

ATTEST: Kyra Stephenson

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167
JANUARY 2, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON JANUARY 2, 2024 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, PRESTON SHELL, GERALD FLEMING, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STINGEL CALLED THE COUNCIL TO ORDER.

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

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 4, 2023 AND THE DECEMBER 11, 2023 COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

REORGANIZATION OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL NOMINATED COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT FOR COUNCIL PRESIDENT. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL SECONDED THE NOMINATION. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS AND ELECT COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT AS PRESIDENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER NOMINATED COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING FOR COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL SECONDED THE NOMINATION. COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS AND ELECT COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING AS VICE-PRESIDENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCIL ATTORNEY

BEAU ZOELLER FROM FROST BROWN TODD ATTORNEYS APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF THE FIRM REPRESENTING THE COUNTY COUNCIL. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL STATED THE COUNTY ADVERTISED FOR THE POSITION AND FROST BROWN TODD WAS THE ONLY FIRM TO SUBMIT A RESUME. ATTORNEY ZOELLER DISCLOSED THAT HIS FIRM ALSO REPRESENTS TEMPLE AND TEMPLE IN THE BOT PROCESS WITH THE COUNTY HIGHWAY GARAGE. THE COUNCIL DID NOT TAKE FORMAL ACTION BUT ASKED ATTORNEY ZOELLER TO SEND A LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT FOR THE COUNCIL TO REVIEW BEFORE THE FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING.

APPOINTMENTS

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

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO REAPPOINT KEELEY STINGEL AND RYAN WATSON TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO REAPPOINT MARK ABBOTT TO THE RIVER HILLS BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO REAPPOINT JUDY CHASTAIN TO THE PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO REAPPOINT TIM RAINBOLT TO THE PARK BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER WALKER MADE A MOTION TO REAPPOINT PRESTON SHELL TO THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT RONDALE BRISHABER TO THE PLAN COMMISSION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO REAPPOINT KAREN WISCHMEIER AND JOE WALKER TO THE PERSONNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

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

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

NEW HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT JASON CLODFELTER INTRODUCED HIMSELF TO THE COUNCIL AND LOOKED FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THEM.

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

Mark Abbott
COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: Kyra Stephenson
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167
FEBRUARY 5, 2024
EXECUTIVE SESSION – 8:15 a.m.

I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(B)(2)(B) INITIATION OF LITIGATION OR LITIGATION THAT IS EITHER PENDING OR HAS BEEN THREATENED SPECIFICALLY IN WRITING. I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(9) TO DISCUSS JOB EVALUATION OR INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES.

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON FEBRUARY 5, 2024 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, PRESTON SHELL, GERALD FLEMING, ATTORNEY BEAU ZOELLER, ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 22, 2023 AND THE JANUARY 2, 2024 COUNCIL MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCIL ATTORNEY

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT LAW FIRM FROST BROWN TODD TO REPRESENT THE COUNCIL. THE PRIMARY ATTORNEYS FROM THAT FIRM WILL BE BEAU ZOELLER AND ALYSSA COCHRAN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED 6-1 WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER OPPOSED.

HIGHWAY PROJECT

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE FINANCING OF THE HIGHWAY PROJECT ALONG WITH CLARIFICATION ON THE HVAC AND BUILDINGS. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PURSUING A FINANCING ARRANGEMENT AND FINAL FINANCING TERMS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.00) WITH FIRST SAVINGS BANK PENDING FURTHER STATUTORY REQUIRED APPROVALS AND LEGAL REVIEW. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED 3-2 WITH COUNCILMEMBERS WALKER AND WISCHMEIER OPPOSED. COUNCILMEMBERS FLEMING AND STINGEL ABSTAINED.

911 ADDRESSING/BUILDING COMMISSIONER

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) STIPEND TO THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER SECRETARY TO TAKE ON THE ADDITIONAL WORK OF ASSIGNING 911 ADDRESSES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO TRANSFER ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500.00) FROM BUILDING COMMISSIONER LEGAL SERVICES TO CREATE A PART TIME-LINE IN THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

EMPLOYEE BONUS/STIPEND


AFTER REVIEWING THE FISCAL REPORTS OF THE COUNTY, THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED AND REVIEWED AN ORDINANCE TO GIVE EMPLOYEES A BONUS/STIPEND FOR THE YEAR OF 2024. THE BONUS WILL BE STRUCTURED SIMILAR TO LONGEVITY PAY. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-01. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR A SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2024-01 AND TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

COMMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT STATED A SOLAR ECLIPSE PLANNING SESSION WAS GOING TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 8, 2024 AT CITY HALL. THE MEETING WOULD START AT 10 A.M.

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


COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

MARCH 4, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON MARCH 4, 2024 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, PRESTON SHELL, ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBERS KAREN WISCHMEIER AND GERALD FLEMING WERE ABSENT.

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

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

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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

LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	1161.24900.00000.0000	\$ 11,655.00
CAGIT FUND	1110.19101.00000.0000	\$165,000.00
PUBLIC SAFETY	1170.40109.00000.0000	\$ 30,000.00
ADULT PROBATION	2100.30123.00000.0000	\$ 8,000.00
OPIOID RESTRICTED	1237.30313.00000.0000	\$ 20,000.00
OPIOID UNRESTRICTED	1238.30313.00000.0000	\$ 10,000.00
TOWN OF HARDINSBURG RESTRICTED	4952.20102.00000.0000	\$ 20,000.00
	4952.32600.00000.0000	\$ 2,500.00
GENERAL	1000.13005.00000.0000	\$ 417.00
	1000.12100.00000.0161	\$ 20,000.00
	1000.10322.00000.0312	\$ 3,000.00
STATEWIDE 911	1222.13006.00000.0000	\$ 25,417.00

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

ATTORNEY COCHRAN

ATTORNEY COCHRAN NOTIFIED THE COUNCIL ABOUT A CONFLICT WAIVER DUE TO A PARTNER IN HER FIRM HAS BEEN ASKED TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF SALEM IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE COUNTY ON THE 911 DISPATCH MERGER. ATTORNEY COCHRAN DOES NOT ANTICIPATE ANY OVERLAP AND THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE PRIMARILY BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

AUDITOR STEPHENSON LET THE COUNCIL KNOW THAT JOB POSTINGS AND LEGAL NOTICES ARE BEING POSTED ON THE WASHINGTON COUNTY WEBSITE.

BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS


COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER – GLAD THAT A 911 MERGER IS BEING DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE CITY AND COUNTY.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL – WASHINGTON COUNTY WILL BE HOSTING THE RDA MAY 7, 2024. ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE PRESENTING PROJECT PROPOSALS IN HOPES OF OBTAINING FUNDING. AWARDS WILL NAMED TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR.

COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT – HOPING TO HAVE THE LOAN STRUCTURE FOR THE FINAL COUNCIL APPROVAL AT THE APRIL MEETING.

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


COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167
MARCH 22, 2024
EXECUTIVE SESSION – 8:00 a.m.

I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9) TO DISCUSS JOB PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OR INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES. I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5) TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES.

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON MARCH 22, 2024 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, PRESTON SHELL, GERALD FLEMING, ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL WAS ABSENT.

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

SHERIFF

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT OPENED THE MEETING BY STATING THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC COMMENT AS THIS WAS A DISCUSSION NOT A DEBATE. ALSO, THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WILL CONDUCT THEMSELVES PROPERLY.

SHERIFF MILLER BEGAN THE DISCUSSION STATING THE DEPARTMENT IS HAVING A PROBLEM RETAINING OFFICERS, WHICH HE ATTRIBUTES TO SALARIES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY BEING LOWER THAN NEARBY COUNTIES AND CITIES. RECRUITING NEW HIRES AND RETAINING NEW HIRES THAT HAVE BEEN TRAINED HAVE BOTH BEEN OBSTACLES TO FILLING ALL OF THE OPEN OFFICER POSITIONS. AT THIS POINT IN TIME, SHERIFF MILLER BELIEVES HE CANNOT CONTINUE TO OPERATE THE 11 P.M. TO 7 A.M. SHIFT AT THE DEPARTMENT DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF OFFICERS, TWO OFFICERS BEING AT THE ACADEMY TRAINING, AND ONE OFFICER BEING ON LIGHT DUTY. SHERIFF MILLER IS REQUESTING \$10,000.00 PER DEPUTY SALARY INCREASE IN ORDER TO RECRUIT NEW OFFICERS AND RETAIN CURRENT OFFICERS.

A LENGTHY DISCUSSION PROCEEDED BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND SHERIFF MILLER REGARDING POTENTIAL RAISES AND THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS THAT WOULD BE NEEDED FOR SUSTAINABLE SALARY INCREASES. AS A TEMPORARY MEASURE, THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED REALLOCATING FUNDS THE COUNCIL APPROVED IN 2021 FOR THREE NEW SHERIFF DEPUTY POSITIONS, WHICH THE SHERIFF HAD BEEN UNABLE TO FILL SINCE 2021, AND UTILIZING THOSE FUNDS FOR PAY INCREASES TO RETAIN EXISTING OFFICERS AND TO RECRUIT ONE NEW DEPUTY. SHERIFF MILLER WANTED SALARY INCREASES APPROVED FOR ALL EXISTING POSITIONS, WITH THE BELIEF THAT THE THREE OPEN STARTING DEPUTY POSITIONS COULD BE FILLED IF RAISES WERE APPROVED.


AFTER SOME DISCUSSION AND IN ORDER TO ADDRESS IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF DEPUTY SHORTAGE, COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACROSS THE BOARD PAY RAISE OF \$8,000 FOR OFFICERS WITHIN THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. THE \$8,000 INCREASE RESULTS IN NEW SALARIES FOR THESE POSITIONS AS FOLLOWS:


CHIEF DEPUTY(1)	\$69,648
DETECTIVE(1)	\$61,514
CAPTAIN(1)	\$59,891
LIEUTENANT(2)	\$59,891
SERGEANT(2)	\$58,270
DEPUTY(5)	\$56,647
STARTING DEPUTY(3)	\$52,980

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

THE COUNCIL WILL REVIEW THIS ISSUE AGAIN AT THE 2025 BUDGET HEARINGS.

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


COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

APRIL 1, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON APRIL, 2024 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, GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBERS KAREN WISCHMEIER WAS ABSENT.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 4, 2024 AND MARCH 22, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

CLERK

CLERK STEPHANIE ROCKEY APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THE CLERK'S INVESTMENT POLICY THAT HAS BEEN REQUIRED BY THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS WHICH STATES THE CLERK IS THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURT SYSTEM. THE COUNTY CLERK MAY INVEST THOSE FUNDS PAID INTO THE COURT FUNDS. THE CLERK WILL REPORT THE INVESTMENTS ON THE CAR-1 ANNUALLY AND THE CAR-46 ON A MONTHLY BASIS. INTEREST IS CALCULATED MONTHLY ON INVESTMENTS AND RECONCILIATIONS ARE CONDUCTED MONTHLY. QUARTERLY COMPOUNDED INTEREST WILL BE PROCESSED AND SENT TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO POST TO THE GENERAL FUND. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE POLICY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION:

OPIOID RESTRICTED FUNDS	1237.30314.00000.0000	\$ 12,594.77
-------------------------	-----------------------	--------------

THE FUNDS WERE GRANTED TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY EMS DEPARTMENT FOR A VASCULAR DRILL AND SUPPLIES.

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

TAX ABATEMENTS

TAX ABATEMENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL:

JACKSON COUNTY REMC PHASE 1

JACKSON COUNTY REMC PHASE 2

JACKSON COUNTY REMC PHASE 3

TELE-MEDIA SOLUTIONS

THESE ABATEMENTS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH FIBER PROJECTS WITHIN THE COUNTY. A FEW COUNCILMEMBERS WERE UNABLE TO RECEIVE THE EMAIL WITH THE ABATEMENTS AND SPENT TIME IN THE MEETING TO REVIEW AND ASK QUESTIONS.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JACKSON COUNTY REMC PHASE 1-3 ABATEMENTS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TELE-MEDIA SOLUTIONS ABATEMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A SALARY ORDINANCE AMEDEMMENT FOR THE SHERIFF AND CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER PER STATE CODE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.


BOARD COMMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL STATED THAT THE RDA IS NEARING THE END OF THE PROJECT PRESENTATION PHASE OF THE GRANT REQUESTS. STINGEL STATED WASHINGTON COUNTY DID A GREAT JOB OF PRESENTING PROJECTS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT STATED THAT THE HIGHWAY PROJECT HAS BEEN PUT ON HOLD.

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


COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

MAY 6, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON MAY 6, 2024 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, GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, ATTORNEY MATT DUNCAN, 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 THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER. THE MOTION PASSED.

ABATEMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CONTINUING ABATEMENTS FOR ORANGE COUNTY REMC FIBER PROJECT IN BROWN, VERNON AND MADISON TOWNSHIPS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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

SHERIFF (STATE MANDATED)	\$3,206.00
CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER (STATE MANDATED)	\$5,345.00
SHERIFF DEPUTIES	\$120,000.00

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

SHERIFF

SHERIFF BRENT MILLER APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO DISCUSS THE JAIL COMMANDER SALARY. MILLER STATED HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HIRE SOMEONE AT THE CURRENT RATE OF \$38,787.00. A COMPARISON OF SURROUNDING COUNTIES IS AN AVERAGE OF \$57,000.00. MILLER BELIEVES THERE SHOULD BE A BIGGER SEPARATION BETWEEN SUPERVISORS AND EMPLOYEES. MILLER HAS PLACED A DEPUTY AS INTERIM JAIL COMMANDER BUT THAT WILL BE CHANGING SOON AS THE ROAD DEPUTIES WILL BE RESTARTING THIRD SHIFT. COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT SAID THE COUNCIL WILL NEED TO LOOK AT THESE POSITIONS. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE SHERIFF TO CREATE A PLAN FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS. COUNCILMEMBERS STINGEL THANKED SHERIFF MILLER FOR COMING FORWARD.

ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY MATT DUNCAN INTRODUCED HIMSELF TO THE COUNCIL. ATTORNEY DUNCAN WILL BE FILLING IN FOR ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN WHILE SHE IS OUT ON PERSONAL LEAVE.

AUDITOR

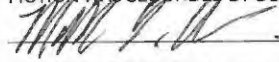
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE 2025 BUDGET REQUESTS HAVE BEEN SENT OUT TO DEPARTMENTS.

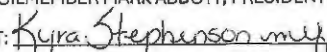
BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS

BRISHABER - WILL NOT BE AT THE JUNE MEETING.

STINGEL - THANKED THE ELECTION WORKERS.

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


 COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
 AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

JULY 1, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON JULY 1, 2024 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, MARK ABBOTT, GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, JOE WALKER, ATTORNEY MATT DUNCAN, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER WAS ABSENT.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBERS WALKER AND BRISHABER ABSTAINING.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OFFICE REGISTRAR MAGGIE ENGLAND INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE LAW REGARDING THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH HAS CHANGED. THE COUNTY FISCAL BODY WILL NEED TO APPOINT A PERSON WHO HAS PUBLIC HEALTH KNOWLEDGE OR IS A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. ENGLAND WILL RETURN AT A LATER DATE WITH A FEW POSSIBLE NAMES.

CLERK

CLERK STEPHANIE ROCKEY APPEARED BEFORE THE BOARD TO DISCUSS AN AMENDMENT TO IC 3-7-12-22. THE AMENDMENT STATES A COUNTY FISCAL BODY MAY PROVIDE A STIPEND, NOT TO EXCEED \$2,500.00 TO A CIRCUIT COURT CLERK WHO SERVES AS A VOTER REGISTRATION OFFICER EACH YEAR IN WHICH A NON-MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION IS HELD. THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL IS TO TABLE THE REQUEST UNTIL THE AUGUST MEETING SO LEGAL COUNSEL CAN RESEARCH THE INDIANA CODE.

ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY MATT DUNCAN STATED A LOT OF NEW LAWS HAVE TAKEN EFFECT JULY 1, 2024. ATTORNEY DUNCAN WILL REVIEW THE RECENT CHANGES MADE TO IC 3-7-12-22 AND PROVIDE THE COUNCIL WITH AN OPINION REGARDING THESE RECENT CHANGES.

SOUTH FORK - BLUE RIVER WATERSHED

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO SIGN A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE SOUTH FORK - BLUE RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT PHASE 3. THE COUNTY WILL PROVIDE IN-KIND SUPPORT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.


SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE TWO SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS. THE FIRST ONE IS FOR THE SHERIFF DEPUTIES INCREASE FROM EARLIER IN THE YEAR, AND THE SECOND IS FOR TWO NEW DISPATCHERS IN STATEWIDE 911. THE DISPATCHERS RESULT FROM THE COUNTY-CITY MERGER OF 911 SERVICES. THE CITY WILL BE REIMBURSING THE COUNTY FOR THE COST OF THE DISPATCHER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

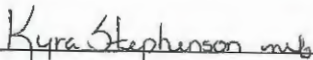
BOARD COMMENTS

STINGEL - PROJECTS FOR THE READI 2.0 GRANTS ARE DUE BY JULY 12, 2024 AT NOON.

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 MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

JULY 15, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN JOINT SESSION WITH THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON JULY 15, 2024 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, MARK ABBOTT, GERALD FLEMING, COMMISSIONERS PHIL MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, ATTORNEY APRIL GELTMAKER, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT 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 PURPOSE OF THE JOINT MEETING WAS TO DISCUSS THE JAIL ADMINISTRATOR POSITION WITH SHERIFF BRENT MILLER.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT STATED THE SHERIFF IS HAVING A PROBLEM HIRING A JAIL ADMINISTRATOR AND CURRENTLY HAS A ROAD OFFICER FILLING THAT POSITION. THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT POSITION AND ABBOTT FELT THERE WAS AN URGENT NEED TO HAVE THIS MEETING.

SHERIFF BRENT MILLER SPOKE ON THE DUTIES OF THE JAIL ADMINISTRATOR AND ALSO HOW THERE NEEDS TO BE MORE SEPARATION ON PAY BETWEEN SUPERVISORS AND EMPLOYEES. THE DETENTION CENTER CURRENTLY HAS 120 INMATES. THE ADMINISTRATOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR UDATING THE BAIL TRACKER AND COORDINATING WITH THE COURTS/STATE PRISONS FOR TRANSPORT WHEN THE INMATE HAS HEARINGS. THIS ALSO WOULD INCLUDE SCHEDULING DOCTOR VISITS AND DENTIST APPOINTMENTS ALONG WITH OTHER MEDICAL NEEDS. THE ADMINISTRATOR IS ALSO IN CHARGE OF ANNUAL TRAINING FOR ALL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL ASKED IF THERE IS A JOB DESCRIPTION AND, IF SO, WHO WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE TO SUBMIT THE FORMS TO MAINTAIN LIABILITY INSURANCE. SHERIFF MILLER STATED THAT WOULD BE PART OF THE JOB BUT ULTIMATELY THE SHERIFF IS RESPONSIBLE.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL ALSO STATED THAT THE COUNCIL HAS DONE SALARY ADJUSTMENTS BUT IF THE COUNCIL RAISE THIS SALARY, THEN THIS POSITION WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ACROSS-THE-BOARD RAISE FOR 2025 IF THE COUNCIL GIVE RAISES.

COMMISSIONER MARSHALL STATED THAT A LOT MORE HAS BEEN PLACED UPON COUNTY CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, ESPECIALLY WITH THE COURTS SINCE THEY DO NOT WISH TO USE VIDEO PROCEEDINGS. THE STATE NEEDS TO REALIZE HOW MUCH CORRECTIONAL SERVICES COST COUNTIES. OUR POPULATION IN WASHINGTON COUNTY DOES NOT SUPPORT WHAT IS ACTUALLY NEEDED.

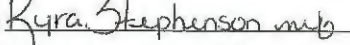
COMMISSIONER EWEN STATED THAT THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT HAD SEVERAL VEHICLES OUT THERE THAT ARE NOT BEING UTILIZED, WOULD WE BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A TAKE HOME VEHICLE TO THE ADMINISTRATOR TO HELP MAKE THE POSITION MORE ATTRACTIVE TO APPLICANTS. SHERIFF MILLER SAID HE WOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A VEHICLE.

AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO INCREASE THE SALARY TO \$57,000.00 WITH A TAKE HOME VEHICLE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL STIPULATED THAT THIS POSITION WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR A 2025 RAISE IF GIVEN. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

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


COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

AUGUST 5, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON AUGUST 5, 2024 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 MARK ABBOTT, GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, RONDALE BRISHABER, ANDREW DAVISSON, KAREN WISCHMEIER, ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KEELEY STINGEL WAS ABSENT.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 1, 2024 AND JULY 15, 2024 MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

NON-BINDING REVIEWS

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 FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND RECOMMEND THE INFORMATION PROVIDED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

CLERK

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE CLERK STIPEND OF \$2,500.00 THAT THE COUNCIL MAY PROVIDE FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS ONLY, PURSUANT TO A RECENT AMENDMENT TO IND. CODE § 3-7-12-22. ATTORNEY COCHRAN STATED THE INDIANA CODE PROVIDES THE AMOUNT OF THE OPTIONAL STIPEND CAN BE UP TO \$2,500.00. COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT CLARIFIED THAT THE STIPEND GOES TO THE CLERK ONLY. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION FOR A \$2,000.00 STIPEND. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER. THE MOTION PASSED 5-1 WITH COUNCILMEMBER ABBOTT VOTING NO.

WASHINGTON COUNTY ECONOMIC GROWTH - TAX ABATEMENT

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A TEN-YEAR TAX ABATEMENT FOR SULLIVAN'S CONCRETE COATING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER SHELL ABSTAINING DUE TO BEING A MEMBER OF THE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD.

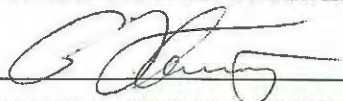
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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


CAGIT FUND (1110)	100,000.00
GENERAL DETENTION (1000-0381)	19,213.00
STATEWIDE 911 (1222)	74,800.00

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. 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.



COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT
Gerald Fleming, Vice President

ATTEST: 

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET HEARINGS
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167
AUGUST 21ST – 22ND, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET AUGUST 21ST-22ND, 2023 BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M. FOR THE 2025 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, ANDREW DAVISSON, COMMISSIONERS PHILLIP MARSHALL, TODD EWEN, RICK ROBERTS, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT 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:

VETERANS AFFAIRS

CIRCUIT COURT

PUBLIC DEFENDER – COMMISSION AS LOWERED THE CASELOAD STATING THE TWO FULL TIME PUBLIC DEFENDERS NEED TO BE PAID THE SAME AS THE DEPUTY PROSECUTOR.

SYSTEM NAVIGATOR – COUNCIL REMINDED THE OFFICE THAT THE POSITION IS DEPENDENT ON 100% FUNDING FROM THE STATE.

PROSECUTOR

DRUG FREE COMMUNITY

PROBATION – ASKED IF THE PER DIEM COULD BE RAISED TO 50.00 PER DAY.

SHERIFF – PRESENTED A STUDY THAT WAS DONE BY THE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION CONCERNING SALARIES FOR JAIL OFFICERS AND DISPATCHERS. MILLER WOULD LIKE TO SEE A BIGGER GAP BETWEEN EMPLOYEES AND SUPERVISORS. ALSO REQUESTED TWO ADDITIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS.

911

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

CLERK

BUILDING AND PLAN COMMISSION

RECORDER

TREASURER

EXTENSION

WEED BOARD

SOIL & WATER

AUDITOR

HEALTH – COUNCIL WOULD LIKE A QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE STATE HEALTH FUND MONIES THE COUNTY IS RECEIVING.

CORONER – NEEDS A NEW VEHICLE; WILL BE LOOKING FOR GRANTS TO HOPEFULLY COVER THE COST.

WASHINGTON COUNTY EMS

SURVEYOR

BLUE RIVER SERVICES

CEMETERY COMMISSION

THE COUNCIL RECESSED UNTIL AUGUST 22, 2024.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT CALLED THE COUNCIL BACK TO ORDER ON AUGUST 22, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M. WITH COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL ABSENT.

COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT MARSHALL CALLED THE COMMISSIONERS BACK TO ORDER.

THE COUNCIL MET WITH THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS:

PARK & RECREATION

BLUE RIVER SERVICES

SUPERIOR COURT – CURRENTLY THREE COURTS DUE TO CONFLICT OF INTEREST CASES WITH JUDGE HOUCHIN. JUDGE HOUCHIN IS HOPEFUL THOSE CASES WILL BE DONE BY THE END OF 2024.

HIGHWAY

ASSESSOR

COMMISSIONERS

RBR ALLIANCES (FORMERLY HOOSIER HILLS PACT)

ECONOMIC GROWTH PARTNERSHIP

THE COUNCIL MADE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET:

*ELECTION – REDUCED AVM MECHANICS FROM 7,000 TO 6,000

*TREASURER – REDUCED PART TIME FROM 1,000 TO 0; REDUCED MILEAGE/LODGING FROM 600 TO 500

*DETENTION CENTER – 1000.11501 JAIL ADMINISTRATOR 58,429; 1000.12301 MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR 45,062; 1000.14302 MAINTENANCE 2 37,400; 1000.11601 CORRECTIONAL OFFICER/SHIFT LEAD 41,140; 1000.11700 CORRECTIONAL OFFICER/SHIFT LEAD 41,140; 1000.11801 CORRECTIONAL OFFICER/SHIFT LEAD 41,140; 1000.11901 CORRECTIONAL OFFICER/SHIFT LEAD 41,140

*PUBLIC SAFETY – ADDED LINE 31006 FOR FIRST NET CAD FROM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF 12,336

*SURVEYOR – REDUCED EXTRA HELP FROM 2,500 TO 0

*ASSESSOR – REDUCED CERTIFICATION FROM 4,500 TO 3,500; REDUCED MILEAGE/LODGING FROM 6,000 TO 4,200

*AUDITOR – 1000.10200 TAX BILLING 41,995; 1000.10202 FINANCIAL 43,875; 1000.10300 PAYROLL/HR 41,416; 1000.10306 ACCTS PAYABLE/TAX BILLING/HR 41,416; REDUCED 1000.10306 HUMAN RESOURCES FROM 3,000 TO 0

SHERIFF – AGREED 6% SALARY INCREASES

REASSESSMENT – REDUCED CERTIFICATION FROM 6,000 TO 1,500; REDUCED PART TIME FROM 2,000 TO 0; REDUCED VEHICLE PURCHASE FROM 10,000 TO 0; REDUCED CONTRACTS FROM 210,000 TO 200,000

PROSECUTOR – 1000.10901 DEPUTY PROSECUTOR 80,985; 1000.10213 ATTORNEY 10,500

PROSECUTOR IVD – 1000.13003 DEPUTY PROSECUTOR 3,015; 13002 DEPUTY PROSECUTOR 25,124

COUNTY IVD INCENTIVE – 13004 IVD ATTORNEY SUPPLEMENT 30,000

APSU – 10213 ATTORNEY 15,750; NO SALARY INCREASES DUE TO THE GRANT NOT HAVING THE FUNDS

EXTENSION – REDUCED 40109 EQUIPMENT FROM 10,000 TO 0; MOVED THE 10,000 TO THE CREDIT FUND

COMMISSIONERS – REDUCED MENTAL HEALTH FROM 169,650 TO 169,163 DUE TO MAXIMUM LEVY INFORMATION; CREATED COMMISSIONER SECRETARY LINE 1,500; CREATED COUNCIL SECRETARY LINE 1,500

CREDIT – INCREASED 32071 ECONOMIC GROWTH FROM 20,000 TO 40,000; REDUCED NON-PAVING FROM 276,768 TO 256,768

PLAN COMMISSION – REDUCED DIRECTOR FROM 8,000 TO 7,000

BUILDING COMMISSION – REDUCED 911 ADDRESSING FROM 5,000 TO 3,000; REDUCED LEGAL SERVICES FROM 25,000 TO 12,500

CIRCUIT COURT – REDUCED LAW BOOKS FROM 15,000 TO 10,000; REDUCED PAUPER ATTORNEYS FROM 100,000 TO 50,000

ADULT PROBATION – REDUCED OT/VACATION FROM 15,000 TO 12,400 TO ACCOMMODATE SALARY INCREASES

A & D VETERANS COURT – REDUCED INCENTIVES FROM 1,000 TO 250; REDUCED GRADUATION SUPPLIES FROM 1,000 TO 250; REDUCED EMERGENCY PARTICIPANT NEEDS FROM 1,000 TO 500; REDUCED EDUCATION FROM 25,000 TO 7,000. GRANT WAS REDUCED.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – REDUCED CASE MANAGER FROM 55,000 TO 50,800

PUBLIC DEFENDER – 1000.10902 ATTORNEY 4 47,288; CREATED LINE FOR PUBLIC DEFENDER STIPEND, IF NEEDED, 10,348

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – 1000.13000 EMA DIRECTOR 25,000; MOVED 31006 FIRST NET CAD 12,336 TO PUBLIC SAFETY

STATEWIDE 911 – REDUCED HEALTH INSURANCE FROM 50,000 TO 40,000; REDUCED 40106 INDIGITAL FROM 66,000 TO 30,000

CEMETERY – REDUCED 11404 CONTRACT FROM 52,080 TO 48,500; REDUCED MONUMENT REPAIR FROM 3,360 TO 3,000

SOIL & WATER – REDUCED ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNICIAN FROM 15,000 TO 0

HEALTH – REDUCED HEALTH INSURANCE FROM 48,000 TO 42,000; REDUCED LEGAL SERVICES FROM 15,000 TO 13,014

LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH – INCREASED HEALTH INSURANCE FROM 18,000 TO 21,000; REDUCED HEALTH SUPPLIES FROM 191,766 TO 190,784; REDUCED 10124 RAISES FROM 10,080 TO 0

PARK – REDUCED HEALTH INSURANCE FROM 25,000 TO 20,000; INCREASED FICA FROM 13,000 TO 15,092

COMMENTS BY THE COUNCIL:

-WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A JOINT PRESENTATION OF THE ASSESSMENT SOFTWARE IN 2025 WITH THE COMMISSIONERS AND ASSESSOR.

-COUNCILMEMBER SHELL WOULD LIKE A JOINT MEETING WITH THE FAIRBOARD CONCERNING THE 30,000 IN FUNDING THE COUNTY PROVIDES.

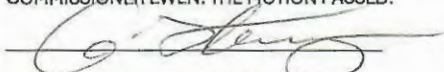
-THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL IS TO GRANT AN 8% SALARY INCREASE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED ABOVE.

-SOME BUDGETS WERE ADJUSTED DUE TO PROPOSED SALARY INCREASES AND RECEIVING THE 2025 INSURANCE RATES.

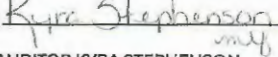
THE COUNCIL REMINDED DEPARTMENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT THE COUNCIL COULD MADE CHANGES/AMENDMENTS UP UNTIL THE ADOPTION ON OCTOBER 7, 2024.

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

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


COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

Gerald Fleming, Vice President

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 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 GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, RONDALE BRISHABER, ANDREW DAVISSON, KEELEY STINGEL, ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER AND AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON WERE ABSENT.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVISSON. THE MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

BROWN VERNON FIRE DISTRICT – COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT FLEMING OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

BLUE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT – COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT FLEMING OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

DELANEY CREEK CONSERVANCY - COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT FLEMING OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT - COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT FLEMING OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

WASHINGTON COUNTY - COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT FLEMING OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WAS NO PUBLIC COMMENT. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

FIRST SAVINGS BANK – HIGHWAY PROJECT

AARON WELLER AND DANIEL SHEPARD FROM FIRST SAVINGS BANK APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO DISCUSS THE FINANCING OF A \$2,000,000.00 LOAN FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT. THE COUNTY WOULD BORROW AGAINST EXISTING INVESTMENT FUNDS WITH TAX EXEMPT STATUS. THE COUNTY WOULD PLEDGE DEPOSIT ASSETS AS COLLATERAL AGAINST THE FINANCING. THE LOAN WOULD BE FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS AND THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL PAYMENT WOULD BE \$348,445.00. THE REPAYMENT SOURCE OF THE LOAN WOULD BE THE CREDIT FUNDS. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE FINANCING OF \$2,000,000.00 FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PROJECT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL ABSTAINING.

SULLIVAN'S CONCRETE COATING ABATEMENT

ATTORNEY COCHRAN EXPLAINED TO THE COUNCIL THAT FOLLOWING THE PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF THE TAX ABATEMENT FOR SULLIVAN'S CONCRETE COATING IN THE AUGUST MEETING, THERE WAS SOME CONFUSION AS TO WHETHER THE FACILITY WAS IN AN EXISTING ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA (ERA) OR WHETHER AN ERA NEEDED TO BE ESTABLISHED. PARTNERSHIP DIRECTOR BUCHANAN FOUND DOCUMENTATION IN WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER RESOLUTION 2002-10, WHICH WAS REPORTED AS ESTABLISHING AN ERA IN THE PERTINENT GEOGRAPHIC AREA. BASED ON THIS INFORMATION COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION APPROVING SULLIVAN'S CONCRETE COATING FOR A TAX ABATEMENT IN AN EXISTING ERA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

ATTORNEY COCHRAN REVIEWED THE 2002-10 RESOLUTION AND STATED THE WORDING IN THE RESOLUTION APPROVES AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AREA NOT AN ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA. COCHRAN RECOMMENDED THE COUNCIL RESCIND THE PREVIOUS MOTION APPROVING THE RESOLUTION GRANTING A TAX ABATEMENT TO SULLIVAN'S IN AN EXISTING ERA SO SHE MAY HAVE TIME TO COMPLETE ADDITIONAL LEGAL RESEARCH AND REVIEW PRIOR RESOLUTIONS TO DETERMINE WHEN AND WHERE THE ERA HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE COUNTY. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO RESCIND THE SULLIVAN'S TAX ABATEMENT RESOLUTION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE SULLIVAN'S CONCRETE COATING ABATEMENT UNTIL FURTHER RESEARCH CAN BE DONE BY ATTORNEY COCHRAN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

2025 BUDGET DISCUSSION

-SHERIFF BRENT MILLER APPROACHED THE COUNCIL ABOUT SOME DISCREPANCIES IN SALARIES. MILLER STATED THE MAINTENANCE STAFF WAS NOT RECEIVING THE SALARY INCREASE FOR 2025. THE TRANSPORT/JAIL LT WOULD BE MAKING LESS THAN THE EMPLOYEES THE PERSON IS IN CHARGE OVER. ALSO, LINE ITEM 1170.22301 CLEANING SUPPLIES SHOULD BE \$16,000 NOT \$18,000.

-ASSESSOR SHERRY WINGLER ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL ABOUT THE REASSESSMENT BUDGET STATING THE COUNCIL CUT FUNDS OUT REGARDING THE MAINTENANCE FUNDS FOR A VEHICLE.

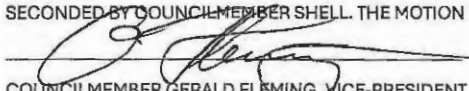
UPON CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL, THE MAINTENANCE STAFF AT THE DETENTION CENTER WILL RECEIVE A 4% SALARY INCREASE FOR 2025. THE 4% INCREASE WILL ALSO APPLY TO THE ATTORNEYS IN THE PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE AND THE PROSECUTORS OFFICE.

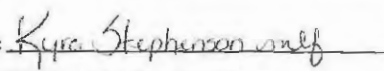
PUBLIC DEFENDER

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC DEFENDERS SALARY TO THAT OF THE DEPUTY PROSECUTOR TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION GUIDELINES FOR REIMBURSEMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO ALLOW THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER THE NEEDED FUNDS IN THE PUBLIC DEFENDERS BUDGET TO ALLOW THE INCREASE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

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


COUNCILMEMBER GERALD FLEMING, VICE-PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

OCTOBER 7, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON OCTOBER 7, 2024 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 MARK ABBOTT, GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, RONDALE BRISHABER, ANDREW DAVISSON, KEELEY STINGEL, ATTORNEY MATT DUNCAN AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER WAS ABSENT.

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

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

GIBSON TOWNSHIP 2025 BUDGET

THE COUNCIL HELD A PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION REGARDING THE GIBSON TOWNSHIP 2025 BUDGET. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS RECEIVED. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED. COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE GIBSON TOWNSHIP 2025 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

DELANEY CREEK CONSERVANCY 2025 BUDGET ADOPTION

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE DELANEY CREEK 2025 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

BLUE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT 2025 BUDGET ADOPTION

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE BLUE RIVER FIRE DISTRICT 2025 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2025 BUDGET ADOPTION

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2025 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

BROWN VERNON FIRE DISTRICT 2025 BUDGET ADOPTION

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE BROWN VERNON FIRE DISTRICT 2025 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVISSON. THE MOTION PASSED.

WASHINGTON COUNTY 2025 BUDGET ADOPTION

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY 2025 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000.00 IN FUND 1000-0062 ELECTION FOR THE CLERK STIPEND THAT WAS APPROVED AT AN EARLIER MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVISSON. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$240,000.00 FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVISSON. THE MOTION PASSED.

2025 SALARY ORDINANCE

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVED THE 2025 SALARY ORDINANCE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL. THE MOTION PASSED.

SULLIVAN'S CONCRETE COATING ABATEMENT

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE FOR SULLIVAN'S CONCRETE COATING ABATEMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PROJECT

AN ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED FOR THE HIGHWAY PROJECT. THE ORDINANCE AUTHORIZES A \$2,000,000.00 LOAN FOR A 7-10 YEAR TERM. THE COLLATERAL WILL BE THE \$2,000,000.00 BOND DEPOSIT AT THE BANK. THE LOAN WILL BE PAID OUT OF CREDIT MONIES. COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO WAIVE THE SECOND READING AND VOTE FOR APPROVAL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL ABSTAINING.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT STATED WITHOUT THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF THE COUNCIL A SPECIAL MEETING WILL NEED TO BE HELD FOR THE SECOND READING. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 14, 2024 AT 9 A.M.

BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS

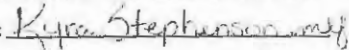
STINGEL – GRANT OPPORTUNITY THROUGH RIVER HILLS AND UPDATE ON THE READI GRANTS.

ABBOTT – WILL BE MEETING WITH THE FAIR BOARD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2024.

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



COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200

SALEM, INDIANA 47167

OCTOBER 14, 2024

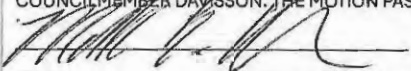
THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL HELD A SPECIAL MEETING ON OCTOBER 14, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS LOCATED AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 99 PUBLIC SQUARE SUITE 200 SALEM, INDIANA. IN ATTENDANCE WERE COUNCILMEMBERS MARK ABBOTT, GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, RONDALE BRISHABER, ANDREW DAVISSON, KEELEY STINGEL, DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR AND AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER WAS ABSENT.

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

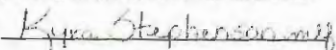
THE PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING WAS TO HOLD THE SECOND HEARING REGARDING AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL REVENUE BONDS, INCLUDING NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF BONDS, OF THE COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDING FOR A CAPITAL PROJECT WITHIN THE COUNTY.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SUMMARIZED THE DOCUMENT AND ASKED THE COUNCIL IF THERE WERE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ORDINANCE. COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER. THE MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL ABSTAINING.

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVISSON. THE MOTION PASSED.



COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
99 PUBLIC SQUARE, SUITE 200
SALEM, INDIANA 47167
NOVEMBER 4, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON NOVEMBER 4, 2024 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 MARK ABBOTT, GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, RONDALE BRISHABER, ANDREW DAVISSON, KEELEY STINGEL, ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN WISCHMEIER AND AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON WERE ABSENT.

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

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 7TH AND 14TH, 2024 MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

PARK BOARD APPOINTMENT

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT RICK ROBERTS TO THE PARK BOARD EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENTS

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENTS. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL SUGGESTED HAVING CONVERSATIONS WITH THE POTENTIAL APPOINTEES. ATTORNEY COCHRAN WILL REVIEW THE INDIANA CODE CONCERNING HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENTS AND REPORT THE FINDINGS TO THE COUNCIL. THE ITEM WILL BE PLACED ON THE DECEMBER COUNCIL AGENDA.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

SUPERINTENDENT RICK VOYLES GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TRUCKS. THE TRUCKS WILL BE DELIVERED IN DECEMBER AND VOYLES WILL BE ASKING FOR AN ADDITIONAL IN LOCAL ROAD & STREET.

BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS

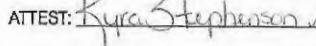
COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL URGED EVERYONE TO VOTE. STINGEL APPRECIATES ALL THE HARD WORK THE POLL WORKS AND ELECTION EMPLOYEES PUT INTO THE ELECTION.

COUNCILMEMBER BRISHABER STATED IT HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE TO WORK AS A MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT AND COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING STATED IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR TO WORK WITH COUNCILMEMBERS STINGEL AND BRISHABER. THE COUNCIL WISHED THE TWO THE BEST IN THEIR FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

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 MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON

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

DECEMBER 2, 2024

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON DECEMBER 2, 2024 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 MARK ABBOTT, GERALD FLEMING, PRESTON SHELL, RONDALE BRISHABER, ANDREW DAVISSON, KEELEY STINGEL, KAREN WISCHMEIER, ATTORNEY ALYSSA COCHRAN, AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON AND DEPUTY AUDITOR MICHELE FLEENOR. COUNCILMEMBER RONDALE BRISHABER WAS ABSENT.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVISSON. THE MOTION PASSED.

HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENT

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL NOMINATED KEELEY STINGEL TO SERVE ON THE HEALTH BOARD. THE NOMINATION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE NOMINATION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER ABSTAINING.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

EMA DIRECTOR DENI STEPPOWSKI APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL TO REQUEST THE POSITION TO BE MOVED TO FULL TIME. THE EMPG GRANT WILL ONLY REIMBURSE FOR THE EMA PORTION OF HER SALARY WHICH MEANS THE COUNTY WILL ONLY RECEIVE \$12,000 INSTEAD OF THE \$20,000 IN PREVIOUS YEARS. COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL FELT THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO GATHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE REQUEST. THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL IS TO TABLE UNTIL JANUARY.

EMA DIRECTOR STEPPOWSKI ALSO ASKED FOR THE APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE CODE-RED NOTIFICATION SYSTEM. THE COUNCIL WOULD NEED TO FUND APPROXIMATELY \$14,000-\$15,000. COUNCILMEMBER WISCHMEIER MADE A MOTION TO PROCEED WITH THE SYSTEM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVISSON. THE MOTION PASSED.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SENIOR CENTER

JUDY CHASTAIN AND NAOMI RAY APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL REQUESTING A DONATION OF \$10,000. COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABBOTT EXPLAINED THAT THE 2025 BUDGET HAS ALREADY BEEN SET BY THE COUNCIL AND THE ISSUE COULD BE REVISITED AT THE BUDGET HEARINGS FOR THE 2026 BUDGET.

2025 SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING MADE A MOTION TO RE-TITLE A HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE TO BRIDGE FOREMAN. THIS INCREASES THE HOURLY RATE FROM \$20.60/HOUR TO \$22.82/HOUR. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT STATED THE CHANGE IS NOT ADDITIONAL MONIES.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE LOCAL ROAD & STREET FUND (1169) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$255,000 TO PAY FOR THE NEW HIGHWAY TRUCKS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

2025 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

COUNCILMEMBER DAVISSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2025 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SHELL. THE MOTION PASSED.

END OF THE YEAR

COUNCILMEMBER SHELL MADE A MOTION TO ALLOW THE AUDITORS OFFICE TO MAKE ALL TRANSFERS NECESSARY TO BALANCE THE LINE ITEMS/BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FLEMING. THE MOTION PASSED.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION PROCEDURE

THE PROCEDURE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS WILL CHANGE FOR 2025. ADDITIONALS WILL REQUIRE TWO READINGS.

BOARD COMMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL EXPRESSED CONDOLENCES TO THE JIMMY TYLER FAMILY AND STATED THERE WOULD BE A BENEFIT ON DECEMBER 8, 2024 TO HELP THE FAMILY.

COUNCILMEMBER STINGEL WAS PRESENTED WITH A PLAQUE FOR HER SERVICE ON THE COUNTY COUNCIL. STINGEL SAID SHE HAS REALLY ENJOYED SERVING ON THE COUNCIL.

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


COUNCILMEMBER MARK ABBOTT, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 

AUDITOR KYRA STEPHENSON