

COUNCIL & COMMISSIONER MEETING

**JOINT SESSION
JANUARY 20, 2026
7:00 PM**

202600682 MIN \$0.00
02/18/2026 08:33:39A 3 PGS
Heather L. Gilbert
Putnam County Recorder IN
Recorded as Presented



ATTENDANCE:

COUNCIL:

Stephanie Campbell, President
Jay Alcorn, Vice President
Wayne Huffman
Kerry Williams
Amanda Brown
Brian Berry
Danny Wallace

COMMISSIONERS:

Andy Beck, President
Tom Helmer, Vice President
Rick Woodall

ATTORNEY:

Trudy Selvia
Jim Ensley

AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Kristina Berish

AUDIENCE:

8 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Council and Commissioners met on January 20, 2026, at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse.

ANNEX

The meeting was to further discuss the potential project of an annex. A resolution had been presented to the Council at their last meeting that did not pass due to it being a vote of 3 to 3. It was before them again tonight.

Campbell said representatives from Envoy and Garmong were at the meeting tonight to answer any further questions the board may have.

Beck had several questions, one being how much square footage was in the design that was not designated (besides storage). Hannum stated unprogrammed was between 4-5K square feet. This was put into the design for storage since the county currently rents two large storage units offsite and for future growth of departments. What if the county eliminated the unprogrammed space, how much would that save. Hannum estimated it would be a savings of 4M.

Beck also asked if it would be better to have the building one level. Hannum said one versus two levels had been discussed and researched during the development of the project and found that two levels were the best option.

After some discussion, Campbell said the Council had a resolution before them again tonight that stated it was determining need for project and intent to proceed. If the board approves and signs it tonight it is not obligatory to 100% do the project. If after tonight the board cannot agree on funding mechanism for the project, it will not move forward.

Brown said she was concerned about approving and signing the resolution. She felt the language of the resolution was obligating the county that they must proceed with the project. Campbell

stated the resolution says the Council has determined need for project and has intent to proceed. That it is in the best interests of the county to proceed with the project. This is just one step further in the process, there are still quite a few steps to go before this project is officially approved by the board and 100% going forward. The Council must at a future date decide how to pay for it. If majority of the Council cannot agree on funding, then the project will not move forward.

Huffman questioned approving the resolution since the Council did not know how, at this time, they were going to pay for the bond or loan. Should that not be figured out first. And should a dollar amount not have to be agreed upon first.

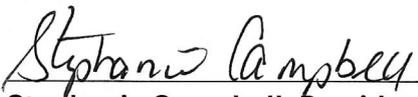
Wallace stated this project has been put off for years. It is a can that has been kicked down the road for some time and every time it is postponed it costs us more. If we had built the annex when it was originally needed the building would have been half the cost before us now. If we keep pushing it off the price will only keep increasing. It was asked why it had not been built before now. Berish said in the past the funding was not there. It had always been discussed that once the jail bond was finished to utilize the money that had paid it to then pay for a bond or loan for the annex. The funding mechanism is the economic development income tax. The tax was created in 1993 when the county was court mandated to build a new jail. The last payment of the jail bond was in 2018.

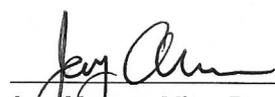
Campbell stated the Council will need to hold future meetings to discuss the county funds. There are a lot of wants and needs before them: annex, roads, bridges, 911 radios, etc. The problem did not get created overnight so it is not going to be fixed overnight.

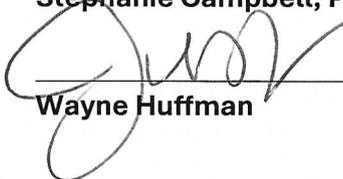
Campbell called for a motion on resolution 2026-01-20-1. Wallace made the motion to move forward and sign the resolution so we can look at the finances and the county's options. Alcorn seconded. Brown and Huffman opposed. The motion passed five to two.

ADJOURN

Wallace made the motion to adjourn. Huffman seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Woodall made the motion to adjourn. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.


Stephanie Campbell, President

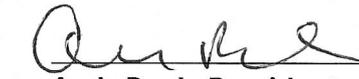

Jay Alcorn, Vice President

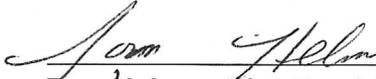

Wayne Huffman


Brian Berry

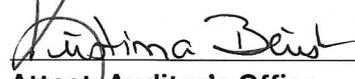
Amanda Brown


Kerry Williams


Andy Beck, President


Tom Helmer, Vice President


Rick Woodall


Attest: Auditor's Office
Kristina Berish

RESOLUTION OF THE PUTNAM COUNTY COUNCIL
DETERMINING NEED FOR PROJECT AND INTENT TO PROCEED

WHEREAS, the County Council ("Council") of Putnam County, Indiana ("County") has investigated the need for funding the construction and equipping of a County annex ("Project") by the Putnam County Building Corporation;

WHEREAS, a petition containing the signatures of sixty-eight (68) taxpayers of the County, as certified by the County Auditor, has been filed with the Board of Commissioners of the County and this Council regarding the construction and equipping of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the County and its residents to proceed with the Project;

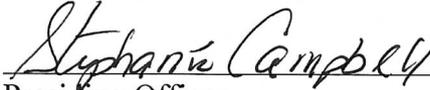
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PUTNAM COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

Section 1. The Council hereby determines, after investigation and receipt of the taxpayer petition, that a need exists for the Project.

Section 2. This resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage.

Dated this 20th day of January, 2026.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PUTNAM COUNTY,
INDIANA



Presiding Officer









ATTEST:



Auditor, Kristina Berish