

MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COUNCIL  
APRIL 9, 2019

The regular meeting of the St. Joseph County Council was called to order at 6:01 p.m., on April 9, 2019 by the President, Rafael Morton, in the Council Chambers, fourth floor, County-City Building, South Bend, Indiana.

Members in attendance were:

Mr. Robert L. Kruszynski  
Mr. Corey Noland  
Ms. Diana Hess  
Mr. Rafael Morton  
Mr. Mark P. Telloyan  
Mr. Mark A. Catanzarite  
Mr. Joseph F. Canarecci  
Mr. Mark Root

Present from the Auditor's office was Michael J. Hamann, Auditor and John Murphy, Chief Deputy Auditor. Council staff present was Mr. Michael Trippel, Attorney and Ms. Jennifer Prawat, Executive Secretary. Councilman Richard Pfeil was not present.

**Petitions, Communications & Miscellaneous Matters:**

Mr. Morton: I have a disclosure to read this evening that is required under the Federal law: The Title VI Coordinator has made available at this meeting/hearing a voluntary public involvement survey to collect demographic data to monitor and demonstrate St. Joseph County's compliance with its non-discrimination obligations under Title VI and Federal Regulations 23CFR 200.9(b)(4), and more importantly, ensure that affected communities and interested persons are provided equal access to public involvement. Compliance is voluntary. However, in order to demonstrate compliance with the federal regulation, the information requested must be documented when provided. It will not be used for any other purpose, except to show that those who are affected or have an interest in proceedings or the proposed project have been given an opportunity to provide input throughout the process.

Ms. Hess made the motion to appoint Eric Stalheim to the Historic Preservation Commission and Andy Place Jr. for Onsite Wastewater Advisory Board and we also have a nomination to the Mishawaka Economic Development Commission and that is Janet Whitfield-Hyduk was seconded by Mr. Noland. The motion was passed by a voice vote 8-0.

Ms. Hess made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2019 meeting and was seconded by Mr. Noland the motion was passed by a voice vote; 8-0.

No report from the County Auditor  
No Report from Council Special Committee

Report from the County Commissioner: Andy Kostielney, President, St. Joseph County Commissioner, President Morton, esteemed members of Council, Auditor Hamann, and fellow citizens of St. Joseph County, it is my pleasure to come before you once again to discuss the great work being accomplished every day by the dedicated public servants throughout all departments of county government. 2018 saw immense strides made to increase transparency in many areas, improved access to government services through the website and social media, increased activity related to Economic Development, and the further strengthening of our financial position in anticipation of the "fiscal cliff". Thirty-five departments submitted annual reports, and I want to thank them all for their dedication, devotion, and for all they do each day for the citizens of St. Joe County. I will take a few moments to recognize and highlight their many accomplishments.

The Department of Adult Probation, including the Court Substance Abuse Program, Drug Court, Veterans Court and CSAP Lab has continued working to reduce recidivism rates as part of Indiana's felony pretrial diversion pilot program. They grew the Court Supervised Recidivism Reduction Program for Domestic Violence offenders and completed 1,650 pre-trial assessments.

Archives continues their work with the South Bend Area Genealogical Society to index several databases. By the end of 2018, these databases had 424,159 entries, searchable through the county's website.

The Area Plan Commission assumed the responsibilities of Zoning Administration from the Building Department, reviewed 294 zoning violations, and was able to close out 226 violations. They also worked to put more applications and zoning ordinances on our website to help in the development process.

The Office of the Assessor reviewed almost 30,000 parcels for the first year of the Cyclical Reassessment Phase II. The total gross assessed real estate value for 2018 was over \$16.7 billion. The Personal Property Division completed the review and assessment of over 11,000 business properties. The office holds extended evening office hours after new assessment notices are mailed, so the public can come in and ask questions about their assessments. They also continued working to include neighborhood, property tax, and ownership information on the county's website.

The Office of the Auditor established the Insurance Task Force that meets monthly to work on issues with respect to the health and liability insurance plans. They established a Dark Store Task Force to deal with issues regarding property tax assessments for "big-box" retailers. They also worked with the Council, Department Heads, and Elected Officials to prepare a prudent 2019 County Budget that has a balanced General Fund. Finally, they transitioned to a weekly accounts payable process to better serve the needs of our departments and vendors.

The Court Appointed Special Advocates Program served a record number of children. They successfully advocated for 480 children who were adjudicated Children in Need of Services. They had 145 volunteers throughout the year, who dedicated approximately 33,000 hours advocating for children.

The Office of the Clerk of the Courts continues to work to digitize marriage records, and copies of marriage licenses can now be ordered and paid for online. The Clerk and Election Board hope to implement new voting equipment for the 2019 Municipal General Election, as our current equipment is becoming obsolete.

The St. Joseph Circuit Court administrator, Lisa Plencner, in conjunction with Superior Court Judge Steven Hostetler, received a grant to update the court's jury management system. In January, the first jurors were summoned using the new robust and advanced program. The new system allows the potential jurors to fill out questionnaires online, over the phone, or still request a paper form. Communication with the selected jurors is improved, as the courts can now text and email reminders to jurors. The county should recoup its initial outlay within four years and will then begin saving money for years to come.

The Office of the Coroner continues to look for ways to save the county money. They helped develop a county ordinance that charges the home county for any non-St. Joseph County resident death that occurs here. They also worked with EMA to receive a grant to help purchase supplies for a mass-fatality situation.

The Domestic Relations Counseling Bureau provided services to 232 families, involving 197 children. They conducted co-parenting classes for 154 parents.

The Ducomb Center continues to work with area partners to provide programming and opportunities for clients to prepare and eventually be successful members of society.

The Department of Economic Development focused on five different project categories in 2018 – planning for the Indiana Enterprise Center, predevelopment for a project in the State Road 933 Corridor, the Capital Avenue Economic Development Area, advancing rail development opportunities in our county, and continued to collaborate and coordinate with the towns within St. Joseph County.

The Emergency Management Agency helped to coordinate efforts after the February 2018 flooding event. They were able to help secure a FEMA emergency declaration that resulted in over \$2 million of damage reimbursements for the affected residents. The agency also worked to establish a Disaster Relief Foundation to help provide relief funds to St. Joseph County residents in the event of a future disaster.

The Department of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) worked with the 9-1-1 Dispatch center on enhancing address point support. They also continued to work to maintain property tax mapping, and even collected data to assist EMA after the flooding event.

The Department of Health Epidemiology/Emergency Preparedness Division participated in several community partnerships around emergency preparedness and worked with EMA and the Coroner on a mass fatality plan. The Food Division issued 1278 food permits and completed 2112 retail food inspections. The Nursing Division is now fully staffed, and participated in several Public Health initiatives focused on Lead education and monitoring.

The Department of Human Resources focused on three key issues in 2018 – personnel matters, benefit offerings, and a safety program. HR also worked with the Auditor and Council members in monthly insurance meetings to help monitor the status of our employee health plans.

The Department of Information Technologies continues to work with the newly formed IT governance board to strategically plan for scheduled obsolescence of county technology.

The Juvenile Justice Center has new leadership under Judge Jason Cichowicz and Executive Director Dr. Bill Bruinsma. Assuming their new duties in January of 2019, they could not provide an update on 2018 accomplishments, but did provide a listing of 2019 goals. These goals include increasing interdepartmental collaboration, reduce the incarceration rate by transitioning more youth to day/GPS monitoring and increasing the amount of quality community service opportunities for youth in the JJC programs.

The Department of Maintenance focused on several large projects. The most significant one was working with Performance Services on the energy savings project. So far, the county has received checks from AEP in excess of \$90,000 due to improvements they completed. They are also working to paint all common areas of the County-City Building to bring a fresh, modern look to accompany the new signage.

The Department of Museums reported that nearly 43,000 individuals visited the museums' exhibits, toured its historic houses, and participated in its school and public programs. The History Museum has over 700 member-households and welcomed over 5,000 students.

The Department of Parks and Recreation benefits the community public health and economic development by managing over 1,300 acres of public access greenspace, river and stream corridors, wetlands, and woods. Last year, they welcomed 313,000 visitors to their events and increased attendance and revenue for their Leisure Services programs by nine percent.

Portage Manor worked to make repairs to their historic building while cutting costs and increasing revenue. This led to a budget surplus of over \$59,000, all while continuing to provide care to their 133 residents.

The Department of Procurement spent a great deal of 2018 working on an Enterprise Resource Planning and Implementation Services proposal. Many department heads, elected officials, administrators, fiscal officers, and staff dedicated countless hours to this project, and while the outcome was not as many desired, the project is being reworked and we are looking forward to engaging Council and the Commissioners to make this vital project happen.

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney filed over 4,700 misdemeanor and over 1,700 felony charges. The County Metro Homicide Unit conducted 46 investigations resulting in an 82% clearance rate for homicides. Due to our success, our model has recently been adopted by Elkhart County.

The Public Safety Communications Consortium (PSAP) fully consolidated its computer aided dispatch system. The center received 419,411 calls in 2018, a decrease of 31,436 from the year before. Starting on December 31, 2018, 90% of employees are fully cross-trained, a Peer Support Team was created, and a quality assurance program was implemented for fire and medical calls.

The Department of the Public Defender has 21 felony deputies, who handled 1,656 cases in 2018. At the JJC, they defended 598 cases. The department also handled over 2,500 misdemeanor cases.

The Department of Public Works completed over \$20 Million in community investment on the Road and Bridge program and improved approximately 109 centerline miles of roads throughout the county. Major projects included receiving approximately \$6 million in Federal Aid funds to reconstruct the Pierce Road Corridor. The department applied for multiple grants, being awarded several, including a grant that covers 80% of the cost of the intersection improvements at Beech and Cleveland Roads. They also completed 129 rural drain maintenance projects and 60 urban drain projects.

Last year saw much growth and development at the Purdue Extension Office. Due to retirements and transitions, all four county education positions became vacant. These newly hired educators began rebuilding their programs and have worked to develop offerings that fit the current needs of our community. They were also awarded a grant that will allow their Master Gardeners to build a donation garden to help provide fresh product to WIC of St. Joseph County and St. Margaret's House.

The Office of the Recorder recorded 2,011 fewer documents in 2018, but collected \$141,799 more in fees due to a change in State law. In December, the office also re-assumed the duties of back indexing documents that were once contracted services. This allows for the savings of thousands of dollars and reduces errors.

The Police Department completed 5,534 case reports and assigned 949 cases to the Detective Bureau. The Police Department also initiated a new reporting and records management systems. The Patrol Division investigated 2,138 traffic accidents, with over 40,000 dispatches.

9258 individuals were booked into the jail, with an average population of around 635 people, thankfully, none of them named Kostielney.

The Soil and Water Conservation District completed its final year of a multi-county Clean Water Indiana Grant project. Last year, they planted 173 acres of cover crops, 270 acres of no-till and 3.4 acres of pollinator habitats were planted to help improve soil health.

The Superior Court reported that 31,176 new cases were filed. Further, 5,600 residents appeared for jury service in 137 jury trials. The Superior Court has also applied for a grant to help with the creating of a Mental Health Problem Solving Court to help better reduce recidivism due to mental health issues.

The Office of the Treasurer collected \$275.4 Million in taxes last year an increase of \$6.8 Million. The total amount of money held in investments was \$92.8 Million, and they earned \$3.258 Million in interest. The Treasurer unveiled a new tax website, which contains information from both the Assessor and Treasurer offices and allows taxpayers to view and print out a tax bill and connect to an online payment site.

The Department of Voter Registration updated 13,348 voter records through voter registration applications. The office also recruited over 900 poll workers to facilitate the mid-term elections.

Lastly, the Department of Weights and Measures performed 6,546 tests and inspections.

In 2018, we continued to build on past successes, worked to increase transparency and access to services to our citizens, continued to invest in economic development; all while positioning ourselves to financially weather the effects of the fiscal cliff.

Through a partnership with WNIT, we are recording Council and Commissioner meetings. Recordings are available on the county's website, so people, who cannot attend, can still stay informed on the workings of government. Throughout 2019, more board and commission meetings are being recorded and posted to our website.

Our "Report a Concern" feature on the website received 248 submissions and proved to be an especially useful tool during the flooding event last February. This provides citizens with easy access to getting their questions answered. Our social media accounts continue to draw followers, and posts reach an average of over 6,000 people per month.

Under the leadership of Commissioner Fleming, the Commissioners created a Youth Leadership Program. The county received 43 applications from area high school juniors and seniors. Ultimately, 20 students were selected, representing six area high schools. These students meet monthly and are required to perform community service, and at next month's graduation, will be presenting their thoughts on how to improve various functions of St. Joe County government. I am looking very forward to hearing from these future leaders.

The Commissioners established an Employee of the Month program, which encourages department heads and peers to nominate employees who go beyond in serving our citizens. As the county continues to support increasing the level of constituent services, it is important to take time each month and recognize the great work that happens here every day!

The County joined numerous counties and municipalities, in filing a lawsuit against opioid manufacturers and distributors, to hold them accountable for the role they played in this crisis in an effort to acquire financial resources to address the burden this has placed on our community.

Speaking of leaves, even considering some nasty November weather, we were able to provide a high level of service to our property owners.

We continue providing our employees with one of the best health insurance programs around, and HR and our broker, R&R, introduced a modified Accountable Care Organization structure (ACO). They are responsible not just for providing services, but for working together to protect and improve employee overall health. Both health systems have incentives to help Health Plan members become healthier, and both networks have reduced pricing to benefit employees whose services fall under the deductibles/co-insurance, which will help health plan as a whole. Throughout the next year, we will continue to focus on employee recruitment and retention through improved job postings, better employee training, and continuing to offer great benefits at the lowest possible cost.

Our commitment to economic growth paid off again last year. In the Indiana Enterprise Center (IEC), the St. Joseph Energy Center opened in June, and Smith Ready Mix concrete opened in October. The County applied for a \$1 Million U.S. Economic Development Administration grant for Fiber Conduit to be brought to the IEC. Last month, it was announced that we received this grant, and work is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2019. Our Economic Development staff continues to finalize the framework of the master plan, to serve as guidance for planning and coordinating new development in this area.

The Capital Avenue Economic Development area will see continued growth as SF Motors begins to manufacture electric cars at the old AM General Commercial plant. Throughout last year, the Chinese based company invested \$20 million into the factory, which will begin producing the SF 5 vehicle later this year. Not since the early days of Studebaker, has St. Joe County been on the forefront of the automotive industry.

The South Bend International Airport and surrounding area is another focus of economic development. The airport's Project Propel was launched in 2018 and encouraged local businesses to have their employees fly out of South Bend. The increased usage led to two daily direct flights to Charlotte and Dallas/Fort Worth. Southwest of the airport, we continue focusing on the SBN Logistics Park with the hope to bring in cargo on a realigned single rail for both freight and NICTD trains. This would create an opportunity to develop an air-rail-road logistics center.

A great example of our commitment to Economic Development, leadership from Area Plan, Building Department, Public Works, Economic Development, County Surveyor and Health Department began weekly meetings to coordinate activities and programs to provide better service across all agencies. Through these conversations, leadership adopted a new centralized permitting system, across all involved departments, to better track the progress of development and assist with moving projects forward. This new system should be implemented within the next 60 days.

2019 saw the new Department of Infrastructure, Planning & Growth launch, combining Area Plan, Economic Development, Public Works and the Surveyor. This new office will be a super agency created to centralize development organization with a forward-looking view. The goal is to “find ways to say yes to development” while adhering to good planning, design, construction and growth principles. Currently this department has offices split between three floors of this building, it is hoped it will occupy the third floor of the Law Building. With the Health Department locating on the second floor, and the Building Department on the first, making for a “One-Stop-Shop” for development.

This renovation of the Law Building is part of Phase I of the space reallocation project. The reconfiguration of the former Central Highway Garage into offices and maintenance garage for the Sheriff’s department and an addition to the Singer Building at the St. Joseph County 4-H Fairgrounds for the Purdue Extension Office comprise the rest of Phase I.

It is important to understand our current financial situation. According to Moody’s Investors Service Report, “St. Joseph County has an extremely small debt burden and is favorable relative to its AA2 rating position.”

If you compare our county’s debt balances per capita to surrounding counties and municipalities, it is apparent we have done exceptionally well in managing our debt. In fact, our total cash less total debt is considerably higher than South Bend, Mishawaka, and other similarly sized counties.

Over the last 7 years, our County has rebounded, as is evidenced by an increase in overall net assessed values, a steady increase in median household income, and a sharp decline in unemployment. Our continued belt-tightening, along with a rebound in our state and local economies provide an opportunity to begin to address the long-deferred investments in capital improvements needed in our county.

Over the next several months, we will be engaging Council in conversations on capital improvement priorities. Everything from infrastructure, to buildings, to increased safety features; require an honest discussion with the ultimate goal of having a five-year plan for addressing these issues. Elevator repairs, new voting machines, improved highway garages, an ERP system, and building improvements are some of the items we will need to address in the next 12-18 months.

We have spent the last few years living within our means, only taking on debt when absolutely necessary, and retiring debt as quickly as possible. This is why, even if Cum Cap rates are restored to prior levels, an average County taxpayer is paying less in taxes than they did 5 years ago.

Another area to address is PSAP funding. St. Joe County cannot continue subsidizing dispatch operations, and a more equitable system has to be developed, which is why we are working on new funding formulas now.

I want to give special recognition to Councilman Noland for everything he has done over the last year to help move projects forward.

I am proud to say that the State of our County is strong and continues to grow stronger, and will have some exciting things to announce in 2019. May God continue to bless our great nation, the State of Indiana, and St. Joseph County.

**First Reading(s):**

**BILL NO. 30-19: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING TITLE XV, LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 154, PLANNING AND ZONING, OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CODE, AS AMENDED, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE LOT NORTH OF 6225 SOUTH MICHIGAN STREET FROM R: SINGLE FAMILY DISTRICT AND C: COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO C: COMMERCIAL DISTRICT  
PETITIONER: JAI JAGDISH, INC.**

Assigned to the Land Use Planning Committee

**Resolution(s):**

**Salary Amendment(s):**

**BILL NO. 31-19:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 53-18, THE SAME BEING AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES AND FIXING THE NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY FOR THE YEAR 2019 (Dept. 0027 ELECTION BOARD)

Ms. Hess reported that Bill No. 31-19 comes with a favorable recommendation.

Lana Cleary, Clerk's office, this is an ordinance to change the structure of pay both for the central count workers that work during the election time and the travel board that go out and vote the sick from a flat rate of forty five dollars for the voting the sick and the seventy five for the central count to a nine dollar an hour because everybody doesn't work the same amount of hours.

Motion to pass Bill No. 31-19 was made by Mr. Noland and seconded by Ms. Hess. Bill No. 31-19 was passed to-wit; 8-0

**Public Hearing/Public Comment:**

**BILL NO. 34-19:** AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING MONEYS FOR THE PURPOSE HEREIN SPECIFIED FOR THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS HEREIN LISTED OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY GOVERNMENT

**TRANSFERS:**

A. Infrastructure, Planning & Growth  
General Fund

FROM: 1000-11950-000-0070	Part Time	\$31,264.00
1000-11442-000-0070	Project Engineer I-III	12,582.00
TO: 1000-11366-000-0070	Planner	\$31,264.00
1000-11366-000-0070	Planner	12,582.00
	<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b><u>\$43,846.00</u></b>

**APPROPRIATE:**

B. Elections

HAVA Fund		
1215-45520-000-0027	Election Equipment	\$264,325.00
	<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b><u>\$264,325.00</u></b>

C. Circuit Court

Drug Free Fund		
1148-39205-000-0019	Community Grants	\$58,691.00
	<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b><u>\$58,691.00</u></b>

D. Juvenile Justice Center

LIT Public Safety		
1170-44010-000-0049	Camera Equipment	\$73,401.65
	<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b><u>\$73,401.65</u></b>

E. County Police

LIT Public Safety		
1170-24011-000-0005	Police Department Supplies	\$22,100.00
	<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b><u>\$22,100.00</u></b>

Mr. Noland: My notes tell me item D came without a recommendation, is there any input?

Cheryl Rush, Controller, Juvenile Justice Center, we are requesting this appropriation for the cameras that were explained, we'd like to give cameras to Rite of Passage, they bring a revenue stream of a hundred and twenty thousand and they have been requesting these for four years now, their lease is up next year, we'd like to keep that revenue. We are building a new court room, so we need cameras for that, we have areas that are vulnerable at the JJC so we have added a few of those. I talked to Scott Senff and he's ok with this, we may need one switch and he can buy that in house.

Motion to pass Bill No. 34-19 was made by Mr. Catanzarite and seconded by Ms. Hess. Bill No. 34-19 was passed to-wit; 8-0

**Miscellaneous:**

**BILL NO. 33-19: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING TITLE XI, BUSINESS REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 117, ST. JOSEPH COUNTY FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS, OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CODE  
PETITIONER: HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Kruszynski reported that Bill No. 33-19 comes with a favorable recommendation.

Carolyn Smith, Food Service Director with the St. Joseph County Health Department, we are requesting an amendment to the definition of a food delivery vehicle, the term will no longer include a vehicle that is used to deliver food that has been prepared, sealed or packaged in a permitted food establishment when the food is intended for immediate consumption. There will no longer be a cost or a fee required for those delivery vehicles.

Motion to pass Bill No. 33-19 was made by Mr. Noland and seconded by Mr. Kruszynski. Bill No. 33-19 was passed to-wit; 8-0

**Unfinished Business:**

**BILL NO. 17-19: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND**

Mr. Morton: We have already had public hearing on this bill.

Mr. Catanzarite: I would like to say my support for Bill No. 17-19 goes a long way in terms of speaking to our long-range capital needs in our county and I think that we have no shortage of capital needs going forward up to and including things that were mentioned tonight in Mr. Kostielney's presentation such as elevators, infrastructure, our buildings, a lot of deferred maintenance, we were able to tackle up the deferred maintenance with the Energy Savings Program but there is still a lot of deferred maintenance on a lot of other projects and buildings that hasn't been addressed. Had the state law not changed like it did a few years back when we had the established rate that always stayed at the rate you established, and you didn't sunset like it does now. I think there is a demonstrated need for the capital investments, I just hope if this passes tonight, and even if it doesn't pass, going forward I think the Council needs to be very much included in the process, not just to get a list of this is what we are going to do with the money but I think we need to be at the table in the decision making process in terms of prioritizing like we have begun to do over the last couple of months thanks to Corey getting the moving target as we have every month and review.

Ms. Hess: I would also agree with Councilman Catanzarites comments, we have started a very vigorous process of reviewing and prioritizing capital investment needs in the county of which there are many and as Commissioner Kostielney mentioned tonight even with the slight increase that this would be, we would still have one of the lowest tax rates that we have had in several years in the county and there are significant needs, it makes sense to have this capital development expenses come out of a capital development fund instead of the CREDIT fund or other funds. This fund only supposed to be used for capital development within the county and I firmly believe we need it.

Motion to pass Bill No. 17-19 was made by Mr. Catanzarite and seconded by Mr. Noland. Bill No. 17-19 was passed to-wit; 5-3 Against: Mr. Telloyan, Mr. Root and Mr. Kruszynski.

**New Business:**

**Privilege of the floor:** Limit of 3 minutes to items not on agenda

Judith Rubleski, 515 S. Meade St. South Bend, I would like to get a report about who's handling abatements. That was not covered in the State of the County and who's following up...

Mr. Hamann: You can get that in my office.

Ms. Rubleski: I would like to know more about that.

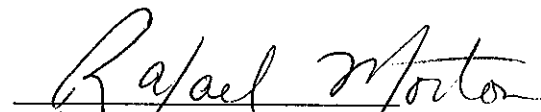
Daniel Caruso, 305 Compton St. New Carlisle, I spoke at the redevelopment meeting this morning and my concerns were address by county commissioner Clark about the mess of Timothy Road in New Carlisle. Thank you, Jessica, for taking care of that. My concerns now are some of the information that came out in the State of the County address about how this wonderful fiber optic idea would be so great for New Carlisle and the citizens of New Carlisle when every bit of information I've got is the only way I am going to benefit from it as a citizen is if I happen to go to the library, the school or work at one of the businesses that come in there. I personally, at my house will not be able to tap into this wonderful new thing, I have Wi-Fi at my house so this is really going to be of no benefit to me and they say, there may be some day where it will be able to get into my house but it would not be cost effective for me to keep it. There is checking going in to see what the draw on the aquifer will be, what the additional traffic to the roads will be with any new growth coming to the IEC area out there. I just say we can't take care of Timothy Road. We need to slow down.

Debra DuRall, 21677 Auten Road, South Bend, this morning, the Redevelopment Commission just approved resolution 2019-2 for TIFF allocations for 2020 and I don't believe a single question or comment by the members or an opportunity for public inquiry heard. My concern is what does this mean now for the County Council, the budget and the public. The resolution states that notification of the Auditor and the Council must be made and that the Council created this commission. My major concerns about this and the several taxes being raised now is based on an imbalance of county funds caused by these TIFF's and tax abatement structure.

Bob Humbarger, 29987 Hurd Road, South Bend, I understand about needing funds for the cumulative fund that you voted on tonight. My complaint is, we have so much money incapsulated in TIFF areas right now, if that money was available to the county, we wouldn't be in this situation. My concern is the future. What does the Redevelopment Commission and ultimately, it's going to come towards you, the more money you put in TIFF the less money that goes into our new fire territory in Olive Township less goes to the schools because of the property caps and in the meantime, the TIFF area doesn't contribute to that and so I am trying to be understanding about this present situation but at the same time, I hope that you do not dig the hole any deeper in the future.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Morton stated that the meeting was adjourned 6:56 p.m.

  
Auditor, St. Joseph County

  
President, St. Joseph County Council