

CCMH seeks to partner on Trimble urgent care project

BY CINDY WARRICK
THE TRIMBLE BANNER

A public hearing was held Monday in Bedford on a proposed partnership for Carroll County Memorial Hospital to develop an urgent care/primary care clinic in Trimble County.

The hearing, held at the office of County Judge-Executive John Ogburn, sought feedback on a proposal by CCMH to partner with Trimble County on grant funding to develop a medical clinic in Trimble County.

Over the past year and a half, Trimble County has been negotiating with and awaiting approval on funding for University of Louisville Health to partner with the county to build an urgent care center in Bedford.

Carroll County Memorial Hospital has now stepped up to partner on the project and seek a Community Development Block Grant to build a 24-hour urgent care clinic/primary care facility in Bedford that would be owned by CCMH but still affiliated with U of L, which entered into a partnership agreement with CCMH in June 2022.

Trimble County has been designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration as a “medically underserved area” with 40.5% of its residents deemed obese and 30.0 considered physically inactive. Both Trimble County and Bedford rank in disadvantaged percentiles for health vulnerability metrics.

At least one of three national objectives must be met to qualify for the CDBG

benefits including a population high in low- and moderate-income persons, prevention or elimination of slums or blight, and meeting particularly urgent community development needs.

There are other medical clinics in Trimble County but none that offer 24-hour care and/or expanded services in specialties. The closest hospitals to Bedford are Norton King's Daughters' Health in Madison, Indiana, Carroll County Memorial in Carrollton and Baptist Health La Grange in Oldham County.

As proposed, the project would involve constructing, equipping and staffing a 6,000 square foot urgent care and primary care clinic on a 6.6-acre county-

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Carrollton proposes 'compensating' tax rate

BY TAYLOR WILLIAMS
THE NEWS DEMOCRAT

Carrollton City Council took action on Monday to approve a “compensating” city tax rate for 2025 that will drop from 0.289 to 0.288.

Mayor Robb Adams brought up the issue noting the council “needed to decide what we’re going do on the tax rate” for 2025.

The council was given three rate options: a compensating rate of 0.281 cents per \$100 on real property and 0.329 on personal property; one called a substitute rate of 0.288 on real property and 0.337 on personal property; and a third that is the compensating rate plus 4% or 0.299 on real property and 0.350 on personal property.

With the property subject to the taxes estimated at \$142,369,490 on real property and \$25,475,680 on personal property, the compensating rate was expected to generate \$400,058.27 on real property and \$83,814.99 on personal property, the “substitute” rate \$410,024.13 on real property and \$85,853.04 on personal property and the compensating plus 4% \$425,684.78 on real property and \$89,164.88 on personal property.

The overall revenue projected for each rate proposal was \$483,873.25 for the compensating rate, \$495,877.17 for the substitute rate and \$514,849.66 for the compensating rate plus 4% — or a gap of just under \$31,000 between the highest and lowest rates.

Council Member Linda Davis said she favored the substitute rate of 0.288.

Adams noted that 0.288 rate would “bring us the same amount of property tax on personal property that we received last year,” but the city was currently looking at a 0.289 rate so the council would need to cut that by 0.001.

“So one-hundredth of a point. That does not require a public hearing,” he said. “If we decide that’s what we want to do, we can do it and move right along.”

Davis then made a motion to move forward with the “substitute” rate, which was seconded by Council Member Casey Cable and approved by the council.

The first reading of the rate ordinance was then read by City Attorney Jake Thompson and the council agreed to hold a special meeting for the second reading and final adoption of the tax ordinance. That meeting was later scheduled for 6 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 27, with the advalorem tax ordinance as the only agenda item.

In other business, Adams said with the pending departure of Robert Hofmann as Carrollton Fire Chief and building inspector on the Code Enforcement Board, the council needs to look at how to fill those positions. Hofmann will be officially leaving his roles in both department in August 2026, but “he’ll be really gone before then — like out of the office.”

“That is an extremely lengthy process to learn the job,” said Adams. “And not only learn the two part job — building inspector and fire chief — but also to go to the classes and obtain all of those certifications necessary.”

Adams noted the council has “budgeted money” for a part time combined position for “up to 20 hours a week” and told the council that they only need to create the new position for the replacement, as there is currently no “part time Fire Chief/Building Inspector position” in the city even though Hofmann served in that capacity.

Council Member Jeff Dickow questioned what the new position might officially be called, and Adams said it would likely be “Assistant Fire Chief/Building Inspector.”

Dickow asked if there would be “any kind of contractual agreement” if the city send that person to school for training, they obtain all their certifications, and then when they’re supposed to start full-time, they “dip out the door” to leave the city’s employment with their certifications in hand.

Adams noted that an agreement like that has never been tied to any position except for “dispatch and police, but that doesn’t mean we can’t.”

Davis then made a motion to create the Assistant Fire Chief/Building Inspector

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Swiss Wine Ambassadors



Photos by Bob Demaree

Carroll County High School's varsity cheerleaders walk in the Swiss Wine Festival Grand Parade last Saturday with the school's ambassadors — J.T. Davis (left riding on car) and Skyler Robbins (riding right) — as part of the festival's celebration annually in Vevay, Indiana.



Carroll County High School's J.T. Davis (center), gets a hug from his parents Jon and Danielle Davis after serving as the school's male ambassador to the 2025 Swiss Wine Festival in Vevay, Indiana.



Carroll County High School's Skyler Robbins spoke as one of the high school ambassadors at the 2025 Swiss Wine Festival on Saturday.

CHARLIE'S BEAT

Ernst making her mark on local music scene

BY CHARLIE ROHLFING

Hannah Ernst is not a musician, nor is she a concert or festival promoter. But her impact on our local music and tourism scene is significant nonetheless. Hannah is the Event Manager at Red Bicycle Hall, the town's premier venue for original live music. And she's also the Social Media Manager for the Madison Music Movement, the organization behind the 'Indiana's Music City'

brand.

"I've only been in Madison a little over two years," explains Hannah, "but the community has been so welcoming and supportive, I feel like I'm fully immersed in the culture and the heartbeat of the place. It's been amazing!"

Hannah is from a small Colorado town down near the New Mexico border, not too far from the Four Corners area.



CHARLIE ROHLFING

"Our family ranch is actually in the middle of the Southern Ute Reservation," says Hannah. "The population is about one-third Indian, one-third Hispanic from the days when that region was part of Mexico, and one-third other, with many families like ours descended from the early settlers who came out in the late 1800s.

"I was going up to Durango,

Colorado, a lot for work and stuff, and I was taking a dance class and met this tall guy who said he was originally from a little place in Indiana called Madison. One thing led to another and here I am living in Madison, married to Joey Ernst, part of the big extended Ernst family who live up around Brooksborg.

"Not too long after moving here Joey and Charlie Rohlfling became friends, bonding over a shared love of bicycles and auto mechanics, and Charlie pulled

me right into Red Bicycle Hall and the Music Movement soon after. I had some event planning experience back in Colorado, so the Red Bike job has been an easy transition. But the social media stuff for Music City was all new to me, and it's been a fun and rewarding challenge.

"Probably the coolest thing about running music shows at The Bike is meeting the bands when they first roll in and start

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RIVER LEVELS • 12.90 FT.

Forecast

Aug 30 — 12.90 ft.

Aug 31 — 12.80 ft.

Sep 1 — 12.70 ft.

— at Markland Dam, provided by the NWS

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