH ONE SITE VERSUS TWO SITES. THE BUILDING PACKAGE ALONE WAS ALMOST TWO MILLION DOLLARS.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER ASKED ISAACS IF HE HAS EVER SEEN SO MUCH DEVELOPMENT HAPPENING IN A BOT WHEN AN AGREEMENT HASN'T BEEN SIGNED. ISAACS SAID NO BUT IT IS ALLOWED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING ASK IF THE COMMISSIONERS FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THE COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEVELOPER. THE COMMISSIONERS STATED YES.

COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER CITED A REPORT FROM A CONSULTANT THAT STATES THERE IS NO ROCK ON THE PROPERTY SO WHY ALL THE BLASTING WHICH IS ADDING COST TO THE PROJECT. HEALTH DEPARTMENT ENVIROMENTALIST CHRIS BOLING STATE THAT REPORT WAS DONE PRIMARILY FOR THE SEPTIC SYSTEM FIELD NOT THE WHOLE PROPERTY.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL SEES A CONSIDERABLE PROFIT MARGIN FOR THE CONCRETE WORK. KEN TEMPLE STATED THE PRICES ARE LOCKED IN ON CONCRETE, REBAR ETC FOR 2023. TYPICALLY, THE PROFIT MARGIN ON A BOT IS 7-10%.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT BELIEVES THIS IS A VIABLE PROJECT AND HAS FAITH IN THE DEVELOPER, ENGINEER, AND CONTRACTORS THAT WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE BEST POSSIBLE COST OF THE PROJECT.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE 4.8 MILLION FOR THE PROJECT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION FAILED WITH COUNCILMEMBERS SHELL, WISCHMEIER, BRISHABER AND WALKER VOTING NO. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL ABSTAINED.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE 4.4 MILLION FOR THE PROJECT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION FAILED WITH COUNCILMEMBERS WISCHMEIER, BRISHABER AND WALKER VOTING NO. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL ABSTAINED.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER. THE MOTION FAILED WITH COUNCILMEMBERS FLEMING, SHELL AND ABBOTT VOTING NO. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL ABSTAINED.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO COLLABORATE WITH THE COMMISSIONERS AND COMPLETELY START OVER IN THE BOT PROCESS. COUNCILMEMBER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE COMMISSIONERS POINTED OUT THE TANKS ARE COMING IN AND IF WE SCRAP THE CURRENT BOT IT WILL STILL COST THE COUNTY CLOSE TO HALF A MILLION IN ATTORNEY AND ENGINEER FEES. THE COMMISSIONERS ALSO STATED THAT IF STARTING OVER IS WHAT THE COUNCIL DECIDES THEN THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO FORM THEIR OWN COMMITTEE AND LEAVE THE COMMISSIONERS OUT OF IT. THE COUNCIL CAN TAKE CHARGE OF THE BOT. THE MOTION FAILED WITH COUNCILMEMBERS ABBOTT, FLEMING AND SHELL VOTING NO. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL ABSTAINED.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION FOR 4.4 MILLION STATING THAT IF THE COUNCIL WERE TO GIVE THIS THEN WHEN THE COMMISSIONERS SELL THE OLD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, THEY COULD USE 350,000. COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING SECONDED THE MOTION. COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER STATED IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO MAKE A DECISION WITHOUT DISCUSSION WITH RICK VOYLES AND THE COMMISSIONERS. THE MOTION FAILED WITH COUNCILMEMBERS WISCHMEIER, BRISHABER AND WALKER VOTING NO. COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL ABSTAINED.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSIONER EWEN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROBERTS. THE MOTION PASSED.