

WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP – GREENWOOD REORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Greenwood Council Chambers, 2 N. Madison Ave., Greenwood, IN

August 6, 2009

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Committee Chairman Pat Sherman called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Pat Sherman, Dr. Eric Kapke,  
Don Hanlin, David Payne, Dale Tumey,  
Forrest Chambers.  
Paul Reed arrived during the meeting.  
Non-Voting Advisors: Forrest Mellott, John Griffin  
Recording Secretary: De Lane

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, Mr. David Payne made a motion to approve the Minutes from the meeting held on July 2, 2009. Mr. Forrest Chambers seconded the motion, and it passed with a vote of 5-0 with Dale Tumey abstaining, as he was not present at that meeting. Dr. Eric Kapke made a motion to approved the July 20, 2009 Minutes of the Presentation to the Greenwood Council and White River Township Board. Mr. David Payne seconded the motion, and it passed with a vote of 6-0. Mr. Forrest Chambers made a motion to approve the Minutes from the regular Committee meeting held on July 20, 2009, following the Presentation meeting. Mr. Dale Tumey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Sherman advised that, as a result of the presentation to the Council and Board on July 20, 2009, items would be slated for follow-up, with results to be available for review by the Council and Board on August 17, 2009.

**Sub-committee Reports**

**Infrastructure** Chair Mr. David Payne updated the Commission by advising that the City had provided a copy of their draft study of storm water utilities, and Sub-committee member Mark Richards is reviewing it at this time, and will supply a final summary. Concerning the utility services that would be available to the new community, Mr. Payne has contacted IPL, Duke Energy, and REMC. Duke Energy has not responded to any questions as of this date. IPL will provide a map of service areas, and Mr. Payne has requested information regarding street light procedures, and fees from all three utilities.

A meeting had been held with Greenwood Fire Chief James Sipes to discuss weather early warning sirens. Greenwood presently has 9 sirens. Center Grove Schools, along with the Emergency Management Department of Johnson County, have installed 3 sirens around the Center Grove Schools area. White River Township has purchased 3 additional sirens; however, they have not yet been installed. The cost of each siren (installed) is approximately \$24,000. The Sub-committee is determining how many additional units the new community may need.

Concerning fire hydrants, much of the information will be forthcoming from Bargersville Water Utility, and Indiana-American Water Company. Currently, the City of Greenwood has 1773 public fire hydrants, and 150-200 private fire hydrants (commercial entities

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purchase the hydrants and pay a fee to the water company). The actual cost involved is being determined, as, at one time, the Fire Department was paying \$28 per hydrant, per month, but this cost has since been passed onto the consumer.

**Health and Safety** Chair Mr. Forrest Chambers reported that all information on the 5 subjects of study has been compiled, with a list of recommendations to be presented at the scheduled Council/Board meeting. Ordinance and Nuisance Complaints, Township Government, and Fire/Police reports are completed, with a report still anticipated from Greenwood Police Chief Joe Pitcher. When this report is received, it will be incorporated into the Sub-committee report. Mr. Chambers extended his gratitude to all of the people who had worked, and are still working on this project.

Mr. Paul Reed arrived at the meeting at 6:42pm.

**Parks and Recreation** Chair Dr. Eric Kapke advised that his Sub-committee is working on some changes, and plan to meet immediately after the Committee tonight. Mr. Sherman asked if any of these were substantial changes, and Dr. Kapke was hesitant to advise either way, until after the Sub-committee meeting later.

**Governance** Chair Mr. Don Hanlin advised that his Sub-committee followed up on the residency question presented at the Council/Board meeting of July 20. They have determined that during the transitional period of government, the Council Members will be required to be residents of the new city, which is basically state law.

**Planning and Land Use** Chair Mr. Dale Tumey reported that 3 meetings of his Sub-committee had occurred with the past 2 weeks, and they are ready to make a final report. He advised that new, highlighted-area maps were now available for clarification of boundaries. He added that both rural and urban considerations have been addressed concerning land use in those areas.

**Finance** Chair Mr. Paul Reed advised that he had been trying to secure information concerning assets of White River Township, but had not been completely successful as of yet. He had requested and received information from the Daily Journal News reflecting a \$247,000 Certificate of Deposit/Savings, which would be an asset for the Township. Mr. Reed is finding it difficult to obtain a copy of the actual assets (furniture), and is encountering a problem determining the ownership of the township government office building. Mr. Reed feels that the taxpayers of White River Township own the building, even though; the use would revert back to Center Grove Schools, if the township government dissolves. The building should still be considered an asset, as of today, in his opinion. He added that this same thought process applies to the Bantam Football Park. Mr. Reed is hopeful that, along with the help of the Daily Journal, these items can be clarified.

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Mr. Reed reported that his Sub-committee is still waiting on tax collection revenue information from the City of Greenwood, and that the previously requested information had been received from the state.

The Sub-committee is in the process of forecasting the expenditures and revenues of a reorganized Greenwood; working with each Sub-committee in order to project a budget, and tax rates, with impacts of services/staffing changes. When this study is complete, the information will be shared.

Audience member Mr. Dann Veldkamp asked how the information regarding the asset valuation was being attempted. Mr. Reed answered that he had contacted the Township Trustee and one of the Township Board Members, and has a call into another of the Board Members.

Mr. Forrest Chambers recalled that Center Grove Schools was given the township building, to be used as an administration building, along with the football park. He added that payment had been made for these transactions. Mr. Chambers thought that if these properties were to be changed, that they should be given to whoever is the government of that area, whether it is the City of Greenwood, Bargersville, or Center Grove.

**New Business**

Mr. Sherman advised that the Committee needs to begin working on the recommendations, noting that the Parks & Recreation, and Governance Sub-committees have completed theirs. Mr. Sherman wanted to make sure that the recommendations were submitted for discussion prior to the presentation to the Council/Board. Mr. Sherman asked each Sub-committee to review those reports submitted by the Parks & Recreation, and Governance Sub-committees. Through email discussions, Mr. Sherman and the Sub-committee Chairs will clarify the recommendations to be presented in the next public meeting. Issues involved are the number of City Council Members, the Board of Works/Board of Health & Safety, and the amount of detail to be contained in the Plan of Reorganization vs. an Addendum to the Plan.

The August 5, 2009 Claims Docket was presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Paul Reed to approve the docket as presented. Mr. Don Hanlin seconded the motion, and it passed with a vote of 7-0.

**Old Business**

Mr. Forrest Mellott reviewed that on August 17, 2009, the Board and Council will be hearing two more sets of findings. He suggested that the Committee be able to review these prior to the presentation to the legislative bodies. September 14, 2009 is the date scheduled for the presentation to the Council and Board from the Finance Sub-committee, as well as addressing feedback from the first two presentations.

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Prior to adjournment, Mr. Sherman asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience, and there was no response.

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.



Patrick A. Sherman, Chairman

### **RECAP OF MOTIONS**

Minutes from Committee meeting held on 7/2/09 approved; 5-0, 1 abstention.

Minutes from Presentation to Council/Board held on 7/20/09 approved; 6-0.

Minutes from Committee meeting held on 7/20/09 approved; 6-0.

August 6, 2009 Claims Docket approved; 7-0.