

WARREN COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 16, 2026

Council present for the meeting: Ben Dispennett, Ethan Foxworthy, John Hetrick, Dwain Akers, Neil Ellis, Brady Foster, Nic Weston.

Public: Heather Deno, LEDO; West Lebanon Library Dana Allison and Ann Cole; Lisa Huntington, Baker Tilly; Sarah Correll, Ice Miller; John Boerman, Dairy; OJ Chinn.

Department Head/Elected Official – Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor; Cori Herndon, Chief Deputy Auditor.

1. The Council Meeting was called to order by Ethan Foxworthy, Council President.
2. Ethan Foxworthy, Council President led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. New Business:
 - a. Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve the agenda seconded by Brady Foster, all voted in favor.
 - b. John Hetrick made a motion to approve the Council minutes for May 12, 2026 seconded by Brady Foster, all voted in favor.
 - c. West Lebanon Library Board, Bond/Budget – Sarah Correll, Ice Miller, explained West Lebanon Library is in need of a bond for outstanding debt and introduced the project to us. Boards are fully appointed not elected due to the board being nonelected this must be presented before the County Fiscal Body prior to issuance of bond. Dana Allison, Director of WL Library, explained several updates are need such as lighting systems, HVAC, creating a children's library in the basement, upstairs caulking windows, etc. Lisa Huntington, Baker Tilley, explained debt service with debt expiring, new bond is replacing. Renovations and improvements costing approximately \$500,000. Bond is a 20 year term with \$280,000 in interest, rates by Indiana Bond Bank, maximum annual payment is approximately \$49,000 which is level with the existing bond. Taxpayers will notice a slight increase in the debit service rate, due to final payment of current bond. Explained the taxpayer impact which are restoring to 2025 levels. Showed median home values estimating monthly impact of tax dollars. Foster inquired about fees take to market and the \$283,000 in fees. Huntington explained municipal advisory fee, purchaser underwriter, trustee/paying agent etc. Dispennett inquired about County options due to the fees. Chinn stated other items such LED sign would be nice.
 - d. Axon, Sheriff Safety Equipment Plan – Discussed the quote for Sheriff Department body cameras, in car cameras, taser, etc. Axon plan at \$265,207.20 paid over 5 years. This will be discussed during 2027 budgets.
 - e. Abatements 2026 pay 2027 – Barce explained a few of the abatements are going to expire next year and legislative changes.
 - i. Liquid Feed Transport Inc Manufacturing Real Property –Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Brady Foster made a motion to approve Liquid Feed Transport Inc Manufacturing Real Property Abatement seconded by Neil Ellis, all voted in favor
 - ii. Kuri Tec Manufacturing Personal Property 2016 and 2025 –Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Neil Ellis made a motion to approve Kuri Tec Manufacturing 2017 Real Property Abatement seconded by Brady Foster, all voted in favor. John Hetrick made a motion to approve Kuri Tech Manufacturing 2025 Kuri Tec Manufacturing Personal Property Abatement seconded by Nicholas Weston, all voted in favor.
 - iii. Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property, 2017 and 2025 – Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve Kuri Tec Manufacturing 2017 Real Property Abatement seconded by Neil Ellis, all voted in favor. Dwain Akers made a motion to approve Kuri Tec Manufacturing 2025 Real Property Abatement seconded by Nicholas Weston, all voted in favor.
 - iv. Stewart Grain Co Inc Real Property – Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Stewart Grain Co Inc Real Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Brady Foster made a motion to approve Stewart Grain Co Inc Real Property Abatement seconded by Neil Ellis, all voted in favor.
 - v. Birkey's Farm Store, Inc Real Property – Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Birkey's Farm Store Real Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve Birkey's Farm Store Real Property Abatement seconded by Nicolas Weston. Brady Foster abstained and all others voted in favor.
 - vi. Jordan Creek Wind Farm LLC Real Property – Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Jordan Creek Wind Farm LLC Real Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve Jordan Creek Wind Farm LLC Real Property Abatement seconded by Brady Foster, all voted in favor.
 - vii. Jordan Creek Wind Farm LLC Utility – Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Jordan Creek Wind Farm LLC Utility substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Dwain Akers made a motion to approve Jordan Creek Wind Farm LLC Utility Abatement seconded by Brady Foster, all voted in favor.
 - viii. Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property, 2017 and 2025 – Foxworthy opened the floor for a motion finding that Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property substantially complied with their State of Benefits Abatement. Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve Kuri Tec Manufacturing 2017 Real Property Abatement seconded by Neil Ellis, all voted in favor. Discussed 2025 abatement and requested more information. Dwain Akers made a motion to table 2025 Kuri Tec Manufacturing Real Property Abatement seconded by Nicholas Weston, all voted in favor.
 - f. Resolution Additional Appropriation – Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve Additional Appropriation Resolution #2026-0616A seconded by Nicholas Weston, all voted in favor.
 - g. 2027 Budget Information – Weston-Hubner stated 2027 Budget Meeting will be held July 27, 2026 at 8:15 and budget book was delivered to the council. Salaries are at zero. Discussed large purchases.
 - h. 2026 Salary Ordinance – Ordinance #2026-0616B Discussed the stipend/bonus for court employees. Neil Ellis made a motion to approve Amended 2026 Salary Ordinance #2026-0616B seconded by Dwain Akers, all voted in favor.
 - i. Additional Appropriation – Ben Dispennett made a motion to approve Additional Appropriations of Court Salary Stipends/bonuses, add a line called Financial Services in Commissioner County General and Fiscal Plan Consultant Fees \$24,000 seconded by John Hetrick, all voted in favor.
4. Old Business:
5. Elected Official/Department Head comments:
 - a. Heather Deno, LEDO – Deno explained strengthening relationships with local business and highlighting them to public. Many businesses are having issues with getting employees in the county due to no driver license, drug tests, etc. Working with State to bring together with local businesses. Updating LEDO website. Won Duke Grant and Wabash Valley Power Assoc grant as well.

6. Public Comment:

- a. John, Boerman, Warren Dairy – Boerman explained new Dairy will add to the tax base and would like to discuss tax abatement. Dairy will bring \$158 million and possibly \$10 million in Personal Property adding 60 employees, will be back for abatement discussion. Estimated date of completion first of year possibly bringing some cattle in a little early. Total of 7,500 milking cows capacity. Discuss 1000W road work and abatement. Boerman stated with debt the abatement will give breathing room. Willow Dairy abatement finished last year. Foster stated great to see that community members are working on building the dairy.

Next Council meeting July 27,2026 @ 8:00 a.m.

There being no further business Neil Ellis made a motion to adjourn seconded by Ben Dispennett, all voted in favor.

ATTEST: Robin Weston-Hubner Ethan Foxworthy
Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor Ethan Foxworthy, President
Ben Dispennett
Ben Dispennett, Vice President

Nicholas Weston
Brady Foster
Neil Ellis
Dwain Akers
John Hetrick