

Randolph County Council

December 8, 2020

The Randolph County Council met for its regular meeting at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners and Council Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Council President Gary Friend, Tom Kerns, Max Holaday, David Lenkensdofer, Missy Williams and. Also present was County Auditor Laura J Martin.

Council President Gary Friend presided.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ceann Bales & Bob McCoy – Housing Project in Winchester

Ceann said we are here Economic Development soon to be Randolph County United to support this, housing is one of our five initiatives that our new board adopted to focus on. I have been working with this group on the housing project.

Bob said I think you all know through many years of being on Council and being involved with government that the question keeps coming up, basically we need more housing and that has been done study after study going back we keep getting that same message from everybody we have talked to, we need more housing. We do have empty lots in town that are not suitable for the type of housing we are needing, that question was brought up yesterday, utilizing some of our lots where we tore down blight. The type of housing that is needed is a little bit higher scale, \$150,000.00 plus. So, early on in my administration Mr. Errol Klem came in and we discussed a few things, it was kind of a meet and greet, we never really sit down and talked, some ideas he had, one of them was developing the Huntsville Road area, right along the golf course, which that has been discussed over many years, there is some lots there that are available to build on and as well across the road could be potential development. At that point I hired HWC to do a study on what it would cost to run sewage out to that area and what we come up with basically three different options. The first option was right around \$450,000.00 but really wasn't feasible for what they called a pressurized system, that just really wouldn't work for that area. We stepped it up a little bid to about \$800,000.00 which utilizes lift stations, from that point we looked at it and that would actually only cover on the east side of Huntsville Road, so we looked again at it and decided if we are going to develop that area, we might as well make it so we can have future housing on both sides of the road so the funding ended up being \$1,070,000.00 I think is what the study showed. We took that before redevelopment and I was in the process of asking if Baker Tilly would refinance some bonds. They did a study on some refinancing, of course we've got some bonds that are probably pushing 6% range and rates are not going to, I can't say they are not going to go lower, but they are probably as low as they are going to be for a while. We are in the process of refinancing some bonds and we went ahead and just through that \$1 million in that scenario to see if it was a doable project. They came back and basically

stated that yes is something we can do. I took that back to Errol and RCED and talked a little bit about it. Part of getting housing out there would be a water main, gas and other things so basically, we were pretty much at that million, that is about our maximum exposure. This is why we are here today, we came before the Commissioner's yesterday. We are pretty much at \$300,000.00 to run a water main and that would be an investment by five investors, not the city, we don't want to go into the bidding process on all that, we want that to be the private investors to take care of all that end of it. I will hand it over to Mark from here, something before you do go forward though, I did want to bring up because I wasn't really prepared with numbers yesterday, we did put \$300,000.00 into drainage through the windfarm money in the past and we have also put in money for communications as well as our highway barn. I just wanted to bring that up, this is infrastructure and it will benefit everybody in the long run.

Mark Todd said in this whole packet you kind of have an idea of what has been talked about for years and has been talked about different ways, this is kind of where we have settled right now. When we built that particular nine holes, which is in the county, our other two nines are in the city, we left all that road frontage in 1999 and 2000 for possible housing. So, we had that vision for quite a while. We are happy to say that working with the city, I don't know that the need for housing has ever been greater, I think our local realtors will tell you that. We certainly have come further along on this project working with the city right now than we have in the past on this idea. In small communities I think the biggest challenge as you well know is these developments, the infrastructure cost is always going to be higher than anybody's investment for development. So basic question is where can the help come from and what is new housing worth to the city and to the county. We happen to have the available land, you can see in your packet, we think we can come up with 18 lots in the initial drawing. The housing would match the Willow ridge division as far as the covenants of they type of houses we would be going to. The city as the Mayor says is willing to commit up to \$1 million into the project as well. We, the city and us are here asking for the last \$300,000.00, what we thing we need to get that infrastructure to those lots. Once it gets there the obvious question you should have is what do we have in it if we are asking for all that. Obviously for Eric and I, we have a 62-acre golf course sitting over there in the county, the first thing that is going to happen is that's got to get annexed and we know that so we are willing to do that. Currently on this last round of taxes, the two 9's that are in the city of Winchester, we were paying 36% higher than our 9 that is in the county. So, our big investment if you will, is going to be willing to be annexed which will increase those tax dollars. Those house lots will also be annexed and those will be taxed as residential lots I'm sure. In addition, for us to get this ready to be properly developed, we have got drainage work, by law you have to have drainage survey, we've got a fence that we will need to put in to separate the golf course from there, that is about \$12,000.00. We've got the final addition of the site work to be surveyed out, that quote was \$12 to \$15 thousand overall, we're willing to commit to and then Errol is sitting right behind us and on a couple of those lots he's got a group that is already willing to commit to putting a couple of spec homes in to get the ball rolling. From our commitment and the cities commitment most of the utilities are board, the ones that are not we got a quote for cobalt for the water for \$300,000.00, the gas company has been easy to work with, comcast, that is all in your packet. So, we do have a commitment on our end in the form of annexation, getting stuff done. The golf course has a maintenance barn sitting right in the middle of all of this that we have to clean up a little bit, it is not bad but to be in that row of

houses. We certainly have expense in the game and then with the annexation over time that is going to be huge. We would certainly entertain any questions.

Gary said are you going to TIF the project?

Bob said that was the original thought and I am going to take it back to Baker Tilly after this meeting, probably will have a phone conference with them. Personally, I would rather not and if it is a doable project without TIF and they tell me we are safe to go that route then I feel that we do not need to TIF it. I think we have plenty of TIF districts within the city anyway and I have the analysis from Baker Tilly when they looked at our TIF area, I'm looking at the amount of TIF and what the tax rate would be without a TIF. There is a big difference there, so I'd rather not TIF it at this time but I may have to TIF it just for the fact that's a million-dollar project and if that does go on the taxpayer's backs but we are seeing some growth, Covid slowed things down but I feel this is the time to do the project if were going to do it.

Gary said just like Mark said yes, we applied investment from the raising of taxes, if the project goes TIF then the county has an investment just exactly like you do and then we would invest this money with no return. I don't know what the sunset is on a residential housing TIF. Also, I have to look at a situation where Union City is as well opening up housing and trying to, what we do here today we have to be willing to do equitably across Randolph County, we've got Losantville as well trying to upgrade their sewer system, they actually put one in, so we have to look at it with a broad range. Basically, the only investment that you would have is going vertical because you have the ground and the taxes are coming in so, right of the top I think we owe Winchester \$100,000.00 anyway because we have given to the other communities over the last three or four years. Is there any investment from the water company, they are going to get meters and take water money in immediately with nothing, are they involved in this?

Bob said again, we did the sewage and when we found out what the water company said it would cost we, they had Cobalt look at it and give a quote, what will happen with water once you run water out to that area that water will be available to across the road as well and then that investment will actually be less over time. Now, will that benefit the county, will that benefit the city, it will benefit the water company more than anybody but yes, we have had discussions with the water company and we feel they could do more but it has come to a stand still in that sense. Long term if we would get two spec homes out there and get the buzz going, people will look at that and then you got the people across the road possibly looking at development, I could see that and it may be 10-years away, I don't know but we have to look forward instead of sitting around waiting on something to happen and these guys have basically stepped up, Errol could be in Florida right now. They could be investing in other things but they are investing their time and wanting better for our community. It is not about making a profit for them, its about building our community.

Gary said I agree, I expect them to make a profit if they are going to get involved in development and I don't have a problem with that, I don't have a problem with housing either, it is how much, right now we are looking at \$83,000.00 per site for 18 sites is what the whole thing boils down to or \$16,000.00 per site for water and I don't know if you are going to get a \$30,000.00 or \$40,000.00 cost out for the land site, you should put a little bit of that in yourself as the

development. Understand if you were in another sub development area you would be expected to put some infrastructure in, there is no doubt about it. It would slim the margin down a little bit but it would not take them away.

Mark said that is a fair point, we talked about that. The annexation is a big deal for Eric and I who are going to be at that golf course for the next 20-years. That is actually a big deal to us we are for lack of a better term, that is a golf course and will always be a golf course. That land has value and could be used for various things, it has various value and the second we annex it, it changes. Going forward if it is annexed it can only be a park, it can only be a golf course, it can only be trails, it can only be green space, there are some things we would not be able to do.

Gary said is that the covenant we put on it with annexation.

Mark said I am not sure, but I would assume that.

Bob said I think you are correct.

Gary said I think we need to do something, I am wondering first of Winchester is all in and I am kind of thinking that maybe you ought be looking at a TIF because the sunset aren't so far out where it is more feasible, if the schools are an issue you can carve the schools out as we did on the windmills, we made them whole and if the TIF would come in and was making this whole if you carved out the school, lets say that we spent \$100,000.00 or \$150,000.00 that we would agree to for you, I would also have an issue because it is private, we haven't given one windmill dollar to a private entity, it's always run through governmental and I would have to get with council to see how you could pass that through, but I would not ever want to put windmill dollars to a private investor, there is no end to where that could go, all good ideas and all very valid but it opens up a lot of issues. I will go around the council and get everybody's feelings as we move forward, I can tell you that I spoke to Ricky Brown who has a fever and couldn't come here today, he wants more information. I don't want to do anything that ruins housing, I want to see American Water go in, you already have the land.

Tom said this is the exact type of project that we have to have in Randolph County going forward, it is what we really need. I struggle with a TIF district and I have concerns, not even that its private, but it is going to infrastructure and it is not necessarily going directly to them. Bob said across the road is future development potential and on from there. We have a severe housing problem in Randolph County.

Mark said we may not have clarified that right, this may be a technicality and it may not matter on your end but initially when Bob talked the water company, they are hard to play ball with, they really are and their initial deal was it is going to be \$500,000.00 to \$1 million, if you want us that is the ball park you are in. Immediately Paul Faddis contacted Cobalt and they very quickly gave us a number of \$300,000.00. I know technically on paper, it looks like it is going to the investors, that \$300,000.00 is doing nothing but paying the invoice that is going to come from Cobalt.

Gary said I understand that. We actually need to go through a government entity.

Bob said I know what you are getting at, my concern is if we take this to bid, the cost goes up and it may not. With private, they got a quote and they can just take it and say, we got a quote and we are going to go with it.

Gary said because of how the money comes to the city, the city can set up an account, you may have to get legal counsel, that is above me, but I personally would want to run it through a governmental agency, not strictly from the council.

Bob said that is understandable and that would go back to council.

Gary said is your annex procedures begun.

Bob said no.

Gary said everything is congruent to the city of Winchester now?

Bob said I think so.

Dave said I agree with everybody, housing has to be, actually it is my number one on economic development, I have been working with Mayor Spence in Union City. We have identified three or four location of additional lots. What is good about over there, everything we've identified has water, sewer, gas, electric at its front door. Bob you may want to check on TIF, I am not a big TIF fan.

Bob said I am not either and my preference would be not to TIF it.

Gary said I am not either by the way.

Dave said I just don't understand why American Water can't see their future, its right in front of them. I would go back and maybe have another discussion with them to see, at least come up with half of it or something. I am like Gary, we have given \$100,000.00 to other cities and towns for infrastructure needs and I would be more than willing to do that at this point to help get it off the ground.

Gary said I would even go \$150,000.00, they're a bigger city, they are not from the same category.

Bob said we still have the unknown of what the actual project will cost us for the sewer extension. I was talking to Mike Wickersham yesterday at the Commissioner's meeting, it could be that we come in under, but I don't know that, we got to go with what numbers we are provided. When it's all said and done, with interest and everything else, this sewer project could be \$1.4 million.

Gary said Council has to be careful, what we do for Winchester, we are obligated to do for Union City, if they can come up with an equitable project.

Max said all these other companies are willing to pony up, they city is doing their share, AEP is recognizing a future income, the gas company is doing their share, the golf course is doing their share, everybody except the water company and they are going to benefit from it.

Bob said I can go back to them and say we are pretty much looking at the project will happen or it won't unless you help out with it. I just don't want to pass this opportunity up.

Max said we need housing in this community and it sounds like it would be nice housing, we've also identified that we need good broadband communication and as a group we have dedicated \$400,000.00 towards the communications system. I would be willing as Gary said give a portion at least to the City of Winchester but not a private company.

Mike Wickersham said I don't want to be in a position to defend the water company, but it seems their investment would be a lot more. I haven't paid a water bill at home for a long time but what we pay for water is a lot less than what we pay for gas. That may be what they are thinking, the fact that it is not quite the investment that I & M is making, or Ohio Valley Gas. I don't want to put words in the Mayor's mouth, but he did say yesterday that he was probably going to have to contribute some into utilities out there, is that correct?

Bob said yes, we are going to cover the electric, the gas actually the gas company has stepped up.

Missy said I am all for this project, obviously, I have seen some real benefits from new housing. Just the street that I live on which is Stonebridge Dr., we have 11 children that live there now. I think the youngest one is probably 4, two graduated from Union City High School last year, you take those 11 kids, four of them are in school right now, those kids are going to be in school for 13 years and our schools are really going to benefit from this, simple math is over those 52 combined years times \$6000.00, there's your \$312,000.00 that is going to go back to your schools. Union City because its open enrollment, two kids graduated from Union City last year that live their part time at least, your sewage bill, the city is going to make \$18,000.00 over the deration of that. Ceann has assigned me in the past to kind of be our legislative go between and I know Senator Raatz is willing to work with Dave and some of those guys and talk to the water company a little bit. I know Ceann communicates great with our legislative people, with Senator Raatz and Representative Prescott. They are there to help us and I think we can use them a little bit. We are talking income tax we didn't have before, we are talking they buy gas in town. Dave you have been in on these things so long in your service to the county, every comprehensive plan says the same thing. I am like everybody else, I hope Union City comes up and they will, they are working so hard, Mayor Spence, they are working hard on it and we need housing really bad. Some houses in that addition sell before the sign ever goes in the yard because there is a need and a want for a little more ground and newer houses, low to maintain, kind of outside the city center and is neighborhood friendly, I think people are looking for that. This is really important to me and I know Dave and I have talked about this a long time ago but just on one street, I haven't had time to go to the others, we have a family from Missouri, we have three families from Jay County who have bought homes there or duplexes there and one from Richmond and I'm sure I'm missing somebody there, but just on Stonebridge Drive. When they move in we

really win. I am totally in favor of it and another thing is I know it was asked of Mayor McCoy the other day, does this mean that Huntsville Road, will the city have any obligation.

Bob said yes, and actually it would be our responsibility and it's growing the City, that just means more money coming in from the state, you bring more roads in you bring more money in. We all benefit, it is not city, it's not county, it is backing Randolph United, it's one, we are not working against each other, we are building our community.

Gary said high end housing is not the only housing Randolph County has, we will have citizens or constituents who will never be able to live out there who would like to have the same sidewalk built in their community, their part of town. As we do this, we are going to commit up to a million and a half dollars, what are we doing for the citizens that don't have that fortune. They are just as important to Randolph County; their house is just as important to them. I want to fair and equitable, but everybody gets involved a little bit and go from there. Does anybody have anything else, I would like for the Council to consider maybe committing \$150,000.00 so this thing can get going through wind farm funding, because you are a bigger city, you are not the same as the small towns you have different overhead. As far as going the whole \$300,000.00, I don't want to go there until our entire Council is set. Rick would like to be involved with more information. I think a reach out to the County Council for \$150,000.00 would say a lot that we are in to this and that little gap that needs to be made, can be made and we have to save some money for Losantville's project when that comes in line, Union City's project and we really need to have some money so we can get rid of the blight in our towns, for people to split equity and take a \$25,000.00 piece of property and bring it back, we owe them too. I think this needs to be a well-rounded thing and put our eggs in all these baskets and start here.

Paul Faddis said as far as being equitable, we agree with that and our belief is these types of homes will not only attract people but it is going to allow everybody to move up. It is going to vacate the \$70,000, \$80,000, \$150,000 homes as those people move up, Errol can speak to the amount of people that moved out there when he did the Willow Ridge. We agree with you this is the way to help everybody, is our belief. Earlier we were talking about the 18 lots and the water, there has been a lot of discussion about what the future looks like out there on Huntsville Road and I believe there is going to be a lot of further development and so this water is not just for this development or 18 lots, it's for the future.

Gary said there is a lot of profit, development is going to be there so, those lots profit have a little bit of room to contribute into the water.

Meeks said I would just say that the City of Winchester has had a lot of trouble with the water company over the years.

Gary said they have a lot on the line to just provide water, I don't know what the leverage is to make them pay.

Bob said back to sidewalks and infrastructure throughout the town, we just applied for a federal grant to take South Main from South Street all the way out to the cemetery, total redo and

everything, resurface, sidewalks, lighting, we are going to have a million-dollar match in that project.

Gary said that is infrastructure too, we need to be careful so we can help in all.

Bob said we've got that figured out and we still continue to utilize Community Crossings. We have been very blessed in that way and we continue to put \$30,000.00 a year in sidewalks all over town. I think we are helping everybody in town. I think the big picture is growth and that is what I am looking at, I'm not looking at any faces, I'm not looking at any certain people, I am looking at growth overall for our community to grow. That is my concern with TIF, I understand to do a project of that scale sometimes you have no choice, you either grow with TIF or you don't grow at all.

Gary said schools are the big loser on TIF, the Council, we are at max tax levy, we can reduce our circuit breaker a little bit, the schools are the ones that get hurt. I've never been a real fan of residential TIF's but sometimes you have to do it to afford the infrastructure.

Missy said one clarification is, the homeowner pays for the sidewalks anytime you build a house, you pay for your sidewalks. Building regulations, or what ever you want to call them, the covenant it's you are responsible, you have to put a sidewalk.

Gary said Tom where are you at on this?

Tom said I have no problem with \$150,000.00. I think we need to do what we can to make the project go forward. We need to work with them however we can, I would hate to put \$300,000.00 into it right away, especially if it's going to TIF.

Dave said same as Tom.

Max said when I look at the map, the people that are providing the income from the windfarm people are the people that I represent from my part of the county and I do know that Modoc and Losantville have got a major problem, they cannot grow at all until the address the sewage system and I believe that they will come to us in 2021 and I want to make sure that the people that have supported the windfarms and the solar farms are going to benefit from some of that income. I would be willing to give \$150,000.00 but I wouldn't want to go any further than that.

Missy said I agree with the \$150,000.00. I agree with Max.

Gary said we can talk all day long; would somebody like to make a motion to approve \$150,000.00 and see if the Commissioner's would agree with that as well.

Dave said so moved. Missy seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said if there is any developing situation please come back, especially in January when we have a full Council, we have a new member coming, Rick will be here, I hope.

Robin Vickery – Budget reduction

Gary said I got your email and it looks like your budget reduction covered your deficit by about \$7,000.00 to the good. The only problem is come January 1 you can't spend out of the treasury, we have to have a budget, we have to have a budget from you. Do you have one today?

Robin handed Gary her 2021 budget. This is the PI budget and I think that is really what is in question.

Gary said the Department of Corrections budget is too, it has to be appropriated. Do you have it.

Robin said that back page there, that doesn't show all the appropriations there.

Gary said I am aware of the obligations, where we have to pay our salaries, I get all that but we have to get your grants appropriated, just like the health grant, homeland security, motor vehicle highway, all that is different money from different areas that must be appropriated to come out of the treasury, so my concern is we are going to end up on January 1st and we are going to shut down your appropriations other than salaries. We've got to have that budget, we've got to pass it. There is no if, and or buts about it. Do you understand that?

Robin said yes. I was afraid maybe you wouldn't have in front of you with our email issues, so I printed out a copy, so that you can have that in front of you. The first thing that was asked of me, was to provide an appropriation reduction for the 2020 grant year. You will see that I have done that, I took that to the advisory board and they approved that appropriation reduction. This is what we are presenting for project income for those reductions.

Gary said is it \$137,000.00 in reductions?

Robin said yes.

Gary said which is more than your deficit which is great. Thank you. What are you going to do next year?

Robin said next year, in my mind Gary I thought that the grant was, we were okay with the grant piece, it was the project income piece that you were concerned about.

Gary said the way it works Robin, all grants, all dollars, all money that comes into Randolph County doesn't leave the treasury without an approved appropriation from the Randolph County Council. You need your grant properly appropriated out in budget form so we have oversight. Grant, project income, it is all money that the County Council has jurisdiction over.

Robin said I thought that I submitted those after I submitted the grants. I thought that was taken care of.

Gary said we did not pass them, we did not pass your budget.

Robin said I know you didn't pass it; my comment is that I did submit it to the County Council so you had those copies of appropriations.

Gary said yes, you did but we didn't pass it because you were going to go through a forced reduction do to loss, we couldn't pass it.

Robin said I understand that piece. I thought that the appropriations would be approved for the grant because that piece doesn't change and I thought the comments were that, that wasn't the issue it's the project income. That's what I focused on and I worked on additional appropriations for January through June 2021, you will see quite a difference in what was submitted to the state, this is what I believe we can do for the first six-months to help us get through and help us to build up that project income.

Gary said which page are you on.

Robin said this paper the last column. I emailed this yesterday about 4:00 pm.

Gary said you think you will need \$45,000.00.

Robin said yes.

Gary said and this is where you are going to spend it, these lines right here?

Robin said yes.

Gary said are you pretty certain that money will be there?

Robin said are you talking about the grant?

Gary said project income, that is project income, right?

Robin said yes, I am pretty certain. Currently right now, we have \$43,961.44 according to our books at our office, that is not exactly what they are going to show, they are probably going to show that we have a little bit more. We've already taken care of insurance through the end of this grant year, we are going to owe some monitoring fees, I am sure there will be a few bills coming in but we come out much better in my opinion than we thought we were going to.

Gary said we are here to help you, we have some cares act funding left over, you are not going to be left out in the cold, you are struggling with income, we just have to know where to put it. I am not going to put \$50,000.00 in and say spend it as you wish. You have to have it on a line, if you come back and say I need \$8,000.00 in miscellaneous, I am personally going to say no. You've got to get this thing broke down for us to be able to manage it. We can pass this project income if the Council chooses to, to get you through six-months. January, will you come in January?

Robin said absolutely.

Gary said you have got to bring your grant budget. It has to be revised because we didn't pass it, it doesn't exist right now. Revise your grant budget, so we can pass it in January, so you can spend the appropriations. Can you do that?

Robin said yes, I can.

Gary said even if you have to go six-months, there is no problem with that, we just got to get something. As far as the short fall, I think the Council has obligations.

Robin said the issue is going to come in the next six-months.

Gary said June in 2021?

Robin said yes June to the end of the grant year. I look for DOC, they have already said they are going to cut budgets. We did hear 15%, we don't know what that is going to be, we have not got there yet, I look to see something on that about April or May and then once I know that of course I will be back here to share what that is going to look like. Then I have concerns with number one, employment issues are the federal going to extend and then are we going to have to pay out more unemployment, those kinds of issue are going to create more havoc for us.

Gary said are you going to stick with the manpower you have right now?

Robin said no, we had an advisory board meeting and determined that we would bring one case manager back.

Gary said you can fund that?

Robin said we can fund that out of the grant fund, yes.

Gary said then we can pass this project income budget and you will bring us a grant budget January 5th.

Robin said my only question is, I've submitted different appropriations request in different formats. I need to know what format you want it in.

Gary said the County has a format that 95% of the people use, get with the Auditor's office and use that one please.

Robin said I have already competed and submitted that.

Gary said which we didn't pass, we need it revised so it is actual.

Max made a motion to approve the project income budget for six-months. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Beth Krieg – Probation part time secretary

Beth said I brought copies of all the documents that I have emailed over the last week for anybody that needs copies to look at. I was here a year ago making this same request, in our office we have a full-time secretary and a part-time secretary, we used to have two full time secretaries, at least 5 years ago if not a little bit longer we had to make those cuts. It goes without saying that has been a huge struggle for a lot of reasons. I am here today to ask if we can revisit making that part-time secretary full time. I think compared to a year ago we are in a better financial place to support that. We have worked for the past two years to increase our average monthly supplemental collections. In 2018 based on the information that I have; the average monthly collections were \$3,700.00 for 2020 our average is \$5,900.00. It does vary, we have made a lot of improvements. Implementing a procedure that is still evolving, Larena is here with me today, she has been pretty instrumental in bringing that into the office. Mailing, phone calls made to probationers, definitely continued assistance from the courts with scheduling fine and costs hearings. Those hearings are a tremendous help, there has been additional efforts to increase those average collections, we have even been taking a look at trying to go back and collect past judgements. That is a little more complicated, because you have to find people. If this secretary position is full-time, that person could help with continuing to seek people out, get those collections made, make those phone calls. It takes a lot of work to get that done. We can also focus on court costs and attorney fees, which we are doing that anyway, but we can assist with that. The supplemental probation user fees, all three of those funds are meant to supplement salaries and provide services within the probation department, it was never intended to completely pay for everything. Over the years and I have been here for a lot of them, we have always supplemented, at one point several years ago, I'd gone back and done some research to see just how much we have supplemented and the numbers were pretty high and I can't image that they have gone down. I know we have had some years where things were a little lean and the county has helped out and that is very much appreciated. What I am asking is that and you can see on the financial break down, that the part-time become full-time. The 2021 appropriations, that \$75,148.00, that number is the already approved supplemental budget for 2021 plus the salary for the full-time secretary minus the difference between the part-time and the full-time. The county has already approved paying that part-time pay for 2021 plus I did include the single insurance benefit. I have reason to believe that the person that is interested in this position, that's the benefit that they would be choosing. For future what I would be looking at is when budget time comes next year, looking at we have five full-time positions, looking at where are collections are, I see no reason why we can't continue to make these collections an average of around \$60,000.00. I would take a look at what those average collections are and try to supplement with the highest percentage that I think is reasonable and safe. I know I have to be very careful, I think we can continue to provide that benefit. That was one of the things that came up when I was talking with the folks in the Auditor's office, because this would be a new position that would be something that we would be responsible for. At least that is how I took it.

Gary said if you are getting it done the way that you are set up right now, why can't we get a second part-time person in there and not carry the expense of full-time until we get to next year and see what we are going to be dealing with. Our budgets next year are not yet determined either.

Beth said I don't know how to respond to that because, I can't keep one part-time person on a regular basis now, let alone have two part-time people. That has been one of the reasons it has been so complicated since we have cut that to part-time. It is hard to keep somebody. It doesn't pay very well.

Gary said what does it need to pay?

Beth said I don't know, for a part-time position and I think it was \$10.74 last year plus most folks that I have worked with that have been in that part-time position, they either work two jobs or they were fortunate enough to be in a situation where they did not have to have that second income. I don't even know what that would look like.

Larina said the current part-time couldn't use the whole amount set aside because she could have worked more hours in the part-time, but she has to have another job and it is hard to find someone to fill that position, if we do, they don't fill it very long until they go.

Beth said the best situation that we have run into is if I have somebody that can do the full 28 hours and can work 7 hours four days a week. Finding somebody to do that for the amount that it pays, has been very difficult and have them stay.

Larena said we have been fortunate that the courts have helped us so much, we have a new judge coming in, I don't have any reason to believe that is not going to continue, but no one has had a conversation with him about it.

Gary said as you know we cannot presume that your person is going to be insured on single. We have to actually look at it as if it is going to be maximum amount, that is how we have to budget. The County ought to be raising its part-time wages because we save so much money on the back end with benefits. Putting people on in Randolph County with Covid still among us, reductions of up to 30% still possible, the last thing I want to do personally is do that and then say you have to lay them off in June, I just don't think this is the time to do it. I don't discount your needs and your work load, say we have to raise your part-time line, we can't raise the wage with out an ordinance but we need to do that for you so you can get people in there help you, but to go full-time, it's just my opinion.

Missy said Beth if you could get your part-time person to go full-time or if you could pay her a hirer wage, if she stayed there with an option to add some hours to it when needed. \$11.06 even the schools are better than that for their paraprofessionals, they get summers off, but they are up into the \$12.00 range. Is there any other way to work that?

Beth said I know that the other job that my part-time person works, I think she is making about \$15.00 an hour there. We have talked on occasion about what it would take, even with increasing the hours and pay for here, there is still, she has a family to support, I am concerned about that.

Larena said they are offering her full-time as well. I would like to speak about something that no one ever really talks about anymore and that is work ethic. The whole time that I have worked

for probation which has been eons, we have the two best staff that we have ever had in that area, that is why I am here. That is a big piece that I hate to let go. Everybody knows you can't find anybody who wants to work.

Gary said that is fair, I get it.

Max said I can understand, it is hard enough to find a decent employee on a full-time wage, unless they have a second income, I understand your problem. The only question I have if this became a full-time position, do you have any estimate of what additional income you would realize through collections?

Beth said it is always an estimate, every time I am doing a budget during budget time, going back and take a look at least the past three years, prior to the one I am working on. I try to go through and do an estimate, it is increasing, the past three years, there has been an increase because of the work that has been done with the help of the secretaries. It is not just waiting until the end for the court to do fine and costs although that is a big piece of it, there has been some increase in getting those collections. I personally don't see any reason why that is going to change, I intend to continue to try and keep that moving as best we can. In the past there was a lot of you get to the end, a judgement is made and because of work load and other reasons, it's been forgotten. Those things are being pulled out, looked at, trying to go back and collect some of those judgements. I think there are limitations on how far back you can go, but there has been some that have been quite some time ago that have been collected.

Larena said we have managed to increase during Covid, I really don't know how we have managed to do that but we have.

Dave said it is unfortunate, when it comes down to employees that we have to evaluate because of health insurance costs. The family plan is \$34,000.00 a year. It is incredibly high for us, I think the single is \$14,000 or \$15,000. I think we need to evaluate the wage of the part-time people in our next budget and see what we can do there to increase that. It is increasing nation wide right now, the part-time.

Gary said I think we are way short on where we should be.

Tom said it has pretty much already been said, part-time employees are almost impossible to operate with, I understand, but also our budget and our income going into next year is so unpredictable, the next two years. I am not willing to switch anything right now. I agree our part-time wages, I think we could adjust that and would help a little bit. I hate to contribute to losing somebody who is already trained already in the position, every time that position switches not only do you lose, you spend all that time training somebody and then you have to start over.

Gary said we could amend the salary ordinance in January when we get a full house in here. We can make that action.

Larena said it can be looked at in January?

Gary said we can look at the part-time wage in January. We can make that action at any given time with an ordinance amendment, I think we need to do that, I think we are way low because we save so much on part-time. That is not just your department, that is throughout the county and one thing we have to look at if we were to, and I agree with what you are saying, one of the bigger threats is that you are going to lose he or she. That is what you are really after, is that you are going to lose he or she, not that you really need anymore support. Which wouldn't hurt, it is a matter of you are going to lose them. Right?

Beth said I think it is both. I don't want to lose that person because of some of the reasons that Larena is mentioning.

Gary said we have that fear throughout Randolph County, every department has part-time could come up and make the same presentation and if we open that door, we can't shut it on somebody else.

Beth said so in January there would be a possibility of at least increasing that hourly rate, not just for probation. That isn't doing anything for the situation that I am in at this particular point, but for a future person it could be beneficial is what you are saying.

Gary said a person or two.

Max said one other thought and I don't have an answer, it is unfortunate that we have got ourselves in a position that a fringe benefit dictates whether we have adequate help. We have allowed the cost of our insurance to grow to a point where I'm not sure that we can continue to support that, we may have to think about single insurance for all.

Larena said if I want keep a good employee, you are absolutely right.

Gary said everybody would, I get it. I think personally I would make a move to make a change in January to help offset this and certainly put that on our agenda, we can't make that commitment today, we don't even have enough people today to do a salary ordinance. Does anybody want to make a motion to allow this to be full time?

Missy said I would like for us to look at this and other positions and pay a decent working wage in Randolph County. I know it's going to be tough, like Max said that insurance, with everybody, is the number one. What is considered full-time, 35 hours or 40 hours?

Larena said 35 hours.

Paula said probation is 35 hours.

Missy said at 35 hours a week, if you increase that wage to \$15.00 per hour, it takes it up to \$27,300.00. I know you can't speak for the person, but if its 35 then we run into the benefit.

Tom said we have to stay under 28.

Gary said that is an average, the Commissioner's set it at 28 so we could never get in trouble, we could have seasonal employees work 60 hours but they have to fall back down to an average.

Beth said when its been budgeted, I have always calculated it out for 28 hours.

Gary said the Commissioner's set that as a rule, it's 28, you can't go over.

Mike Haffner – Salary Ordinance

Mike said I want to invite Paula up. Basically, what we need to be able to pay our lines in January, we have created a sign tech position, a foreman and the bridge techs, they need to have their own lines to be able to be paid out of.

Gary said they are in the same category that we set, and they need their own line because we have set a job description.

Paula said I have the sign techs at the \$19.25, the foreman at \$19.75.

Mike said yes, the foreman was 50 cents above, \$19.75.

Gary said that has already been approved by the council as a level?

Paula said sign tech has not.

Gary said why did the sign tech go to the top? That is the maximum isn't it?

Mike said that is where he is at now. Basically, he is listed as a heavy equipment operator, always has been, we've always paid out of that line for the sign man but he does not operate the heavy pieces of equipment, he is in charge of all of our signs and reporting them and scanning them in and this is the way it has always been and I don't think it should be. I think it should be a separate line for what job he is actually doing.

Gary said that is a Commissioner call, we would need to set the funding up.

Paula said they did approve a sign tech job description yesterday.

Gary said we just need to amend the salary ordinance to accept that position.

Paula said at what rate?

Gary said at \$19.25 and appropriate funds to it. Are we going to be able to reduce funds from the line they are coming out of and transfer it over?

Mike said we budgeted actually 10 positions for truck driver, 8 positions for equipment operator, one foreman and one mechanic. That is what we are actually budgeted for.

Gary said will everyone of those lines carry the man power in there?

Mike said yes, right now we only have 15 full time employees' plus the three managers.

Gary said so, all you need from us is a new line in the salary ordinance, transfer the money from one to the other and you're okay?

Mike said yes, we will reduce a full-time operator and we will still be good. Now, what the Commissioner's approved yesterday, the truck drivers, basically that is just a line that we use for probation only, once they pass their probation or if they are training acquires them to move on to the next level, I don't have a position in the highway department just to sit behind a truck and drive, we have to get out, we have to run other equipment and we have other duties, so basically they approved 9 part-time, part-time equipment operator's, 4 full-time operator's, two bridge techs, one mechanic, one foreman and one sign tech. That would be a total of 18, but theoretically were budgeted for 20.

Paula said so, we are increasing the number of employees, potentially?

Gary said we added it into the budget, we were going to increase because we were way down.

Paula said we increased wages, we did not increase the number of employees.

Gary said on the lines? So, I guess you are telling me that we need to set the number of employees for those positions and add to the salary ordinance. The funding is already existing. Correct?

Mike said yes.

Gary said okay, that's simple. This is Commissioner approved. The two people you are still down, where do you intend for them to go?

Mike said right now, we are theoretically if we have a total of 18, what the Commissioner's approved, I am only at 15. I have one person who is working on completing his CDL, come early spring, if he achieves it, I will hire him and then we would like to the truck driver trainee position, the non-CDL, if we are able to hire some summer help and if we like their work ethic and everything, we would like to be able to offer them opportunity to train to get their CDL and hire them full time.

Gary said you have appropriated funding for that anyway, right?

Mike said yes.

Gary said I just don't want the Council jumping into Commissioner business. The Council just needs to make sure that we have funding appropriated for what is approved by Commissioners and add the line for the sign tech. Correct?

Paula said we do not have any number of truck driver trainee spots, we have a salary ordinance amount.

Gary said how many do you need on that?

Mike said I usually hire two.

Gary said put two on there.

Paula said those would be insurance positions as well?

Gary said they would be full-time. The highway pays their insurance to us from MVH. This is just tying up discussions from the past year, we knew that was going to happen.

Mike said what we are trying to do is, what we have listed, we truly have.

Gary said the Council just needs to make sure that what we talked about is funded. There are ordinance issues and there are appropriation issues. If you run out of funding in a line, we have to take care of the appropriation on it, if you are creating a line, we have to take care of the ordinance on it.

Mike said both the truck drive and the part-time equipment operator gets paid out of the same line.

Gary asked Paula, what do you need from us, the Council.

Paula said to let me change the salary ordinance to meet the Council's.

Gary said the Commissioner's set the positions, we just set the funding. I understand we set the funding by people in the ordinance up to 9 people.

Paula said so, I want to put two truck driver trainees', yesterday you had spoken about eliminating truck driver and instead having a probationary part-time equipment operator line.

Mike said we don't want probationary, I just want to pay the truck driver line in the truck driver/part-time equipment operator out of the same line. So, at any given time, I can take from one and bump this salary.

Paula said I need to set how much we are paying the trainee, a truck driver versus a truck driver part-time equipment.

Mike said that has already been established from our last meeting at \$17.00 for the truck driver and then \$18 once they get promoted up and then the \$19.25. That has already been established.

Paula said okay, so not what was said yesterday. Nine part-time equipment operator's, four equipment operator's, two bridge tech, one garage mechanic and one foreman and one sign tech.

Gary said that put you at 15 and allows you to grow.

Laura said are you taking the truck driver three out?

Mike said yes.

Laura said that puts us at 20.

Gary said you said 18. Nine, four, two, one, one and one.

Laura said two trainees.

Missy said Mike why do you have truck driver's three and then truck driver part-time. What is the difference other than \$1.25 an hour.

Mike said it would just be \$1.00 an hour. The truck driver position as of January 1st will pay \$17.00.

Laura said so, we were at 18 now we are at 20? I just want to make sure I have the numbers right.

Mike said yes, if we decide to hire a couple of trainees.

Paula said it is my understanding currently, we have one truck driver, Caleb. We have to have some kind of category for him to be in to earn \$17.00 an hour.

Mike said that is the problem, I don't want to put a number on truck drivers, I could have, if I hire a bunch of people, I could have 3 or 4 but within a few months, they are going to be moved up. I have often thought, do we just eliminate that line and hire them right into that middle line, but it is nice to have a probationary pay that would be a little less. I don't want to take away nine part-time equipment operators and put two drivers and then not ever be able to promote them. Because like I said, I don't have use for just drivers.

Gary said it is normal to have that progression. What do we need to do Paula so we are sure the totals don't go over 20 but we allow room to move up?

Paula said what we discussed the possibility of yesterday, was to eliminate the truck driver line title, put in a probationary truck driver/part-time equipment operator at the \$17.00 an hour. After the probation is completed he or she would be at \$18.00.

Gary said does that solve all this?

Paula said I believe so. If you want to keep it at 20, that would change the part-time equipment to 11. Because the probationary would be part of.

Gary said at the end of the day, it is not going to change our budget appropriations.

Paula said that I don't know.

Gary said none of this change what we budgeted.

Paula said that was my understanding from the budget ordinance.

Mike said I can tell you what we budgeted was 10 and 8 so theoretically even if that driver part-time goes to 11, my full-time equipment operator, that's the higher pay scale, has been reduced from 8 to 4.

Gary said plus your budget is not down to dollars and cents, it's got room.

Mike said we built in for overtime.

Gary said if we got it set where it fits our handbook, it fits the Commissioner's will, that does it right.

Paula said to my understanding yes.

Gary said for the Council will you repeat back what you are doing so we all understand.

Paula said the salary ordinance amendment will be to the effect, truck driver trainee two, probationary truck driver/part-time equipment operators will be at \$17.00 an hour which is what the truck drivers are coming in now, then full time truck driver/part-time equipment operator after they met their probationary period will have a total of 9 at \$18 an hour. Four equipment operators at \$19.25 per hour, bridge tech when fully trained will be \$19.25, there will be two of those, garage mechanic at \$19.25, one of those. One garage foreman at \$19.75 and one sign tech at \$19.25 per hour.

Mike said I have got a couple of questions. After this truck driver trainee, just say he does work out and we want to hire him and he is able to achieve a CDL and move into an equipment operator, does that automatically allow him?

Gary said only if you have room, if you are maxed on people, your maxed-on people, not everybody get to jump up to top wage. Unless you come back to the Council. When you reach the number of people, you can't go over.

Mike said okay, the promotions from like a bridge tech, say after the first of the year he is going to be making \$18.00, do I have the flexibility to give him .25 increments or .50 increments, or do I have to go right from the wage he is at.

Meeks said you have to follow the salary ordinance, you can't just arbitrarily do anything. It is pretty simple, you just look at the ordinance and see where he fits in that ordinance. If you want

another opening, you have got to go to the Commissioners and ask for it and then Council will need to appropriate the money for that spot.

Paula said can these positions be filled January 1st, realizing we will not be able to sign the salary ordinance until?

Gary said you cannot do it until the salary ordinance is signed.

Meeks said we are going to try and set another meeting before the end of the year. The budget ordinance has to be passed this month.

Bonnie – Taylored Systems new phone system

Bonnie said we have been discussing for the last two years about replacing the existing Toshiba here and at the Sheriff. Then we decided it was time to upgrade the Community Corrections/Probation offices because they had an older out dated system and the same way with the old hospital and the EMS and put everybody on the same system.

Gary said this is a Cares act funded operation?

Bonnie said that is what was talked about yesterday.

Laura said the Commissioner's approved that, but Council needs to approve. They approved doing the phone upgrade, they suggested Cares money, we have already received that money, but you guys need to determine where you want to pay for it from.

Gary said what is the amount?

Laura said \$111,000.00. It's not really going to be \$111,000.00.

Bonnie said \$103,000.00.

Gary said that would be out of \$400,000.00 we've got left?

Laura said that is up to you, where you want to pay for it from.

Tom said if it's coming out of Cares Act, let's get it upgraded.

Dave said let's do it.

Max said sounds like a win situation.

Dave made a motion to pay for the phone system upgrade out of the Cares Act funding that we have received. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Other Business:

Report from Commissioners- Mike Wickersham

Mike said you discussed the Winchester project. We did talk about Enterprise Leasing yesterday and they indicated that if we move 24 vehicles over the next two years we could save \$160,000.00 over a ten-year period. The catch of that would be that the majority of those vehicles would-be heavy-duty highway pickup trucks that need retrofitted with special beds and other special equipment. So, we didn't agree to do that, we did ask him to come back and show us what five vehicles would do and those would be the vehicles for the Surveyor, Building Commissioner, Jake, one highway truck and the homeland security vehicle to see what kind of savings that would project in going forward. We are going to talk to him again. We did do the phone system and I wanted to share with you that we agreed to go with Taylored Systems because they were the only bidder for phones. We did have another bidder involved, Frontier and Frontier determined that they couldn't use our network, they didn't want to run their own lines. I talked to Fred and Fred was pretty adamant that our network would be stressed to handle a phone system because of the bandwidth we have and we would have to buy switches anyway and then we would have two different providers on the same network there would be an issue with who's fault and who's problem and we didn't want to deal with that. A big chunk of the \$103,000.00 is running cables at the jail and the other facilities. We eliminated the 4-H building although we are doing all the other buildings. I am just going to go ahead and jump ahead to the next item, we approved a \$21,000.00 payment from windfarm for the hand holds of the conduit on the windfarm, we thought that would be an appropriate expense from the windfarm fund. As you know the windfarm company is putting in the conduit for us at no expense to us but it is our expense to put in the hand holds into areas of the lines and I think there are about 45 of those at \$400 and some dollars apiece, Tom Chalfant had a bid of \$21,000.00 and we felt like we should go ahead and do that at this time and felt like it was an appropriate expense from windfarm.

Gary said I think we covered that in a previous Council meeting that once that got put together that we agreed with it. What's a hand held actually mean on that?

Mike said I think it is a box to help find the wire.

Dave said I think it brings it up to the surface.

Mike said when you are running the cable through the conduit, you can grab hold of the wire and pull it up. Other things we talked about, we are going to lease the County Infirmary barns to Dan Allen and I would say Dan had some big ideas out there. I look forward to see how he develops that. That is a twenty-year lease at revenue to the county although he is promising to maintain the buildings and put them in better condition. Finally, Ceann through her efforts collected \$100,000.00 from Tarter Equipment which is what we provided them for training, for employment and they didn't meet those goals and so, Ceann through continued contact received \$100,000.00 back to the EDIT fund. I will answer any questions you might have.

Dave asked does anybody have an update on where we are at with the windfarm?

Gary said phase II?

Dave said yes.

Gary said I don't know. Do you know Mike?

Mike said I understand they are working a lot of hours to get them put up. I haven't heard a status report on that.

Missy said I will give Ceann credit, she hounded them for that money. She worked hard to get that money back.

Wendy McDavid, Health Department

Gary said Wendy is here because during the last Council meeting we discussed comp time growing, what we are going to need to do for that, how we need to cover it. Nobody is questioning why it is, it is we need to know what we are going to expect and we need to have part time people in there, I don't know.

Wendy said first I want to introduce, this is Sherry Thompson, she is our new Coordinator/Registrar, she started yesterday, so she knows nothing yet. Comp time, there is a lot of it. Debi left and that added comp time.

Gary said are you a 35- or 40-hour person?

Wendy said 35.

Gary said how many hours are you putting in at the clinic?

Wendy said at the test site, not many now. In the beginning, I did more, now any hours that I put in at the test site is, we have rapid Covid tests now, 15-minute tests, that we are using for symptomatic essential employees of the County, school staff, hospital staff, things like that, so I do if they call me, I will go in when the test site is closed and rapid an essential worker.

Gary said that is being funded through?

Wendy said a grant, \$100,000.00 grant through the state, but since I am a County employee, I can't get a 1099, so that is why my job description changed. I do that and I have had some comp time going and testing dispatchers, sheriff's, the ones that need it. I make the call on when I go and test, I try really hard not to, but sometimes when you have three or four dispatcher's that are going to shut down the 911 center if we don't have results now, I have to go test to keep everything up and running. As of today, I am sitting at 207 hours of comp time. I don't foresee it going down anytime soon. I have tried to take time off, but it doesn't work, I get called in, I get phone calls. When I am the only full-time nurse and then the clinic nurse's mother passed, she has been out dealing with that too.

Gary said when you get to 240, we are obligated to pay you, so we need to know when we are going to pay and if your budget can't sustain it, we have to keep the budget supplemented. Are you going to get to 240 this year?

Wendy said there is a possibility. I don't know, I can't tell you because I don't know what tomorrow is going to bring. Right now, cases are pretty steady, but if we hit a spike.

Gary said what do we need to do Meeks?

Meeks said you will have to pay her.

Gary said I know that, should we appropriate money now?

Meeks said you are going to need it, so you might as well find out where you are going to pay it from.

Gary said I think we are going to have to make a payout, we should make a motion to pay it out of the Cares Act funding.

Meeks said I think that would be a very appropriate use.

Tom made a motion to pay Comp time for the Health Department nurse out of Cares Act Funding. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Meeks said the question is what do you want to pay it down to.

Gary said I know if it gets over 240 we don't want to pay it back to 240, what do we want to pay it down to? The Commissioners have a limit, don't they?

Laura said 60 hours.

Wendy said I have never hit over 60 before this year.

Laura said under normal basis, she can't use her vacation or anything if she is 60 hours or over until she uses comp to under 60 hours. But up until the end of this year, the Commissioners have approved going ahead and using vacation.

Gary said this year I would say we should probably pay down to 200 and let the Commissioner's get involved as to where they want to take it to. Would somebody want to make a motion that if she gets over 240 pay it down to 200.

Angela said we did do distribution yesterday and previously we have given Health Department \$50,000.00, so we actually do have the cash right now in the Health fund, just sharing if that helps.

Gary said it has to be appropriated to that line doesn't it?

Angela said correct, but we do have the cash, just for information. They are sitting at about \$93,000.00 available.

Gary said normally the Commissioner's need say what it needs to be paid down to and keep it there. We are obligated to the next check you get, you get the money.

Meeks said she is going to take forever to get that back down.

Gary said I agree.

Wendy said I had to get my vacation and personal time rolled over, everything is rolled over.

Gary said should we just cut it in half and pay it to 120?

Meeks said I would probably do at least that. Then you should figure out what the Commissioner's want to do. I don't see her not getting more comp time for the next three months.

Missy said I say pay her for it.

Gary said pay her to 120?

Missy said yes, look at what she has done.

Gary said should we just pay it down to 120 now and be done with it?

Meeks said I would.

Tom made a motion to pay Wendy's comp time down to 120 hours out of Cares Act funding. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Tom said Dr. Sowinski talked about hiring another additional part time for kind of an educational type person. Has anything happened with that yet?

Wendy said not yet. I will talk to him on Friday. I know we were just trying to get this position filled, to try to alleviate some of my stress and comp time. We are trying, but the problem is, I don't have time to train people, we are doing the best that we can, the best way we can.

Tom said one of the conversations we had is that if you need a couple of part time people, to relieve stress, right now, we want to make sure that you have the help that you need. You have that line, if we need to add to that part time line.

Gary said in January we are going to review those part time wages too.

Wendy said I don't really know, I have a 21-hour clinic nurse, it might be more beneficial to bump her up to 28 hours, I know you don't want to go with insurance and things like that. Just from the things we are talking about, I don't know where his thoughts are. I don't know what he wants to do, we are trying to get more help but at the pay and then I have to have time to train.

Tom said that would be something, if you want to bump her to 28 hours, the first of January and we are going to have a special meeting this month anyway. We can fix it even then.

Wendy said the grant will cover 21 hours, but if we could, that would help tremendously.

Gary said there is some funding left in there as Angela said.

Tom said do we want to do that now, the funding?

Angela said she already went to 28.

Wendy said did she go to 28 for next year?

Angela said she does 21 with you and then she does 7 at the Covid.

Wendy said she can't do that because she can't get a 1099.

Angela said I know, but we are paying her out of the appropriation, that is why I have to up her appropriation.

Gary said talk to the Dr., we are flexible to help. We know the Health department is going to need all they need.

Wendy said yes, I appreciate that, we are trying.

Missy said we do appreciate everything your department is doing.

Wendy said with the vaccine coming out. We are trying to do what is best for everybody.

Sheriff's Compensation Agreement

Art said the compensation agreement is the Sheriff's salary agreement.

Gary said did we ever correct that \$1500.00?

Art said the salary is exactly the same per yearly salary as last year, so we had talked about the, we had talked about in the future, like next year when I come back and ask for pay raises, it will reflect substantially the difference. I normally don't ask for as large a pay raise anyway, even though this is only my second year. I'm not going to offset that, I understand there is a raise built into that by the way that contract was written. The contract that was signed for last year is a yearly salary and there can't be a reduction in that based on that contract.

Gary said so, it's the same as last year?

Art said it is exactly the same as last year. I think there is a few pennies difference because we went from 27 to 26 pay.

Gary said we have to round up to the nearest penny. That is what it was, the 27 pays.

Art said the difference, made that difference and we discussed that at the last Council meeting.

Max made a motion to approve the Sheriff's salary agreement. Missy seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Art said I also have some good news, we have taken possession of the body scanner. It is in the building, that was a trick, but it is in the building, they are coming to, there has to be a certification done on it. They are coming to do that in the next week or so and I believe training on this instrument is set for either the 20th or the 22nd, I don't remember the date. The staff will be trained on it, so it will be functional by Christmas. The video arraignment system is being installed as we speak, they are working on it in the jail currently, so that claim will come at the next Commissioner's meeting so, we can get reimbursed from that grant also. You also have some transfers for me and they are just clean up and housekeeping, trying to take some funds where we have some extra money and take care of some things where we don't.

\$150,000.00 from Windfarm for Winchester Housing project

Gary said Meeks has brought to my attention that the \$150,000.00 from the windmill, we need to be specific if the Council is giving it to a private entity or a government entity. I think it should go to a government entity. So, would someone like to make a motion that it goes through the City of Winchester?

Max made a motion that the \$150,000.00 from windfarm for the Winchester housing project go to the City of Winchester. Dave seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Minutes of August 19, 2020

Max made a motion to accept the minutes of August 19, 2020. Missy seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2020-16 – 2021 Budget Ordinance

Gary said Ordinance 2020-16 the 2021 budget ordinance we can only do first reading today and we will have to set at least one date to do the second and third reading or two dates if we don't have five at the second one.

Missy made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2020-16 the 2021 Budget Ordinance. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said we need to set a Special meeting to approve the Budget Ordinance. Let's set a meeting for 6:30 Monday December 14th.

Missy made a motion to have a special meeting on Monday December 14th at 6:30 to approve the 2021 Budget. Dave seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Gary said if Paula can have a salary ordinance ready and we have a quorum of people, we can do that too.

Laura said I will tell her to have it ready.

Hand Holds for Conduit (up to \$21,000.00)

Gary said the hand holds for the conduit, up to \$21,000.00 from windfarm appropriations. The Commissioner's have already approved this.

Tom made a motion to approve using up to \$21,000.00 of windfarm funds to pay for the hand holds for the conduit. Missy seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Additional Appropriations:

1138 Cum Cap Dev	
Computer Program	\$23,000.00
Highway Garage	\$49,962.47
Highway Garage	\$12,500.00

Gary said can you quickly remind me what these are for?

Angela said the \$23,000.00 will be repaid by Cares that has been deposited into general. On the \$49,962.47 for the highway is there a description under it.

Gary said it says bond shortage from the Highway garage.

Laura said the \$12,500.00 is the restocking fee for the generator.

Gary said the restocking fee, we ended up paying \$12,500.00?

Angela said we will or are supposed to receive a check for \$6,000.00 to offset that, I have not seen that check yet.

Laura said we don't pay it until we receive that check.

Missy made a motion to approve the Cum Cap Development additional appropriations. Dave seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

1168 Health Maintenance	
Vital Records	\$20,000.00

Gary said this \$20,000.00 is for what?

Angela said they had asked for a new vital records program, they asked the Commissioners and I advised the Commissioners that they actually have the cash.

Tom made a motion to approve the Health Maintenance additional appropriation as presented. Dave seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Transfers:		From:	To:
Election Board	\$1280.00	Clerical Assistant	Comp. Maint/program

Gary said election board \$1280.00 from Clerical to Computer Maintenance.

Missy made a motion to approve this transfer as presented. Tom seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Jail	\$7500.00	Jailer	Utilities
	\$3500.00	PT jailer	Utilities
	\$1000.00	PT Cook	Utilities
	\$2500.00	Schooling/training	Jailers uniform

Missy made a motion to approve. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Circuit Court	\$6489.31	Pauper Attorney	Law books
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Missy made a motion to approve this Transfer as presented. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Health Maintenance	\$750.00	Clinic Supplies	Nurse/Clinic Manager
	\$65.00	Training/Schooling	Social Security
	\$15.00	Training/Schooling	Medicare

Missy made a motion to approve as presented. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Probation	\$241.92	Office Supplies
	\$580.00	Office Supplies
	\$100.00	Office Supplies
	\$500.00	Office Supplies

Tom made a motion to approve. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Veterans	\$25.00	Communications	Office Supplies
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Missy made a motion to approve. Max seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Max said I have a question on one that we signed. On the additional appropriations for the highway garage the \$12,500, did we pass that, it said something about restocking fee.

Gary said for the generator, we got hit on.

Max said was it something we didn't need?

Gary said it was the wrong kind.

Meeks said it was the proper one until the redid it and then the architect didn't catch it and then the architect that was doing it got fired and we had it sitting for a good six, eight months or a year. Cripe paid \$6,500.00 for it, I think Thor put in \$6,000.00 on the deal, our part of it was \$6,000.00 but then we didn't pay about \$2,000.00 worth of fees, \$2,200.00 to Cripe. So, our part of the mess up is about \$3,800.00.

Citizen Comments (3-minute limit)

Ceann Bales said I just wanted to update you since I am here. Economic Development, soon to be Randolph County United, there are five kind of goal that the organization has adopted and that is going to be housing, quality of life, broadband, business expansion and education and I just want to thank you for what you did today to really help to move the housing issue forward. I am looking forward to working with Union City as well. The main thing we are working on is broadband and these other four towers, Dave has been really involved in that, it seems like it takes five steps forward and ten steps back. If we can figure out where these four towers are, we had a little strategy session with Joe Batt, who is our chair and Steve Barnes with New Lisbon, I think we have a good direction and we will be talking about that tomorrow night. We have changed who we are working with on determining those four tower locations and so we will be making some presentations to our committee tomorrow night. Just so you know that is on our radar, I know we have been frustrated, I know David has been frustrated with trying to move forward but I think we have a good plan to move that forward. I will look forward to sharing more with you after that first of the year.

David said one thing I would like to add to that, the three 300-foot towers, the south tower foundation is complete, the north tower which is at Deerfield should be complete about anytime now, they were doing the rebar last week and the highway is the next, I think within a week to ten days that should be done also. The big towers should all be installed here shortly.

Ceann said we also got the OCRA draw, the second round and we have done a big marketing and this will be our last round and so that should all be dispersed, the full \$250,000.00 less the grant fees should be all be dispersed by the end of the year. We are pretty excited to be able to do that.

Dave Lenkensdofer said the increase in comp time for Sheriff's and all those areas of emergency services, can that be paid by the Cares Act.

Gary said yes.

Health claims how are we standing for the yearend?

Angela said we moved \$72,000.00 from the Commissioner's budget, a dollar here, a dollar there from social security and a few things.

Gary said are we starting to see a reduction with the new Health Savings.

Angela said we will have two weeks of \$100,000.00 and then a week of \$20,000.00.

Dave said David Bottorff sent an email out yesterday about the projected LIT taxes, has anybody analyzed it?

Angela said it looks like they went up.

David said they did.

Angela said how do you budget this?

Gary said how much did they go up?

Dave said one period went up \$100,000.00 and one went up a couple hundred and I think one went down maybe \$100,000.00. What they were doing was comparing quarters to quarters from 2019 to 2020, first, second and third quarters and it is actually showing an increase right at the moment.

Gary said for us?

Dave said yes, for us.

Max said that's good news.

Dave said how, I don't know, I wanted to verify that.

Gary said maybe they got caught with a huge reduction against us, there was two years ago there was no rhyme or reason for it. Anybody else before we close?

Dave said the last thing I have, I am going back on my soap box on windfarm money dedication. I think we need to get a committee formed to determine going forward what we are going to use those funds for. I have advocated for four or five years now to allocate so much to drains, roads, bridges, so much to rainy day then the balance toward special projects. Because the original intent, I have been on it since day one, on windfarm monies was to use it for County infrastructure, that was the original intent. I know it has changed a little which is okay with me, but I think we need to dedicate those monies.

Gary said anything else, anybody?

Adjournment

Max made a motion to adjourn. Missy seconded. All aye votes. Motion carried.

Reviewed and accepted this 2 day of March, 2021.

RANDOLPH COUNTY COUNCIL

[Signature]

Ricky Brown

Beverly Fields

[Signature]

[Signature]

David Kunkensdefer

[Signature]

ATTESTED: [Signature]
Laura J Martin, Auditor