

Carroll County Commissioners:

Through these means, the Carroll County Council extends a formal invitation to the Carroll County Commissioners for a face-to-face meeting in order to address various issues of importance to the community we serve. The issues are important so that any information released to the community is factual and in context. It is, therefore, incumbent to address these issues and accurately inform the taxpayers on the work their elected officials are performing.

More specifically stated, the Council desires to address the following issues:

- A. **Respective Duties of the Commissioners and the Council:** We would like to address this issue as it may be the cause of some confusion.
- B. **Animal Control:** Since the defunding of the animal control organization, the council has never been presented with a plan for re-organization so that the council could have an opportunity to explore its re-establishing costs as well as prioritize it relative to the other budgetary concerns the council addresses. It may be the case that the commissioners are not fully cognizant of the investment that may be required to re-establish this operation, but the council expects a full and frank discussion of this issue.
- C. **911 Equipment:** The council is unable to explore the issue of cost to replace or purchase 911 equipment or determine how much is needed by when because it has not received a plan for such equipment. The council expects a frank discussion of this issue.
- D. **911 Funding:** The council is resistant to endless 911 funding without being presented with reliable evidence of what is required, what is being provided and an independent analysis on whether 911 should be a county function rather than being handled by the state of Indiana. The council expects a frank discussion on this topic.
- E. **Transfer Station:** In December of 2014, a commissioner closed the transfer station for two weeks, denying the taxpayers of a service they were entitled to receive. After re-opening, the transfer station again closed because it lacked the human resources to operate. The council wants to address this issue with the commissioners and explore avenues for maintaining a continuing operation at the transfer station.
- F. **Carroll Manor:** The council is obligated for establishing the budget and appropriating the funding for the operation of Carroll Manor. Given that this facilities cares for our elderly and the least able to care for themselves, it is incumbent that the council and commissioners operate from the same playbook. As such, the council desires frank discussion on the topic in order to explore a more orderly process that ensures the smooth operation of the facility.
- G. **Community Corrections & Jail Population:** The "jail study" presented to the council was inadequate and lacked the guidance sought by the council. The council wants a frank discussion on this issue, and hopes to plan for jail renovations that are expected.

- H. EMS Funding: The council wants to address the issue of the EMS funding. We expect to a frank discussion of this issue.
- I. DLGF Funding: We expect a frank discussion on the issue on the proper approach to the budget and are open to suggestions from the commissioners on it so that the council and commissioners can work together to a common goal rather than have to expend enormous amount of time attempting to figure out what is next and what is proper.
- J. Rainy Day Fund: We seek a clear understanding between the council and commissioners as to the purpose and function of the Rainy Day Fund. The council desires to explore a joint policy from it and the commissioners with respect to this fund so that confusion will not occur.
- K. GIS: The council desires a frank and open discussion on the GIS funding issue. More to the point, the council seeks to develop a strategic plan for this funding and seeks the input of the commissioners.
- L. EDIT FUNDS: The council believes that it is in the best interests of the taxpayers of this community to address this topic and seeks an open discussion on it.

The Carroll County Council wants this face-to-face meeting in an effort to synchronize our efforts in order to provide the community with the best we can with the resources we have available.

In order to make the best use of the time available to all involved, the council proposes a more formal protocol for dealing with the issues. As such, please forward to the council your suggestions as to how the commissioners envision setting up this meeting so that we can have a frank exchange of information and ideas without getting into a mud-throwing or a blaming event.

The Council would like for the commissioners to consider the following format and welcomes its input into the creation of a more final format. Absent a commitment to follow an agreed to format, the council does not believe that it can participate in a meeting that has little chance of being successful and productive.

1. Allow a representative for the commissioners to present its understanding of each topic, followed by a representative of the council.
2. The commissioners will present first on the first topic, followed by the council.
3. The council will present first on the following topic, followed by the commissioners.

4. The commissioners and council will alternate topics until they are exhausted following this format.
5. On the topic that follows, the council will present its position first, followed by a representative of the commissioners.
6. At the conclusion of the meeting, within ten (10) days, a representative of the commissioners will provide to all participants a written proposed resolution to issue presented.
7. At the conclusion of the meeting, within ten (10) days, a representative of the council will provide to all participants a written proposed resolution to issue presented.
8. Fifteen (15) days after each party receives the proposed resolution to the issues presented, the commissioners and council will make an open invitation to the public at large to question the commissioners and council on the issues examined and the proposed resolution to them.

Lastly, the Council considers it crucial that the topics to be examined be prioritized in some order of importance. With that in mind, the council hereby invites the commissioners to submit its own list of topics for discussion and prioritize them in relationship to the list that the council created herein. If we need to get a committee together in order to create a cooperative atmosphere where each side is satisfied that it is being adequately heard and its position considered, the council has no objection to it and stands at the ready to engage in the creation of such a committee.

The importance of the work that the commissioners and council provide to the taxpayers and community at large is so imperative that the council wants to ensure that it is going the extra mile in order to explore every avenue available for the betterment of Carroll County given the limited resources at their disposal.

Please seriously consider attending and participating.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Rough, President
Carroll County Council