



*Meeting
of the
Vigo County Council
November 9, 2021*

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

November 9, 2021

5:00 P.M.

Table of Contents

Agenda.....	2
Notice to Taxpayers.....	3
Final Resolution 2021-20; ROC 2021-052: Declaratory Resolution for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area on Application of Great Dane, LLC	4
Additional Appropriation 2021-26; ROC 2021-47: Non Reverting Juvenile Justice Care of Prisoners Fund	11
Additional Appropriation 2021-27; ROC 2021-48: Highway	12
Additional Appropriation 2021-28; ROC 2021-49: Cumulative Bridge	13
Additional Appropriation 2021-29; ROC 2021-50: LIT/Special Purpose.....	14
Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-19; ROC 2021-51: Vigo County Council.....	15

Minutes:

October 8, 2021 Sunshine Meeting	16
October 12, 2021 Meeting	20
October 18, 2021 Continuation Meeting of October 12, 2021	27

The following items will be prepared for signature at the meeting:

2022 Salary Ordinances

- a. General Employees
- b. Merit Officers
- c. Elected Officials

2021 Salary Ordinance Amendments

- a. General Employees
- b. Merit Officers

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

Agenda

Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.

Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Calling of the roll
3. Corrections to the journal of the preceding meetings, if needed
 - a. *October 5, 2021 Sunshine Meeting*
 - b. *October 12, 2021 Meeting*
 - c. *October 18, 2021 Continuation Meeting of October 12, 2021*
4. Public comment.
5. Communications from elected officials, other officials, or agencies of the County
6. Reports from committee(s)
7. Ordinances relating to appropriations
 - i. Final Resolution 2021-20; ROC 2021-052: Declaratory Resolution for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area on Application of Great Dane, LLC
 - ii. Additional Appropriation 2021-26; ROC 2021-47: Non Reverting Juvenile Justice Care of Prisoners Fund
 - iii. Additional Appropriation 2021-27; ROC 2021-48: Highway
 - iv. Additional Appropriation 2021-28; ROC 2021-49: Cumulative Bridge
 - v. Additional Appropriation 2021-29; ROC 2021-50: LIT/Special Purpose
 - vi. Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-19; ROC 2021-51: Vigo County Council
 - vii. 2022 Salary Ordinances
 - a. General Employees
 - b. Merit Officers
 - c. Elected Officials
 - viii. 2021 Salary Ordinance Amendments
 - a. General Employees
 - b. Merit Officers
8. Honorary resolutions
9. Resolutions relating to fiscal policies of the Council
10. Appointments
11. Adjournment

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given the Taxpayers of Vigo County, Indiana, that the Vigo County Council will meet at the Vigo County Government Center, 127 Oak Street, Terre Haute, Indiana at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 to consider the following appropriations in excess of the budget of the current year. The Vigo County Council will also meet on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at the same location for a Sunshine Meeting.

	<u>REQUESTED</u>
<u>NON-REVERTING JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER</u>	
<u>CARE OF PRISONERS FUND/4959</u>	
4959.35450.000.0000 Building & Repair	\$ 21,000
4959.21600.000.0000 Institutional Supplies	<u>10,000</u>
Total Non-Reverting Juvenile Justice Center Care of Prisoners Fund	\$ 31,000
<u>HIGHWAY/1176</u>	
1176.44510.000.0532 New Equipment	\$ 45,800
1176.37650.000.0530 Ed, Counseling & Training	<u>4,549</u>
Total Highway Fund	\$ 50,349
<u>CUM BRIDGE/1135</u>	
1135.33500.000.0000 Bridge & Pipe Replacement	<u>\$500,000</u>
Total CUM Bridge Fund	\$500,000
<u>LIT-SPECIAL PURPOSE/1114</u>	
1114.53025.000.0000 Jail Construction Fund	<u>\$5,000,000</u>
Total LIT-Special Purpose Fund	\$5,000,000

Pursuant to State of Indiana Executive Order 20-09 (the "Order"), the meeting will be made available by electronic means. Any votes conducted will be by roll call vote. In accordance with the Indiana Open Door Law and the Order, media and members of the public are encouraged to observe the meeting at <https://www.vigocounty.in.gov/departments/division.php?structureid=71> . Members of the public may submit comments prior to the meeting to county.council@vigocounty.in.gov

JAMES W. BRAMBLE
VIGO COUNTY AUDITOR
TO BE PUBLISHED: Friday, October 22, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-20

COUNTY COUNCIL OF VIGO COUNTY, INDIANA

DECLARATORY RESOLUTION FOR THE DESIGNATION
OF AN ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA ON
APPLICATION OF GREAT DANE, LLC

WHEREAS, Great Dane LLC (“Applicant”) has requested the County Council of Vigo County, Indiana (“Council”) to find, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2 and I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5, that an area of unincorporated land in Vigo County, Indiana (“County”), more particularly described and illustrated on Exhibit A attached hereto (“Area”), is an Economic Revitalization Area (“ERA”); and

WHEREAS, the Area is located within the jurisdiction of the Council for the purposes of I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2 and I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant is planning to create a consolidated fabrication facility where coupler and frame welding will occur on site (“Project”) in the Area, which will include real property redevelopment or rehabilitation (the “Redevelopment”) and the installation of new manufacturing equipment, new research and development equipment, new logistical distribution equipment, or new information technology equipment (“Equipment”), as further described in Applicant’s Petition for Real and Personal Property Tax Abatement Consideration (“Petition”) previously submitted to the Council and included as part of this Resolution on Exhibit B attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Council has considered the following factors under IC 6-1.1-12.1-17 in connection with the Project: (i) the total amount of the Applicant’s investment in real, state assessed distributable and locally assessed personal property; (ii) the number of new full-time equivalent jobs to be created as a result of the Project; (iii) the average wage of the new employees resulting from the Project compared to the state minimum wage; and (iv) the infrastructure requirements for the Applicant’s investment under the Project (collectively, the “Deduction Schedule Factors”); and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., the Council reviewed the Statements of Benefits and accepted testimony from the application regarding the Project; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2021 at 5:00 pm, Council further reviewed the Statements of Benefits the Council hereby finds that the Project as described in the Statements of Benefits will be of public utility, will be to the benefit and welfare of all citizens and taxpayers of the County, and qualifies as investments for which deductions are permitted under I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-3 and I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-4.5.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Council as follows:

Section 1. The Council hereby finds that (i) the Area is within the County, (ii) the Area is subject to the jurisdiction of the Council, and (iii) the Area has become undesirable for, or impossible of, normal development because of a lack of development, cessation of growth, deterioration of improvements or character of occupancy, age, obsolescence, substandard buildings or equipment, or other factors which have impaired values and prevented a normal development of property and use of property.

Section 2. The Area is hereby declared to be an “economic revitalization area” pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1, et seq.

Section 3. Based upon the information in the Statements of Benefits describing the Project, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-3 the Council makes the following findings:

- (a) The estimate of the value and cost of the Redevelopment is reasonable for projects of that nature.
- (b) The estimate of the number of individuals who will be employed can be reasonably expected to result from the Redevelopment.
- (c) The estimate of the annual salaries of those individuals who will be employed can be reasonably expected to result from the Redevelopment.
- (d) The other benefits about which information was requested are benefits that can be reasonably expected to result from the Redevelopment.
- (e) The totality of benefits is sufficient to justify the granting of real property tax deductions to the Applicant pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-3, subject to the limitations set forth in this Resolution.

Section 4. Based upon the information in the Statements of Benefits and the foregoing findings, the Council, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-3, hereby approves and allows the Applicant real property deductions for the Redevelopment located in the Area. Based upon the Statement of Benefits, the Deduction Schedule Factors, and the foregoing findings, the Council hereby establishes, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-17, that such real property deductions shall be provided in accordance with the following schedule:

YEAR OF DEDUCTION	AMOUNT OF DEDUCTION
1 st	100%
2 nd	90%
3 rd	80%
4 th	70%
5 th	60%
6 th	50%
7 th	40%
8 th	30%

9 th	20%
10 th	10%

Section 5. Based upon the information in the Statements of Benefits describing the Project, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-4.5 the Council makes the following findings:

- (a) The estimate of the cost of the new Equipment is reasonable.
- (b) The estimate of the number of individuals who will be employed or whose employment will be retained can be reasonably expected to result from the installation of the Equipment.
- (c) The estimate of the annual salaries of those individuals who will be employed or whose employment will be retained can be reasonably expected to result from the proposed installation of new Equipment.
- (d) The other benefits about which information was requested are benefits that can be reasonably expected to result from the Project.
- (e) The totality of benefits is sufficient to justify the deduction of locally assessed personal property tax deductions to the Applicant pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-4.5, subject to the limitations set forth in this Resolution.

Section 6. Based upon the information in the Statements of Benefits and the foregoing findings, the Council, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-4.5, hereby approves and allows the Applicant personal property deductions for the Equipment located in the Area. Based upon the Statements of Benefits, the Deduction Schedule Factors, and the foregoing findings, the Council hereby establishes, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-12.1-17, that such personal property deductions shall be provided in accordance with the following schedule:

YEAR OF DEDUCTION	AMOUNT OF DEDUCTION
1 st	100%
2 nd	90%
3 rd	80%
4 th	70%
5 th	60%
6 th	50%
7 th	40%
8 th	30%
9 th	20%
10 th	10%

Section 7. Pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-9.5 and I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-11.3, the Council hereby waives any noncompliance related to the failure to designate the Area an economic revitalization area prior to the initiation of the redevelopment or installation of new manufacturing equipment or new logistical distribution equipment. Such waiver will not result in a delay in the issuance of tax bills, require the recalculation of tax rates or tax levies for a particular year, or otherwise cause an undue burden on a taxing unit.

Section 8. The County acknowledges that portions of the investment in the Project may occur, and the resulting assessed value added, in different years, and therefore the full ten-year schedule for the above deductions may start and end in different years for such portions. The intent of this Resolution is to apply a full ten-year property tax abatement to all qualifying real and personal property, regardless of when the property is first assessed.

Section 9. Pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5, there shall be published notice of the adoption and substance of this Resolution in accordance with I.C. 5-3-1 ("Notice"), which Notice shall name a date for the Council's public hearing on this matter ("Hearing"), the opportunity for public remonstrances and/or objections, and state that at the conclusion of the Hearing the Council may take final action on the proposed designation. A copy of this Resolution shall be filed with and shall be available for inspection in the office of the Vigo County Assessor.

Section 10. At least ten (10) days prior to the Hearing, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-12.1-2.5, the County Auditor shall file copies of the Notice and the Statements of Benefits with the officers of each taxing unit who have the authority to fix budgets, tax rates, and tax levies under I.C. 6-1.1-17-5.

Signatures on following page

Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as written this 9th day of November, 2021.

Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	R. Todd Thacker
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Travis Norris
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Marie Theisz
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Weger
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Wilson
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	David Thompson
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron Loudermilk,
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	President

Attest:

James W. Bramble
Vigo Auditor

EXHIBIT A

PROPOSED PROJECT PROPERTY MAP

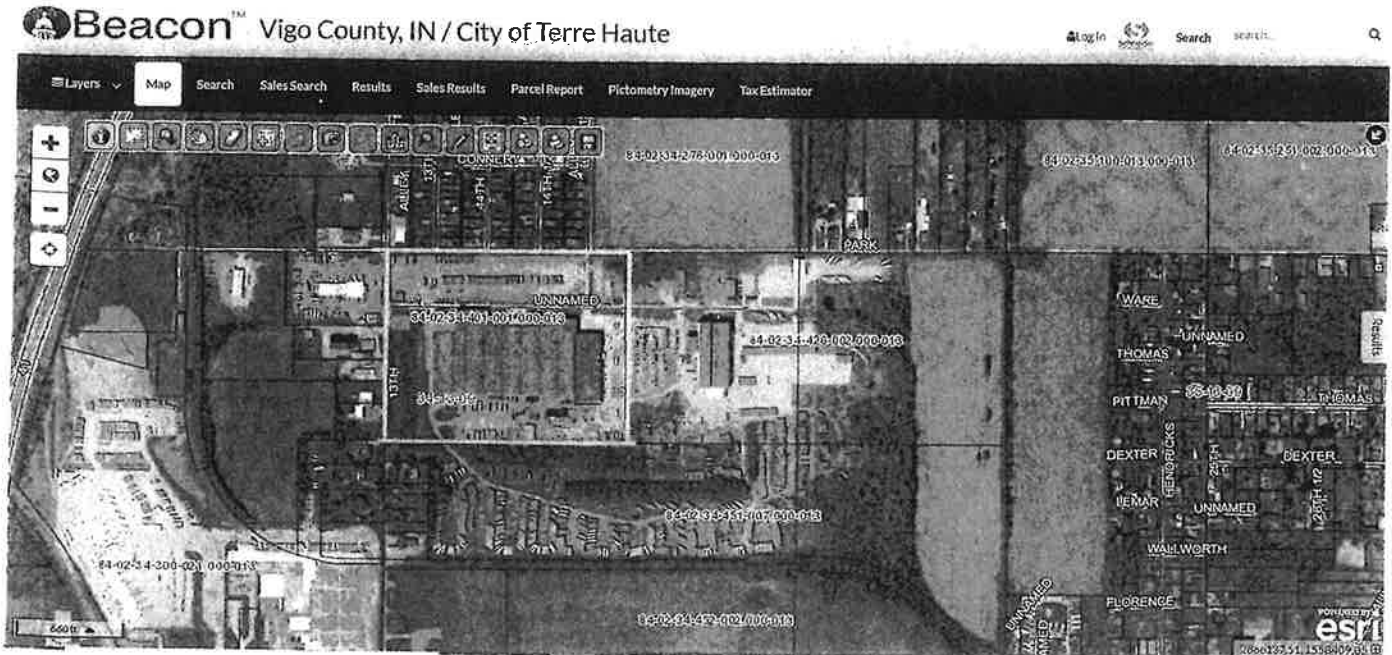


EXHIBIT B

PETITION AND EXHIBITS

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2021-26

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget. Now, therefore:

SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the County Council of Vigo County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the Non Reverting Juvenile Justice Center Care of Prisoners Fund, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same.

	<u>ADVERTISED</u>	<u>APPROPRIATED</u>
<u>NR JUVENILE JUSTICE CARE OF PRISONERS FUND/4959</u>		
4959.35450.000.0000 Building Repair		\$21,000
4959.21600.000.0000 Institutional Supplies		<u>\$10,000</u>
Total Non Reverting Juvenile Justice Care of Prisoners Fund		\$31,000

Approved on this 9th day of November, 2021.

Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Travis Norris _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Todd Thacker _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Marie Theisz _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Weger _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Wilson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	David Thompson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron Loudermilk, President _____

Attest:

James W. Bramble
Vigo County Auditor

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2021-27

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget. Now, therefore:

SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the County Council of Vigo County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the Highway Department, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same.

	<u>ADVERTISED</u>	<u>APPROPRIATED</u>
<u>HIGHWAY/1176</u>		
1176.44510.000.0532 New Equipment	\$45,800	
1176.37650.000.0530 Ed, Counseling & Training	<u>\$4,549</u>	
Total Highway Fund	\$50,349	

Approved on this 9th day of November, 2021.

Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	R. Todd Thacker _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Travis Norris _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Marie Theisz _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Weger _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Wilson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	David Thompson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron Loudermilk,
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	President _____

Attest:

James W. Bramble
Vigo County Auditor

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2021-28

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget. Now, therefore:

SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the County Council of Vigo County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the Cumulative Bridge Fund, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same.

	<u>ADVERTISED</u>	<u>APPROPRIATED</u>
<u>CUM BRIDGE/1135</u>		
1135.33500.000.0000 Bridge & Pipe Replacement/Rehab	\$500,000	
Total CUM Bridge Fund	\$500,000	

Approved on this 9th day of November, 2021.

Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	R. Todd Thacker _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Travis Norris _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Marie Theisz _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Weger _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Wilson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	David Thompson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron Loudermilk,
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	President _____

Attest:

James W. Bramble
Vigo County Auditor

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2021-29

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget. Now, therefore:

SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the County Council of Vigo County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the LIT/Special Purpose Fund, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same.

	<u>ADVERTISED</u>	<u>APPROPRIATED</u>
<u>LIT/SPECIAL PURPOSE FUND/1114</u>		
1114.53025.000.0000 Jail Construction Fund	\$5,000,000	
Total LIT/Special Purpose Fund	\$5,000,000	

Approved on this 9th day of November, 2021.

Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	R. Todd Thacker _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Travis Norris _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Marie Theisz _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Weger _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Wilson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	David Thompson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron Loudermilk,
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	President _____

Attest:

James W. Bramble
Vigo County Auditor

RESOLUTION OF RE-ALLOCATION OF EXISTING APPROPRIATION 2021-19

It has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have unobligated balances which will not be needed for the purposes which appropriated are hereby re-allocated in the following amounts:

	<u>REQUESTED</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND/1000</u>		
<u>Coronavirus Relief/9800</u>		
From: 1000.39990.000.9800/Coronavirus Relief	\$1,005,365	
To: 1000.10010.000.9800 Payroll	\$825,000	
1000.15210.000.9800 FICA	\$63,215	
1000.15220.000.9800 PERF	<u>\$117,150</u>	
TOTAL	\$1,005,365	

Approved on this 9th day of November, 2021.

Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	R. Todd Thacker _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Travis Norris _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Marie Theisz _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Vicki Weger _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Wilson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	David Thompson _____
Aye <input type="checkbox"/>	Absent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Nay <input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron Loudermilk, President _____

Attest:

James W. Bramble
Vigo County Auditor

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
Sunshine Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

Pledge of Allegiance

President Aaron Loudermilk called the meeting to order at 5:00.

Calling of the roll

R. Todd Thacker –arrived at approximately 5:10, Travis Norris - present, Marie Theisz - present, Vicki Weger - present, Brenda Wilson – present, David Thompson - present, and Aaron Loudermilk - present.

First reading by summary reference of proposed ordinances and resolutions

- i. ROC 2021-043, Additional Appropriation 2021-25, Vigo County Prosecutor
- ii. ROC 2021-044, Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-16, Out-of-Series Transfer: Vigo County Auditor – reallocation of appropriation from COVID 19 Expenses/Coronavirus Relief to Coronavirus Relief/Payroll, SS.FICA, and PERF
- iii. ROC 2021-045, Salary Ordinance 2021-15, Vigo County Sheriff
- iv. ROC 2021-046, Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-17, Out-of-Series Transfer: Vigo County Council– reallocation of appropriation from Payroll Adjustments to Professional Services

Public Comments

There were none.

Communications from elected officials, other officials or agencies of the County

Aaron Loudermilk advised that there was a meeting last Friday morning with elected officials and department heads to discuss the employee classification system. There was discussion about shortfalls of the current system we have in place and what the department heads and elected officials would like to see and a system they could feel confident in. There were approximately 30 individuals made up of department heads, elected officials and three Council members. He felt it was a fairly productive meeting. After the meeting, Mr. Loudermilk, Kara Wright, and Mike Morris met. Kara Wright had previously emailed elected officials and department heads to gauge interest in being on a to-be-formed committee to discuss what they would like to see out of a program for employee classification and develop a list of the things they viewed as shortfalls from the current system and what they would like to see moving forward. Kara has a list of names and feedback and Mr. Loudermilk thinks that a committee will be formed in the near future to discuss the items and move forward with the ultimate goal being to determine what the best product would be for the employees moving forward. He noted only three Council members were present because that is what is allowed under the Open

Door Law but he is willing to discuss any concerns or thoughts that anyone might have. He also invited anyone in attendance at tonight's meeting that had attended the Friday meeting to speak as well. Marie Theisz asked who the members of the Council were that attended the meeting. Mr. Loudermilk advised that it was he, Councilman Thompson and Councilwoman Wilson.

Reports from committees

Vicki Weger, Chairwoman of the Annual Budget Committee, advised that they had come up with a proposed budget for 2022 that will be presented for a vote at next Tuesday's meeting. Copies had been distributed to all members. It includes a 5% increase across the board for all employees. Elected officials have been placed on a sliding scale. This is done in the majority of Indiana counties. The scale was devised by comparing us with other counties our size and smaller according to the 2021 Association of Indiana Counties Fact Book. Those counties were also used by Waggoner Irwin & Scheele during the compensation study. 4 positions were added to the General Fund...one Building Security in the Sheriff's budget; one assistant chief deputy/financial supervisor in the Auditor's budget; one deputy prosecutor and one legal secretary in the Prosecutor's budget. The Sheriff's budget includes an increase in clothing allowance for 41 merit deputies from \$1,650 to \$2,150 for an increased total cost of \$20,500. It also includes an increase in clothing allowance for 30 reserve deputies and 9 Court House security individuals and an Ordinance Control Officer from \$1,250 to \$1,500 for a total increase of \$10,000. The Jail budget includes an increase for 68 correctional officers from \$1,250 to \$1,500 for a total increase of \$17,000. There is also a \$1,500 incentive stipend for each correctional officer at a cost of \$102,000. This stipend was an effort to attract and retain jailers. The Jail budget also includes the purchase of a 15-passenger vehicle and a 12-passenger mini-van at \$55,682 to transport prisoners to and from court. Emergency Management budget includes purchase of a vehicle at \$44,638. Juvenile Court budget includes \$23,000 in salaries for Juvenile Drug Court. \$400,000 was moved from EDIT to reimburse County General for Area Plan. The LIT/PSAP fund includes a stipend in the amount of \$1,500 for each dispatcher (26 dispatchers) at a cost of \$39,000. The Health budget includes one truck and one SUV at \$75,000. The Park budget includes increasing the Maintenance Specialist's number of hours from 1820 to 1950. Highway budget includes four seasonal part-time positions. \$200,000 for demolition of houses was moved from EDIT to General Fund. LIT/Public Safety includes \$552,449 for body cams. Vicki Weger then asked if they wanted her to continue to read through the numbers. It was decided not to. A very lengthy discussion then ensued. Mr. Loudermilk asked if there were computations what salary increases looked like at 3%, 4% and 5%. The answer was yes but all the paperwork had not been brought to tonight's meeting. Travis Norris asked what the total difference was compared to last year's budget. Chief Deputy Cheryl Loudermilk advised that the total difference of all funds with everything added in, showed an increase of \$485,086. Marie Theisz commented that it had been quite a process, as a new Council member along with Councilman Thacker. A lot of time had been put into this and she had learned a lot along the way. She asked the Council to please ask if there was something specific that needed to be addressed and they would be happy to take a look at it. This has been a learning process and she wants everyone to work together and learn and do what needs to be done within the Council and as a

County. Discussion continued. The history and use of the Payroll Adjustments line item in the Council Budget was discussed along with the proposal to move it back into the General Fund so it would be available to be used for other purposes. Todd Thacker commented that as a new Council member this year, he was also proud of the fact that the total budget increase over last year's budget was only \$480-some thousand dollars and, noted that with the body cams being included in that budget total and the fact that there was a good chance that a grant would be received to pay for those body cams. If that happened, that amount would then be removed from the budget and the total budget after that removal would be almost identical to the 2021 budget. Discussion continued. Mr. Loudermilk raised a question about the levy funds and the fact that expenses exceed the total revenue. The Auditor explained that generally, everything appropriated is not spent. That is evidenced by the increase in the cash balance every year. There was a cash balance at the end of last year of \$23 or \$24 million dollars and was projected in the budget forms that it would be in the range of \$15 or \$16 million. It has been increasing each year. Discussion continued. Marie Theisz raised the question of whether or not the money from the CARES Act could be used to fill some of the voids in the budget. Mr. Bramble noted that there were specific items it could be spent on and there was a fairly complex way of figuring what your revenue loss is due to Covid. When the funds become available to be used, the first step is to put together a plan as to how they will be used and then the Council would appropriate it for specific purposes in that plan. If there are expenses in the budget that gets adopted that can be covered by the ARP Act, it could be moved out of the County budget to the ARP Fund. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the CARES Act and the ARP Fund. Discussion then turned to the sliding scale for elected officials and specifically how the Coroner's salary was arrived at. Todd Thacker noted that the sliding scale amounts were arrived at by comparing Vigo County to other comparable counties. Those same counties had been used by Waggoner Irwin & Scheele during their prior compensation study. Brenda Wilson asked if the salary for the chief deputies for the elected officials was set by statute or how it was set. It was determined it was a local county ordinance. Council Administrator Kylissa Miller further explained that it is in our Salary Ordinances and had been adopted by the County Council about six years ago. Vicki Weger noted that one of the reasons for the sliding scale and raises for the elected officials was that it would hopefully attract some new and younger candidates to run for elected office. The current salary is detrimental in causing this to happen. In discussing the 5% increase for employees, it was noted that the part-time positions were also included in the 5% increase. Stipends for all employees were discussed at great length along with lesser percentage pay increases. Use of the CARES Act money as a stipend was also discussed.

Ordinances relating to appropriations.

i. Additional Appropriation 2021-25; ROC 2021-43: Vigo County Prosecutor

Rob Roberts, Chief Deputy Prosecutor, explained that this request was necessary in order to meet their monetary needs for Trials and Investigations for the balance of this year. They anticipate having a couple more major trials before the end of the year. They will

include having a forensic pathologist that is going to need to be paid, deposition fees, court reporter fees, and transportation of witnesses. These funds will be used to cover those expenses. As always, if the appropriation is granted, he will not use the funds for any other expenses and, if the funds do not get used, then the appropriation will die at the end of the year.

**ii. Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-16;
ROC 2021-044: Vigo County Auditor**

Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk explained that the Coronavirus funds initially received had been placed in the COVID 19 Expenses line item because we did not know how much overtime would have to be used by the Health Department. Overtime continued this year and we were instructed to pay it out of this line item. This reallocation is just to clear that up. Hopefully this will take care of the rest of the year but that cannot be guaranteed. She did note that there was \$2,108,599.08 left in the COVID 19 Fund.

iii. Salary Ordinance 2021-15; ROC 2021-045: Vigo County Sheriff

Derek Fell, Chief of Operations with the Sheriff's Department, explained that this is to restructure their current supervisor rank structure. Basically, they are doing away with the First Sergeant position. If this is granted, there will still be two First Sergeant positions but those will eventually come off through attrition. There is no way to estimate how long attrition will take. The number of Lieutenants will decrease by one and the number of sergeants will increase by five. However, in so doing, the total stipend amount will decrease by \$1,000. No additional funding will be needed, just approval of the restructuring which will require a change to the salary ordinance. There was a brief discussion.

**iv. Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-17;
ROC 2021-46: Vigo County Council**

Aaron Loudermilk explained that this was a request to transfer funds from the Payroll Adjustments to Professional Services to cover the cost of whatever firm is chosen to perform the employee compensation plan/re-evaluation. Marie Theisz asked if the full Council would be voting on which organization is chosen. Mr. Loudermilk replied in the affirmative and stated that this transfer was just so the funds would be there no matter who was chosen. Todd Thacker asked why the amount was larger than the amount quoted by either organization. Mr. Loudermilk said that they wanted to be sure there was enough money available in the event someone different is chosen.

Brenda Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously approved.

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

Pledge of Allegiance

President Aaron Loudermilk called the meeting to order at 5:00.

Calling of the roll

Present: R. Todd Thacker, Travis Norris, Marie Theisz, Vicki Weger, Brenda Wilson, David Thompson, Aaron Loudermilk.

Correcting of the journal of the preceding meeting if needed

August 26, 2021 Special Call Meeting

September 2, 2021 Special Call Meeting

September 7, 2021 Sunshine Meeting

September 14, 2021 Regular Meeting

There were no corrections to the minutes of the August 26, 2021 Special Call meeting. Travis Norris made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2021 Special Call meeting as presented. Marie Theisz seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, the voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – abstain; Aaron Loudermilk - aye. The motion passed with 6 ayes and one abstention.

There were no corrections to the minutes of the September 2, 2021 Special Call meeting. David Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2021 Special Call meeting as presented. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, the voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – abstain; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk - aye. The motion passed with 6 ayes and one abstention.

There were no corrections to the minutes of the September 7, 2021 Sunshine Meeting. David Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Sunshine Meeting as presented. Travis Norris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, the voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – abstain; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk - aye. The motion passed with 6 ayes and one abstention.

There were no corrections to the minutes of the September 14, 2021 regular meeting. David Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, the motion passed with a vote of 7-0.

Public Comments

There were none.

Communications from elected officials, other officials or agencies of the County

Sheriff John Plasse shared a copy of a letter he had received authored by Ken Falk, the attorney in the lawsuit against the Vigo County Jail. Among the things stated in the letter, he said that the County has the ability to increase wages and needs to do so if that is what it takes to attract employees. At the end, he said the County has to commit now to hiring sufficient staff and if the staffing problem is not being properly addressed, he will ask the Court to set this matter for a hearing to explore this issue further. Sheriff Plasse advised that the current wage is \$17.00 an hour for jail staff and the Department of Corrections makes \$20.00 an hour. This shows the disparity in wages and is one reason why they lose people to the DOC. Sheriff Plasse asked that the Council consider making \$22.00 the starting hourly rate for jail staff in order to try and get some jail staff hired. They currently have 43 jailers, which is slightly up. Some they lose quickly, some even after one day, due to the stress and better pay elsewhere. Discussion continued about different incentives and solutions. The question of a rotating schedule came up and Sheriff Plasse noted that with the current number of staff, it was just not possible to do that. Their numbers would have to be at least in the mid-50's in order to be able to implement a rotating schedule. It was noted that in the budget proposed for adoption tonight, they have increased the clothing allowance, added a stipend and a 5% wage increase. The possibility of using other funds to assist in a wage increase was also mentioned.

County Assessor Kevin Gardner had some comments regarding the budget totals that had been discussed at the Sunshine Meeting. He is also putting together some reports to see what property tax revenue was lost because of Covid. He believes it will be somewhere between \$1 million and \$1.2 million and will submit to the Auditor's Office to see if the amount can be replaced/refunded with Covid funds and maybe that will help out. Mr. Bramble stated that revenue lost during that period of Covid includes all county revenue streams, not just property tax.

Reports from standing committee(s)

There were none.

Ordinances relating to appropriations.

i. Final Reading of the 2022 Annual Budgets of the Binding Units

1. Solid Waste Management District
2. Terre Haute International Airport
3. Honey Creek Fire Protection District
4. Lost Creek Fire Protection District
5. New Goshen Fire Protection District
6. Prairieton Fire Protection District
7. Riley Fire Protection District
8. Sugar Creek Fire Protection District

Auditor James Bramble read the 2022 annual budgets of the binding units. Todd Thacker questioned the methodology used by Lost Creek Fire Protection District and felt that he could not act on approving their budget since they used a different methodology. This was discussed in detail. Council Administrator Kylissa Miller noted that she had spoken with DLGF after the meeting with the binding units. There are two different, accepted ways for them to establish a cumulative fire fund and one of them is to go through the Commissioners, which they did. So there is really no problem with the form as it was reported and DLGF said it was fine. Ms. Miller did also note that Terre Haute International Airport had submitted revised numbers since the meeting. Those revised numbers showed that the levy for Rainy Day was to go to zero, which is what has been reported on the Form 4, but the levy in the Special Airport General was supposed to be amended to \$1.8 million and that is not reflected on the budget form submitted tonight. This was discussed at length.

Todd Thacker made a motion to approve the annual budget of Solid Waste Management District as submitted. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Todd Thacker made a motion to amend Fund 8101 Special Airport General from \$2,559,178 to \$1.8 million in the adopted tax levy of Terre Haute International Airport budget. Vicki Weger seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed. Vicki Weger made a motion to approve the annual budget of Terre Haute International Airport as amended. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Todd Thacker made a motion to approve the annual budget of Honey Creek Fire Protection District as submitted. Vicki Weger seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Brenda Wilson made a motion to approve the annual budget of New Goshen Fire Protection District as submitted. Marie Theisz seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Travis Norris made a motion to approve the annual budget of Sugar Creek Fire Protection District as submitted. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Brenda Wilson made a motion to approve the annual budget of Prairieton Fire Protection District as submitted. Marie Theisz seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Vicki Weger made a motion to approve the annual budget of Lost Creek Fire Protection District as submitted. Marie Theisz seconded the motion. Before the vote was taken, Commissioner Brendan Kearns advised that he served on the Board of the Lost Creek FPD and he had a copy of a letter from the attorney for the Fire Protection District he

submitted to the DLGF wherein he sets forth the process of how the cumulative fire fund was established, all as set forth under Indiana Code 36-8-14-2(d). Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

Vicki Weger made a motion to approve the annual budget of Riley Fire Protection District as submitted. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

ii. Final Reading of the 2022 Annual Budget of the Capital Improvement Board

This budget had been previously presented by Chris Switzer for approval. Todd Thacker made a motion to approve the annual budget of the Capital Improvement Board as submitted. Vicki Weger seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously passed.

iii. Final Reading of the 2022 Annual Budget of Vigo County

Auditor James Bramble read the 2022 annual budget for Vigo County. Todd Thacker made a motion to approve the 2022 annual budget for Vigo County as presented. Vicki Weger seconded the motion. Council Attorney Robert Effner stated that Council Administrator Kylissa Miller had just advised him that the original first reading of Form 3 should be read as well. A copy had to be retrieved. Travis Norris asked if the budget that has been proposed covers what Sheriff Plasse had spoken about at the beginning of the meeting. Todd Thacker advised that he doesn't know that it would but when figuring the value of the clothing allowance (which would be about \$.80 per hour) and then adding in another \$1500 (that's another \$.70 per hour) and then the 5% increase (that's only going to be about \$.85 per hour), so those collectively probably gets it to around \$19.40 (and that's just a guesstimate off the top of his head) but at least it's a step in the right direction. He suggested the Council could do an additional appropriation to add on the difference. The Form 3's were then read by the Auditor. Todd Thacker then commented on the process of getting to tonight's proposed budget. Among those comments, he noted he had made the motion to approve because it was his understanding that even adopting this budget tonight, there would still be some latitude to adjust the salary increase before December. He understood that Council could not go over the 5% proposed increase but it could be adjusted down. Vicki Weger also commented on the process of getting this budget together and the challenges they faced this year. Marie Theisz also reflected on her experience of the learning process and the knowledge she has gained serving on this committee and the amount of work that goes into this process. President Loudermilk thanked the committee for their hard work and also expressed his concerns over the budget being offered tonight for adoption. A very lengthy discussion then took place. A roll call vote was requested on the motion previously made to adopt the budget being presented tonight. Voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – nay; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – nay; David Thompson – nay; Aaron Loudermilk – nay. By a 4-3 vote, the motion was defeated. Discussion then started over what to do next. Many comments were made about salaries, bonuses/stipends, a sliding scale for elected officials, and various other concerns. Many questions were asked and comments made. During the discussion, Auditor Bramble

pointed out that what he was hearing was that the major concern appeared to be salaries. He noted that this budget document does not define what people are going to get paid. There is another step in the process and that salaries are defined by salary ordinances. The budget to be adopted tonight sets tax rates and levies and sets money aside to pay particular expenses, including salaries. But the next step in the salary process is to define individual salaries through a salary ordinance. You could pass the budget as calculated with the 5% increase but if you want a lesser amount, that can be taken care of in the salary ordinance. That way, there would be a balance in reserve for, perhaps when the salary study is complete, that could be used if additional monies are then needed. Discussion continued. Commissioner Kearns, who was in attendance at the meeting, noted that if a bonus/stipend is going to be given, that parameters should be set tonight as to who is eligible for that bonus, some of the questions being, (1) if they get hired after this meeting, are they eligible immediately or would they need to work for a certain period of time, (2) is it for full time employees, part time employees or both, (3) is it for seasonal employees, or (4) would newer/part-time/seasonal employees just get a portion of the full amount. These are questions that are going to arise that we need to know how to handle. Kara Wright, Human Resource Director, offered to run reports of how many of each classification of employee we have. Brenda Wilson made a motion to adopt the non-personnel related accounts (2s, 3s and 4s), the funds that are not supported by property tax or local income tax excluding CAGIT at the levels recommended by the Budget Committee. David Thompson seconded the motion. Mr. Effner stated that he would recommend that they amend the budget if that is what they wanted to do but the budget has been submitted as a whole and would need to be adopted as same. There was a short discussion. Marie Theisz raised the question of what the actual date is that a budget has to be adopted. Mr. Bramble stated that they have until the end of the year for salary ordinances. There are 5 business days to submit the actual budget to DLGF but November 1 is the date DLGF says it **has** to be passed by but we advertised the date of October 12, so something has to be done today. The drop dead date for submitting it to DLGF was, he believed, November 3. Brenda Wilson withdrew her motion. Discussion continued. The question was raised whether this portion of the meeting should be recessed so they could finish up the other business and reconvene at a later time to finish the budget. Mr. Effner said he thought the meeting could be recessed and reconvened at a stated time and place which needed to be set out. Discussion continued. Brenda Wilson then made a motion to adopt the base compensation rate for all county employees, not including positions set by state agencies or Indiana statute, at 4% more than the 2021 base rate for all employees and elected officials. After a short discussion, Brenda Wilson withdrew her motion. Brenda Wilson then made a motion to adopt the base compensation rate for all county employees, not including positions set by state agencies or Indiana statute, at 4% more than the 2021 base rate for all employees and elected officials. In addition, the motion includes a bonus of \$1,000 for all full time Vigo County employees with the eligibility for that to be determined later. Mr. Effner said if he understood correctly, the bonus would be an additional appropriation paid in 2021 and not necessarily a part of the budget. He would recommend an amendment to the budget and then pass the budget either now or at some subsequent time. Brenda Wilson withdrew her motion. Brenda Wilson made a motion to adopt the base compensation as stated before at 4% for employees and elected officials and include a bonus of \$1,500 for

all Vigo County employees employed with Vigo County as we determine eligibility requirements, with that bonus coming from CARES money that doesn't make an adjustment to the budget itself. Mr. Bramble explained that CARES money is included in the general fund. It's another line item in the general fund in the budget. She asked if that it meant it could not be used for the budget. Mr. Bramble said that it is a part of the budget, CARES isn't a separate fund. At the end of last year, it was transferred to the general fund and it's part of the general fund's cash balance. There was an appropriation of the money remaining in the CARES money into the general fund so that we can administer the various needs of dealing with Covid. You would just be making an appropriation out of the general fund. Lengthy discussion continued and options on how to get past the impasse were considered. Marie Theisz made a motion to approve the 2022 budget as proposed by the committee for 2s, 3s, and 4s with a salary increase of 4.75%. Vicki Weger seconded the motion. There was discussion. Marie Theisz withdrew her motion. Marie Theisz then made a motion to approve the 2022 budget as proposed by the Budget Committee with looking at salary appropriation for the next year at 4.75%. There was discussion about the wording of the motion and what is intended. Marie Theisz withdrew her motion. Discussion continued. Todd Thacker made a motion to accept the 2022 proposed budget from the Budget Committee with an amendment to the appropriation for payroll to be calculated at 4.75%. Marie Theisz seconded the motion. President Loudermilk clarified that any vote to support this motion means you're in agreement with 2s, 3s and 4s, and any sliding scale, salary, additional employees is something that could be hashed out when it comes time to adopt the salary ordinance. Todd Thacker stated that it is also his understanding that you could also add more funding for the jailers. There was additional discussion. Voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – nay; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. Motion carried by a 6-1 vote.

iv. Additional Appropriation 2021-25; ROC 2021-43: Vigo County Prosecutor

Chief Deputy Prosecutor Rob Roberts talked about this at the Sunshine Meeting and gave a brief status update on the special prosecutor petition. The Council had no further questions. Todd Thacker made a motion to approve Additional Appropriation 2021-25. Vicki Weger seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed.

v. Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-16; ROC 2021-44: Vigo County Auditor

Auditor James Bramble had explained the need for this reallocation at the Sunshine Meeting. The Council had no further questions. Todd Thacker made a motion to approve Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-16. Vicki Weger seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed.

vi. Salary Ordinance 2021-15; ROC 2021-45: Vigo County Sheriff

Derek Fell with the Sheriff's Office gave the details of this request at the Sunshine Meeting. The Council had no further questions. Travis Norris made a motion to approve

Salary Ordinance 2021-15. David Thompson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**vii. Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-17;
ROC 2021—46: Vigo County Council**

Aaron Loudermilk, Council President, had explained this request at the Sunshine Meeting. When asked if approval of this resolution was only for funding for a salary study and not for selection of a specific organization to perform it, Mr. Loudermilk confirmed that was correct. These were funds to be used to pay for any vendor who was selected. David Thompson made a motion to approve Resolution of Reallocation of Existing Appropriation 2021-17. Travis Norris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Honorary Resolutions

Todd Thacker raised the question of whether or not the Council should pass a resolution in support of the application of HR Terre Haute, Inc. to receive the license to operate an Inland Casino in Vigo County to present to the Indiana Gaming Commission. There was a brief discussion. Council Administrator Kylissa Miller produced Resolution 2021-18 in support of HR Terre Haute, Inc. President Loudermilk stated this is a Resolution of the Vigo County Council Conveying to the Indiana Gaming Commission its Support for the Application of HR Terre Haute, LLC to Receive the License to Operate an Inland Casino in Vigo County, Indiana. In order to adopt this resolution, Brenda Wilson made a motion to suspend the rules. Vicki Weger seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed. Brenda Wilson then made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-18 in support of HR Terre Haute, LLC. Travis Norris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously approved. Brenda Wilson then made a motion to reinstate the rules. Marie Theisz seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion was unanimously approved.

Resolutions relating to fiscal policies of the Council

There were none.

Appointments

There were none.

Recess

Aaron Loudermilk stated that this meeting needed to be recessed rather than adjourned in order to continue discussion and decide the additional issues regarding the budget. Travis Norris made a motion to recess the meeting and reconvene it on Monday, October 18, 2021 at 3:00 p.m., E.S.T., in Council Chambers. Marie Theisz seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the meeting was recessed until Monday, October 18, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes of Reconvened
October 12, 2021
Monday, October 18, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

President Aaron Loudermilk reconvened the October 12, 2021 meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:00.

Pledge of Allegiance

Calling of the roll

Present: R. Todd Thacker, Travis Norris, Marie Theisz, Vicki Weger, Brenda Wilson, David Thompson, Aaron Loudermilk.

President Loudermilk stated that this meeting was being reconvened to continue the discussion of the 2022 budget that started on October 12, 2021. Brenda Wilson gave a lengthy speech about the budget process and the issues she had with many of the decisions made with the budget that was presented to the full Council. Among the many comments she made, she noted that she had three pages that, in her opinion, needed to be clarified or amended. Brenda Wilson made a motion to rescind the 2022 budget with the 4.75% employee raise. Council Attorney Robert Effner was asked for guidance on this motion. He stated that the a Motion to Reconsider would be the appropriate motion to be made. He said the Motion to Rescind, although he thought it should be a Motion to Reconsider because you can't rescind it without reconsidering it, needed to be made by a member of the prevailing side. With Councilwoman Wilson voting no to the motion passed on the 12th, she would not be eligible to make the motion. It would be in order for anyone else who voted yes to make the motion. But in either case, her motion would need a second to allow it to be voted on. Ms. Wilson then asked the Council President to either reprimand or evict any person from the room, whether it is another Council member or someone in the audience, who disrespected any Council member. She then said she had researched the matter and was asking for a Motion to Rescind and gave her reasoning. She reiterated that she was making to Motion to Rescind. There was further lengthy discussion regarding clarification. With the lack of a second to the motion, the motion died. Travis Norris made a motion to reconsider the 2022 budget. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – nay; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – nay; Vicki Weger – nay; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. By a 4-3 vote, the motion passed. Brenda Wilson made a motion to amend the 2022 budget as presented with the 4.75% raise to employees to be back to the 2021 levels with some exceptions. She asked if it was appropriate to state the motion that way. President Loudermilk advised that he thought so if she listed the exceptions. She then began to read her three pages of exceptions containing amendments to various line items of departments. President Loudermilk asked for some clarification as to exactly what she was asking. It was determined that everyone should have a copy of her list rather than just a few people.

The meeting paused while copies were made for everyone. After the list was provided to everyone, President Loudermilk restated that Ms. Wilson had a motion on the floor and asked if the copy that had been provided was the exceptions. Ms. Wilson stated affirmatively with one exception that was not on the list yet. President Loudermilk stated that she would have the right to go over each and every item or, upon advice from Council Attorney Effner, it was determined that each Council member could review the list and then it just be entered as a matter of record and Ms. Wilson could state the one additional item that had not been added. Ms. Wilson then stated that the additional item was that the base compensation for all county employees, not including positions set by state agencies or state statute be at 4% more than the 2021 base rate. That includes all employees. No sliding scales. All other items to remain at the 2021 budget amount. There was lengthy discussion about comparisons between the 2021 budget and the 2022 budget that Ms. Wilson was proposing. President Loudermilk restated the motion on the floor as follows: 2021 budget with an additional on top of what the employees are receiving for 2021, an additional 4% raise with the exceptions on the three pages provided that were entered into record. Ms. Wilson stated that some of the exceptions are as the departments requested, other things are as the Budget Committee recommended. The rest of every other line stays at the 2021 level. And no sliding scale for elected officials. David Thompson seconded the motion. There were questions asked about specific line item amounts and lengthy discussion took place. Marie Theisz made the comment that comparing the 2021 budget and the 2022 budget would not be a fair comparison and some things will get cut that are truly needed. Discussion continued. Todd Thacker noted that any of these things that are being suggested will impact some department heads without them being able to make their case. Ms. Theisz also stated that the \$500,000 that was added in to the Sheriff's budget for body cams may end up being covered by a grant. If that money is added back in to the budget, it will even things out considerably. Ms. Wilson said that amount was in her exceptions. Lengthy discussion continued. Todd Thacker called for question and explained that call for question means a vote needs to be taken on whether or not to terminate this discussion at this point and if a 2/3 majority passes the call on the question, then you go straight to a vote for the motion and second on the floor. Council Attorney Effner concurred with this assessment, however, he feels the call on question needs to be seconded. Vicki Weger seconded the call on question. Mr. Effner stated that if you vote aye, you are voting to end the discussion and nay means you want to continue talking about it. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. 7-0 vote terminates the discussion. President Loudermilk then called for a vote on the motion and second on the floor. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – nay; Travis Norris – nay; Marie Theisz – nay; Vicki Weger – nay; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – nay; Aaron Loudermilk – aye with Mr. Loudermilk correcting himself by saying nay. By a vote of 6-1, the motion is defeated.

President Loudermilk stated that the issues before the Council now is information regarding compensation, employee raises for 2022, the sliding scale system, and the additional requests of employees. Mr. Effner said that since the Council had voted to reconsider the measure, he felt that there should be a vote on the original budget as it was

approved Tuesday to make the record clear. Marie Theisz made a motion to reinstate the budget that had been approved on Tuesday, October 12. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Before a vote was called, it was clarified that this would take it back to where we started the meeting with 2s, 3s and 4s approved and a 4.75% raise in compensation. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – nay; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – nay; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. With a 5-2 vote, the motion carried. Mr. Loudermilk then said the meeting was open for discussion regarding compensation. The ceiling is set at 4.75%. Discussion then began regarding compensation. Marie Theisz commented about the possibility of a bonus coming from the 2021 budget and if we are able to do that, she believed that would be a whole separate entity to decide. Her personal feeling was that she would rather keep the compensation at the 4.75% rate rather than stipends/bonuses and stated her reasoning. Todd Thacker made suggestions on ways to increase the pay for jailers. David Thompson commented that he was in favor of a 4% raise with a stipend/bonus. There was discussion that if the bonus was paid out yet this year, it would be an additional appropriation from the 2021 budget, not the 2022 budget. Vicki Weger noted that she felt the 4.75% compensation rate was needed. Brenda Wilson noted that she concurred with Councilman Thompson's feeling that the raises and bonuses should be separate and given both. President Loudermilk noted that any bonus could not be voted on tonight but the discussion had tonight was important. He also noted that his feeling was, and had been from the beginning, that compensation should be 4% and gave his reasoning behind it. He also spoke in favor of a bonus/stipend and stated why. He also stated that he was not in favor of implementing a sliding scale for elected officials and supplied his reasoning. Marie Theisz also noted that she was in favor of a bonus yet in 2021. Mr. Bramble noted that if they wanted to go for the 4% raise in the salary ordinance and they passed the numbers as presented, that leaves some money that had been allocated in the proposed budget available for whatever changes may come with the compensation study. David Thompson made a motion that pay rate increases be set at 4% across the board and not include the sliding scale for elected officials. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Clarifications were briefly discussed before a vote was taken. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – nay; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – nay; Vicki Weger – nay; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. With a 4-3 vote, the motion passed.

President Loudermilk stated that next month the salary ordinances would be adopted and potential bonuses would be discussed. A request to transfer funds will need to be prepared and given to the Auditor's Office for the November Sunshine meeting. There was a brief discussion about the total amount to be transferred. The parameters for eligibility would be decided next month. There was discussion and clarifications about the budget to be signed tonight. Travis Norris made a motion to approve the Ordinance or Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, voting was as follows: Todd Thacker – aye; Travis Norris – aye; Marie Theisz – aye; Vicki Weger – aye; Brenda Wilson – aye; David Thompson – aye; Aaron Loudermilk – aye. The motion unanimously passed.

President Loudermilk stated that some numbers in Resolution 2021-18 that had been passed at last Tuesday's meeting had needed some correction and will need to be amended. Vicki Weger made a motion to reconsider Resolution 2021-18. Travis Norris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed. David Thompson made a motion to amend Resolution 2021-18 as follows: the amount of the investment to the construction to be \$190,000,000; the permanent casino jobs to be 750; and the annual contribution and net new economic activity to be \$150,000,000. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed. David Thompson made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-18 as amended. Brenda Wilson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote of 7-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Adjournment

Marie Theisz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Todd Thacker seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 7-0, the meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.