

White River/Greenwood Reorganization Committee Meeting Minutes

<i>Subcommittee</i>	Governance	
<i>Location</i>	WRT Building	
<i>Date & Time</i>	Thursday, April 16, 2009	
<i>Public Meeting</i>	No	
<i>Members Attending</i>	Don Hanlin, chr. Eric Kapke, vice-chr. Pat Sherman, ex officio John Prey Woody Robinson	Mike Campbell Jack Cruse Brent Corey, Grnwd city council member
<i>Topics Discussed</i>	<p>Pat Sherman addressed the subcommittee's concern about the new city's budget & taxes. He encouraged the subcommittee to wait for the reports of the other subcommittees, especially finance. He pointed out that the State's Department of Local Government Finance had not been able to answer all of the Finance Subcommittee's questions and would provide more thorough explanations of financial matters & procedures at a later time. He also explained the current budgetary timeline and suggested that the current Greenwood city administration & council would have to approve 2010-11 budgets & tax rates before the vote on consolidation. That creates certain problems which must be addressed.</p> <p>Don Hanlin presented a summary of current state law regarding 2nd and 3rd class cities' common councils. The summary highlighted specific issues that the subcommittee may address as it creates a structure for the governance of the consolidated city. He also presented a map Pleasant & White River townships that showed Greenwood's current boundaries & proposed annexations by both</p>	

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	<p>Greenwood and Bargersville.</p> <p>After reviewing those issues relating to city councils and a brief discussion of the appropriate number of council members and methods of drawing council districts, the subcommittee responded to Mr. Sherman’s suggestion that the members contact council members in Greenwood as well as some of Indiana’s larger cities and towns and ask them about these and other issues. He also urged the subcommittee members to meet with Mayor of Henderson in order to discuss governance and governmental structures.</p>
<i>Recommendations</i>	None
<i>Next Meeting</i>	Tentative: Meeting with Mayor Henderson on Wednesday, April 29th
<i>Assignments</i>	<p>Subcommittee members agreed to contact Greenwood city council members in Greenwood as well as in other cities that would be similar in size to the total population of Greenwood & White River Township.</p> <p>As a starting point in their research, subcommittee members will ask or consider the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is a proper or most efficient number of common council members vis-à-vis population? What is the proper or most efficient number of residents within a city council district? 2. Who should be the common council’s presiding officer? 3. What are the advantages & disadvantages of having an elected clerk-treasurer as opposed to an elected clerk & appointed controller? 4. What are the advantages & disadvantages of the current system of check & balances

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	<p>between mayors and common councils?</p> <p>5. Knowing what you know now, if state law allowed you to redesign your city/town government, what would you change?</p> <p>Mr. Hanlin said that he would arrange for a meeting with Mayor Henderson.</p>
<i>Attachments</i>	None
<i>Information References</i>	None