

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
Minutes
Monday, July 2, 2018 at 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

Pledge of Allegiance

President Aaron Loudermilk called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Calling of the roll

Present: James R. Mann II, Mike Morris, Bill Thomas, Vicki Weger, Aaron Loudermilk

Absent: Tim Curley, Brendan Kearns

Presentation from RJL Solutions LLC- Explanation of the process and information used in getting the authorizing statue for the Vigo County Food and Beverage Tax through the Indiana General Assembly.

Rachel Leslie who is a partner with RJL Solutions presented the steps taken at state level to authorize the food and beverage tax. House Bill 1242 allows The Vigo County to vote on food and beverage tax to help build and maintain a downtown Terre Haute convention center. She presented some facts such as the goal of food and beverage tax is to increase the number of visitors, encourage new business, sales tax revenue, Innkeeper's Tax Revenue, and encourage current business expansion. The food and beverage tax fee consists of 1% spent on dine-in restaurants, fast food restaurants, prepared meals, hot bar items, buffets, prepared deli items, and catered food. It does not apply to groceries, unprepared food and catering service.

David Patterson, executive director of Terre Haute Convention and Visitors Bureau commented on the increase and the financial gain that Vigo County has seen.

Public Comment

David Haynes, president of Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce, the chamber is made up of 650 members and a board made up of 35 and an executive committee of 9. They have followed food and beverage from the beginning and he has expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. They believe this is good for the County.

Mayor Duke Bennett commented that bringing in the convention center will increase tourism and bring more money to Vigo County with attractions, restaurants and hotels.

Clark Cowden commented that he sees the food and beverage tax as a way for our community to raise additional dollars from people who come here for the

convention center. They will be staying in our hotels, shopping, and eating at our restaurants and each year more people will want to come to Terre Haute and this will bring more money to our community.

Pastor Dwayne Malone commented that his concern is the tax dollars coming in and going out and how the money is spent. He suggested that maybe the arts are receiving money from this and County Commissioner Judith Anderson has assured him otherwise.

Jack Meany commented that he is for the food and beverage tax. He also suggested that maybe exempt the first \$5.00 spent at the restaurant.

Council Comment

Councilman Jim Mann questioned the operation of the Convention Center and how it will be paid for when this food and beverage tax is voted upon.

County Auditor James Bramble commented that \$500,000.00 was budgeted for the Hulman Center project and that money is no longer available. There is presently no money for CIB to budget. CIB is set up to manage and operate future projects and will need the council to hear and approve before a funding takes place.

Councilman Jim Mann questioned if CIB will own the grounds of the Convention Center.

Councilman Mike Morris questioned the money available for the Convention Center and the tax increase for catering food.

Council woman Vicki Weger commented that this is a big opportunity for us and we need to invest in our community sooner rather than later.

President Aaron Loudermilk stated this is a great opportunity for our community and we should take advantage of this opportunity being presented to us. On Thursday July 5, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. there will be a first reading of Ordinance 2018-01 Establishing Vigo County Food and Beverage Tax. There will be more public comment on this Ordinance but no voting.

Adjournment

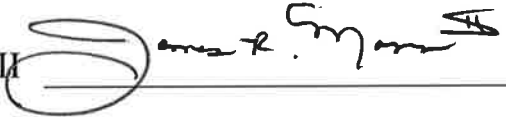

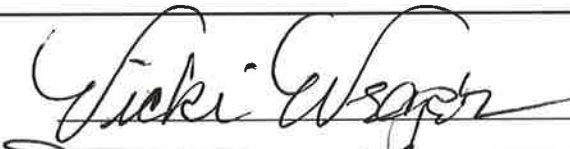
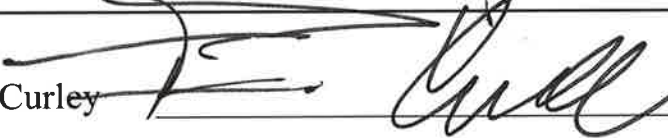

Motion: to adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by:** Vicki Weger, **Seconded by:** Bill Thomas.

Motion passed unanimously.

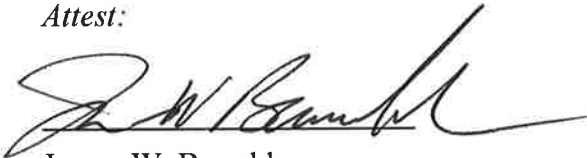
MINUTES OF THE VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

July 2, 2018

Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as written this 9th day of October, 2018.

Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	James R. Mann II	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Morris	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Bill Thomas	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Weger	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Tim P. Curley	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Brendan Kearns	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		
Aye <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron Loudermilk, President	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>		

Attest:



James W. Bramble
Vigo Auditor