

Franklin County Commissioners  
January 11, 2016  
Commissioners/Council Meeting Room 203

Commissioners – Tom Wilson, Eric Roberts – Tom Linkel – Absent  
Commissioners Secretary – Carol Westerman  
Auditor – Stephen Brack

Open – the meeting was called to order by President Tom Wilson and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

EDC – Bill Schirmer, President attending the meeting and recommended the commissioners sign the annual contract with the Wheatley Group at a cost of \$80,000.00. Mr. Schirmer explained that the contract is to be paid from tax money collected from EDIT in the amount of \$50,000.00, \$10,000.00 from the EDC annual budget and the remaining amount from property taxes from the TIF district. The Franklin County Redevelopment agreed to spend \$20,000.00 in the TIF money. Mr. Schirmer said there were 5 candidates for the position and it was an eye opening experience. Attorney Grant Reeves stated he had reviewed the contract it is was a unanimous decision of the EDC to hire the Wheatley Group. A motion was made by Eric Roberts to enter into an agreement for 2016 and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Wilson. The commissioners will reaffirm their decision next week when Commissioner Linkel is present.

Cum Bridge – Attorney Grant Reeves said the county will receive less property tax for bridge repairs in 2016 as the county's paperwork was not submitted to the state before the deadline. The commissioner had lowered the Cum Bridge Tax for \$250,000.00 to help with the budget. Mr. Reeves has prepared the necessary paperwork to reestablish the rate for 2017. There will be a public hearing on Feb. 1, 2016 at 10:30AM. A motion was made by Tom Wilson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Roberts to approve the plan. Motion carried.

Betty Lecher – as a concerned tax payer has been attending meetings since Aug. 2015 and addressed several issues. In her comments she stated various reasons she is unhappy. She also described from the IC Code the roles of both Commissioners and Council. She spoke of the budget process, Stockpile Road Bridge and the contract of John Worth and a conference call of the Auditor's Office and the Insurance Broker.

Mildred Simmermeyer also spoke about the contract of John Worth and was told there was none. She also read from the Indiana Chamber of Commerce publication that they are required to have a contract.

Franklin County Highway Engineer – Ted Cooley – presented his update regarding Bridge Inspections and Bridge #144 – Causeway Road – scoping report. A motion was made by Eric Roberts to sign the report and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Wilson. Motion carried. Mr. Roberts amended the motion to allow Mr. Cooley to sign the report. Mr. Cooley also asked the commissioners to sign a contract for \$232,233 with INDOT. He stated the federal government pays 80% of the cost and the county would pay 20%. Commissioner Roberts explained that the contract was somewhat vague about more money and asked that this be clarified. Mr. Cooley also expressed concerns for highway workers while working and possible accidents. He stated that truck lights were flashing to warn motorist of work being done. Commissioner Roberts suggested the possibility of that the county adds strobe lights to the trucks that can be seen 1 to 2 miles in distance. Council President recommended that a 2<sup>nd</sup> truck follow behind. A decision will be made by the Highway Department.

Water Line – the commissioners approve a request to allow the Army Corps of Engineer to place a 4 inch water line on top of a county culvert on Wildcat Lane. This new line will allow water to the restroom facilities in the park below the dam and other areas at the park.

County Surveyor – Joe Gillespie – showed the commissioners the result of checking the drainage on the properties of Walter Oelrich and Alan Vinometer in Blooming Grove Township. He noted that there is plenty of falls to allow storm water to flow downhill. No other action was taken regarding Mr. Oelrich's complaint.

Luke Kahren – offered a contract to the commissioners that would cover a range of services which would include information technology, engineering and bridge inspections. He also said this would be no cost to the county to sign the contract until an assignment is made. The commissioners decided to wait a week until Mr. Kahren gives specific prices for engineering services.

Claims – a motion was made by Eric Roberts to approve claims and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Wilson. Motion carried.

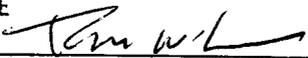
VSO – a motion was made by Tom Wilson to acknowledge the VSO report and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Roberts. Motion carried.

Minutes – were tabled until Jan. 19, 2016 meeting.

Adjourn: with no further business being brought forward a motion was made by Tom Wilson to adjourn and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Roberts. Motion carried.

Others in attendance – Mark and Mildred Simmermeyer, Bob and Betty Lecher, Debbie Blank, Robert Braun, Sara Duffy, Sean Berns, Rick Gill, James Sprague, Becky Oglesby and Daryl Kramer. The names are spelled correctly as per the sign in sheet.

AYE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Wilson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Linkel

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric Roberts

NAY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Wilson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Linkel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric Roberts

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Brack, Auditor

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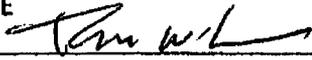
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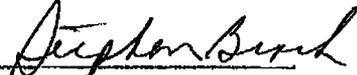
Tom Wilson

Tom Linkel



Eric Roberts

Attest:



Stephen Brack, Auditor

NAY

Tom Wilson

Tom Linkel

Eric Roberts

## Carol Westerman

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**From:** Carol Westerman [commissioners@franklincounty.in.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2016 3:46 PM  
**To:** 'mebrackney@brackneyinc.com'  
**Subject:** Minutes  
**Attachments:** Commissioners Minutes.pdf

Thanks,

Carol Westerman  
Secretary, Franklin County Board of Commissioners  
1010 Franklin Ave.  
Brookville, IN 47012  
Phone 765-647-4985  
Fax 765-647-6926  
[commissioners@franklincounty.in.gov](mailto:commissioners@franklincounty.in.gov)