

COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 10, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President, Ron West.

I. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Josh McCarty, Rick Mason, Paul Reed, Steve Hollenbeck, and Charles Canary. John Price arrived following the Johnson County Public Library proposed Capital Projects Fund discussion. Phil Wilson was present as the Council's attorney.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF 4/10/06 AGENDA

Mr. West added a request from Emergency Management Director to reconsider the dates of the salary ordinance for the Homeland Security Grant that was approved last month. The request would follow the County Sales Disclosure Fund request.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the agenda as presented including the addition. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF 3/13/06 MINUTES

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Canary seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

VII. JOHNSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY – PROPOSED LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS

Beverly Martin, Library Director, appeared to discuss the proposed plan for their Capital Projects Fund. She explained per Indiana Code the county fiscal body must approve the Capital Projects Fund after the library board passes a resolution. The library board will hold a public hearing to adopt the plan on April 18th. She will return either in May or June to ask for the Council's approval.

VIII. SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS, ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS, REDUCTIONS, & TRANSFERS:

COUNTY SALES DISCLOSURE FEE FUND – (907)

Marla Hash, County Assessor, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$725.00 to purchase a scanner to electronically transmit sales disclosure information to the Department of Local Government Finance.

Ms. Hash reported the State of Indiana has sent letters to all counties explaining that if certain data information that they have requested is not sent to them in a timely matter

they will start withholding property tax replacement monies that are due to the county. Some of the data requested is 2004, 2005, and 2006 sales disclosure information. She stated she does not have the staff or time to do this. She has spoken to someone that could bring the staff and scan the sales disclosures and submit the information in a timely matter for \$25,000. She noted the expense could be paid from this fund and the reassessment fund. She would need to return to have the money appropriated by the Council and the Board of Commissioners would need to approve the contract.

Mr. Reed moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Mason seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

907-410.0 – Equipment \$ 725.00

STATE HOMELAND SECURITY – (371)

Forrest Sutton, Emergency Management Director, appeared to request the effective dates for the two salary supplement line items that was approved last month to be changed to 4/1/06 thru 9/30/06 instead of 1/1/06 thru 12/31/06. He noted the State informed them the grant funds would have to be spent in a six-month period starting 4/1/06.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Canary seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

(effective 4/1/06 thru 9/30/06)

371-110.0 – Emergency Mngt. Director \$20,000 \$ 20,000.00
371-114.0 – Emergency Mngt. Asst. Salary Supp \$3,364 \$ 3,364.00

Mr. Sutton reported that on March 31st a tornado hit Clark Township that caused extensive damage. The tornado destroyed several homes and approximately forty-four structures. A Declaration for Disaster was filed to try to recoup some of money that has been and will be spent for the clean up. The biggest issue is the amount of debris left from the tornado. They are going to work with the City of Greenwood, Johnson County Highway Department, and the Johnson County Solid Waste District for the clean up effort.

JOHNSON COUNTY SHERIFF L.E.C.E – (325)

SHERIFF – (105)

Terry McLaughlin, Sheriff, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,562.00 for equipment from the L.E.C.E. fund and \$889.94 for overtime that would be reimbursed from the Big City/Big County Grant into General Fund.

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve the requests as presented. Mr. McCarty seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

325-400.0 – Equipment \$ 1,562.00
105-165.0 – Overtime \$ 889.94

REGIONAL GANG GRANT – (295) 4/1/06-3/31/07

Mr. West explained the request is a grant renewal from the Prosecutor’s Office.

Mr. Mason moved to approve the grant as submitted. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

295-100.0 – Deputy Prosecutor	\$ 50,000.00
295-142.0 – Social Security	\$ 3,825.00
295-143.0 – PERF	\$ 4,000.00
295-144.0 – Insurance	\$ 4,353.20
295-210.0 – Reimbursement to Marion County	\$ 57,300.00
295-216.0 – Witness Fees	\$ 2,000.00
295-310.0 – Travel/Training	\$ 1,200.00
295-315.0 – Communications	\$ 4,000.00
295-410.0 – Office Equipment	\$ 6,242.80

SUPPLEMENTAL ADULT PROBATION –(297)(reduction)

ADULT PROBATION ADMINISTRATIVE FEE – (282)

Richard Pfifer, Chief Adult Probation Officer, appeared to request a reduction in the Supplemental Adult Probation Fund and an additional appropriation in the Adult Probation Administrative Fee Fund. He explained he would like to move a position from one fund to another because of the concern of the cash in the Supplemental Fund.

Mr. Mason moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Reed seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

297-122.0 – Salary Supplement	(\$ 28,678.07)
297-143.0 – PERF	(\$ 2,365.94)
297-142.0 – Social Security	(\$ 2,193.87)
282-111.1 – Salary Supplement	\$ 28,678.07
282-143.0 – PERF	\$ 2,365.94
282-142.0 – Social Security	\$ 2,193.87

TREASURER – (103)

Rita Sievertson, County Treasurer, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$23,000 to pay Union Federal Bank for lock box fees. The service they will provide is to process property tax statements that have in the past been mailed to the County Treasurer’s office. She noted this would allow the county to earn interest on the taxes that are processed through the bank because the money will be deposited into the account much faster. The first year she will only have single payments processed through the bank to see how this process is going to work.

Mr. Price moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Mason seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

103-310.0 – Lockbox Fees

\$ 23,000.00

CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT – (254)

Terry McLaughlin, Sheriff, appeared to request \$28,000 for professional services to pay a firm to perform a feasibility study at the law enforcement facility.

Brian Young, Johnson County Fair Board President, appeared to request \$129,256.70 from the Cum. Cap. Dev. Fund to start the improvements to the Hog/Sheep Barn. This would allow starting the project to be completed prior to the county fair, instead of waiting for the final approval of the equipment bond.

Suzanne Miller, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, appeared to request \$4,061.25 from the Cum. Cap. Dev. Fund to purchase three computers for her department. She did request funds from the equipment bond to replace all the computers, however some of them will not last until the bond is finalized.

Mitch Ripley, County Commissioner, appeared to explain the request of \$4,300 to repair the fiber optic cable between the Courthouse and Annex. This is part of the telecommunications request in the equipment bond.

Mr. Price moved to approve the following requests as submitted. Mr. Mason seconded the motion that carried six to one, Mr. Reed voted nay. Mr. Reed noted the reason he voted nay is because he is not in favor of the equipment bond.

254-310.0 – Professional Services (Law Enforcement Facility)	\$ 28,000.00
254-413.0 – Computer Equipment	\$ 4,061.25
254-430.0 – Fairgrounds-Hog/Sheep Barn	\$129,256.70
254-411.0 – Telecommunications (Fiber Optic Cable Repair)	\$ 4,300.00

Ordinance No. 2006-04 - An Ordinance of the Johnson County Council Authorizing the Issuance of Road and Bridge Bonds for the Purpose of Providing Funds to Acquire Certain Equipment for the County’s Highway Department and to Pay the Costs of Issuance of the Bonds.

Kirk Grable, Bond Counsel with Barnes & Thornburg, appeared first to reiterate the proposed Ordinance No. 2006-04. The ordinance was tabled from the March 13th Council meeting. He distributed a black line copy and a clean line copy of the ordinance to show the change of creating one fund into which the funds would be deposited to make the debt service payment. The change was a recommendation from the Auditor’s Office. Mr. Grable noted that once the County Council makes the appropriation for the equipment the expenditures are then at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners. He noted R.J. McConnell, County Commissioner, did at the last Council meeting commit orally that he or another Commissioner would come before the Council to ask in the event a change would occur to purchase something other than what is on the list.

Mitch Ripley, County Commissioner, appeared noting that if the highway equipment is not ordered by September of 2006 each piece will increase approximately \$10,000 because of the new admissions control regulations.

Several Council members expressed concern of some of the equipment on the list and if some of the equipment is actually needed. Some members felt the tandem dump trucks are needed now and perhaps remove the tri-axle dump truck from the list and add the funds to purchase a total of four tandems instead of three. They also felt when the new director is hired he may feel the highway department would need other equipment that is not on the list.

Mr. McCarty suggested approving \$500,000 instead of the requested \$750,000 to purchase the highway equipment.

Mr. Grable suggested the ordinance amount could be approved at \$800,000, however only \$500,000 would be spent at this time that way when the new director is hired he could assess what other equipment is needed for the department. The Board of Commissioners then would return to the Council as a courtesy to inform them of the other equipment needed.

Mr. Mason was not in favor of approving the ordinance in such a matter.

After further discussion, Mr. Price moved to approve the amendments to Ordinance No. 2006-04 creating one fund. Mr. Canary seconded the motion that carried six to one, Mr. Reed voted nay.

Mr. Price moved to amend Ordinance No. 2006-04 to reduce the maximum maturity of the bond to four years with the principal amount of the bonds not to exceed \$750,000. Mr. McCarty seconded the motion that carried six to one, Mr. Reed voted nay.

Mr. Price moved to approve Ordinance No. 2006-04 as amended. Mr. Canary seconded the motion that carried five to two, Mr. Mason and Mr. Reed voted nay.

COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE – (123)

Jason Miller, Maintenance Assistant Supervisor, and Mitch Ripley, County Commissioner, appeared to request additional appropriations in the amount of \$15,000 for part-time and \$1,000.03 for overtime. He also requested a transfer of \$2,000 from a full-time position into part-time. He noted last month the Council approved a transfer from part-time into a newly created full-time position.

Mr. Mason moved to approve the requests as submitted. Mr. Reed seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

123-114.0 – Part-time Custodian Help	\$ 15,000.00
123-199.0 – Overtime	\$ 1,000.03

From: 123-112.0 – Director of Maintenance (\$ 2,000.00)
To: 123-114.0 – Part-time Custodian Help \$ 2,000.00

HIGHWAY – (203) & LOCAL ROAD & STREET – (207)

Mr. Price moved to approve an additional appropriation of \$100,000 from the Highway Fund and \$100,000 from the Local Road & Street Fund. The funds would be used to pay the equipment bond payment that was previously approved with Ordinance No. 2006-04. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried five to two, Mr. Mason and Mr. Reed voted nay.

203-450.0 – Equipment Bonds \$100,000.00
207-465.0 – Equipment Bonds \$100,000.00

CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT – (254)

Discussion/Presentation of a new Animal Shelter

Mitch Ripley, County Commissioner, and Shawn Donovan, Animal Warden, appeared to discuss and give a presentation for a new Animal Shelter. The request included an additional appropriation of \$150,000 from the Cum. Cap. Fund to purchase property on Graham Road in Franklin City. Mr. Ripley explained the county will be receiving a donation from the Estate of Frieda Montgomery and once the county receives the money, Cum. Cap. Fund would be reimbursed the \$150,000.

Mr. Donovan presented the Council a breakdown from 2005 showing the total number of animals that came through the shelter, the number returned to owners, the number adopted, and the number put to sleep.

Mr. Ripley showed a 3-D electronic presentation showing the proposed Animal Shelter's exterior design and elevations on the proposed piece of land in Franklin City currently owned by Fred Linville. The City of Franklin would have to approve a variance for this facility on the proposed property. He noted the Schneider Corporation prepared the preliminary model of the shelter and they were in attendance to answer any questions. The proposed building is approximately 8,800 square feet.

Mr. West commented he would like to see the total cost of a new Animal Shelter because in 1996 they were told a new shelter would cost an average of \$150 per square foot. At that rate, with the proposed size, the shelter would cost over \$1.3 million dollars. Before he would vote to purchase land he would need to see the total cost.

Mr. Ripley noted he was told the building probably could be built for around \$800,000.

Mr. Donovan commented he thought \$150 per square foot was a little high and agreed with Mr. Ripley that \$800,000 should build the facility.

Discussion was held on obtaining total costs of the project including land, building, operational costs, and infrastructure before approving money to purchase land.

Mr. Ripley stated the Schneider Corporation will assist in preparing the costs for a new Animal Shelter and he would return in one month.

Mr. Canary moved to table the request of \$150,000 to purchase property for an Animal Shelter from the Cum. Cap. Fund until the May Council meeting. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

Obtaining three-year budget projections from County Departments

Mr. West commented he suggested several months ago that he would like for department heads and elected officials to provide the Council with three-year budget projections. He directed Council Attorney, Phil Wilson, to draft a letter for the Auditor to disseminate to everyone requesting the information.

X. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

Mr. McCarty moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mason seconded the motion that carried unanimously.