



# BROWNSBURG

# SENTINEL

November 26th, 2014

## Two Views-One Budget Meeting

**BY THE EDITOR** -- Special Meeting of the Brownsburg Town Council October 16th, 2014

After a very long reading of the budget on October 9th, it was clear there were 10 areas of concern about the proposed 2015 Town budget which would need to be resolved before the budget could be approved. At that meeting, it was decided to hold a special meeting to discuss those items and decide if any amendments to the budget were needed.

Gary Hood gavelled the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, it was noted that all 5 members of the Town Council were present for what would end up being a long night. Gary laid down the rules for the evening. It would be a review and discussion of the 2015 budget concentrating on the areas of concern which were identified the week before. He would not ask for any motions nor would any item be voted on at the meeting. The sole purpose of the meeting was to determine what, if any, amendments needed to be drafted for the vote on October 23rd.

There were ten concerns noted by Gary at the last meeting and he started methodically moving through the items. The first question was about whether or not there was funding for the roundabout at 300N and Green Street. Grant answered the money to build the roundabout would come from the TIF budget 242 fund. The real question was do we want to keep the roundabout or shuffle the funds to other projects or leave it for the next council. Grant explained when it was time to bid the roundabout he would come back to the council for approval. The engineering study was approved in 2014 and is going forward. Gary asked for consensus to leave it in the budget as is and he received no objections. This item stays in the budget.

The second item on the agenda was the questions and concerns around the Buxton agreement. Greg Anderson prepared a Power Point presentation as to why the data is needed when talking to potential businesses to locate in Brownsburg. Grant reminded the council the amount in the budget was 50K for one year and not the entire three year contract. The council grilled Greg and Grant for more than 45 minutes. After a reminder from Kendall that the budget request was 1/3 of the last request and obviously needed for economic growth, the consensus was to leave the item in the budget with agreement from Grant not to sign a contract before bringing it before the 2015 council.

Next on the agenda was the request for expansion or renovation of Town Hall. The budget included 175K from the rainy day fund for an Eaton Hall remodel and 50K to renovate the current planning office space. The expansion was to be able to keep the planning office centralized in one space. Gary Hood voiced his opinion that he was not in favor of an Eaton Hall modification suggesting they leave the budget amount alone but maybe use the money differently. After some discussion, the consensus was to make an amendment to the budget and drop the amount to 50K. *(Editor's Notes: When the current municipal center was constructed, how long was it anticipated before the town government required additional space? Is the current growth ahead or behind those projections? Either way why? Who will be placed in the Eaton Hall Expansion, and why? Are these people project based or permanent head count? If project based, are there other more cost effective solutions available? Temporarily locate these people in the basement of the current municipal center, or in unused portions of the fire territory headquarters? If permanent, what are the positions, what duties will they perform?* ... continued on page 5

**BY ANNE SERING** - On October 16, 2014, the Brownsburg Town Council held a special meeting to discuss the Brownsburg Budget for 2015. All five members were present: Gary Hood, Don Spencer, Dave Richardson, Ashley Hobbs, and Rob Kendall. First of all a disclaimer. This author is writing this over two weeks after the fact, has access to the video available on the Brownsburg's site and has no feelings one way or another over what transpired. There were ten or so items up for discussion and most were not resolved as far as I could surmise.

The first item concerned the proposed roundabout at 300N and Green St. The discussion seemed to indicate the \$1.9 million project of which preliminary engineering had taken place would remain in the budget. The 2015 Town Council can decide whether to go ahead or not with the project. As a person who will go out of her way to avoid circles, I hate to see this coming. Hopefully, it will be well-designed so one can readily see who is entering the circle and not be clobbered by someone going faster than the designated speed. Hopefully it will be designed to allow the huge semis and garbage haulers to move to their satisfaction and not cream me as I turn to visit my grandchildren.

The second item which was discussed at length was the Buxton agreement. Buxton Corp provides customer analytics for site selection and marketing opportunities. Economic Development Director Greg Anderson would like to use this company to enable Brownsburg to sell itself to appropriate retail establishments. Some in Brownsburg would like to see us as a Traders Point or Avon destination. Hendricks County Economic Director Cindy Kelley felt Brownsburg suffered from a lack of available buildings. It was also mentioned that retail follows jobs. Richardson and Kendall were for this but Hood was definitely against. Kendall made the comment that it was 'a small investment compared to what Brownsburg spends on infrastructure'. Hood stated the data was not worth the cost. Don Spencer indicated a 'do it our self' attitude. Ashley Hobbs, as usual, made no comment.

The third item of contention pertained to the expansion of the Town Hall which evidently included remodeling (chopping up Eaton Hall?), Spencer, Hood, and Kendall were not in favor, Richardson felt off site strategies for more space would be more economic, and Hobbs was for minimum improvements. The consensus seemed to be to lower the funds from \$175,000 to \$50,000.

Next came a discussion of moving Odell Street and funding of Wheels Up, neither of which was in the budget. Discussion by Kendall and Richardson indicated another means should be developed to pay for Wheels Up project are all generally supported.. continued on page 5

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# LETTERS TO AND FROM THE EDITOR

They who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety - Benjamin Franklin

## FROM The Editor :

This paper was born out of necessity. When it became clear after repeated observations and attempts to address matters with members of government, this government would act in a reckless manner and/or outside its prescribed bounds (legal, moral, ethical, procedural), without oversight.

Specifically, its birth date was the town council meeting held April 10th, 2014 when "free monies" from tax pay coffer's were handed out in the name of "expansion and growth". In the same meeting, owners and key stakeholders reported to the town council they had toiled for greater than 6 months to improve the fire territory budgeting process. Everyone remotely involved were in agreement; 50 / 50 was a fair split of a revenue stream. They were told by the town council they did not have the right people assigned to the job.

The following town council meeting when the "right" people returned, their answer was a 51 / 49 split in favor of the town was deemed fair. The "right" people had apparently overlooked the impact of the decision they made just the previous meeting. Unbridled growth, a new building designed for human occupants increased the risk to the fire territory; yet they reduced the operating budget of the very same fire territory. These actions seemed counter-intuitive to many observers. Unfortunately, this was not a first or last time for decisions of this type.

The local public servants are consistent. As once again, their own actions, they placed public safety at one of the lowest rungs of the ladder. In this case, the police department. No one can remember any board, commission or department which had anyone explain for 1 hour and 13 minutes their justification for a budget item. Which makes this event more egregious, is that the expense is for an armored vehicle for the Emergency Response Team costing approximately \$170,000. Despite Chief Dove's repeated attempts (on at least 4 occasions publicly, in addition to numerous internal memos & meetings, and operational reports), the town has been unwilling to provide his team the necessary tools to ensure the safety of all involved. Mr. Hood has remained consistent as a staunch opponent to this purchase. Mr. Kendall and Ms. Hobbs stated they wanted the BPD to have the APC if they can pay for it. Let's examine that last statement more closely. If you take the position, that you agree they must have it. There is an implication, you understand its use. Yet, you are willing to gamble with the very lives specifically the ERT members until the department can render payment. Given this context, one must question the council members cited above *true* level of commitment to the purchase of the APC. Their rhetoric seems reasonable to the casual observer but simply upon a second glance it raises significant concern.

*... continued on page 3*

## TO THE EDITOR. FROM RICK BOLT:(1)

After the last issue, the Brownsburg sentinel received a response from Rick Bolt on the article about the "Town Center". The October issue contained an article entitled "Brownsburg Town Center". It was a synopsis of the public presentation given by Rick Bolt at the August 28th Town Council meeting. At the end of the article, we added the comments from Grant on how the Town was helping the project by utilizing TIF districts to provide infrastructure and road additions and improvements. After recent news events surrounding the Carmel Town Center and the Fishers Town Center projects which utilized TIF district funding, the Sentinel questioned if the proper research had been completed to make sure Brownsburg does not fall into their same problems.

On Oct 20th, The Sentinel received the first of two emails from Rick Bolt. Rick especially wanted to address "Why his project was different than the Carmel and Fishers projects and thus why it will succeed." In the email, he explained how Carmel and Fishers were creating a Town Center that did not exist and his development was enhancing an area that was already part of the Town Center. He also points to the research that his development firm and Brownsburg have done to make sure the area for the development is correct. We are printing here a high level summary of the discussion due to space but will have the full discussion see [www.brownsburgsentinel.com](http://www.brownsburgsentinel.com).

## TO THE EDITOR. FROM RICK BOLT:(2)

After receiving this email, it seemed like the location of the Town Center was based on traffic studies which showed that 267 South of 56th street currently had the car traffic to support a major development. The Sentinel followed up with the following questions.

"You quote number of cars on 267 have you taken into the analysis that when Ronald Reagan is done and businesses start to move to that intersection? What will be the impact to 267?"

We received an email response from Rick on the 21st of October. In the response, Rick points to the current traffic counts which will support retail and the fact that it is mostly local. He perceives that until there is more development in Brown Township up to the Boone County line that the Ronald Reagan Parkway will not have an effect on 267 traffic counts. "Given these factors, I do not expect to see any appreciable drop in the traffic on North Green Street anytime soon."

Again, we are printing here a high level summary of the discussion due to space but will have the full discussion on our website [www.brownsburgsentinel.com](http://www.brownsburgsentinel.com)

|                         |                           |                        |
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# Letter FROM the Editor *-continued from page 2*

Also a bit odd 175K for the Eaton Hall remodel came from the rainy day fund. (Note: This issue contains an "at a glance overview" of the Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) for additional details please see our website for associated links and/or contact the Brownsburg Police Department. They have made it clear to this publication they will answer any and all questions regarding this defensive tool and its prescribed use.)

I too heard the call, and understood local government requires oversight. The mission statement of this paper answers that call. If the public servants do their jobs, this publication will be standing at their side cheering them on. Accountability, transparency, are once again the norm. Some will believe this is an answer to their prayers, some will come willingly, some will resist then follow, some will refuse to change. For those who refuse, this publication will provide reporting of their actions and editorial insights, and leave it in the hands of you, the reader and voting public to decide their fate.

You the reader have a calling as well. First, as an individual stay informed. Secondly, help to educate others in the community who are apathetic, timed deprived or believe the old wives tale "you can't fight City Hall". Your participation in this process is critical. Its absence or inaction only emboldens our public servants to at best to stay the

course or at worse further expand the scope of their misconduct.

This publication will remain unyielding and never stray from its chartered mission statement, first and foremost accurate reporting, to promote a free exchange of ideas, examination, critical thinking, and debate. Where at the "end of the day" everyone learns something new.  
-- The Editor:

**Christmas Under the Stars**

Saturday, December 6  
6 p.m.

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**November 29th, 2014**

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## October BCSC Board of Trustees Report- *by Anne Sering*

The October 6, 2014 meeting of the Board of Trustees of Brownsburg Community School Corporation convened and adjourned in one half hour. In this time span Consent Items were approved, Communications Items were presented, eight recommendations were approved, and concluded with Dr. Snapp's comments. This is only possible because of written media being made available to those in attendance. At this particular meeting more information than usual was presented which I truly appreciated. I hope this practice continues and was not because members of the current Vision BCSC were present to observe a board session as part of the nine month program.

The Consent Items consisted of approval of the September minutes and claims of \$12.4 million dollars, and the Superintendent's Report. The Superintendent's Report consisted of changes in staff: retirements, terminations, resignations and change of status, and other financial and general information. In this written report one learns that the rate of pay for teacher substitutes, which had been in effect for three years, was raised \$3.00 per day and that the cost of replacing only the monitor screen for laptops would be \$135.00 but if the entire monitor lid assembly (case, screen, wireless antenna, camera, etc.) would remain at the current charge of \$265.00. Quite a good deal for students. We also learned that 2013 Paving Project cost \$37,000 more than anticipated, most of which was for conditions at Eagle Elementary. We also learned that the BHS History Club will travel to London and the Marching Band will participate in the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Parade and tour New York City. The cost of these trips are paid for by the participants and mainly occur planned school recesses.

Communications consisted of, most importantly, BCHS Senior Joel Klasa receiving a recommendation from the Board for being 1 of 16,000 National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist. Mr. Voigt presented recommended policy revisions pertaining to wellness and vending machines. Included was 'a broader emphasis on students not sharing food to minimize allergy issues.' Perhaps the reader remembers hearing in the national media something about a student being suspended for sharing his lunch with a less fortunate student. BCSC policy as briefly presented did not include what might happen to a student who shared food. I am simply saddened by the conflict between protection and freedom. On the lighter side, the definition of the school day is to be 'midnight through 30 minutes following the end of the regular school day'. I believe this is so 'less perceived as healthy' food can be sold and distributed late afternoon and evenings at school functions, It was recommended 'removal of the more specific and limiting requirements of the basic NEOLA policy.' What is NEOLA? **NEOLA® provides school districts with a complete service for developing and updating Board Bylaws and Policies, Administrative Guidelines/Procedures, Forms, Staff Handbooks and Student/Parent Handbooks in electronic and printed format.** Now the reader knows as much as I do. No clue on the website as to what, if anything, the letters N E O L and A stand for. Mr. Voigt also presented information on Volunteer Background check appeal process, emergency medical policies (what is involved if the injured person refuses to be transported by emergency medical technicians.). And he discussed a problem with the 2 computer labs at Brown Elementary being located on the 2nd floor which caused difficulties with students in wheelchairs. Perhaps children are not permitted to use the elevator in the school. (In the olden days before law suits were acceptable, teachers or janitors would be drafted to carry the child upstairs. Personally, I am glad we have more enlightened means of dealing with disabilities.) Finally, Mr. Brower reported on the Candle Sale earning \$16,500 and the surplus sale netting \$15,000 for the Brownsburg Education Foundation.

The only item of old business was the recommendation to adopt the 2015 Budget. Included in the packet was six pages of information on the budget. One page listed the 2015 Budget Calendar which

showed the process was started on February 3 thru January 2015. The approval on October 6 and Public Hearing in September were just a couple steps in the process Dr. Hendricks must prepare for. The final approval by DLGF 1782 statement won't occur until the end of January 2015. The adopted tax rate is listed as 2.1966. However since figures are still available for change, the figures are set high. The final tax rate is expected to be lower.

New Business consisted of recommendations to approve resolutions to prove pension bond tax neutrality, adjust pension bond tax neutrality continuing with the 2015 budget and concluding with the 2016 budget (House Enrolled Act 1192), to purchase replacement buses (buy 5 new and trade in 4 for a net purchase price of \$371,702.), Emergency Preparedness Plan, and approve a contracted service agreement with The Brickman Group for grounds care for 2015. On this final item, Mr. Voigt estimated the cost for providing these services in-house would be \$265,000 contrasted with the budgeted amount of \$259,853. Considering the size of the BCSC campus, I don't doubt contracting this service is more efficient. As for the other items of new business, I do believe BCSC does a better job than many other school corporations with providing a quality education at a reasonable cost and being proactive in dealing with state regulations. Of course there is always room for improvement and vigilance is necessary.

Regardless of why so much detailed information was provided at the October Board meeting, BCSC consistently is more open to sharing information than they might prefer. Some would tell me I am too believing in what I am told but I choose to believe that the ultimate goal is to provide the best educational system at the most economical price. I believe this even when good personnel were sacrificed at the price of reducing the budget. On an individual basis, life is not always fair and, if one is alert, one can see the price paid for poor judgment on the part of certain individuals. Something is brewing when the Board needs to be educated on how to deal with the public as was done at the recent Executive Board Session. Maybe the public needs to be educated on how the Board is dealing with them.

### Mr. Kendall - Investigations Continue

Mr Kendall *still* refuses to provide the data to back up the "FACTS" he quoted in his speech at Town Council June 26th.

This publication received a response from the legal team representing the Town of Brownsburg Police Department. It read in part your request does not identify any document with "reasonable particularity". This response raises one's curiosity, has Mr. Kendall alleged receiving other threats and submitted other formal complaints to the BPD alleging harassment? If he feels this insecure, perhaps Mr. Kendall should ask the cost to rent the BPD APC and pay an off duty officer to chauffeur him to and from various public functions.



### The public awaits Final Ruling from the State Attorney General

Boone County prosecutor Todd Meyer investigation is complete. As he disclosed in his report, he turned the matter over to the Indiana State Attorney General for a final ruling.

*As a result, this matter is not closed.*

"Public service is the charge of my life... I have approached every moment with passion and have always stepped forward when asked to serve,"- R. Kendall Twitter Sept. 22, 2014.

*Unfortunately, Mr. Kendall has not demonstrated the same level of passion when it comes to transparency.*

## TWO VIEWS-ONE BUDGET MEETING - from pg. 1

(EDITOR, cont.) Are the head counts budgeted? -Anecdotal discussions with long term residents recall significant restrictions on the use of Eaton Hall. In brief, the original structure was gifted to the town for public use. That structure was torn down to make way for the current municipal center, all recall the current facility named "Eaton Hall" was erected in its place. Is Grant not aware of town's affection for Eaton Hall, its legacy and the significant restrictions on its use?)

The fourth item on the agenda was a question if the moving of Odell Street and funding of the Wheels Up nonprofit center were in the budget. Grant answered that neither item was in the budget. Odell is due for repaving in 2016 and there was little discussion on that item. The Wheels Up Center created more discussion as the Town Council considered it a worthy cause but did not want to fund it through the budget. The consensus was to leave both items out of the budget but look for ways to support the Wheels Up Center without a budget line item.

The next item was not a budget question but a general question on how information was entered into Gateway. There was a short discussion on the matter and they moved on to the next item. The sixth item was a question about how much money was budgeted for small drainage projects. The answer from Grant that there was 325K budgeted between two funds. The department heads for those funds both agreed the amount will cover what needs to be done in the coming year.

The next question was about legal fees and how much was budgeted in which funds. According to Grant, there is 450K in the budget for legal fees. 100K is dedicated to legal fees for the Police Commission Lawyer--Jason Marksberry. The other 350K is spread across 7 funds for items like bonds, TIF and then a portion in the general fund. Grant noted that the amount in the budget should be sufficient to cover expenses. Gary called for a consensus and the answer was no changes. **(Editor's Notes: Given the current budgeted amount for legal services, does the town have enough allocated in the event of a continuing legal battle with annexation areas who from the start informed the town they had no desire to be annexed?)**

The next two questions were around capital equipment. The first being the purchase of an APC and mobile command center for the police department. Grant noted that the two vehicles together costing 225K took the CCD fund into the red by 58K. There was a lengthy discussion lasting approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. During this time, it was obvious that Gary Hood was against buying the APC and Spencer and Richardson were for keeping the budget the way it was. A good portion of the conversation was about splitting the cost between the city and federal drug seizure money. Then in the spirit of consensus, Richardson and Spencer tried to come to an agreement to use the money in the rainy day fund and repay the fund when the drug seizure funds came in. Chief Dove commented the drug seizure monies cannot be used all for capital but had to be split equally between all aspects of drug enforcement. At the end of the discussion, it was decided to leave the budget item alone but Chief Dove would have to bring it before the 2015 council. With frustration, Chief Dove said he had presented this request four times and he could not wait to do it again in January! (See Article on Police Commission, APC and the letter from the editor in this issue) **(Editor's Notes: Not in living memory has anyone been forced to justify an expense of 170K for 1 hr and 15 minutes in matters unequivocally related to first responder and public safety. If this is the benchmark, then millions of dollars have flown in and out of the building with little care or concern. Why is 175K from the rainy day fund for the Eaton Hall remodel ok? Hmm)**

The other capital equipment question centered around purchases for the town specifically a second chipper for 45K, a new truck to replace an aging truck for the street department at 50K and a tandem truck which would be used for snowplowing which cost 215K. During the conversation, it was made known the city had just bought a new tandem truck after last year's snow which hasn't been put into service yet. The council understood

... continued on page 6

(ANNE, cont.) - Brownsburg Community School Corporation wants to enlarge their parking lot and move Odell when it is slotted for repavement in 2016. Neither of these were to be added to the budget. The next two items were brought up but no changes were made and very little discussion was held. \$325,000 was allotted for storm water drainage. Town employees Wagner and Swalley felt this was sufficient for needs. \$450,000 is allotted for legal attorney fees, \$100,000 of which is for the police department. The remaining amount is divided up among seven entities with all not generally spent.

The next item concerned capital equipment mainly the desire of the Police Department to purchase a command vehicle to replace the old blue school bus and to purchase an armored vehicle. Police Chief Dove was summoned to the podium where he answered question after question. Hood and Spencer were against using Brownsburg taxes to pay for something that might be used and benefit the townships. Federal drug seizure funds would be available but amount is unknown at this time. Spencer did not want to purchase vehicles unless Federal money was available and did not want to share the vehicle if it were purchased. Hood felt if we did have such a vehicle we should be willing to share. Richardson expressed the opinion that the new council could decide what to do. Kendall seemed somewhat in favor of the Police Department having the equipment if Federal funds were allotted to it. The Town Manager did not appear happy with the discussion which lasted longer than any of the other items discussed.

The next item concerned \$215,000 for a huge vehicle for snow removal. All the Board was concerned about the complaints they would receive if snow removal was not to the satisfaction of the tax payers. Wider roads require larger plows. With the modifications making many sections of the Northfield Drives 4 lanes in width, the need is for a plow that can clear two lanes with one swoop. The fact we have one new plow that had not yet been used was also a concern. Budget was left alone. The only positive to living on West Tilden is that it always gets plowed early.

Staffing was another concern. The budget included salary for 2 additional police officers and an assistant building superintendent. It was mentioned that the four mechanics and one supervisor were sufficient to maintain town vehicles but hiring an unskilled employee who could go for parts would be very cost effective.

The final item concerned paying council members for what they do beyond the council. If they are not to be paid for attending and participating in other committee meetings should the pay be raised? Richardson said he did not realize he would be paid for being on the

council when he ran for the office but felt members should be compensated.

However, some members are very active while others do very little participation and preparation. The consensus was the pay not be increased.

Since I was not in town for the Town Council Meeting that approved the budget, I cannot report on what happened. However, the discussions held at this meeting were interesting. Dave Richardson will be missed. Gary Hood also

spoke, however he was leading the meeting. It will be interesting to see how the dynamics of the Council change with the departure of these two gentlemen. Ashley Hobbs needs to become more vocal and not let the men do all the talking. It is a myth that women talk more than men and she verifies the fact. -- Anne Sering



## Two Views-One Budget Meeting, *by EDITOR from 5*

the need based on more street miles needing to be covered but did not understand how the street department knew they needed another one when they hadn't used the first one. Grant then revealed that this truck would not be ordered until January and may not even be ready until late fall 2015. After the discussion, the consensus was to keep the money in place. **(Editor's Notes: Regarding the request for an additional snow plow. Was an analysis performed to justify the purchase? Or could existing vehicles be more effectively utilized? By better route management, prudent use of overtime, or perhaps partnering with the county or outside contractors in the event of "overflow" work? This seems to be a rather large expense when it was known by council members their most recent plow purchase went underutilized.)**

The last item on the list was staffing. In the 2015 budget, Grant requested 4 positions: 2 police officers, a part time position for fleet maintenance and an Assistant Building Commissioner to start preparing for Jack Swalley's retirement. After justification on each position from Grant, the consensus was to keep the positions in the budget. **(Editor's Notes: Where these questions asked regarding Jack Swalley's succession planning? Was an analysis performed to justify his headcount increase? Does Jack need the help given his current responsibilities? If so, could some of those responsibilities effectively be dispersed across existing head counts? If this is truly a succession plan for Jack, why is an Assistant Building Commissioner needed after Jack's departure? Why was that assistant commissioner position not made contingent upon re-justification at the time of Jack's departure? As many other items before the council were left in the budget with "strings attached"?)**

**Given the obvious need for an APC, in the undesirable event of a loss of service personnel due to its absence, does the council have a succession plan in place for this contingency? Specifically, there seems little resistance to providing succession planning for a person who does not by design volunteer to go into harm's way, yet when equipment is requested to protect multiple people going into high risk areas a series of unending excuses are brought forth.)**

This ended the list of questions and concerns from the last meeting. As everyone was packing up to go, Gary asked everyone to stay for one more item. Gary explained that he and Don had begun drafting the salary ordinance for next year. One of the items suggested was to address the dual lucrative office holding by removing all compensation for members of the Town Council for any Board or Commission. Along with that part of the new ordinance, Gary wanted to know if there was any interest in raising the Town Council salary to compensate for the loss of the Board and Commission pay. Gary turned to Don Spencer who elaborated on the idea. Don started by saying his next statement might be where the council would start to disagree. He stated service to this community should not be predicated on being paid but if a position of service is not sought but assigned the council members should be paid. He did agree to clear up the muddy waters over dual lucrative office holding, the council should take away the compensation for Board and Commissions but he would like to see the difference made up by increasing the Council members salary. He noted that Gary Hood suggested that Brownsburg council members were the highest paid in Hendricks County (This publication was told that Brownsburg is one of the highest paid per capita in the state). The first council member to speak was Rob Kendall who stated he supported not compensating for Boards and Commissions but he did not support raising the salary to compensate for the difference. Next, was a conversation between Dave Richardson and Gary Hood. **Dave started by talking about the Town Council Members position vs. salary. He indicated that some members of the council put in about 3 hours a month which means they are being paid about \$300/hr while others on the council put in upwards of 20-25 hours a week which means they are making substantially less. ... continued on page 8**

## Sheriff Dave Galloway Retires



At the end of 2014, Dave Galloway will be retiring as Hendricks County Sheriff. Dave has been a fixture in Hendricks County and Brownsburg law enforcement for more than 40 years. A retired Army commissioned Chief Warrant Officer with more than 21 years of service, Dave has developed proficiency with firearms during his law enforcement and military careers. A highly decorated veteran, Dave has served his country during the Viet Nam War, in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War (Desert Storm) and in Germany during the Bosnia Conflict.

Dave has always strived to put forth a positive, professional image for the Sheriff's Department and law enforcement in general. Along with earning a BS degree in Criminal Justice from IUPUI, Dave is also a graduate of the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, the Indiana Police Chief Executive Course and the National Sheriff's Institute. He is very active in his community as an active member of several specific fraternal, civic and sports organizations.

Dave was employed as a Deputy Sheriff for Boone County from 1970 - 1971. He was employed by the Brownsburg Police Department from 1971 - 2006. Dave was appointed Brownsburg's Chief of Police in 1999 and retired from that position in 2006. Dave and his family make Brownsburg their home. He is married to Jeane and has 5 sons and 10 grandchildren.

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## Brownsburg Police Department - News

### Police Commission Report November 18th, 2014

The Police Commission meeting was brought to order by President Stan Comer. The pledge of allegiance was said by all and roll call was taken. President Comer noted that Don Spencer and Terry Smith were not present but they still had a quorum for that evenings meeting.

After the minutes of the last two meetings were approved, the commission moved on to old business. Chief Dove reported on six items. The first piece of old business was a recruitment update. The recruiting period was open for 6 weeks and police department received 357 applicants. After the first cut of the applicants, they still have 303 applicants going through the process. Next step is physical testing and an examination process. Chief Dove is shooting for the "1%" as he looks for applicants for the Brownsburg police department.

The second item of Old Business was the promotional process approval. Chief Dove presented the 2014 Corporal and Sergeant Promotion process. The department is planning on promoting one officer to sergeant and 2 officers to corporal. The third item on the agenda was the Haunted Police Station which had over 1400 citizens come through so many that they ran out of candy after the first hour. They will work on improving the process next year so that no child goes home without candy. Next on the agenda was the progress with two conditional offers. One candidate has made it through the process and will start on December 1st. The second candidate is moving through the process and is on the right course just not finished yet. The 5th item of Old Business was to announce that Officer Stewart had completed CSI training and has received state certification. Officer Stewart is Brownsburg's first CSI and Chief Dove commented that this would open a new chapter in Brownsburg police department investigations

The last item was a visit by Congressman Todd Rokita in October. Congressman Rokita had a closed door session with the Chief and the executive staff. He then took a tour of the BPD training facility where he learned that police departments around the nation use our facility. Lastly, he understood the BFD's defensive need for an APC (See Article Below) Commissioner Bolante read a thank you letter from Mr. Rokita which will be posted on our website.

Under New Business, Chief Dove asked Officer Wilson to give an update on the Reserve Division. Officer Wilson announced that the Reserves had their first fundraiser on October 4th. The 505K had 40 participants and raised \$5500. The Reserve's will be meeting in December to debrief and decide how to use the money for the community. They are planning for next year's activities. On the same note, the Attorney has been working with the Town to understanding the accounting that is needed. It has been decided that the reserve monies will be another line item under the budget and reported as such to the Stat Board of Accounts. The next item on the agenda was the acceptance of the letter of resignation of Officer Laker which was approved by the commission. The last item was the "Christmas under the Stars" parade on December 6th at 6pm which will start at the High School Stadium and take Main Street to 267 and end at Town Hall.

For the agenda item of reports, there were no Major's reports. For the Public Service Activity report, Chief Dove lectured to the psychology class at the Senior Academy. The rest of the department had 6 activities that included the Explorer scouts, Cub scouts and crime watches. Next up was the Attorney items. Jason Marksberry gave an update on the reserve division. He commended Officer Wilson on the 505K run and spoke to the accounting issues (See above under new business). After Mr. Marksberry's report, the meeting was gaveled closed.

### ERT Response Vehicle (APC)



Image courtesy of  
The Armored Group, LLC

*"I am supportive of your efforts to provide that to ensure the safety of your officers and civilians in our community"* - U.S. Rep. Todd Rokita

As this publication was nearing it's print deadline, we received a copy of a letter from **Todd Rokita** member of the U.S. House of Representatives to Chief Dove thanking the Chief, and various members of his department to meet and discuss the needs of the department and community. It reads in part "After having the opportunity to learn about the needs of your officers and the type of equipment that would meet those needs, I now better understand your position during our previous conversation. APC's can have a positive impact and perception when used as a defensive tool as planned by your team. *I am supportive of your efforts to provide that to ensure the safety of your officers and civilians in our community*". -T. Rokita

Please visit our website to read the letter in its entirety.

### What is an APC? Armored Personnel Carrier

- By design this is NOT a Military Surplus Vehicle.  
NOT Military in *any* way.
- In simplest terms, it is akin to a Bullet Proof Vest to transport and protect the ERT members to and from a high risk incident.
- With few exceptions, it's configured similar to a "cash in transit" vehicle you see many times each day (i.e. an "armored car" - Brinks, Loomis, Garda).
- It is a defensive tool designed to protect human life.  
(ERT members, first responders, and members of the public)

### Why does Brownsburg ERT (Emergency Response Team) need an APC?

- An inconvenient truth, Brownsburg isn't "Mayberry R.F.D." any more.
- A measured increase in defensive protection required to return the ERT members to parity vs. the threats they face.
- Like an insurance policy, it's best to have it in place, train and understand it's capabilities before it's needed.

### Want to know more?

- Visit our website [www.brownsburgsentinel.com](http://www.brownsburgsentinel.com). We posted a link to the vehicle pictured on the left.
- Contact the Brownsburg Police Department for details.

### Share your thoughts !

- Visit our website [www.brownsburgsentinel.com](http://www.brownsburgsentinel.com).
- Leave an anonymous post on our blogs.
- Send us an email to [editor@brownsburgsentinel.com](mailto:editor@brownsburgsentinel.com)

### Two Views-One Budget Meeting *by EDITOR from 6*

*Not minimum wage but nothing near the \$300/hr. Dave indicated if it was legal he would advocate for a cut in the council members pay but he thought removing the compensation for all Boards and Commission was an overreaction. He thinks we should comply with the law and only not compensate for the Police Commission and the RDC. Gary noted it is true that the law only covers these two items at the moment but a new law could be passed at any time dictating more changes. Dave conceded that although it may be an overreaction it is probably the most cost effective because there would be no issues. Mr. Spencer reiterated he would like to continue discussion on the pay increase. All other members of the Town Council indicated they would oppose such an increase. ( **Editor's notes:** Were the following questions asked? Why are any changes necessary to existing pay ordinances, when the special prosecutor laid the blame for the dual office holding fiasco squarely at the feet of the clerk-treasurer? Is not any change therefore an passive admission that others should have been held in some measure accountable? There seems a "business as usual" attitude that is pervasive within the council. The dual office holding statute is in place to prevent any one person from obtaining too much power (it's a fact, you can look it up). Nearly all discussions during the meeting where thinly veiled disguises to circumvent the state constitution and the rule of law. Given the performance of the majority of council members in 2013 & 2014, what reasoning would they give to justify a pay increase? Would any of those justifications be acceptable in private enterprise or non-profit sectors?)*

Next, Mr. Hood adjourned the meeting after 2 hours and 50 minutes.



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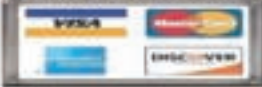
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