

[https://www.bryantimes.com/news/local/pioneer-approves-tax-abatement-appoints-councilman/article\\_54cec6cc-eee8-560c-9765-ff22c8134486.html](https://www.bryantimes.com/news/local/pioneer-approves-tax-abatement-appoints-councilman/article_54cec6cc-eee8-560c-9765-ff22c8134486.html)

## Pioneer approves tax abatement, appoints councilman

By Lucas Bechtol lbechtol@bryantimes.com 11 hrs ago



From left, recently resigned Pioneer Village Council member Dave Thompson, with his wife, Jane, accepts a plaque in honor of his 18 years on council, from Mayor Ed Kidston, during Monday's council meeting. LUCAS BECHTOL/Staff

**PIONEER** — The Pioneer Village Council approved a tax abatement for Reifel Industries that will help create 15 new jobs after selecting someone to replace Dave Thompson on the council.

Reifel Industries is looking to invest around \$6.6 million in its property on Ohio Street, with \$2.5 million of that going to building improvements, said Matt Davis, executive director of the Williams County Economic Development Corporation.

"The balance is in machine equipment and inventory," he added. "The promise here is 15 new jobs across three years minimum, adding \$600,000 in payroll."



The council approved the company's request for a 60 percent abatement on the increase of property value over the course of 10 years.

Davis estimated Reifel will save around \$31,400, with the full assessment being closer to \$50,000.

"That won't be a real number until the work is done and the auditor appraises the property and it gets put on the books," he said. "That is based on estimated costs turned in to us."

By abating only 60 percent, there is no need for the school district to approve the abatement, Davis said.

However, he said the council would not be taking taxes away from the school.

"You can't take away what is currently collected in taxes; This would only be against what would be new tax dollars based on value increase in the facility," Davis said. "You're not taking away tax money from anybody."

From the council, the abatement will go to the Williams County Commissioners for approval before being filed with the state.

"It goes on the books and they will take those tax savings and re-invest those in the business so the project is a little more affordable," Davis said.

Earlier in the meeting, the council honored former Councilman Dave Thompson, who submitted his resignation, effective June 30, at the council's previous meeting.

In honor of his service, Mayor Ed Kidston presented him and his wife, Jane, with a plaque.

"I know enough about political life that the wife goes right along with the councilman," Kidston said.

He then thanked Thompson for his 18 years of serving on the council and three years as village mayor.

The council went into executive session to discuss personnel and, upon returning, appointed Randy Cochran to take over the remainder of Thompson's term, which is three years.

---

Itbechtol