

VANDEBURGH COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2021

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VANDERBURGH COUNTY COUNCIL
May 5, 2021
MEETING MINUTES

The Vanderburgh County Council met in session this 5th day of May 2021 in room 301 of the Civic Center Complex. Vanderburgh County Council President John Montrastelle called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

President Montrastelle: Good afternoon, everyone, welcome to our County Council meeting dated May 5th.

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

President Montrastelle: We'll start the meeting with attendance roll call, please.

Kathy Glaser: Councilmember Terry?

President Montrastelle: Stephanie, I think you're on mute.

Kathy Glaser: Councilmember Kiefer?

Councilmember Kiefer: Here.

Kathy Glaser: Councilmember Shetler?

Councilmember Shetler: Here.

Kathy Glaser: Councilmember Goebel?

Councilmember Goebel: Here.

Kathy Glaser: Councilmember Raben?

Councilmember Raben: Here.

Kathy Glaser: Councilmember Hahn?

Councilmember Hahn: Here.

Kathy Glaser: President Montrastelle?

President Montrastelle: Here, full attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION
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President Montrastelle: We'll next do the Pledge of Allegiance, and our Teri will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Hahn will lead us in the Invocation, please.

Councilmember Shetler: Does somebody need to unmute Stephanie or does she need to do it herself?

(The Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation were given.)

President Montrastelle: Thank you, Jill. Thank you, Teri.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: County Council dated April 7, 2021
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President Montrastelle: Next up on our agenda is approval of our minutes dated April 7, 2021. Would someone like to make a motion?

Councilmember Kiefer: So moved.

President Montrastelle: And, a second, please?

Councilmember Raben: Second.

President Montrastelle: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: The minutes are approved as printed.

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

PERSONNEL REQUESTS

SUPERIOR COURT, SUPERIOR COURT-IDOC, PUBLIC DEFENDER, COUNTY ASSESSOR, HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HEALTH DEPARTMENT-SAFETY PIN GRANT, AND PROSECUTOR

President Montrastelle: Next up is our Personnel Requests, A, B, C, D, E, F, and G, several of them there. Do we want to take these in order, or does somebody want to make a motion? These are all requests to fill vacancies. Okay, first up is our Superior Court.

Councilmember Raben: John, just a moment, I, I...

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: From this week to last week, I couldn't remember if any of them had any substantial increases or unjustified increases. So, can we take just a moment?

President Montrastelle: Yep, take a moment. Everyone take a moment to look through them.

Councilmember Raben: I will make a motion to approve all employment, rehire or hire requests as listed.

Councilmember Shetler: I'll second.

President Montrastelle: James, a little bit hard to hear. Say that again, please?

Councilmember Raben: I'll make a motion to approve all Personnel Requests as submitted.

President Montrastelle: Okay. And, we have...

Councilmember Shetler: I'll second.

President Montrastelle: And, Tom, we have a second. Is there any discussion? Or, is there any questions about any of them? Hearing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: All Personnel Requests Superior Court, Superior Court, Public Defender, County Assessor, Health Department, and Prosecutor are all approved.

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

APPROPRIATIONS

President Montrastelle: James, next up is our Appropriation Ordinance and Repeal. Would you like to take it, please?

Councilmember Raben: Sure.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

President Montrastelle: We had quite a shuffle last, a discussion on, on repeals, or appropriations and repeals.

Councilmember Raben: Sure, and I hope, I hope this week everyone's clear on it, but most of that, the easiest way to explain the shuffle that's taken place is, when the Sheriff agreed to turn back in five (5) line items.

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: Those five (5) were in the LIT. So, for the, for the County to benefit the savings from that in the General Fund, is we have to shift around funds so that those, so that amount of money comes back to the General Fund.

President Montrastelle: Right.

Councilmember Raben: So, it, again, it was, the only way is moving around a bunch of, it's like a shell game, but it's moving around several accounts, just so the General Fund realizes the actual savings.

President Montrastelle: So, which ones would you like to make a motion for approval?

Councilmember Raben: Okay. Well, I'm going to make a motion to approve the Sheriff's Office requests. The first one for \$15,286.

President Montrastelle: All those in... Can I get a second?

Councilmember Shetler: Second.

President Montrastelle: All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: Motion passes.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE		REQUESTED	APPROVED
10001050-105160	INVESTIGATIVE TRANSCRIPTIONIST	2,380	2,380
10001050-105161	INVESTIGATIVE TRANSCRIPTIONIST	954	954
10001050-105162	OPS CENTER CLERK (IDAC)	2,296	2,296
10001050-105163	CIVIL PROCESS CLERK (IDAC)	2,360	2,360
10001050-105166	OPS CENTER CLERK (IDAC)	2,259	2,259
10001050-105169	OPS CENTER CLERK (IDAC)	2,296	2,296
10001050-190000	FICA	960	960
10001050-191000	PERF	1,781	1,781
TOTAL		15,286	15,286

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Councilmember Raben: Okay next, County Commissioners, under Insurance.

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: That, the numbers that were presented last year were for only based on 11 months. So, we need to make up an \$80,000 deficit. I'll make a motion to approve.

Councilmember Shetler: Second.

President Montrastelle: All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: Motion carries.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS		REQUESTED	APPROVED
10001300-300000	INSURANCE	80,000	80,000
TOTAL		80,000	80,000

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

JAIL

Councilmember Raben: Okay. And, the next, the long one is the Jail Confinement Officers. This is to get them on par with the new contract.

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: I'll make a motion to approve the Jail request in the amount of \$251,905.

Councilmember Hahn: I'll second.

President Montrastelle: All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: Motion carries.

JAIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
10001320-132001	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,735	2,735
10001320-132002	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,787	2,787
10001320-132003	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,788	2,788
10001320-132004	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,629	2,629
10001320-132005	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132006	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,353	2,353
10001320-132007	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132008	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	668	668
10001320-132009	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,652	2,652
10001320-132010	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132011	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132013	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,440	2,440
10001320-132014	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132016	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132017	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,353	2,353
10001320-132018	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,493	2,493
10001320-132019	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,353	2,353
10001320-132020	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132021	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132025	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,233	2,233
10001320-132026	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,546	2,546
10001320-132027	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416

10001320-132029	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132032	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,493	2,493
10001320-132033	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132034	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,390	2,390
10001320-132035	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,390	2,390
10001320-132036	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132037	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,808	2,808
10001320-132038	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132040	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	268	268
10001320-132041	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132043	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,493	2,493
10001320-132044	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,599	2,599
10001320-132048	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132049	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132052	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132053	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132054	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,390	2,390
10001320-132055	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,353	2,353
10001320-132056	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,493	2,493
10001320-132057	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132058	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	1,960	1,960
10001320-132059	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,493	2,493
10001320-132060	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132061	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,599	2,599
10001320-132062	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132063	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132064	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132065	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132066	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132067	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,652	2,652
10001320-132068	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,390	2,390
10001320-132069	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,353	2,353
10001320-132070	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,546	2,546
10001320-132071	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,546	2,546
10001320-132073	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,652	2,652
10001320-132074	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132075	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,546	2,546
10001320-132076	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,493	2,493
10001320-132077	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132080	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132081	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,473	2,473
10001320-132082	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416

10001320-132083	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132087	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,440	2,440
10001320-132088	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	2,416	2,416
10001320-132089	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,681	2,681
10001320-132090	CONFINEMENT OFF. STAFF SGT	4,262	4,262
10001320-132091	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,735	2,735
10001320-132092	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,629	2,629
10001320-132093	CONFINEMENT OFF. STAFF SGT	4,209	4,209
10001320-132094	CONFINEMENT OFF. STAFF SGT	4,156	4,156
10001320-132095	CONFINEMENT OFF. STAFF SGT	4,156	4,156
10001320-132096	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,552	2,552
10001320-132097	CONFINEMENT OFFICER SPVR	2,629	2,629
10001320-132100	JAIL RECEPTIONIST	685	685
10001320-132101	BOOKING CLERK (IDAC)	2,223	2,223
10001320-132102	JAIL RECEPTIONIST	752	752
10001320-132103	BOOKING CLERK (IDAC)	2,385	2,385
10001320-132112	BOOKING CLERK (IDAC)	2,360	2,360
10001320-132113	BOOKING CLERK (IDAC)	2,259	2,259
10001320-132114	BOOKING CLERK (IDAC)	2,259	2,259
10001320-132115	BOOKING CLERK (IDAC)	2,223	2,223
10001320-132116	JAIL RECEPTIONIST	833	833
10001320-190000	FICA	15,815	15,815
10001320-191000	PERF	29,356	29,356
TOTAL		251,905	251,905

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

GENERAL FUND - COUNTY COUNCIL, HEALTH DEPARTMENT, LOCAL ROADS & STREETS, LIT-PS - JAIL, SHERIFF MISDEMEANANT, AND PROSECUTOR PRETRIAL DIVERSION

Councilmember Raben: And, County Council...

President Montrastelle: County Council.

Councilmember Raben: ...Insurance in the amount of \$150,000.

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: I'll make a motion to approve that.

Councilmember Kiefer: I'll second.

President Montrastelle: Any others, James, you want to make a motion to approve?

Councilmember Raben: You want me to...

President Montrastelle: Health Department, Local Roads?

Councilmember Raben: Sure. We can do that. I'll make a motion to approve the Health Department, Local Roads and Streets....

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: ...the...

President Montrastelle: LIT.

Councilmember Raben: ...LIT-Jail Booking Clerk in the amount of \$2,189, the Jail Food account in the amount of \$209,166.

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: For a total of \$211,355.

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: In fact, I guess we can keep going if you want me to continue on?

Councilmember Raben: So, Sheriff Misdemeanant in the amount of \$3,014, Prosecutor Pretrial Diversion...

President Montrastelle: Yep.

Councilmember Raben: ...in the amount of \$19,481.

President Montrastelle: Let's stop there.

Councilmember Raben: Let's stop there, please.

President Montrastelle: Yeah. Okay. He, James made a motion for those to be approved, and Mr. Kiefer has made, has seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: They're all passed.

COUNTY COUNCIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
10001480-192000	INSURANCE	150,000	150,000
TOTAL		150,000	150,000
HEALTH DEPARTMENT		REQUESTED	APPROVED
11590000-197100	ACCRUED PAYMENTS	22,511	22,511
11590000-190000	FICA	1,723	1,723
11590000-191000	PERF	224	224
TOTAL		24,458	24,458
LOCAL ROADS & STREETS		REQUESTED	APPROVED
11690000-361000	LEGAL SERVICES	5,000	5,000
TOTAL		5,000	5,000
LIT - PS - JAIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
11701320-117090	BOOKING CLERK	2,189	2,189
TOTAL		2,189	2,189
LIT - PS - JAIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
11701320-226000	FOOD	209,166	209,166

TOTAL		209,166	209,166
SHERIFF MISDEMEANANT		REQUESTED	APPROVED
11750000-117512	BOOKING CLERK	2,296	2,296
11750000-117539	JAIL CLERK	718	718
TOTAL		3,014	3,014
PROSECUTOR PRETRIAL DIVERSION		REQUESTED	APPROVED
11820000-199000	EXTRA HELP	18,096	18,096
11820000-190000	FICA	1,385	1,385
TOTAL		19,481	19,481

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

TOURISM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

President Montrastelle: Next up is our Tourism Capital Improvement. And, that was, that was a heat pump that went out. We've got our, we've got our Executive Director here. You're welcome to come up and make any comments or statements if you'd like, or, or...

Councilmember Raben: Well I, I do have a question that...

President Montrastelle: Sure. Come on up, sir. And, state your name for the record, please.

Councilmember Raben: Where are you today in terms of relocating?

Jim Wood: Jim Wood. Where are we at with relocating? Well, first off, the heat pump, can I answer that question?

President Montrastelle: Yeah.

Jim Wood: Yeah. It only, of course, it went out during the coldest time of the year. So, we had to close our offices until it got replaced. It was a total of \$31,000 in expense to replace the heat pump, to go along with other work that went along with the replacement of that piece of equipment. You know, it is what it is.

President Montrastelle: Yeah, and the way it read it, it sounded like it was the cost of the crane.

Jim Wood: Well, I, we have a breakdown of different costs. The crane was a small part of that.

President Montrastelle: Right.

Jim Wood: Getting the pump, getting the labor, installation, things like that, all was all part of that replacement of that heat pump. It died and we had to replace it. If not, the offices, the whole facility could not operate. So, I had no choice.

President Montrastelle: Okay.

Jim Wood: Now where we are, Councilman Raben, to answer your question, where are we at with our relocation? We have sent a, a document has been drafted. Hopefully, it will be sent to the City attorney today, tomorrow by our attorney, that asks us to, to let them know that, of our intent to vacate the Pagoda. And, we have a lease agreement that's being reviewed by our legal firm as well, to relocate our offices into the Fifth Third Bank Center on the fourth floor. So, from a timing standpoint, in our document to the city, it says September 30. Anytime between now and September 30 is what we are targeting to relocate our offices. The Visitor Center piece is something that we will still investigate, because we don't have a home for that. As part of our tenured destination tourism and management master plan was to come up with kind of an experiential type of Visitor Center. We currently don't have that. So, we will just handle all of our visitor requests via, through social media and through, you know, telephone and other sources that people contact us, until such time as our board and everyone agrees to what is the right Visitor Center president, presence for Evansville moving forward.

Councilmember Raben: Okay. And I guess, I mean, we're calling this a heat pump, but it's probably part of the air handling system?

Jim Wood: Yes, it is.

Councilmember Raben: Is that true? So, the AC's working today, or it's not working?

Jim Wood: Everything, everything is working. This all went out back in January.

Councilmember Raben: Okay.

Jim Wood: I think it was in January when everything went out.

Councilmember Raben: So, it's already been repaired?

Jim Wood: We had no choice. Yeah.

Councilmember Raben: Okay.

Jim Wood: It had to be repaired.

Councilmember Raben: The damage is done. Okay, I'll make a motion to approve.

Councilmember Shetler: I'll second. I have a question.

Jim Wood: Yes, sir?

Councilmember Shetler: Jim, you'd, I don't know if what, if I heard correctly or not, is it, did you say the first floor or the fourth floor?

Jim Wood: The fourth floor.

Councilmember Shetler: Fourth floor. Okay. And, I guess that's what I thought you said. And, then I was kind of questioning that in my mind, because I didn't know if we were going to try to have a presence on the street level so that people could come in, and you know, as a visitors place from time to time and, and get maps and locations, and where to go and what you need to do.

Jim Wood: Yeah, that's the Visitor Center piece. Really that doesn't have to be connected with our offices.

Councilmember Shetler: Okay.

Jim Wood: Most cities don't, you know, connect, very smaller cities may have that connection. What we're looking at doing is, from a board standpoint, is evaluating what makes sense for a Visitor Center? What do we want to have? We just don't want to have a place to hand out brochures. Those types of static Visitor Centers are kind of going by the wayside. Some cities have canceled or closed their Visitor Centers permanently. Kansas City has. So, it's part of the evaluation process of our board to determine what is the next steps? What do we want our Visitor Center to look like here in Evansville? We've had preliminary discussions also with the Mayor about this last week. So, it's a work in progress is all I can say right now.

Councilmember Shetler: Well, I'm not questioning the merits one way or the other.

Jim Wood: Yeah.

Councilmember Shetler: Should or should not. I guess the only thing that I would question though is if, if, if it were deemed necessary to have some kind of a local presence in the Visitor Center and you're combining the, it would make sense to me that, that those are somewhat together, even though they may be somewhat unrelated, only so you can utilize the staff both ways and it would cut down the costs and operations to some degree.

Jim Wood: Good, good point, but not, it doesn't work that way for us, because we have separate staff specific for the Visitor Center. And, we don't really use salespeople to go upstairs and work in the Visitor Center. So that's, that's, that's one function of the organization. And, the other function is really the sales, the marketing, the services aspect of the business. So in, in most cases, in most cities, they, the entities are separate. The Visitor Center is downtown located on a main street for visual presence. And, that's what we would like. And, where the regular offices, so example, where I came from, from Louisville, our offices were in the 22nd, 23rd floors of the BB and T Bank building, but our Visitor Center is on the corner of Fourth and Jefferson street. Same thing in Lexington. Same thing in many other cities. So, there really isn't any economies to scale by keeping the two together. We originally looked at that. We looked at 425 Main Street

last year when we talked about that, but the cost of renovations and things of that nature was in the neighborhood of \$600,000. So, we just felt that that wasn't a good investment of dollars at this time.

President Montrastelle: Mike, you had a question?

Councilmember Goebel: No, I, I, going back to what you just mentioned, Jim. You said last year, the reason you wanted to move from the riverfront was to have a better presence. And now, you're talking about moving to the fourth floor?

Jim Wood: We wanted to have a better presence of our Visitor Center on Main Street. And, at the time that was the one location, we evaluated over 20 locations, that was the one location that had the combined opportunities. But then as we noodled into that, and got into the cost factor, it was extremely expensive.

Councilmember Goebel: I don't know. I just, my gut feeling is that being on the riverfront is a place that is attractive to people coming to our community. You've got the LST. You have the Museum. And, that beautiful building that we've already invested so much money in for your offices. Is there consideration still for the ONB building? Some office space there since you don't need to be visual?

Jim Wood: For the Convention Center?

Councilmember Goebel: For your offices?

Jim Wood: No.

Councilmember Goebel: Not for the tourism.

Jim Wood: No. The Convention Center does not have offices that would be, that could accommodate us. We've already, we've evaluated that. The only space available in ONEP is a storage facility right off the loading dock on the right side of the stage.

Councilmember Goebel: And, we're talking now about two different facilities, correct? Is that what your plan is?

Jim Wood: Our plan right now is to, right now is to move our offices, which will actually won't cost them, save us some money down the road, is to move our offices on the fourth floor. And, then evaluate the need for a Visitor Center moving forward. And, we have not decided if having a Visitor Center is in our best interest. Now, the waterfront and the Pagoda, most of our visitors don't find us there. I mean, we'll go several months with two, three, four people a day. That's it. It's a beautiful location. But it's not really suitable. Things have moved and we want to be closer. If we're having Visitors Center presence, separate the two, if we have a Visitor Center presence, we would like that closer to where the arena is, closer to where the theater is, closer to where the convention center is, because that is where the concentration of people are when they come into town, when they walk the streets. So, we think it makes more sense. So, that's why originally we were we, we, 425 Main Street was appealing to us. But again, it didn't work out because of cost factors. Because that was broached and presented to you all, a year or so ago, and it was voted down. So we, we, that got rented out to somebody else. So, we've had to continue to evaluate other locations. And, that's where we came up with what is pretty much a standard business model for most Convention and Visitor Bureau's offices in a professional bank building or a tower building, like the one we were looking at, and then moving a Visitor Center at some location at some time, where we can do a good job, because both projects or both tasks are similar but very separate. And, it's been our mission for a long time, from our board for a long time, to move us out of the Pagoda, because; one, we can't expand; two, we're in a basement that was crawlspace originally that was built into offices. It's not suitable. We continue to have problems with that space. And, and when we've had sewage backup and things like that, as I brought to you, to your attention before, it isn't a place where you would have your employees at. So, it isn't really a good location for us. It's a beautiful setting for residents to come in and use the facility for a restroom stop. But that is the primary use of the Pagoda these days.

Councilmember Goebel: It's a pretty expensive restroom.

Jim Wood: Yes, it is.

President Montrastelle: Jill, you had?

Councilmember Hahn: So, will the Pagoda continue to be used as it currently is, as the upstairs, and be able to be rented out and things like that?

Jim Wood: It is, it is our understanding that the city would put an RFP out. I can't speak for them, but they are, preliminary discussions are, is that they would put an RFP out, and determine what would be the best usage. Will a restaurant come in, a catering firm come in, some other usage for that space? Its originally intended purpose was special events space. And, that does make for good, special events. You know, upstairs a view of the waterfront, you can spill out of the space. You, you can go upstairs and use that as a, as a bar space or whatever. But, you're still really restricted with parking because 80, 90% of that parking are people who parked there, and then they walk up and down the trail. So it'll take some work, but the City I'm sure will come up with the right plan for the best usage of the Pagoda.

Councilmember Hahn: It's too nice of a building to see some of the effects of what has happened, like the Old, well the Post Office is still here, but the Train Station going to the wayside. So, I'd hate to see that historically be taken down.

Jim Wood: I don't think the plan is to take it down, and I can't speak for anybody. I think the plan is, is to make it a revenue-producing building.

Councilmember Hahn: That would be nice.

Jim Wood: It hasn't been a revenue-producing building for, for decades.

Councilmember Hahn: Sure.

Jim Wood: And, I think that would be a good use of that space, to make it a revenue-producing facility, at some point in time.

President Montrastelle: James?

Councilmember Raben: I, I know we need to get moving, but I mean, to me, your plan makes a lot of sense. And, there's plenty of street-level properties that are for rent.

Jim Wood: Yes.

Councilmember Raben: Vacant properties in the area you're talking about. So, good luck...

Jim Wood: (Inaudible) look at those.

Councilmember Raben: ...on putting that all together.

President Montrastelle: But you know, you did say something about like, it almost sounded like it was a hazardous place to work. And, I was on the board for a number of years, and we always kept that building, as you know, it's really kind of a money pit, just, just to keep it from not leaking. I mean, it's amazing how much that building leaks, but it is a safe environment for employees. I'm a hundred percent confident.

Jim Wood: It's not a hundred percent safe, because we get people who sleep there now. We get...

President Montrastelle: Sleep there? What do you mean?

Jim Wood: They will come and sleep down below at night.

President Montrastelle: Who's sleeping?

Jim Wood: The homeless population.

President Montrastelle: Oh!

Jim Wood: We get more homeless that are showing up at the facility.

President Montrastelle: So, they're sleeping at, on the exterior at the...

Jim Wood: Yeah, underneath, going down the steps.

Councilmember Kiefer: Have you talked to the Police Department about that?

Jim Wood: Oh sure.

Councilmember Kiefer: Yeah?

Jim Wood: Oh yeah. We've had several people come in there.

President Montrastelle: Well, I was...

Jim Wood: From time to time we've had to chase people who've come inside because it's open to the general public and you don't always, as every business, as you just don't know who's going to walk in your door every single day.

President Montrastelle: Well, I'm really talking about the employees. It's a safe environment for the employees?

Jim Wood: For the most part.

President Montrastelle: Yeah.

Jim Wood: Yes.

President Montrastelle: Does anybody else have any questions of our (inaudible). And, let the records show that Stephanie Terry's joined us today. Thank you.

Councilmember Terry: I was on the phone.

President Montrastelle: You were. I saw you, but we couldn't hear you. Okay, so we have the request. Did we, did we do a motion on that?

Councilmember Raben: I made the motion.

Councilmember Hahn: We did.

President Montrastelle: And, you did a second? We just haven't voted?

Councilmember Terry: Second.

President Montrastelle: So all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: Motion carries. Thank you so much.

Jim Wood: Thank you all.

TOURISM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT		REQUESTED	APPROVED
11830000-407900	PAGODA REPAIRS	30,000	30,000
TOTAL		30,000	30,000

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

CONVENTION CENTER OPERATING FUND

Councilmember Raben: Okay, next under the ONB Events Plaza, I see Joe Harrison and Dave are outside. The request is \$216,600, \$216,600, but I think that number has been brought down to \$101,300.

President Montrastelle: It's been modified to \$101,000.

Dave Rector: I don't think you got the last...

Councilmember Raben: Yeah, \$101,300 is the new number.

Dave Rector: \$101,300.

Councilmember Raben: Yes.

Dave Rector: We moved everything.

President Montrastelle: They've taken off the Air Purification Technology at \$100,300 and the \$15,000 Window Replacement.

Dave Rector: Correct.

President Montrastelle: Does anybody have any questions of our, of, of Dave while he's here?

Councilmember Raben: I'll make a motion to approve.

Councilmember Shetler: Second.

President Montrastelle: All, any other?

Councilmember Hahn: Could you confirm that amount again?

President Montrastelle: The amount is \$101,300. So, from our Capital Improvement Projects we've received, it's the last two items, the air purification and the window replacements that they have decided to push really. They'll, they'll probably, I took a tour of the facility last Thursday, and we appreciate the staff doing, giving me a tour, and everything on this list I concur with. I agree that these are, are valid projects and valid expenses. So, and I was appreciative that you pushed the technology part out, because that might be something that American Recovery Act money could possibly fund.

Dave Rector: We're going to explore the options on that and different possibilities that we can accomplish the same thing.

President Montrastelle: Right. So, okay. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: Motion carries. Is there anything else you guys want to add? Joe? You're looking good, looking good today, Joe.

Joe Harrison: Thank you very much.

Dave Rector: Thank you all.

President Montrastelle: Not as good as Tom Shelter though. Look at Tom in his suit.

Councilmember Shetler: Setting the standard today.

President Montrastelle: Looking good.

CONVENTION CENTRE OPERATING		REQUESTED	APPROVED
40050000-414000	CENTRE (ONEP) CIP	216,600	101,300
TOTAL		216,600	101,300

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

COIT – COUNTY COUNCIL

Councilmember Raben: John, next under County Council, this is the County Option Income Tax side of the Insurance for \$150,000. I'll move approval. And, I'll go ahead and include the COIT under County Council Health, County Healthcare Clinic at \$209,166 for a total of three hundred fifty-nine thousand one hundred sixty-six thousand, \$166¹.

Councilmember Shetler: (Inaudible second. Mic was not on.)

President Montrastelle: We have a second by Councilmember Shetler. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: Motion carries. The repeals, James?

¹ \$359,166

Councilmember Raben: Can we go back to the Healthcare Clinic though? That gets us through the balance of 2021, is that correct? I mean, we're not looking into 2022 with any of that?

Brian Gerth: No.

Councilmember Raben: Okay.

Brian Gerth: That's just the, we have the correct, we had the correct amount budgeted for 2021, we're just shifting it.

Councilmember Raben: Right.

Brian Gerth: So, we're good.

Councilmember Raben: Okay...

President Montrastelle: Repeals?

Councilmember Raben: Did we vote on that?

President Montrastelle: I don't think so.

Councilmember Hahn: No.

Councilmember I'm talking about on that last motion?

President Montrastelle: We did. Did we?

Councilmember Raben: Okay.

President Montrastelle: Yes, we did.

Councilmember Alright.

COIT - COUNTY COUNCIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
49981480-192000	INSURANCE	150,000	150,000
TOTAL		150,000	150,000
COIT - COUNTY COUNCIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
49981480-422300	COUNTY HEALTHCARE CLINIC	209,166	209,166
TOTAL		209,166	209,166
TOTAL COIT FUND REQUESTS:		359,166	359,166

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

REPEALS & TRANSFERS

President Montrastelle: General Fund repeal requests. I'll make a motion to approve all repeals, and if nobody has any other questions, I'll also include in all transfers as submitted.

Councilmember Terry: Second.

President Montrastelle: Very good. I like that. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(No one opposed.)

President Montrastelle: Fantastic.

GENERAL FUND REPEAL REQUEST			
SHERIFF'S OFFICE		REQUESTED	APPROVED
10001050-105002	CHIEF DEPUTY	7,780	7,780
TOTAL		7,780	7,780
COUNTY COUNCIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
10001480-422300	COUNTY HEALTHCARE CLINIC	209,166	209,166
TOTAL		209,166	209,166
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REPEAL REQUESTS:		216,946	216,946
LOCAL INCOME TAX-PUBLIC SAFETY FUND REPEAL REQUEST			
LIT-PS-JAIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
11701320-117016	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	31,196	31,196
11701320-117017	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	31,196	31,196
11701320-117018	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	31,196	31,196
11701320-117019	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	35,534	35,534
11701320-117020	CONFINEMENT OFFICER	35,534	35,534
11701320-190000	FICA	15,584	15,584
11701320-191000	PERF	28,926	28,926
TOTAL		209,166	209,166
TOTAL FUND REPEAL REQUEST:		209,166	209,166
COUNTY OPTION INCOME TAX FUND REPEAL REQUEST			
COIT - JAIL		REQUESTED	APPROVED
49981320-226000	FOOD	209,166	209,166
TOTAL		209,166	209,166
TOTAL FUND REPEAL REQUEST:		209,166	209,166
TRANSFER REQUESTS			
CLERK		REQUESTED	APPROVED
From:			
10001010-101163	FIRST DEPUTY - ELECTIONS	7,661	7,661

To:			
10001010-101127	CIVIL REQUESTS / BMV CLERK	4,279	4,279
10001010-101146	CIRCUIT/SUPERIOR-CERT MAIL CLK	3,382	3,382
AUDITOR		REQUESTED	APPROVED
From:			
10001020-102129	REAL ESTATE CLERK	1,660	1,660
To:			
10001020-102134	REAL ESTATE SUPERVISOR	1,660	1,660
SHERIFF'S OFFICE		REQUESTED	APPROVED
From:			
10001050-105002	CHIEF DEPUTY	56,489	56,489
To:			
10001050-105059	LIEUTENANT	56,489	56,489
SUPERIOR COURT		REQUESTED	APPROVED
From:			
10001370-137135	COURT REPORTER	14,990	14,990
To:			
10001370-137179	CHILD REPLACEMENT OFFICER	11,667	11,667
10001370-137133	BAILIFF	1,620	1,620
10001370-137137	BAILIFF	1,703	1,703
SUPERIOR COURT		REQUESTED	APPROVED
From:			
10001370-390200	GRAND JURORS	200	200
To:			
10001370-370000	DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	200	200
LOCAL ROADS & STREETS		REQUESTED	APPROVED
From:			
11690000-200000	MATERIALS	50,000	50,000
To:			
11690000-352000	MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS	50,000	50,000
AUDITOR'S INELIGIBLE HOMESTEAD		REQUESTED	APPROVED
From:			
12160000-260000	SUPPLIES	500	500
To:			
12160000-337000	DATA MANAGEMENT	500	500

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

NEW BUSINESS:

EVANSVILLE REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATION

President Montrastelle: No old business. New business, I don't believe the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership they're going to come today and present. I'm kidding. Come on up. Now Kathy, in my minutes, I said I was kidding.

Andrea Lendy: I was going to try to pull up the presentation.

President Montrastelle: Please state your names for the record please and have at it.

Andrea Lendy: Andrea Lendy.

Greg Wathen: Greg Wathen.

Tara Barney: And, I'm Tara Barney.

Audrie Burkett: And, Audrie Burkett.

President Montrastelle: Dang, we've got the A-Team.

(Laughter)

Greg Wathen: Good afternoon. Thank you for allowing us to be here. I'm, I serve as Co-CEO, along with Tara Barney, for the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership, and that's the new organization, and for all the legacy organizations. We're going to just take just a few moments of your time. We're, we're, this is the very first of these public presentations we've made. You are the very first for in trying to do this throughout all four counties. And so, hopefully, we'll learn from our mistakes that we're making here today for all of you. But, to give you a sense of who we are and where we are. So...

Andrea Lendy: (Inaudible).

Greg Wathen: Okay, right. Thank you very much. Thanks. Make sure I've got the right one. So, there we are. So, and, and with regard to our mission, our mission had some similarities to the Coalition, to the Chamber, to the Growth Alliance, but in particular we're really looking at being this catalyst that promotes economic development on a regional basis, through all of the various partnerships that we engage in. And, that's critical for us, because this work that takes place does, is not done by itself, one organization, it really is leveraging these various partnerships that we have. And, so, for us, we think, we couldn't think of a better type of model than this type of regional collaborative model. And, here is some of the benefits and impact for, and again, recognizing the various legacy organizations. So, for the Growth Alliance for Greater Evansville, the Southwest Indiana Chamber, and the Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana, those are the three primary organizations. And, in terms of what the impact, the influence, the relationships, the execution, and the unity of bringing all of these organizations together, we think it's, it's fairly critical, and it allows us to deliver a much better product for you, as the County Council. So, Tara, I'm going to pass it over to you.

Tara Barney: You see why we need Co-CEO's because we need to figure out how to move the slides along here. I, I am Tara Barney, and I don't think I've stood...

President Montrastelle: Nice.

Tara Barney: ...in front of you as a Body before, but I certainly know many of you. But, it's a pleasure to have a few minutes of your time today. I do want to take just a second to kind of amplify on what Greg kicked off, because one of our reasons for forming this, through the COVID experience we learned a lot about how we're genuinely working together already, and we were doing what I think is important for you all to hear as an elected body, we were very actively and successfully able to serve our constituencies so much better in this past year, in a very difficult time, than we knew. So, we learned a great deal, and we thought it would be very unfortunate to have spent the year we did in COVID drama, and not come out of that with some key learnings. And, so one of those, which has been the opportunity to really go farther, go faster, and be a more impactful organization. And, to follow in the conversation that you just had about the CVB, to make sure that constituents and stakeholders know what door to knock on. So, in the business of

promoting this region, and making sure that we do all we can to set up prosperity for the citizens of this county, making sure that we can be readily available when needed is top of mind for us, and we think this offers an opportunity. So, we put up on the screen a few guiding principles that our various boards used to actually sort through the decision-making on this merger. And, one of them is that we make sure that we, that we are intentional about operating regionally, but at the same time we are fully committed to making sure we're providing the same localized services that we did before. So, that's the art and the science of this, and that's why folks like Andrea and others that you know well, will continue to be front and center in this work. Another is to really make sure that in all the work we're doing as a region, we're building on the importance of imbedding equity and focus on prosperity for all of the citizens of this region. Why is that so critical? It is the path to making sure that we've got, not just great jobs, but great careers for all of our citizens, and making sure that we're meeting our employer's needs to have that talent that they need to grow and prosper in our region. Three others that I'll mention briefly; (1) because it's the subject of the next item on your agenda today, there's great power in having the public and private actively working together. Some things that the private sector can do are important to this model, but there's some things, such as developing great sites, considering incentives that only the public sector can do. And, so having the opportunity to work together in a very deliberate fashion we think is a great merit of this new model. Front and, small business is going to be front and center for us. It certainly was for the Chamber, it has been for the work of the Growth Alliance for many years, and it will continue to be our key effort. And, many of you know, we house the Small Business Development Center within this organization's walls, and that is providing huge amounts of day to day service in supporting grants, supporting opportunities with the rest of the Revitalization funds that are flowing, and all the, all those plethora of programs that have come about in this past year that are helpful for small business. So, we think that's a key enabler that this unified model lets us take further advantage of, if you will. And, finally, everything we do has to be about setting us up to compete in a global economy. And, again, I think that comes back to making sure our businesses and our citizens have every possible chance to build, build the career, and the capacity to support our role as a region in making sure we're relevant. So, quick and dirty, that's how we got there. I won't take a great deal on the various areas that we think we can deliver service in, but you'll see them on this screen, and I'll let my colleagues speak a little more specifically to a couple of those, because it is the ability to really build a deeper talent pool of staff members to support the work of our, our partners in this region, and we think is a critical opportunity that we've got before us now. So, we're looking forward to it. I'm going to turn this over to Andrea. Yeah, to Andrea to say a little more about that.

Andrea Lendy: Hello, (Inaudible) advance the slide. So, you know, with the former Growth Alliance and now, I have focused on business retention and expansion. That's very much what it sounds like. I just go out into the community, visit with companies, see what their barriers to growth are, and connect them with the resources that we have in our community. So, this picture is actually me and Sara Worstell with the Grow Southwest Indiana Workforce Board at Graham Packaging in Vanderburgh County. So, you know, just connecting businesses with, you know, they don't always know what they don't know. So, connecting them to those resources is so vital. And, then also business attraction, so, we, you know, work with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation as RFP's come in, as well as site consultants on helping them, help find them a building or land, whichever is what they're looking for. So, we just work to, you know, develop the incentive packages that help them choose Vanderburgh County or the region.

President Montrastelle: Audrie², have you been doing this in the past though? What you're explaining?

Andrea Lendy: The Growth Alliance, yes.

President Montrastelle: You...

Andrea Lendy: We did work on attraction. It wasn't specifically me that handled it. That was previously the President.

President Montrastelle: Okay.

Andrea Lendy: But, yes, in the past we have also focused on that, but specifically for Vanderburgh County.

President Montrastelle: Right.

² Andrea.

Andrea Lendy: Now, with E-REP it's more of a region. So, I will pass it over to (Inaudible. Talking over each other.)

President Montrastelle: Region in the four, four, four counties?

Andrea Lendy: Yes, Gibson, Warrick, Vanderburgh, and Posey.

President Montrastelle: Right.

Audrie Burkett: Great, thank you, Andrea. It's great to be in front of Council again. Talking quickly about public policy, public policy has been a key component of the legacy Chamber, and that will continue on in E-REP and the new model moving forward. E-REP will have this, be a leading voice in advocating for business. And, so we have quite, quite a few accomplishments that we're really proud of; broadband, you know I love broadband, broadband being one of those. And, that session just wrapped up, so we appreciated not only with...

President Montrastelle: But, do you have a tattoo yet?

(Laughter)

Audrie Burkett: You know, I could be convinced maybe. So, you know I'm going to be in front of you again at some point in the near future talking broadband. That one will always stay top of mind for us. But, we did, we had quite a few conversations with the State officials, showing them what the issues were, what Vanderburgh County was seeing as a need for them, and that was helping them push the right legislation forward to make sure that Vanderburgh County had, had the opportunity there. We also really appreciate the strong budget investing in, in public health. Vanderburgh County has a very strong Health Department, and so they'll have some additional resources to, to help them continue on with their, their great work. So, the public policy and, and being an advocate for business, and for the work that you do will, will continue on. As far as our community and community development, this is not only building a stronger region for our businesses, but it's also supporting some of the smaller businesses as well. So, we do have a program right now, through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs, there's \$250,000 for Vanderburgh County. There's a grant program that closed today at 3:00, where small businesses could apply for up to \$10,000. And, and the goal of that is to help continue to employ those that have low to moderate-income staff. And so, we're looking forward to our Community Development Team to sort through those applications and distribute that \$250,000 to Vanderburgh County, and to those businesses. Finally, you've seen this map before. We spent a great deal of time at the last meeting talking about broadband, but just know I'll be back in front of you sharing more updates as we know how some of those rules and regulations pan out with the American Rescue Plan, and we look forward to getting more rural residents some stronger broadband access. With that, I will pass it over to Mr. Greg Wathen.

President Montrastelle: You know, I know you've been following the rules and regulations on the American Rescue Plan.

Audrie Burkett: Yes.

President Montrastelle: Do you have any insight on when we might get some of those rules and regulations?

Audrie Burkett: That is the magic question I wish I had the answer to.

President Montrastelle: Okay.

Audrie Burkett: But, it's something that we look to, even our partners for daily on, when will this guidance come out?

President Montrastelle: And, nothing yet.

Audrie Burkett: As soon as I hear I will send it your way. I would love to pass it over to Greg.

Greg Wathen: Councilman, when it comes to some of those programs, and if you'll recall, some of the CARES Act, and some of those dollars, the money was appropriated and in your hands before you had the guidance of how to use it. More than likely this is what's going to happen. So, we're hearing just, you know, anecdotally that basically through the ARP funds, potentially there will be some dollars that will be coming in very short order, about half for the beginning of this

year, and the remainder for next year. So, as soon as we get the guidance, certainly we want to be able to share that with all of you from that regard. And, I'd also be remiss not to say that Councilman Terry has joined, she's, she's going to be on the very first Executive Committee for the new Evansville Regional Economic Partnership. So, she'll be representing our efforts and especially in the public policy, public space, public sector space. So, we're really happy to see. And, our first meeting is coming up very shortly, so it's kind of one of those things we're excited about it. Talent 2025. I think many of you have probably heard about this initiative that we've been engaged in, both, both from formerly the legacy organizations, the Chamber, and the Coalition, we're part of the core team helping drive that initiative forward. But it really has an impact on our ability to attract and retain talent. Think about just what occurred last Wednesday with the announcement of Toyota. Now, obviously, that investment's being made in Gibson County, but you can't really think that it won't have a major implication on Vanderburgh County as we move forward. And, so, for all of us, it's, it's, it's the very aspect of when we look at talent when we look at these things, it really is of how do we attract and retain in, but most, but most assuredly on a, on a regional basis.

Councilmember Kiefer: Greg, I'd like...

Greg Wathen: Yes?

Councilmember Kiefer: ...to interrupt for a second.

Greg Wathen: Sure.

Councilmember Kiefer: You know, I'm really interested on these attracting new job opportunities, but the real question, you know, in this trained workforce is most, as a commercial realtor, a lot of the people I talk to, they say their biggest problem today is even finding employees.

Greg Wathen: Right.

Councilmember Kiefer: They can't find, because, you know, with the government, you know, gives you \$600 a week to stay home, I mean, that's, really disincentivizes people to work. And, so, I don't know what your organization is doing, or if there is even a plan on how we can attract employees.

Greg Wathen: I assure you there is a plan.

Councilmember Kiefer: Yeah.

Greg Wathen: But, one of the things we are doing, so, we are looking to employ a couple of really, data base platforms, to identify those individuals, and to be able to have conversations with those individuals, both to attract them into the marketplace, but also people who may be working in the broader marketplace, to identify them, pathways for them, for these types of positions. And so, part of it is having those direct conversations, because there are probably many individuals within our market, when I say market, I'm talking probably a much broader market than just Vanderburgh County. We're talking about a 75-mile radius for some of these types of opportunities. Had they ever really considered, at all, having an opportunity, whether it be at Toyota, or Berry Global, or Astra Zeneca, or, you know, or Kaiser Aluminum. I mean, we need to be able to demonstrate and illustrate to them there are pathways to do that very thing, and we are working on it most assuredly.

Councilmember Kiefer: Because that's the biggest problem to growth right now. I mean, I've had a lot of people say, hey, Joe, we would do a project, but we can't find employees.

Greg Wathen: We hear that...

Councilmember Kiefer: So, no employees...

Greg Wathen: ...on a regular basis.

Councilmember Kiefer: ...no growth.

Greg Wathen: Right. Well, that's part of, and that, and that's why you have to look, you have to think differently about talent than what you previously did. And so, we are helping companies think through that process as we move forward. Rest assured, as when you look at a company such as Toyota, if you want to use that as the example, where you deploy capital investment, you have

to make the decision on your ability to, not only the supply chain is there, but also your ability to attract and retain talent. That investment would not be made if we didn't have the ability within the region to try to address those issues.

Councilmember Raben: Can I...

Greg Wathen: Sure, yes.

Councilmember Raben: ...interrupt also? So, back to the broadband piece of it, and I, I'm, I mean, I'm all for it. I really am. But, the one hiccup within broadband, and the fact that we've got newly found money available to fix that is one thing, but, I guess, my gripe is, is the fact that we have to do that. So, in a perfect example, and I think this is where our State Legislators need to be brought into this to make some changes in the laws, but on the road I live in, on, is there's, I don't know, three or four houses at one end that have access, and two on the other end, and the 50 in between are locked out. So, they've just, all they did was a tag and hold. We've locked out our competition from coming in and providing service. You know, they did the cheap, quick fix, but prevented anybody else from coming in and providing that service. So, that really needs to be, that needs to be changed, they need to be forced to, you know, make it happen or pass it off to your competition.

Audrie Burkett: That, that is a great point, and one we did not get to talk about, because this was finalized April 28th. So, I have some information I would love to share with you, because your area is a perfect example. Indiana is setting up a program for those that are right next to infrastructure that have been left out. And so, they do, of the \$250 million, they're setting aside a portion of that to address some of those issues. So, you're not doing a large fiber build in those areas, you're maybe trying to figure out how can I get you connected? Whether that's a cable connection that's close by, or another type of connection. So, I would love to share what I know, and what I've learned recently on that.

Councilmember Raben: I don't know in the St. Wendel area how much of that goes on, but I know in my area there's a lot of that.

Audrie Burkett: I've got the data on the map, and you can see, right here is where it's at, and it's, you know, it's maybe a mile down the road.

Councilmember Raben: And so, really, they ought to be forced, you know, give them a year or whatever, forced to turn that area over to, to another provider. You know, we've, we've written letters, we've gone around getting signatures, and I mean, they continue not to do anything. But, one day I counted, I think it was like 50 or 54 homes, that are right in the middle, that we can't get any service whatsoever.

Audrie Burkett: We're asking that Vanderburgh County, specifically your area is one with the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs and the Broadband Office, how can we be the test case to set up this portal, where you, as a homeowner, are able to go in, say that I don't have internet access, and then broadband providers, as close as they are, can apply to receive some funding to get that last mile to you, up to a certain amount. So, I would love to connect more on that, because it's finally an issue that's being addressed in one of these most recent bills.

Councilmember Raben: Okay, great. Thank you.

President Montrastelle: Tom, did you have a follow-up?

Councilmember Shetler: Yeah, basically, and I guess, if you live long enough you're going to see things revert, and come back around, to the point that, you know, I was there on the Chamber and had been involved years ago...

Greg Wathen: Right.

Councilmember Shetler: ...when this all separated and went different directions...

Greg Wathen: Yes.

Councilmember Shetler: ...and I think this is probably a very good thing to come back and consolidate, and use your resources the best you can there. So, I'm all for it. I guess, what's on my mind, particularly as a local officeholder, is more or less what can we do to improve the environment here to attract people? Because, I'm sure you guys do some kind of a call it, for lack of a better word right now, exit interview or something, you find why, what is it that people find

objectionable, or find as a problem to come to Evansville? I don't know, what are the top three reasons why?

Greg Wathen: It's.... Go ahead, Tara, you can (Inaudible).

Councilmember Shetler: And, as a household relocater, I would love to know this too, because I would like to start bringing people in here, instead of taking them out, so.

Tara Barney: Well, the interesting thing is it's not so much that they don't want to come, it's they have better choices. So, that's not a very good answer to your question. The don't want to comes are more lack of clarity. So, one of the things about this new model is we can very clearly market our unique strengths to those constituencies, and we can market to the target we most need, which frankly is young talent. And, I tell people, if it's something I like, we're not going to consider it that much, but if it's something that, that the next generation down wants, that's where we're going to put our sweet spot. One of the things we're doing to enable our businesses and our elected officials to have a ready answer is, this summer we'll have a very cool digital relocation guide available to, to all of our friends and partners, that can be used to answer, to do the job of selling the community. So, it's two jobs usually when an employer goes to hire someone, selling the job and the business, and selling the community. We think we can stand up and be very quickly helpful in selling the community. So, this digital piece will be out and available as one of the early tools of our new organization.

President Montrastelle: So, what do you mean by digital piece?

Tara Barney: I mean you'll be able to go to our website or yours and link to a piece that's got active videos, talks about what's great in our community, stays fresh and current, highlights those things that are most appealing to the folks that are trying to make the decision to move here. So, the folks that are here, we all talk about how we love it, a great place to raise a family. I say this respectfully, I've lived in six places, and we all think it's a great place to raise a family.

President Montrastelle: Right.

Tara Barney: That is a reflection of a great community that's well managed, but it's not a differentiator for someone that we're helping to make the decision to come here. Cost of living helps, seeing a great connection of trails, and those things that are appealing to folks when they want an active lifestyle. Those are the things we want to make sure that we're readily highlighting. So, some of the work that is being done by our local governments and the Trail Connections, that's huge, but we've got to make sure we're telling that story. And, oftentimes we get caught up in telling a lot of other stories, but not that story. So, we think that's one thing we can do. Sir?

Councilmember Shetler: And I, you know, I agree, particularly from my sources and stuff, that's the one thing I hear a lot is, you know, activity, you know, like Franklin Street and Haynie's Corner, that kind of stuff and how much that's bringing. So, I guess, that leads me to my next question or point, since your predecessor was up here a moment ago on the Convention and Visitor's Bureau...

Tara Barney: Well, yes, yes.

Councilmember Shetler: ...that came before...

Tara Barney: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Shetler: ...is there, is there a room or an avenue there where maybe they should be participating tighter with you guys?

Tara Barney: Well, that's a great conversation. I will tell you, as they put together their recent strategic plan, they asked me and many others for input and we provided it. And, I think I saw a lot of it in the plan when it came out. I admit I've read the executive summary, but not the whole thing, but it is very much a conversation about quality of place. And you know, Greg and I have been in this business more years than I really want to put in front of you in a public meeting, but a lot of years, and we used to be in the business that Councilman Kiefer is in, upselling sights and locations. Now we're in the business of selling a talent milieu. So, we are selling the vibe that gives your prospect the confidence that we have a system in place that's going to deliver talent. So, it's not just what do we have now, it's can we show a prospect, and we'll work with you on this, sir, that we have a plan in place to deliver talent by the time they need it. So, that partnerships with our education community and with other parts of our academic progress chart, to make sure

that we're helping our kids have that skill set, that they are ready talent when needed. So, it's not an easy answer. It's messy work, and if it was easy it would have been done a couple of decades ago, but we think that the ability to move in the digital space lets us stay much more relevant now than we were in the old days when we were basically in the paper and pencil, and it was hard to keep things fresh space. So, I didn't mean to preempt your highlight, but I wanted to just hit that real quickly. We love having time with you and answering these questions.

Greg Wathen: I will say, just to sort of get back on broadband, I mean, it's, one of the things that, so think about what Warrick County did, as an example. Because I know we always think, hey, if you build it, they will come. The reality is, there has to be a public-private partnership, in many cases, to fill in the gaps. Warrick County, for the investment that they're making right now, in terms of, 40% of that is being paid for by the county, 60% coming in by the private sector. They're getting ready, in the next two weeks, to open up 126 miles of fiber, that will connect into more than 200 miles through the arterials, arterial connections. So, I think we have, as you're thinking through this, what are those strategic investments that you make, as the county, that enables private investment to come alongside to support it? Because just thinking that, hey, that somebody should just do this, the reality is, those days are, for the most part, over, if you really want to have this really extensive broadband digital network, which is so critical for our ability to attract in talent within the region.

Councilmember Raben: Greg, and I'm glad you brought that up, because I forgot to mention that, but in the situation where we're using...

Greg Wathen: Sure.

Councilmember Raben: ...it doesn't matter if it's Federal, State grants...

Greg Wathen: Right.

Councilmember Raben: ...CARES Act monies or what, but I would say if it's monies that coming from our pile, for sure, I wish there was some way that we were, we were...

Greg Wathen: A recovery of some kind?

Councilmember Raben: Yeah, some sort of recovery, because some provider's stock is going to go through the roof...

Greg Wathen: Sure.

Councilmember Raben: ...when we pass this many new clients over and they're, you know, and they're going to collect those for...

Greg Wathen: Right.

Councilmember Raben: ...decades. So, we really need somehow to get a, get a reimbursement piece or something.

Greg Wathen: And, certainly hear what you're saying. I think though, the reality is, to an extent, is that when you put RFP's out, in particular, you have to ask yourself how many people respond? And, depending on how you put the RFP in, and sometimes that response is... we've had some RFP's in the past for some things we've done, we've had zero responses. So, part of it is how you structure it. So, I think that's, it's, it's, it warrants having that conversation. Exactly what that delivery mechanism is going to be, and what that model is going to be is yet to be fully determined. But, there are some opportunities doing this, because of so many of the Federal dollars will be coming down the pike. Maybe lastly, for what I'm doing, so, talent is the next level. So, if you recall Regional Cities and how successful we were with that, because our group really drove that, and Audrie being so much of what (inaudible) there, the next, what we always called Regional Cities 2.0, but it's called READI, the READI Program, that will be the brand new program that the State has set aside \$500 million, and we are working through our Regional Development Authority, which that structure is already in place, to be the backbone for, along with Talent 2025, to put ourselves in a position, once again this is competitive, to receive funding. So, I feel very, very good about the prospects of us receiving the funding, but we have the step to lay out the plan, develop the plan, making sure we identify the partners. Our area, in terms of geography, the region, may slightly change, because the State is asking us to do that very thing. So, we're beginning to sort of socialize what that might look like and to lay out the plan, because we have a fairly tight time frame as this is coming through there, in the scope of a project this size. We'll

submit a proposal sometime probably in the neighborhood of August. September-October they'll come down for site visits from the State, when I talk about the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. November, more likely December, they'll do the awards. Again, this is a competitive process. If you recall for Regional Cities, we were one of three regions that received \$42 million. We have the ability to receive potentially more this time.

President Montrastelle: \$500 million...

Greg Wathen: Yeah.

President Montrastelle: ...divided throughout the State?

Greg Wathen: Throughout the State, but they're looking at it as how do we connect. So, it doesn't necessarily have to be just solely on geography, but how do we interact on a daily basis, just through some of the transactional things that we do. A great example is through SIGMEC (Southwest Indiana GME Consortium), which is the school through Indiana University School of Medicine. We're tied into Good Samaritan Hospital through the residency program in Vincennes, to the residency program that's Memorial in Jasper, to Ascension St. Vincent, and Deaconess here. So, we already have established some of these kinds of connections, we just need to formalize those, if we can.

President Montrastelle: Joe?

Councilmember Kiefer: Greg, on your previous slide you had population growth, and then tying in, so it says increase our population, which I'm all for. But, then on the next slide when you talk about your READI program...

Greg Wathen: Yes.

Councilmember Kiefer: ...you know, what I've found in my experience, you know, it's hard to grow your population. You can't put in new subdivisions, or new apartment complexes, or any kind of housing when there's no sewer. And, a lot of the areas in our, I know Posey County is really weak on it, but I know Vanderburgh County, there's a lot of areas where there's no sewer. Of course, that's not sexy, it doesn't have any glamor to it...

Greg Wathen: You're absolutely right about that.

Councilmember Kiefer: ...and, but the bottom line is, we've had, I'm, I'm about ready to lose a deal in northern Vanderburgh County, which would bring in jobs and a big project, 150,000 square foot building, can't do it. No sewer. You know.

Greg Wathen: Well, So, Councilman, think about it this way...

Councilmember Kiefer: They might go to Warrick though.

Greg Wathen: ...Regional Cities told us specifically, even though it was technically allowed for these kinds of hard infrastructure, in terms of investments, they asked us not to do that very thing. So, think about how can we fill that gap? In many cases, as you know, in particular as you're dealing with water and sewer, a lot of times that's a municipal system. It's not necessarily something for the county, it's municipal, with the exception in our market, within Posey County, they just created a Regional Sewer District. In that particular case, we're talking to them about how can we utilize some of the recovery money that's coming in, the American Recovery money, and utilizing that to help supplement it. So, it's a combination of different potential financing tools, and then what you're trying to do, is fill in the gaps. Because you're never going to have a program that's going to take care of 100% of your needs. But, how do you fill in the gaps, and leverage that through both the public and private sector?

Councilmember Kiefer: Right, I just, I just wish that would be on your radar.

Greg Wathen: It certainly is. Most assuredly it is on our radar. It's just, and thinking too, is that every community, we're already seeing it, if you think last time what we did for Regional Cities, and I certainly don't want to belabor the point, we had more than a hundred ideas.

Councilmember Kiefer: Right.

Greg Wathen: We came down to 19 that were actually funded. So, it's not that they're not worthwhile, they're marvelous ideas, but does it connect, does it move the region forward? Is it just sort of a singular idea that's interesting, but it really doesn't connect anything else that we're trying to do in terms of the metrics, in terms of increasing population and reducing poverty, things of those nature. So, we're, we're really looking at this as a holistic process, and seeing how we connect all of the various dots.

Councilmember Shetler: Truthfully, this is the one area though, I think, that TIF money...

Councilmember Kiefer: That's where I was going.

Councilmember Shetler: ...is specifically...

Greg Wathen: Yes.

Councilmember Shetler: ...you know, important for, and having discipline on how that money is spent.

Greg Wathen: Absolutely.

Councilmember Shetler: So, that you can utilize it for major projects, and get those things underground. I mean, this goes back to the Highway 41 project, again showing my age, in the '70s when...

Councilmember Kiefer: Right.

Councilmember Shetler: ...the water and sewer was run down 41 to open up what really, potentially ended up becoming Toyota.

Greg Wathen: And, those, again, those are public decisions made by these public bodies making those decisions. Certainly, we can help and guide and make suggestions, and we can help potentially influence. The reality is you make the decisions, and so, from that standpoint, but you're absolutely correct about that. That infrastructure just doesn't happen. Somebody has to put it into the ground to make it work.

Councilmember Raben: But, you might look at that, if it, if it's close to a TIF, an existing TIF.

Greg Wathen: Absolutely yes.

Councilmember Raben: And, the growth is there, that, that needs to be discussed.

Tara Barney: I'm just going to take one more second, because I love to leave with a vision. But, to your point, water and sewer are the underpinnings of quality of place, because we're not going to have quality of place if we don't figure that out. So, we are very appreciative of it being part of that conversation, because some of these resources can help us address water and sewer needs. Maybe not the READI Program, but maybe some of these others, and one of them is a disciplined use of those scarce taxpayer dollars. So, as someone that's run business organizations for a long time, we're appreciative of that disciplined allocation of those resources. But, I want to leave you with just one quick observation, because strategy is one of those things I think we commonly value, and we talked a little bit about workforce strategy. The other huge opportunity that's in front of us that we are, we're brilliant if we take advantage of now, and we will hit ourselves in the head if we don't, in six or seven years, is the final decision that's been made on building the I-69 Bridge. So, however many years you all have been engaged in this process, I know you've been talking about it, and I've not been here long enough to have been on that journey with you, but I'm lucky enough to be here when we have real dates. So, I want to make sure that we just brought that to your attention. You may have all the details on this, but if not, at any time we would be happy to walk you through as much detail as you would like on this. But, sometime in the spring, we're going to actually have a groundbreaking, it's going to be in Kentucky, so it's going to be on the other end of the bridge, because there's a lot of infrastructure to build there, but that is going to begin the process that will lead to building the bridge that connects our region north and south. And, that offers a massive opportunity, not just in the short term when \$1.4 billion of other taxpayers' money from around the country gets invested here, because some of that will happen, and it will provide for construction jobs and other opportunities during the construction. But, the opportunity it provides us to think about areas to grow and to be prepared to take full advantage of as that bridge becomes an active part of the Interstate Highway System is a huge opportunity for us. So, I just wanted to leave you with what we think is a, if Toyota wasn't good news, this is

good news for, for our community and our chance to work together to do some great things for this region. So, happy to have your thoughts. Got one quick fun picture to leave you with, because this is our new team. So, we'll be better at being able to answer the questions your clients have, and we'll be better able to build impactful marketing tools, and we're better able to stand up the services that our community so values from the work of our professional organizations, because we've got this whole crew working together, and we've got a lot of expertise, and a lot of great energy. So, I wanted you to have confidence that we are thrilled about the opportunity to work in partnership with you on the future of Vanderburgh County. With that, we'll come talk to you anytime you invite us.

President Montrastelle: Tara, Tara, what's the split on cost on that bridge between Indiana and Kentucky?

Tara Barney: Well, actually it's going to be a little heavier leaning toward Indiana, which is ironic, because the actual bridge span is all in Kentucky.

President Montrastelle: Right.

Tara Barney: You know, the part that goes over the water is all Kentucky, but it will be something in the 60/40 space.

President Montrastelle: Okay.

Tara Barney: There's a lot of parts to it, I won't go into the endless detail until you invite me to, because some of it's about tolls, some of it's about whose bonds are retiring at which point in time. So, it's a, it's a, but generally, the quick answer to that is it's a little more Indiana leaning.

President Montrastelle: What's the approximate cost on that bridge?

Tara Barney: The official number is \$1.4 billion.

President Montrastelle: Yeah.

Tara Barney: If you ask the private sector folks that build bridges around here, they would say it will cost a good bit less than that to build it. But in that is financing costs for the carrying costs, and so when you add the financing costs in there, it's going to be somewhere in that north of a billion range, and probably 1.4 is not a bad estimate.

President Montrastelle: Yeah, okay.

Tara Barney: Thank you so much. Anything I missed? I know that the next part of your agenda is a really important part of our team. So, we'll get out of your way and let Andrea do what you ask of her.

President Montrastelle: Thank you so much for coming and sharing that with (inaudible). And, I don't know, you continue to do that same presentation, you'll, you'll be fine, you know?

Greg Wathen: We'll get much better as we go along.

Tara Barney: (Inaudible. Talking over each other.)

President Montrastelle: I'm sure you'll get faster.

Tara Barney: Thank you.

<p style="text-align: center;">PRELIMINARY RESOLUTION CO.R-05-21-006: TAX PHASE-IN for WEST INDUSTRIES, LLC AND MOORE METAL WORKS</p>
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President Montrastelle: Okay, next up on the agenda is a Preliminary Resolution for a six-year abatement on real and personal property for West Industries.

Andrea Lendy: Yes, and what a perfect example of how E-REP can help, basically help you guys. You know, we vet the project as it comes through. We score it, and then I bring it before you with a recommendation for six years today. However, you guys have final say. So, the company is Moore Metal Works. They're a family-owned and operated high-quality metal fabrication business

on the west side of Evansville, and they've been serving the Evansville area since 1998. They also complete maintenance work for some of the largest companies in our region, and they have steadily grown and invested heavily in their facility and workforce, but, they're pretty much busting at the seams. They had to, unfortunately, turn down a half-million-dollar project, simply because they don't have the space that they need. So, they are investing \$1.2 million, \$442,000 of which will be rehabbing an industrial warehouse, contiguous to their current facility. And, this will allow them to invest an additional \$764,000 in equipment to take on larger projects, and hire five new employees. So, I am before you today recommending a six-year abatement on real and personal property taxes. And, a company representative will be here next month, if you guys have any specific questions to ask them. Any questions?

Councilmember Raben: So, you're not asking us to do anything today?

Andrea Lendy: This is just first reading.

Councilmember Raben: Because I don't...

President Montrastelle: Well, today we're going to vote on a Preliminary Resolution. Next, next month will be the Confirming Resolution.

Councilmember Raben: And, I, either I've misplaced it or the dog ate it, but I don't have a copy of the Resolution.

President Montrastelle: Well, it's on like page three of this right here.

Councilmember Raben: Oh, it is on that?

President Montrastelle: Yes.

Councilmember Raben: Okay.

President Montrastelle: The Resolution is on page three, Preliminary Resolution.

Andrea Lendy: Yeah, thank you.

Councilmember Raben: So, the average salary for individuals working there is what?

Andrea Lendy: I believe it was \$13 to \$16 per hour. Let me check. And, on their SB-1 form it just has, you know, their current number of employees is 26, and then it has it as a salary. So, \$1.2 million for those 26 employees.

President Montrastelle: So, your question, James, what's the average salary of these new workers?

Councilmember Raben: Yes.

President Montrastelle: Was that...

Councilmember Raben: Yes.

Councilmember Hahn: It shows some of them are hourly, and then so many are \$13-\$15, as she said. Are they union or non-union?

Andrea Lendy: I don't know.

Councilmember Hahn: I was trying to find that when I was reading it, because I would have thought the wages would have been a little higher had they been union.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Hahn: And not minimum wage.

President Montrastelle: I don't see that either, James.

Councilmember Raben: I don't see it on here.

Andrea Lendy: I can certainly get that for you for next month's meeting.

President Montrastelle: Maybe it is, Teri's coming up.

Councilmember Kiefer: Well, it's got on here five additional employees at \$300,000.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

President Montrastelle: Yes, it does.

Andrea Lendy: On the SB-1 form.

Councilmember Kiefer: Do you see it on the application?

President Montrastelle: Yes.

Councilmember Kiefer: Or, the statement of benefits?

President Montrastelle: Yes, I do.

Councilmember Kiefer: Page one of two, yeah.

President Montrastelle: Yes.

Councilmember Raben: Well, it does say on here that they're starting, or it appears that they're starting at \$7.25, which would be, I don't know that we've ever gone down this hole with, with somebody paying minimum wage.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh. They...

Councilmember Raben: That would be my, that would be my drawback here.

Councilmember Hahn: That was why I was asking if it was union, because that seems very low for...

Andrea Lendy: They are a small business. They only have 30 current employees, and this abatement will really help them make that investment.

President Montrastelle: Well, according to the statement of benefits, it's an average of \$60,000 per employee.

Councilmember Kiefer: But, that probably includes benefits and things like that.

President Montrastelle: I don't know.

Councilmember Kiefer: But, still it's a chunk of money.

Councilmember Raben: Well, I mean, if, if everybody looks at why we grant tax abatements is to draw good paying, secure jobs, and I don't think seven and a quarter an hour...

Andrea Lendy: It does say starting wage, year one, \$50,000...

Councilmember Raben: ...really meets that.

Andrea Lendy: ...on...

Councilmember Shetler: (Inaudible. Microphone not on.) problem with that is there's no benefits.

Councilmember Hahn: Uh-huh.

Andrea Lendy: I'll definitely firm up those numbers before next month's meeting.

Councilmember Kiefer: Yeah, because clearly it said \$60,000, and it probably would be \$50,000 by the time you add, take away the benefits and stuff.

President Montrastelle: Oh, it would be less than that.

Councilmember Shetler: (Inaudible comments. Microphone was not on.)

President Montrastelle: Yeah.

Councilmember Kiefer: Yeah.

Councilmember Raben: You know, one of the things since there was probably more resources today with the new organization, but, you know, we've never had the benefit of being able to verify numbers. You know, particularly when they come in for compliance reviews and whatnot. We really need to get to the point where we can actually do some audits, and make sure we're really getting what we're being told we're getting.

Andrea Lendy: Yes, and that's why I do my compliance report about twice a year. It compares what they said they would do on the SB-1, and compares it to paperwork that they have to file annually.

Councilmember Raben: Again...

Andrea Lendy: So, it just shows where they're at.

Councilmember Raben: Again, that's them telling us, or you. We're all guilty here...

Andrea Lendy: Well, and the Assessor and the Auditor.

Councilmember Raben: But, they're telling us, we're not really going in and looking at files, or inspecting, you know, like an audit.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Raben: Like audits happen. And that's, at some point, I think, because, you know, we're talking pretty significant dollars when we grant tax deferrals or abatements, what have you. It would be nice if we had the security of being able to do that.

Andrea Lendy: Yeah, and absolutely. During my compliance, you're always welcome to request a company representative. I don't know if the year after COVID is, you know, just because they're going to have some difficulties more than likely.

Councilmember Hahn: Sure.

Councilmember Raben: But...

Andrea Lendy: But, I do hear what you are saying.

Councilmember Raben: ...to be able to verify payroll records, is where I'm going. Not just tell us you're paying \$25 an hour, but let me see it.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Goebel: Do they, do they show you anything you can verify, on the spot, when you go through? Or is it just their report?

Andrea Lendy: No, it's a CF-1 form. So, what's written is what I have to go off of. I don't know how able we are to do that, just because it's, you know, this whole process is defined by State statute, and then there's also a local Resolution. So, I don't know how...

Councilmember Raben: I think when it involves tax dollars, we've got a little bit of...

Andrea Lendy: Okay.

Councilmember Raben: ...leash on what we can and can't do. So, and, again, that has nothing to do with the majority, I'm sure. I mean, I think a lot of us know enough about the companies we've granted...

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Raben: ...tax phase-ins to in the past. But, this one here, it does need some clarification.

Andrea Lendy: Yes.

Councilmember Raben: Because the pay rates that are quoted here certainly would be a new one for us to grant phase-in for that.

President Montrastelle: So, on your scoring sheet...

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

President Montrastelle: ...okay, it says starting wage 25% plus State minimum wage. And, the State minimum wage is \$7.25.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

President Montrastelle: So, it's going to be 25% more than \$7.25? Is that how that reads?

Andrea Lendy: Right.

President Montrastelle: Okay.

Andrea Lendy: And, I was probably going off of the \$50,000 level.

President Montrastelle: Yeah.

Councilmember Kiefer: I'm sure all jobs aren't exactly the same pay.

Andrea Lendy: Right.

Councilmember Kiefer: So, some of them are going to be lower than others. You might have a management position, or a supervisor making more money.

President Montrastelle: So, do we want to, someone from the...

Councilmember Kiefer: I don't think it hurts to have somebody come down.

Andrea Lendy: Yeah, they'll be here...

President Montrastelle: Next week?

Andrea Lendy: ...next month.

Councilmember Kiefer: And, keep in mind, if you look at this...

Councilmember Raben: That's still only nine, what is that, that would be eight, that would be nine dollars an hour. That still is considerably less than what we've granted (Inaudible. Talking over each other.)

Councilmember Kiefer: But, I also think their score is considerably less, because according to the attachment, they're only getting one year worth 100% abatement. And, then year two they're already down to 85%, you know, so it progresses down only six years.

Andrea Lendy: Right.

Councilmember Kiefer: And, year six, five and six, you know, it's...

Andrea Lendy: Right. So...

Councilmember Kiefer: ...it's not like a 100% abatement for ten straight years or anything.

Andrea Lendy: Right.

Councilmember Kiefer: It does drop off pretty quickly.

Andrea Lendy: And, that's why the scoring sheet is there. You know, there's a maximum of ten years, and then taking into effect those factors, that is how this company scored was six years.

Councilmember Raben: So, is that on, that same factor is on personal and real property here?

Andrea Lendy: Yes.

President Montrastelle: Mike?

Councilmember Goebel: Well, perhaps the representative could clarify the pay.

Andrea Lendy: Yes.

Councilmember Goebel: Because, that's basically what we pay pool guards at Burdette Park, you know.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Goebel: So.

President Montrastelle: Yeah. Okay, someone...

Councilmember Shetler: Maybe a different, a little different direction, I guess, for a second.

Andrea Lendy: Yeah.

Councilmember Shetler: And, that is because the thought's been going through my mind, and I think it was about 14 or 15 years ago, when they put the scorecard together.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Shetler: And, it was, I think, weighted heavily towards going with labor and what impact that would have. Today with the technology we have, there's not as much intense labor in most factory or job situations.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Shetler: I'm just wondering if we shouldn't take a real good hard look at that again, the scorecard?

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Shetler: And, look at that capital investment that they're making into the community. Because that's what we're eventually going to be drawing from, as a Body, you know, government Body here.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Shetler: So, again, it's getting away from the whole labor question that's been raised here today, and I get it.

Andrea Lendy: No, I, I...

Councilmember Shetler: I don't disagree.

Andrea Lendy: ...understand both sides.

Councilmember Shetler: But, I do think that we need to look harder at that, that capital that's being invested here....

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Shetler: ...and weight that a little differently than what we've been doing in the past. So, I don't know if you guys have talked about that internally or not...

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Shetler: ...and what your feeling is, but...

Andrea Lendy: Yeah, and that's also a factor of the scoring sheet.

Councilmember Shetler: Yes.

Andrea Lendy: You know, capital investment comes into play.

Councilmember Shetler: Right.

Andrea Lendy: Wages, benefits, (Inaudible. Talking over each other.)

Councilmember Shetler: But, since that was 15 years ago, it was a different...

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Shetler: ...weight average than...

Andrea Lendy: Yeah.

Councilmember Shetler: ...what it is today. It's, there's a different implication here, in my opinion.

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

President Montrastelle: So, whether it's West or other companies...

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

President Montrastelle: ...their investment, in this particular case, \$442 million³ in rehabbing a warehouse. How do you know if this company, or any other company actually makes that amount of investment?

Andrea Lendy: So, each year they file paperwork with me, the Auditor, and the Assessor.

President Montrastelle: Okay.

Andrea Lendy: And, then that's when I come before you to do my compliance review.

President Montrastelle: Right.

Andrea Lendy: So, it's on investment, wages and there's one other...

President Montrastelle: So, when you come and do that, that's after how many years it's been in play?

Andrea Lendy: I do it for each year that it has an abatement.

President Montrastelle: Each year, okay.

Andrea Lendy: So, each company is different.

President Montrastelle: Okay, Mike?

Councilmember Goebel: No, I was just going to say thank you for the job you do, because I remember the days before you took this responsibility, and it was difficult for this Council to make those calls. So, you are a great help to us.

³ \$442,000.

Andrea Lendy: Thank you.

Councilmember Terry: I have a question.

President Montrastelle: Yeah, Stephanie?

Councilmember Terry: I think I've asked this before, the affirmative action question.

Andrea Lendy: Yes, I need to change that.

Councilmember Terry: Okay, yeah, or, you know, just understanding that, you know, their commitment...

Andrea Lendy: Yes.

Councilmember Terry: ...to basically equity in the workplace. And, I'd be, when your presentation around the region, you know, and what we're trying to evolve, I think, it's important for us to (Inaudible).

Andrea Lendy: Absolutely.

Councilmember Terry: Okay.

Andrea Lendy: It is on my to-do to revamp the application form. So, that is 100% on my radar to change the wording a little bit.

President Montrastelle: So, any other questions? If not, I'll ask, ask for a motion to be this way, a motion to approve, if that's the motion, Resolution CO.R-05-21-006, a Preliminary Resolution of the Vanderburgh County Council declaring an Economic Revitalization Area for tax phase-in for redevelopment and rehabilitation of real estate improvements and acquisitions of manufacturing equipment located at 510 N. Woods Avenue, Evansville, Indiana.

Councilmember Raben: I'll make a...

President Montrastelle: Would somebody make that in a motion?

Councilmember Hahn: That's a mouthful.

Councilmember Raben: I'll make the motion, well, did you just make the motion? I'll make a motion to approve the preliminary...

Andrea Lendy: Uh-huh.

Councilmember Raben: ...with a lot of questions...

Andrea Lendy: Yeah.

Councilmember Raben: ...before we finalize it.

Andrea Lendy: Understood.

Councilmember Hahn: I'll second it.

President Montrastelle: Okay, any other questions or discussions? Hearing none. All of those in favor signify by saying aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Those opposed?

(None opposed)

President Montrastelle: No one. It passes.

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

President Montrastelle: We'll talk next month on the Confirming Resolution.

Andrea Lendy: Alright, thank you.

President Montrastelle: Very good. Thank you so much for coming and sharing.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE

President Montrastelle: Next up on our agenda is Amendments to Salary Ordinance.

Councilmember Raben: Okay, everyone has been given a four-page document.

President Montrastelle: See you guys. Thank you.

Councilmember Raben: I'm not going to bore you here today with reading this, but I will ask that it be entered into the minutes, and make that in the form of a motion.

Councilmember Shetler: Second.

President Montrastelle: All those in favor say aye.

All Councilmembers: Aye.

President Montrastelle: Anyone opposed?

(None opposed)

President Montrastelle: The motion carries.

(Voice Vote unanimously approved 7-0)

President Montrastelle: The amendments of our Salary Ordinances are approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Montrastelle: Public, what, Cinco De Mayo? Is that why you're dressed up? Okay, any public comment? Hearing none.

Councilmember Goebel: Here.

President Montrastelle: Oh, I'm sorry, Mike? Stephanie? What?

Councilmember Terry: Go ahead.

President Montrastelle: Go.

Councilmember Goebel: Mine's personal.

Councilmember Terry: Oh, well, it's, I'm only mentioning it because it's at the bottom of your stack. You should have received a letter. Since I am signed on this, I'm just bringing it to your attention that is there for your review. Alright?

President Montrastelle: Thank you. The American Rescue Plan relief funds for municipal districts. Mike?

Councilmember Goebel: No, I was just going to make mention, I guess, the time has come and gone now, but I'm pretty proud of my son who, who, after he graduated from college, he joined the, became the number one in basic, he finished at the very top of OCS, he finished as a Ranger. He was deployed to Iraq. He served as Escort to the President in D.C., and the Honor Guard. And, now he's at Fort Benning, and I think as of probably 4:00 our time, he just finished his last day as an officer in the U.S. Army. So, he's transitioning. But, it's getting close to Memorial Day, I have a little bit of pride there. Thank you.

Councilmember Raben: I wouldn't have expected any less of your son. I mean, he's got the drive of his father.

Councilmember Kiefer: Thank you for his service. Appreciate that.

President Montrastelle: Thank you, Mike.

Councilmember Kiefer: Hey, one last thing before we change...oh, were you, okay. Last week, Mike or Councilman Goebel mentioned something, and I wanted to further bring this up. You had mentioned something about some kind of satellite, and, you know, would we actually need physical internet cable or connectivity if you could get it just as good, internet connectivity through a satellite? And, I did get a call, a couple of people watched our meeting, which surprised me, that I got a call from a couple of people saying, hey, you guys really ought to think about that before you spend a bunch of money on laying down some physical lines. And, I don't know enough about it. I can't even remember what that place was called that you brought up, but...

Councilmember Goebel: Well, Musk has Starlink and he said right now 500,000 that have signed up to get the, and it's mostly for rural. And, he and Bezos, I guess, are in competition for the satellite. He's supposed to come up with like 12,000 satellites. I don't know how safe that is, but they're putting up about 60 a week, it seems like. But, that's a possibility for some people.

Councilmember Raben: You know what, Joe, I mean, that's what I do, I work from satellite for the service that I have, but, I mean, there's issues, just like whether you're on your computer or watching TV or something, when it rains you lose service. When there's a hard line, you know, you don't have those interruptions, and then plus the fact, that invites some of the other providers in, to be competitive. I mean, that, so, I mean, Spectrum, some of the others.

Councilmember Kiefer: No, that's good about, especially about, you know, when it rains or cloudy, or, you know, you can't get good connectivity, but I just brought it up because after our last meeting, when you brought it up, you know, people, you know, I got, I got a phone call on it, and I thought, well, okay, I'll bring it up at the next meeting. So, that's what I was doing.

President Montrastelle: Very good. Very good.

REMINDER OF NEXT MEETING DATE

President Montrastelle: Reminder, our next meeting is May 26th.

ADJOURNMENT

President Montrastelle: No other business before this group? Hearing none.

Councilmember Kiefer: Move to adjourn.

President Montrastelle: We are adjourned.

(There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.)

SIGNATURES

VANDERBURGH COUNTY COUNCIL

President John Montrastelle

Vice-President Joe Kiefer

James Raben

Tom Shetler, Jr.

Mike Goebel

Jill Anne Hahn

Stephanie Terry