	Page 1
1	STATE OF INDIANA ) ) SS:
2	COUNTY OF MONROE )
4	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONROE COUNTY
5	CAUSE NO. 53C06-2203-PL-000509
6	COUNTY RESIDENTS AGAINST ANNEXATION, ) INC., an Indiana not for profit )
7	corporation, et al.,
8	Remonstrators/Appellants/Petitioners, )
9	-vs- )
10	THE COMMON COUNCIL of the City of ) Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, )
11	et al., )
12 13	Respondents. )
14 15	DEPOSITION OF REX KIRTS
16	The deposition upon oral examination of REX KIRTS, a witness produced and sworn before me,
17	Janine A. Ferren, RMR, CRR, CSR-IL No. 84-4852, Notary Public in and for the County of Hamilton,
18	State of Indiana, taken on behalf of the Respondents, at the offices of Bloomington City
19	Hall, 401 North Morton Street, Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, on the 1st day of March 2024,
20	scheduled to commence at 12:00 p.m., pursuant to the Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure with written
21 22	notice as to time and place thereof.
23 24	
25	

	Dogs 2		Dana
1	Page 2 APPEARANCES	1	Page 4 INDEX OF EXHIBITS
2 1	FOR THE REMONSTRATORS/APPELLANTS/PETITIONERS:	1	Previously Marked Exhibits: Page
3	William J. Beggs		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
4	BUNGER & ROBERTSON 211 South College Avenue	3	Tr -
7	Bloomington, IN 47404	١.,	Answers of County Residents
5	812.332.9295	4	,
	wjbeggs@lawbr.com		City of Bloomington's
6		5	Interrogatories
7	FOR THE RESPONDENTS:	6	
8	TOR THE REST ONDERVIS.	7	
	Andrew M. McNeil	8	
9	Stephen C. Unger	9	
10	BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP 111 Monument Circle	10	
10	Suite 2700	11	
11	Indianapolis, IN 46204	12	
	317.684.5000		
12	amcneil@boselaw.com	13	
13	sunger@boselaw.com	14	
14		15	
	ALSO PRESENT:	16	
15		17	
10	Margaret Clements	18	
16 17		19	
18		20	
19		21	
20		$\begin{vmatrix} 21\\22\end{vmatrix}$	
21			
22 23		23	
24		24	
25		25	
	Page 3		Page :
1	INDEX OF EXAMINATION	1	(Time noted: 11:55 a.m.)
2	Page	2	REX KIRTS,
3	DIRECT EXAMINATION5	3	having been duly sworn to tell the truth, the whole
	Questions by Stephen C. Unger		truth, and nothing but the truth relating to said
4			matter, was examined and testified as follows:
5		1 3	
			matter, was examined and testified as follows.
6		6	
' /		6	DIRECT EXAMINATION,
7		6	DIRECT EXAMINATION,
8		6 7 8	DIRECT EXAMINATION, QUESTIONS BY STEPHEN C. UNGER:
		6 7 8 9	DIRECT EXAMINATION,  QUESTIONS BY STEPHEN C. UNGER:  Q Could you please state your full name for the
8		6 7 8 9 10	DIRECT EXAMINATION,  QUESTIONS BY STEPHEN C. UNGER:  Q Could you please state your full name for the record?
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2 (Pages 2 - 5)

Page 6 Page 8 1 A Yes. 1 A About me personally, where I -- well, where I 2 Q If there's any reason you don't understand one 2 live. of my questions or you are confused about a 3 Q Okay. Where do you live? question, would you please let me know? 4 A 801 West Whitestone Street in Bloomington 47403. 5 A (Nods head.) Yes. That's south of town. 6 Q So as you know, she is typing up everything that 6 O Do you know which annexation area that is in? 7 you're saying today. So it's important that 7 A Which what, sir? 8 when I ask you questions, number one, you let me 8 Q Annexation area. finish the question before you start to answer, 9 A Clear Creek Estates -- oh. 1B. Excuse me. 10 and then also that you actually answer "yes" or 10 Q Okay. Thank you. 11 "no" as opposed to shaking our head or saying 11 How long have you lived there? 12 "uh-huh," so she can track it. 12 A Since May of, I believe, 2006. Wait a minute. 13 Hopefully this won't take very long. But 13 I think it was May of 2005 or 2006. 16 years, 14 certainly if you need a break, just let us know it's been 16 years. I think maybe this will be 14 15 and we'll work to accommodate that. 15 17. 16 Did you do anything today to prepare for 16 Q Where did you live prior to that? 17 your deposition? 17 A West side of town, out right near where -- right 18 A Yes. 18 in back of what is now Rural King, was Walmart 19 Q What did you do? 19 20 A I got a call from a lady, and she explained to 20 Q Have you lived in the Bloomington community your 21 me -- she asked me if I'd ever done this before 21 entire life? 22 and I said no. And she explained what it was 22 A No. I was raised in Lafayette. I went to IU, 23 and said, "You'll be asked a bunch of 23 Indiana University, '60 to '64. And then I was 24 in Crawfordsville for a year and a half. And questions." And she asked me several 24 25 questions -- well, yeah, questions, and I then I've been in Bloomington since January of 25 Page 7 Page 9 1966. 1 responded. I was in my car at the time, but I 1 2 Q Are you retired now? had pulled over and was talking to her through my Bluetooth. 3 A Yes. 4 Q Do you recall who the lady was? 4 Q We had talked about this a little bit earlier 5 A No. She told me her name and she told me who 5 off the record, but for the record, what did you do for your career? she was with. 6 7 Q Who was she with? 7 A I was a sportswriter for the Bloomington 8 newspapers and the Crawfordsville Journal 8 A I think maybe his company. 9 9 Q By "him," you mean Mr. Beggs? Review. 10 A Yes, yes, I think. She told me who it was. Was 10 Q I believe off the record you said you covered local high school sports; is that correct? 11 it Robinson or Harrell? Bunger & Harrell? 12 THE WITNESS: Is that your firm, Bill? 12 A Yes. 13 Q Do you live alone in your home? 13 MR. BEGGS: It was in 1987. 14 A No. I'm married. 14 Q You understood her to be with Mr. Beggs' office? 15 Q Any plans to move? 15 A She didn't say. 16 A I would like to go to Florida, but my wife 16 Q She didn't say where she was from? 17 A She said -- yeah, she gave me what firm, but I 17 doesn't want to go because the girls are up didn't ask her if she was with Mr. Beggs. 18 here. 19 Q Okay. Did she tell you any questions you might 19 Q So currently no intent to --20 be asked? 20 A No.

3 (Pages 6 - 9)

24

21 Q -- move to Florida?

annexation?

23 Q Did you sign a remonstrance petition against

25 A Yes. I also carried petitions around 1B. If

22 A None.

25 Q About what?

21 A She went over a bunch of questions, but I don't

23 Q What questions did you go over?24 A She asked me several, 10, 12 questions.

know if she knew what I was going to be asked.

Page 12 1 we'd had had one more weekend, we'd have got 1 Q Do you do that once a year or twice a year? 2 enough signatures, we could have avoided all 2 A I do it once. 3 this. We were that close. 3 Q You pay it when the first bill is due --4 A Yes. 4 Q So I assume you are opposed to annexation by the 5 City? 5 Q -- in the fall? 6 A Yes. 6 A Yeah. I take my tax refund from the federal 7 Q I'm going to ask you very broadly. Can you tell government from the right hand and I go and give me why you were opposed? 8 it to the left hand. Just goes pretty quick. 9 9 A I am retired, I'm on a fixed income. I don't And the rest of it goes for homeowners 10 need any more expenses. I'm -- my bills are 10 insurance, another -- another item which keeps 11 paid and I'm eating, but we got to watch what we 11 rising rather rapidly. 12 12 O Do you know what your property taxes were in 13 And the taxes -- I saw a sheet not too long 13 2023? 14 14 A About 1800. That's total, that's total, both ago, probably a year ago, my taxes will go up at 15 least \$1,000. That was a couple of years ago. 15 payments. 16 And I would assume that now it would be another 16 Q Do you have an understanding of what your 17 \$100 or \$200 right away. I don't need any more 17 property taxes would increase to after 18 expenses. No, huh-uh. We're living okay, but 18 annexation? 19 we would -- I would get down to not having any 19 A Like I say, about a year, year and a half ago, I 20 20 cash in my wallet. saw some figures. And I also went down and 21 21 I have a part-time job now. I'm 81 years talked to the, I think it's the auditor's 22 old and I still have a part-time job now just so 22 office, and they were going to go up a thousand. 23 23 I'll have some walking-around cash. I used to That was a year ago. It would be more now. 24 say it was for -- well, some of it is to pay 24 Q So again, your understanding is you think your Medicare supplement insurance. You guys, when 25 25 property taxes will go up more than \$1,000 --Page 13 Page 11 1 get older, you'll find out that doesn't go down, 1 A They will --2 that keeps going up pretty quick, so that's a 2 Q I'm sorry, let me finish my question, then 3 big expense. answer it. 4 And then I also said some of my income from 4 Your understanding is they will go up more 5 that part-time job was to play golf. But I got 5 than \$1,000 after annexation; is that correct? 6 old and my back doesn't want me to play golf 6 A Yes. 7 7 Q You mentioned that you saw a sheet. Where did anymore, so ... 8 Q Are there any other reasons you're opposed you see that sheet? besides -- and I'll touch on --9 A I don't recall. 10 A I don't want to be under the jurisdiction of the 10 Q Was it something you received in the mail? city council, all the Democrats. That's a big 11 A It was -- it showed the tax increase, not only 12 one. I don't want -- I don't need to be 12 just me. It showed the tax increase of a lot of 13 governed by those people. 13 1B people. I can't remember where I -- where I 14 Also the taxes will go up, and I'm not 14 got it from. It was one of the officials who 15 going to get anything for it. I won't be 15 knows what they would be. 16 having -- I'll be paying for nothing. 16 Q Do you know who prepared that? 17 Q I'll ask you some more detailed questions about 17 A No, sir, I don't. It came -- it came from the 18 some of these, but is there anything else you 18 City. But like I say, I also went down and 19 can think of right now? 19 talked to the workers there in the city, and 20 A Not right now. 20 they -- she explained to me what it would be. 21 Q Your home, do you have a mortgage? 21 Q In the city or in the county? You said you went 22 A No, sir. It's paid. 22 and talked to the workers in the city. 23 Q You pay your property taxes directly? 23 A The auditor, that's county; right?

4 (Pages 10 - 13)

24 Q Yes.

25 A Yeah, okay.

25

24 A I just take them down to the second floor of

auditor's office and pay a check right there.

Page 14 Page 1

- 1 Q So when you say you went and talked to the
- workers, you mean in the County auditor's
- 3 office?
- 4 A Yes, yes, sir.
- 5 Q Okay. Is there anything else you've reviewed to
- 6 rely on the property tax increases from
- 7 annexation?
- 8 A I don't quite understand. Is there what, sir?
- 9 Q Is there anything else you relied on for your
- 10 understanding of what your increases will be as
- 11 a result of annexation?
- 12 A No.
- 13 Q You mentioned that you had a part-time job
- 14 currently. Where is that?
- 15 A Yes. I drive cars for by Byrider. They get
- 16 cars at -- most of their cars they get at
- auctions, and me and several other old guys go
- pick them up and bring them back here, and they
- 19 recondition them and then put them out on the
- 20 sales lot. Not all of the cars are auctioned,
- 21 some of them are from vendors. We get them in
- 22 Terre Haute, Jeffersonville, Kentucky,
- New Palestine, Indianapolis, Ferdinand, places
- 24 around here. That's right now; that varies. We
- 25 get them in Jasonville sometimes.

1 Q Where is the Byrider located?

- 1 Q Any other specific examples that you can give
- 2 about -- you said you don't like how the City
- 3 operates. Is there anything else in particular?
- 4 A Well, that's the main thing right there.
- 5 They'll build buildings for people to --
- 6 homeless people, stuff like that, and they've
- 7 built a couple and they want to build some more.
- 8 And a friend of mine, he said, "You can't
- 9 believe it. You go in those buildings and
- they're trashed, they're all trashed." Well,
- 11 why are we spending tax money and letting that
- 12 happen? You know, that doesn't -- is not a good
- use of tax money.
- 14 Q Anything else?
- 15 A None that I can think of right at the moment.
- 16 Q Did you build your home?
- 17 A No, no. I moved in it when it was ten years
- old. My wife's knees went bad and we had to get
- 19 out of a trilevel house. We needed a ranch, and
- 20 we were very fortunate we found this place and
- 21 it was for sale, and we ended up -- there was a
- 22 whole bunch -- they had about three people
- waiting to buy that house. The guy I talked to,
- 24 he said, "I'll give you till 6:00 to get the
- 25 money." And I was fortunate, my credit was

Page 15

- Pag
- 2 A West Third Street. It's not a boring job.
- 3 Sometimes those cars will get back, sometimes
- 4 they won't. Sometimes an air conditioner works,
- 5 sometimes it doesn't. No, they're old --
- 6 they're junk. But they have a good
- 7 reconditioning program there.
- 8 Q You also mentioned that you don't want to be
- 9 governed by Democrats in the City; is that
- 10 correct?
- 11 A Yeah. Well, the City. They just happen to be
- all Democrats, and I don't like some of the
- 13 stuff they've done. I don't like some of the
- stuff -- the way they've operated. I don't like
- 15 the way we found out about annexation, and I
- 16 think that kind of got -- you've got to go to
- 17 the meetings, the city council meeting and stuff
- 18 to find out what's going on.
- 19 And it doesn't help -- you don't --
- anymore, you don't find out about what's going
- on in the city council because the newspaper
- doesn't publish all the stuff anymore. We used
- 23 to cover everything very well. That doesn't
- 24 happen now. And so you don't -- a lot of us had
- 25 no idea of what was going on.

- 1 good, so I got the money.
- 2 Q That was kind of a hot market time, if I recall,
- 3 2005, 2006, was --
- 4 A It's a hot market because there's a lot of old
- 5 people looking for ranch houses, one-level
- 6 houses. I could sell that house right now for
- 7 more than twice what I paid for it. It would
- 8 buy a nice house in Bradenton where it's warm in
- 9 the winter.
- 10 Q If your wife would just let you do that; right?
- 11 A I'm not going anywhere.
- 12 Q Do you receive city sewer and water service at
- 13 your house?
- 14 A Yes. That was there. That was part of -- that
- was in the deed. Of course, I didn't know
- anything about that when I bought the house, you
- 17 know, the restrictions. I was just glad to get
- a house where my wife could get in and out of
- 19 the front door.
- 20 (Deposition Exhibit 28 previously marked
- 21 for identification.)
- 22 Q So in front of you there's a document that's
- 23 listed Exhibit 28. I'll let you put your
- 24 glasses on. It's titled "Amended and
- 25 Supplemented Answers of County Residents Against

5 (Pages 14 - 17)

Page 17

Page 18 Page 20 1 Annexation to City of Bloomington's 1 A Sure. The small bags, you get, I think, about 2 Interrogatories." 15, and I think it's 12 1/2 dollars. The big 3 Do you see that? 3 ones, they're different. There's small bags and 4 A This? 4 big bags. 5 Q Yes. 5 I remember once I asked Jerry Bales, who 6 A Yes. 6 was a state representative at the time, I said, 7 Q I'm going to assume you've never seen this 7 "Jerry, we have to pay sales tax on those orange 8 before; is that correct? bags. We shouldn't have to pay tax on those 9 A No, huh-uh. 9 orange bags. They are a tax." 10 10 Q I'm going to ask you to turn to page 11. So he went to somebody in the legislature, 11 he tried to get that taken care of so we didn't 12 Q And these are written responses, so you know 12 have to pay that double tax, but it didn't swim. 13 that the remonstrators -- or County Residents 13 Q So you buy the bags and you personally take them 14 Against Annexation gave us in response to 14 to a drop-off location? 15 written questions that we asked them. 15 A Yes, Dillman Road. Well, I'm close to Dillman 16 So you'll see on page 11, Number 12, it 16 Road. I think there's like four in the county. 17 says, "Identify and list all facts and documents 17 Q Do you know, are you limited to how many bags 18 supporting your contention in the petition that you can take to the drop-off location? 19 the annexation will have a significant financial 19 A No. 20 impact on the residents and/or owners of land in 20 Q Any other economic impacts you're aware of 21 21 the annexation territory, and identify each besides what we've talked about already? 22 witness you intend to call to testify in support 22 A Would the county tax go up? Property taxes will 23 of your contention." 23 go up, how about that? Are we subject to any 24 24 And then if you go to the next page, other tax that we are not now subject to? I 25 25 don't know. I don't think so, but ... page 12, and if you look at the supplemental Page 19 Page 21 MS. CLEMENTS: I can't enter into it. 1 1 answer, it says, "If called to testify, the 2 2 Q Besides the sheet that you received that had the following individuals may be asked to testify 3 about the significant economic impacts of 3 property tax estimate we talked about, are you 4 aware of any other property tax increases or 4 annexation upon Areas 1A and 1B." Then if you 5 look on the second line almost all the way to 5 believe there will be other property tax 6 the end, it has your name. increases in addition to that? 7 7 A Probably, 'cause of inflation, your home goes Do you see that? 8 A Sure. 8 up. When your home goes up, your property taxes 9 Q We've talked a little bit today about the 9 go up. I mean, that's -- at the rate of 10 inflation right now, that could turn out to be 10 financial impact to you already. Besides what 11 we have talked about already, is there anything 11 significant. 12 else you can tell me about the significant 12 Q Any other economic impacts you're aware of? economic impacts of annexation on Area 1A or 1B? 13 A Not that I'm aware of, sir. You mean 14 A I don't know for sure, but I don't think it's 14 personally? 15 Q Correct. 15 significant, but do we have to pay for trash 16 A Personally, not that I'm aware of. There will 16 pickup? I just put mine in an orange bag and 17 be economic differences between fire and police 17 take it down to Dillman Road right now. Of 18 18 protection and stuff like that, but that -- I course you have to pay for those orange bags, 19 but I don't think that's a huge expense, is it, 19 don't know all the details of that. 20 20 Q What are those economic differences of police trash pickup? I'm not sure. But we have to pay 21 21 it. I don't know -- you know, I've been told we and fire? What do you understand them to be? 22 22 A It's been a while since I've -- I have read have to. 23 that, but I don't know all the differences. 23 Q Where do you buy the orange bags?

6 (Pages 18 - 21)

24 Q Anything else?

25 A No, sir.

25 Q Do you know what it costs a bag?

24 A Kroger's.

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	Q Is there any other reason that you're opposed to	1 relative or attorney of any party, or otherwise
2	annexation beside the matters we've already	2 interested in the event of this action, and am not 3 in the employ of the attorneys for any party.
3	discussed?	4 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set m
	$\varepsilon$	5 hand and affixed my notarial seal on this 15th
5	MR. UNGER: I have no other questions at	6 day of March 2024.
6	this time.	7
7	MR. BEGGS: Rex, you're done.	8
8	(Time noted: 12:18 p.m.)	9
9	AND FURTHER THE DEPONENT SAITH NOT.	
10		Janine A. Ferren
11		11
12		12
		Seal, Notary Public My Commission Expires:
13	REX KIRTS	13 State of Indiana April 22, 2024
14		14 Janine A. Ferren County of Residence:
15		Commission No. NP0681591 Hamilton
16		15
17		16
18		17
19		18   19
20		20
21		20 21
22		22
23		23
24		24
25		25
	Page 23	Page 25
1	STATE OF INDIANA )	1 Veritext Legal Solutions
	) SS:	1100 Superior Ave
2	COUNTY OF HAMILTON )	
3		2 Suite 1820
	I, Janine A. Ferren, a Notary Public in and	Cleveland, Ohio 44114
4	I, Janine A. Ferren, a Notary Public in and for the County of Hamilton, State of Indiana at	Cleveland, Ohio 44114 3 Phone: 216-523-1313
4 5	•	Cleveland, Ohio 44114  3 Phone: 216-523-1313  4 March 15, 2024
	for the County of Hamilton, State of Indiana at large, do hereby certify that REX KIRTS, the	Cleveland, Ohio 44114 3 Phone: 216-523-1313 4 March 15, 2024 5 To: William J. Beggs, Esq.
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7 (Pages 22 - 25)

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1	DEPOSITION REVIEW	Page 26	1		age 28
	CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS		1	ERRATA SHEET VERITEXT LEGAL SOLUTIONS MIDWEST	
2	ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE NO: 6465811		2	ASSIGNMENT NO: 3/1/2024	
3	CASE NAME: County Residents Against Annexation, Inc., Et Al.		3		
	v. The Common Council Of The City Of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, Et Al.		4		
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4	WITNESS' NAME: Rex Kirts		5		I
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6	my testimony or it has been read to me.		7		
7	I have made no changes to the testimony as transcribed by the court reporter.		8		
8	as transcribed by the court reporter.		9		
9	Date Rex Kirts		10		
10	Sworn to and subscribed before me, a		11		
	Notary Public in and for the State and County,		12		
11	the referenced witness did personally appear and acknowledge that:		13		
12	·		14		
13	They have read the transcript; They signed the foregoing Sworn		15		
13	Statement; and		16		
14	Their execution of this Statement is of		17		
15	their free act and deed.		18		
	I have affixed my name and official seal		19		
16	this day of, 20				
17			20	Date Rex Kirts	
10	Noton: Dublic		21	SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS	
18 19	Notary Public		22	DAY OF, 20	
	Commission Expiration Date		23		
20 21				Notary Public	
22			24		
23 24					
					I
25			25	Commission Expiration Date	
25		Paga 27	25	Commission Expiration Date	
25	DEPOSITION REVIEW	Page 27	25	Commission Expiration Date	
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## Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure Depositions Upon Oral Examination Rule 30

- (e) Submission to witness--Changes--Signing.
- (1) When the testimony is fully transcribed, the deposition shall be submitted to the witness for reading and signing and shall be read to or by him, unless such reading and signing have been waived by the witness and by each party. "Submitted to the witness" as used in this subsection shall mean (a) mailing of written notification by registered or certified mail to the witness and each attorney attending the deposition that the deposition can be read and examined in the office of the officer before whom the deposition was taken, or (b), mailing the original deposition, by registered or certified mail, to the witness at an address designated by the witness or his attorney, if requested to do so by the witness, his attorney, or the party taking the deposition.
- (2) If the witness desires to change any answer in the deposition submitted to him, each change, with a statement of the reason therefor, shall be made

by the witness on a separate form provided by the officer, shall be signed by the witness and affixed to the original deposition by the officer. A copy of such changes shall be furnished by the officer to each party.

- (3) If the reading and signing have not been waived by the witness and by each party the deposition shall be signed by the witness and returned by him to the officer within thirty (30) days after it is submitted to the witness. If the deposition has been returned to the officer and has not been signed by the witness, the officer shall execute a certificate of that fact, attach it to the original deposition and deliver it to the party taking it. In such event, the deposition may be used by any party with the same force and effect as though it had been signed by the witness.
- (4) In the event the deposition is not returned to the officer within thirty (30) days after it has been submitted to the witness, the reporter shall execute a certificate of that fact and cause the certificate to be delivered to the party taking it. In such event, any party may use a copy of the

deposition with the same force and effect as though the original had been signed by the witness.

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ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

THE ABOVE RULES ARE CURRENT AS OF APRIL 1,

2019. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPLICABLE STATE RULES

OF CIVIL PROCEDURE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

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