

COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JULY 9, 2001

The meeting was called to order by President, Richard Mason.

I. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Pam Young, Brent Waltz, Ron West, Charles Canary, and Daniel Dennis. Keith Wright was absent. John P. Wilson was present as the Council's Attorney.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF 7/9/01 AGENDA

Mrs. Young asked to add under new business the Johnson County Park's application for an AIC Achievement Award. Mr. Dennis asked that discussion of the Council's Budget also be added to new business.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the agenda as presented with the two additions under new business. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF 5/23/01 and 6/11/01 MINUTES

Mrs. Young moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Canary seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

VII. ACCESS JOHNSON COUNTY

Karen Luehmann, director of Gateway Services and member of the Johnson County Transportation Access Committee, appeared to give a presentation to the Council regarding the county's public transportation services. Ms. Luehmann noted that Access Johnson County has received the 2000 Outstanding Public Service Award from the Federal Transit Administration for excellence in establishing a coordinated rural transit system to meet the identified mobility needs of the community.

Ms. Luehmann updated the council on the current services being provided and shared with them the new "Flexible Fixed Routes" being added in July connecting Franklin, Whiteland, and Greenwood. She also talked about the significant increase in federal public transit funding available in Johnson County for 2002, if sufficient local matching funds can be identified. Also in 2002, more regular routes would be available for Bargersville, Trafalgar, and Edinburgh.

Ms. Luehmann stated that Access Johnson County's main purpose for appearing before the council is to ask for its continual support with their funding as well as their support to raise funds for a new grant.

Mr. Waltz thanked Ms. Luehmann for her presentation and commended her for a job well done.

VIII. PUBLIC DEFENSE FUND

Mark Loyd, Circuit Court Judge, appeared to ask for a Public Defense Fund Committee. Judge Loyd stated this issue has been brought before the Council about a year ago and feels that some action needs to be done. The purpose of a Public Defender Board will be to save money through reimbursements (40% to 50%) from indigent legal services. In order to receive the reimbursements a comprehensive plan needs to be adopted and standards need to be followed. Also a committee needs to be formed. Judge Loyd feels the committee should be made up of three branches of government; representatives from the judiciary, commissioners, council and also a public defender. This committee will then explore the advantages and disadvantages of establishing such a fund.

Mr. Waltz volunteered to be the representative from the council.

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IX. SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS, ADDITIONAL REDUCTIONS, & TRANSFERS:

APPROPRIATIONS,

APPROVAL OF THE SALARY ORDINANCE (144) AMENDMENTS

Mr. Canary moved to approve the following requests as presented. Mrs. Young seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

#101-113.9 - \$22,001.00 to \$20,953.00 (6-18-01)
#105-118.2 - \$28,663.00 to \$30,095.00 (7-01-01)
Transfer \$718.69 from #105-127.2 to #105-118.2
#105-127.2 - \$18,722.00 to \$19,657.00 (7-30-01)
#124-125.2 - \$26,237.00 to \$22,664.00 (6-25-01)
#140-122.7 - \$27,550.00 to \$22,664.00 (5-30-01)
#140-124.1 - \$22,664.00 to \$23,799.00 (7-26-01)
#204-123.0 - \$24,770.00 to \$26,008.00 (7-01-01)
#206-132.0 - \$23,181.00 to \$24,339.00 (8-02-01)

Assessing Level II Certification:

Marla Hash, County Assessor, appeared to request an increase in salary for employees who are now considered Certified Level II Appraisers. According to the law, effective July 1, 2001, a deputy or assessing official shall be entitled to an additional \$500.00 annually in pay for having attained a Level II Certification.

Mrs. Young asked if Ms. Hash could transfer money within her budget. Ms. Hash responded "yes". Mrs. Young moved to approve the \$500.00 increase in salaries for the employees who achieved the Level II Certification and the following transfer:

#109-112.0 - \$26,369.00 to \$26,869.00 (7-12-01)	\$ 250.00
#322-113.1 - \$37,485.00 to \$37,985.00 (7-12-01)	
From: #109-113.0 – Deputy	(\$ 250.00)
To: #109-112.0 - Chief Deputy	\$ 250.00

Mr. Waltz seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Mark Alexander, County Appraiser, appeared to request a salary increase for an employee who is an exceptional employee. Mr. Alexander handed the council members a letter outlining the reasons for this request.

Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Dennis seconded the motion that was denied due to a lack of five approving votes. Mrs. Young and Mr. Waltz voted nay.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the following requests as presented.

RECORDER – (104)

From: #104-113.2 – Deputy	(\$ 2,000.00)
To: #104-199.0 – Overtime	\$ 2,000.00

COMPUTER SERVICES – (141)

From: #141-360.0 – Equipment Repair & Maintenance	(\$ 400.00)
To: #141-410.0 – Office Equipment	\$ 400.00
#141-210.0 – Office Supplies	\$ 3,000.00

PARK NON-REVERTING CAPITAL – (271)

#271-210.0 – Supplies	\$ 10,000.00
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PRETRIAL DIVERSION PROGRAM – (286)

#286-200.0 – Reimbursements	\$ 2,628.97
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PROSECUTOR DEFERRAL PROGRAM – (327)

#327-413.0 – Franklin Police Department	\$ 3,250.00
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SUPERIOR COURT NO. 3 – (134)

#134-301.0 – Professional Services	\$ 28,000.00
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Mrs. Young seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT (254) –

#254-421.0- Purchase/Acquisition/Design Land (Animal Shelter) \$175,000.00

Bill Walker, Commissioner, appeared to answer any questions regarding the Animal Shelter request that was tabled from last month's meeting.

Mr. Canary stated he has received several calls and letters regarding a new Animal Shelter. He said that no one, including himself is against a new animal shelter. The opposition is with the purchase of new property. Mr. Canary felt like there was sufficient property to build at the current location. He would also like to see as a package deal an estimate of the total cost (size, staff, operating expenses, etc.)

Mr. Rhoades replied that the current location is near a flood plain; therefore there is not enough room to build. Mrs. Young responded there seems to be ample ground behind the highway department and the jail.

Mr. Waltz agreed that a new animal shelter needs to be built to better the living conditions of where the animals are kept while they are at the shelter. The current location is not a healthy environment to have for people to come and adopt pets. He feels that the purchase of land and a new facility is a prudent expenditure of tax dollars.

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Ms. Duvall responded that no additional personnel are needed. The renovation will be to stabilize the building, and to make it more accessible for handicaps and to the public. She also noted that it would continue to need yearly maintenance to avoid another situation like this big project.

Mr. Canary commented that if we allow history to be lost, it is gone and it never comes back.

Mr. Dennis commented how much he appreciated the work of the Historical Society and their efforts of raising half the cost for the project. Mr. Dennis then moved to approve the request as presented.

A member from the audience, John Norton, expressed his opinion to the Council.

Mrs. Young seconded the motion that carried four to two; Mr. Waltz and Mr. West voted nay.

#254-444.0 – Renovation of Museum \$600,000.00

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS - 7/1/01 thru 12/31/01

Deana McMurray, Executive Director, appeared to ask for approval for their budget and to answer any questions the Council might have.

Mrs. Young questioned the Juvenile Project Income Fund being in the red. Mrs. Young also stated that she, as well as the county auditor, feels that the county should no longer fund this account until it can show a positive balance and cash flow. Ms. McMurray explained that there are several different sources that provide monies to fund this account. Once the monies are received, they will be transferred into different accounts to pay expenses.

Both Mr. Dennis and Mrs. Young wanted to make sure that the county was not spending money and not receiving anything in return.

Mr. Mason asked if the monies would be transferred back into the fund that is currently running in the red by the end of the month. Ms. McMurray replied that she would get the monies transferred as soon as possible to show a positive balance for this fund.

Mr. Dennis moved to approve the requests as presented. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / GENERAL – (142)

#142-110.0 – Correctional Officer \$22,220.00 to \$23,799.00 \$ 1,052.00
#142-111.0 – Correctional Officer \$22,220.00 to \$23,799.00 \$ 944.00
#142-112.0 – Correctional Officer \$24,498.00 to \$24,988.00 \$ 673.00

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / ADULT GRANT – (208)

#208-111.0 – Executive Director \$46,924.00 to \$47,862.00
#208-112.0 – Assist. Director \$38,100.00 to \$38,862.00
#208-113.1 – Office Admin \$29,698.00 to \$30,292.00
#208-113.3 – Correctional Officer \$24,434.00 to 24,988.00
#208-115.0 – Correctional Officer \$25,723.00 to 26,237.00

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / ADULT PROJECT INCOME – (209)

#209-110.0 – WR/HD Manager-K-9 \$34,156.00 to \$34,839.00
#209-111.0 – Work Crew Assist \$24,498.00 to \$26,237.00
#209-112.0 – Work Crew Superv. \$27,010 to \$27,550.00
#209-113.0 – Correctional Officer \$22,220.00 to \$24,988.00
#209-114.0 – Field Officer \$28,227.00 to \$26,114.00
#209-115.0 – Field Officer \$25,602.00 to \$27,420.00
#209-116.0 – Field Officer \$25,602.00 to \$24,870.00
#209-118.0 – Correctional Officer \$22,220.00 to \$23,799.00
#209-119.0 – Correctional Officer \$24,498.00 to \$24,988.00
#209-120.0 – Correctional Officer \$22,220.00 to \$22,664.00
#209-123.0 – Correctional Officer \$24,498.00 to \$26,237.00
#209-125.0 – Correctional Officer \$22,220.00 to \$23,799.00
#209-126.0 – Correctional Officer \$23,332.00 to \$24,988.00
#209-129.0 – Day Reporting Coord. \$28,506.00 to \$30,531.00
#209-130.0 – Day Reporting Casemgn. \$24,434.00 to \$27,477.00
#209-131.0 – Day Reporting Casemgn. \$24,434.00 to \$24,923.00
#209-132.0 – Day Reporting Officer \$22,220.00 to \$22,664.00

Hourly Rates Approval: #209-1132.

Field Officer \$11.19, Correctional Officer \$11.19, Work Crew Sup. \$11.19
Statistical Recorder \$15.08, Clerical \$7.00

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / JUVENILE GRANT – (213)

#213-111.0 – Juvenile Program Coord. \$33,000.00 to \$33,660.00
#213-112.0 – Juvenile Casemanager \$26,938.00 to \$28,850.00
#213-113.0 – Juvenile Casemanager (new) \$24,923.00

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / JUVENILE PROJECT INCOME – (216)

#216-112.0 – Casemanager \$24,434.00 to \$27,477.00
#216-113.0 – Casemanager \$26,938.00 to \$27,477.00

Hourly Rates Approval: #216-110.0

Program Facilitator \$12.00, Program Casemanager \$12.16, Program Sup. \$11.19 Program Aide \$9.37

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COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / ALCOHOL & DRUG – (332)

#332-110.0 – Coordinator \$33,000.00 to \$33,660.00
#332-111.0 – Counselor \$27,150.00 to \$27,693.00
#332-112.0 – Counselor \$29,932.00 to \$29,076.00

TITLE –V TRUANCY II – (363)

#363-111.0 – Casemanager \$24,434 to \$24,923.00	\$ 12,461.50
#363-112.0 – Caseofficer \$22,220.00	\$ 11,110.00
#363-142.0 – FICA	\$ 1,803.22
#363-143.0 – PERF	\$ 1,885.72
#363-144.0 – Insurance	\$ 2,000.00
#363-201.0 – Office Supplies	\$ 500.00
#363-317.0 – Pagers	\$ 200.00
#363-318.0 – Cellular Services	\$ 1,000.00
#363-320.0 – Office Telephones	\$ 500.00
#363-340.0 – Travel & Training	\$ 2,500.00
#363-410.0 – Computer	\$ 2,000.00

County Misdemeanant – (217)

Mrs. Young wanted to clarify that the two new correctional officers in this budget were put there per her request. She stated that when she learned that the Sheriff was going to ask for eight additional correctional officers, she asked him to request funding for two of them out of this fund.

Judge Kim VanValer Shilts appeared to discuss the county misdemeanor fund. Judge Shilts stated that she was assigned, as part of a committee, to help oversee this fund. She noted that the committee was not in favor of funding the two new correctional officers; they had other intentions for the use of the excess money.

Mrs. Young stated she felt that this expenditure was an appropriate use of that fund. Judge Shilts replied that that was one of several appropriate uses. However, by the year 2004, according to projections, this fund will no longer be able to fund the Classification Specialist (Monitor) position if this money is spent for additional employees. This position, currently filled by Paula Lyon, is greatly needed; it collects statistical information that helps out the judicial system tremendously as well as provides data to help receive funding.

Judge Shilts also stated that she and the committee would support the request of funding two new correctional officers for 2002; but they would need a commitment that it would not happen in 2003 or 2004.

Mrs. Young requested that an additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,000.00 for insurance for the two new correctional officers be placed on next month's agenda.

Motion was made by Mrs. Young to approve the request as presented. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

#217-112.0 – Classification Specialist \$39,000.00	\$ 19,500.00
#217-142.0 – FICA	\$ 1,492.00
#217-143.0 – PERF	\$ 1,560.00
#217-144.0 – Insurance	\$ 500.00
#217-113.0 – Correctional Officer \$22,664.00 (new-jail)	\$ 9,812.42
#217-114.0 – Correctional Officer \$22,664.00 (new-jail)	\$ 9,812.42
#217-142.0 – FICA	\$ 1,501.30
#217-143.0 – PERF	\$ 1,520.92

Jail – (124)

Sheriff J.D. Richards was present to answer any questions regarding his request for six correctional officers, wearing apparel, and miscellaneous equipment.

Mrs. Young inquired about line items #124-257.0 – Wearing Apparel and #124-410.0 – Miscellaneous Equipment. She feels that perhaps a transfer could be made within the budget instead of an additional appropriation.

Discussion was held on the new correctional officers, the jail reports, and the staffing overall.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. Mrs. Young commented that a lot of work still needs to be done by the Sheriff, Commissioners, and Council to help complete this project. She also stated that a transfer could be done in lieu of an additional appropriation for the wearing apparel and miscellaneous equipment.

Mrs. Young then moved to amend the previous motion to include a transfer as follows:

#124-309.0 – Hospital & Medical	(\$11,200.00)
#124-257.0 – Wearing Apparel	\$ 5,200.00
#124-410.0 – Miscellaneous Equipment	\$ 6,000.00

Mr. Waltz seconded the motion for the amendment, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the request with the amendment. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. The motion carried five to one; Mr. Dennis voted nay.

#124-130.1 – Correctional Officer \$22,664.00 (new)	\$ 9,812.42
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#124-130.2 – Correctional Officer \$22,664.00	(new)	\$ 9,812.42
#124-130.3 – Correctional Officer \$22,664.00	(new)	\$ 9,812.42
#124-130.4 – Correctional Officer \$22,664.00	(new)	\$ 9,812.42
#124-130.5 – Correctional Officer \$22,664.00	(new)	\$ 9,812.42
#124-130.6 – Correctional Officer \$22,664.00	(new)	\$ 9,812.42

Mrs. Young asked the Sheriff to provide her a status report on how much money the county owes the Department of Corrections for the safe keeping of offenders.

Sheriff Richards also informed the Council that when the shift relief factor was done with the correctional officers, it was also done for some other personnel. The end result was that about three additional transport officers and one more cook will be needed as the population grows. Also more medical staff (nurses) will be needed. Commissioner Joseph DeHart spoke about the medical contract and explained that they are working on some alternatives to help better the situation. Sheriff Richards stressed this is just a “fore-warning” of what the budget will reflect in the next few years.

X. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Tom Shively, President of the Deputy’s Association, appeared to speak on behalf of several members of the Sheriff’s Department to address their salaries. Mr. Shively discussed comparisons of salaries among similar agencies in and around the county that also compare in size. He also stated that the sheriff’s department is currently losing manpower, and if they do not receive an increase in pay, they will continue to lose more. He then asked that the council keep the sheriff’s department in mind during budget hearings.

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Norman Murnan, Adult Protective Services Investigator, appeared before the council to seek an additional appropriation to help fund this program. He explained the purpose of this program and his job duties. Mr. Murnan also told the council that after this year the state would be paying all the costs to cover this program.

Mr. Dennis stated he would talk to the prosecutor, Lance Hamner, to appear before the council to ask for this additional appropriation under one of his budgets.

JAIL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Julie von Arx, consultant, reported to the council that the jail has been complying with the lawsuit capacity of 150. She stated that with input from various sources, they have recommended to maintain a maximum of 190, even though the new jail could hold about 315. She noted that within that capacity, there would be a limit set on the number of misdemeanants that could be sentenced to the jail. Ms. von Arx also pointed out that because of the work that Paula Lyon does, it has been determined that misdemeanants have taken the place of felons at the jail.

Mr. Mason asked what prevents the lower courts of sentencing people to the jail? Judge VanValer Shilts responded nothing. Nothing prevents any judge from filling up the jail. However, it is the goal through the jail management committee, to use jail resources or other alternative services to be more beneficial to the community.

Commissioner Joseph DeHart commented that now there is a better awareness of what is happening at the jail, as far as who is in jail, why they are there, how long they have been there, and any special needs they may have.

It was concluded that the ultimate goal was to create a more responsive system of corrections and try to make sure that offenders do not become habitual. Also Ms. von Arx strongly suggested that the recommendation of 190 capacities be put into the lawsuit agreement as well as a misdemeanor cap.

APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE CITY OF FRANKLIN (zoning & subdivision control)

Fred Paris, realtor, appeared to request approval of an interlocal agreement. Mr. Canary moved to approve the request as presented. Mrs. Young seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE JOHNSON COUNTY POLICE RETIREMENT UPDATED PLAN

Mr. Dennis moved to table this request. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

JOHNSON COUNTY PARK’S APPLICATION FOR AIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Mrs. Young noted that Tim Davis has completed all of the requirements for the application of the 2001 County Achievement Award. This is in regards to the White River Township park project. The application just needs a signature from the council.

Mr. Dennis moved to approve the application as submitted. Mr. Canary seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

COUNCIL’S BUDGET

Discussion was held concerning the Council’s budget. The conclusion was to remove the overtime, give each member 2%, and leave everything else the same.

There being no further business, Mr. Dennis moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Canary, which carried unanimously.