

**ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL REORGANIZATION
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2011
10:30 AM**

The Allen County Council met on Monday, January 6, 2011 at 8:30 am in the County Council/Commissioners Courtroom. The purpose of the meeting was for election of officers, reorganization, appointments to boards and commissions and liaison assignments.

Attending: Larry L. Brown, Roy A. Buskirk, Tom A. Harris, Kevin M. Howell, Paul G. Moss and Darren E. Vogt

Also Attending: Tera Klutz, Auditor; Nick Jordan, Chief Deputy Auditor; Jackie Scheuman, Finance and Budget Director and Becky Butler, Administrative Assistant.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Darren Vogt with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

Darren Vogt: This is the organizational meeting and we have to elect officers. With that, I will turn the meeting over to our Auditor, Tera Klutz.

Tera Klutz: Good morning, at this time, I will take nominations for President of County Council.

Paul Moss: Madam Auditor, I would like to nominate Councilman Darren Vogt to be our President.

Roy Buskirk: I'll second.

Tera Klutz: I hear a motion and a second. Is there any further discussion?

Paul Moss: Move to close the nominations.

Larry Brown: Second.

Tera Klutz: All of those in favor of Darren Vogt as the President of County Council say aye. All those opposed? Darren is the President 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent).

Darren Vogt: Would you like me to do the Vice President or do you want to continue?

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Tera Klutz: Go ahead.

Darren Vogt: As the President, we do need to nominate for Vice President. I will open the floor for nominations for the Vice President.

Larry Brown: I would like to nominate Roy Buskirk for Vice President.

Kevin Howell: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. Are there any other nominations? Hearing none, do I have a motion for closing the nominations?

Paul Moss: Move to close the nominations.

Larry Brown: Second.

Darren Vogt: We have a motion and a second. All in favor of Councilman Buskirk for Vice President signify by saying aye. Those opposed? Motion carries 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent). With that, we will move on to the rather light agenda that we have. If you will notice Council, in your packet that Becky has prepared for us, the schedule of meetings with the requests for deadlines of material. Please look through your calendar before the January 20th meeting and see if you have any conflicts that you are aware of. Those meetings are far enough out in advance that if you do have conflicts, we should be able to move those without any big problem. They should fall continually on the third Thursday of every month, as they have in the past, except when you get to the budgetary meetings in July and September. Just take a look at those and see if there are any conflicts and we can make adjustments as necessary. The second thing on the agenda is Appointments to Boards and Commissions. We are going to hold off on those actual appointments until the January 20th meeting and then we will make the official appointments. You should have a list of the folks that are currently on those Boards, in your packet. If you have anyone that is interested in serving on those Boards, other than the folks that are listed, please let me know so that we can get resumes circulated. I will make one note that one request that Council was trying to do last year was make sure that we had Council representation on some of those Boards. We may want to make sure that those that have budgetary impact for County taxpayers, that we consider whether or not to appoint Council members to those Boards. With that said, if anyone is interested in those Board positions, let me know. Councilman Buskirk and I will get together and get resumes to everyone. Liaison assignments, we will have them again this year as we have in the past so that we can go through and have an open communication and a representative from Council to work with individual departments and

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Elected Officials. If you could get to me, as soon as possible, your preferences and what you would like to work with this year, I would like to shake things up a little bit. We have had some who have had positions for several years and we are going to try to make things a little different. We will try to get those done for the January 20th meeting if not sooner. I would really like to try to wrap that up by the end of next week. With that, I know that Tera has some things that she wants to go over.

Tera Klutz: At our last meeting, we had talked about the Parking Garage Revenue Bond. At that time, we talked about refunding it and a couple of Council members brought up that we had a fairly small balance that we were paying over a significant amount of time. We were using the revenues from the parking garage to pay it off. At that time, you directed the Auditor's Office to do an analysis to determine if we could just pay the bond off now because our interest rates are low on the money that we are holding and the interest rate that we would pay on the bond would be significantly higher. I have been in contact with the Bond Bank and Bill Fishering and there is still some discussion as to whether we can pay it off in January or July. I am waiting on a call back from the Bond Bank. Baker and Daniels was the initial law firm that did the bond work and we are just making sure of the exact time that we can pay it off. At that time, I will bring a resolution showing that we can save money if we pay it off. The revenue that we receive from the parking garage bond, at that time, will go into the General Fund when it is paid off.

Darren Vogt: That is just our portion of the revenue.

Tera Klutz: Yes.

Darren Vogt: That is split fifty-fifty with the City.

Tera Klutz: Of Fort Wayne, yes.

Darren Vogt: Is their bond the same as ours?

Tera Klutz: I am not sure how they pay their bond but I can find out.

Darren Vogt: The reason that I think it is important is if we are helping with the analysis and theirs is the same, they may be interested in doing the exact same thing. They are not earning any interest on their money that is sitting in the bank either. We may want to share that information with the City as well.

Tera Klutz: We would be happy to.

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Roy Buskirk: Are those individual bonds or is that a joint bond?

Tera Klutz: I believe that it is individual.

Jackie Scheuman: They were done at the same time and for the same facility but they are completely separate.

Roy Buskirk: Oh, okay. It could be quite complicated if it wasn't.

Tera Klutz: Another item that I got an email about this week was that Community Corrections was going to banks to secure financing for a capital lease purchase. They needed a total of \$155,000 and were quoted an interest rate of 4.3%. They were going to pay it off over three years. Tom Hardin was working on that and he ran into Bill Fishing who said that given the last meeting of County Council may want to let you borrow the money and save the interest. I thought that was a worthy cause. I would say that we wouldn't charge them any interest since they are another governmental entity that we take care of. We have \$155,000 that they could borrow either from the General Fund or the Rainy Day Fund. I prefer the General Fund just because I would like to keep the Rainy Day Fund for use in an economic downturn or emergencies that were unpredictable.

Darren Vogt: Do you know when they are going to need that money?

Tera Klutz: They were looking to do it soon. I think with peaking at the year-end financials, our General Fund revenue hit at 100% of estimate, 100.53%. Historically we had estimated conservatively hoping that we would get more but with the revenue shrinking, we tried to get as close to 100% without going under so that we could still operate County government. We are predicting a rollover of about \$5 million.

Darren Vogt: When will you have that rollover amount?

Tera Klutz: January 20th.

Darren Vogt: It will be at the January 20th meeting?

Tera Klutz: Yes and your budget books should be ready at that time too.

Darren Vogt: Are there any questions for Tera?

Roy Buskirk: Yes. What is it that Community Corrections needs this money for? Paul and I have a meeting on Monday with Sheila Hudson.

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Darren Vogt: That is a separate issue. I had a conversation with Tom Hardin over the holidays and he brought this up to me as well. It is capital equipment. I can't remember specifically what it was. Sheila is funded through the State and it is already in their budget. They have to get it into their budget and so they have to get a loan because they don't have the money until it rolls into their system.

Roy Buskirk: So in the real estate world, it is a bridge loan?

Darren Vogt: You got it. So instead of them going out and paying four percent, or in theory the State paying four percent, it may make sense for us to give them the money on a loan with zero interest rate. It is taxpayer dollars however you look at it. Hopefully you will have that information to us at the January 20th meeting.

Tera Klutz: I was looking for Council's direction and we will have that done.

Darren Vogt: Are there any other questions from Council?

Paul Moss: How do you want us to deal with calendar conflicts?

Darren Vogt: Let's work with Tera and we will go from there. As some of you may know, I have a baby on the way and that due date falls around the March meeting. I may be unexpectedly out. If you have conflicts, get them to Tera and we will work them out. Is there anything else for today's meeting? I will look for a motion to approve to waive the second reading on any matter approved today for which it may be deemed necessary for the County Council meeting of January 6, 2011.

Tom Harris: So moved.

Paul Moss: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor please signify by saying aye. Opposed like sign. Motion carries 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent). The next meeting is January 20, 2011.

Roy Buskirk: Move to adjourn.

Larry Brown: Second.

Darren Vogt: All in favor please signify by saying aye. Opposed like sign. The motion carries 6-0-1 (Armstrong absent).

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There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:43.