

## **COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 9, 2006**

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

### **I. ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: John Price, Josh McCarty, Rick Mason, Paul Reed, Steve Hollenbeck, Charles Canary. Phil Wilson was present as the Council's attorney.

### **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **III. INVOCATION**

### **IV. APPROVAL OF 1/9/06 AGENDA**

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Mason seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

### **V. APPROVAL OF 12/5/05 MINUTES**

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

### **VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

### **VII. NOMINATION AND ELECTION:**

#### **Council President**

Mr. Reed nominated Mr. West for Council President. Mr. Canary seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Mr. West then declared himself Council President by acclamation.

#### **Council Vice-President**

Mr. Mason nominated Mr. Reed as Vice-President. Mr. Reed declined the position and then nominated Mr. Price. Mr. McCarty seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Mr. West then declared Mr. Price Vice-President by acclamation.

### **VIII. APPOINTMENTS:**

#### **Council Attorney**

Mr. Canary moved to retain John P. Wilson as the Council's Attorney. Mr. Reed seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### **Alcoholic Beverage Commission Board (ABC)**

Mr. West noted that he had received a letter from David Pollard, who has been the representative on this board for the past two or three years, and he has indicated that he would like to remain on the board.

Mr. Reed made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Pollard to the ABC Board. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

#### **Solid Waste (Council member)**

Mr. Mason moved to appoint Mr. Price as the Council representative to Solid Waste. Mr. Reed seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Edinburgh Wright-Hageman Public Library Board**

Mr. West commented that he has received a letter from Francis Stotts, the representative appointed since 2002, and he has expressed an interest in continuing to do so.

Mr. Reed moved to re-appoint Mr. Stotts to the Edinburgh Wright-Hageman Public Library Board. Mr. Mason seconded the motion; the motion unanimously carried.

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

**SUPERIOR COURT NO. 3 – (134)**

Judge Kim Van Valer Shilts appeared before the Council to request a transfer of funds to purchase an office chair.

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

From: 134-215.0 – Office Supplies	(\$	150.00)
To: 134-401.0 – Office Furniture & Equipment	\$	150.00

**DRUG FREE COMMUNITY FUND – (331)**

Kim Herndon, Program Coordinator for JCCASA, appeared to ask that their balances from 2005 be carried over into 2006.

Mr. Mason made a motion to approve the request as presented. Mr. Price seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

331-310.0 – Treatment	\$	2,586.96
331-320.0 – Prevention/Education	\$	9,164.72
331-330.0 – Justice	\$	6,981.53

**PROSECUTOR DEFERRAL PROGRAM – (327)**

Michelle Murray, Office Manager, appeared to request a title change and additional appropriations for line item #327-120.0.

Mr. Reed moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion.

Mr. Canary inquired about the salary amount being requested and the amount approved prior.

Barb Davis, First Deputy Auditor, went to go check the records of when the amount was approved and for how much.

Mr. Mason then moved to table this request until Mrs. Davis gathered the information. Mr. Canary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mrs. Murray commented that she had mistakenly overlooked asking for appropriations for two line items (#327-311.0 & #327-340.0) during the 2006 budget hearings.

Mr. Mason moved to approve the following as requested. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

327-311.0 – Training & Business Meetings	\$	800.00
327-340.0 – Communications	\$	3,000.00

Mrs. Davis reported that in September of 2005, line item #327-120.0 was approved for \$32,000.00.

Mr. Reed then made a motion to approve the following as amended below:

327-120.0 – Legal Asst/Paralegal to Asst. Office Manager		
\$26,265 to \$32,000 (effective 1/1/06)	\$	5,735.00

Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

**WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR – (113)(tabled from December)**

Susan Sego Wayman, White River Township Assessor, was present to review her request that was tabled from December’s meeting. She explained that this request is to purchase a new laser printer. They are in need of this printer now and cannot wait until the bond issue is completed.

Mr. Canary asked if the Commissioner’s considered paying for this from the Cumulative Capital Fund.

Ms. Wayman replied that she talked with the Commissioners and Bill Hammond, County Coordinator, and was told to ask for an additional appropriation from the Council.

Mr. Reed moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Price seconded the motion.

R.J. McConnell, Commissioner, appeared and stated that they could fund this either through the bond issue or from Cum. Cap.

Mr. Mason then made a motion to amend the prior motion to reflect that the General Fund would be replenished \$3,000 either from Cum. Cap. or the bond issue. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion for the amendment. The amendment carried unanimously.

Mr. West then called for question; the motion unanimously carried.

113-410.0 – Office Equipment	\$	3,000.00
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**Discussion – Communication line item for 2006**

Ms. Wayman asked for this line item to be restored. She explained that she will be receiving a January bill because she is still under contract and has no line item to pay that from. She also noted that she would try to transfer monies within her current budget to cover this cost instead of asking for additional appropriations.

Mr. McCarty asked what the current policy is for cell phones. It was determined to contact the Commissioners regarding this matter.

Mr. Reed moved to re-establish the following line item for communications. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#113-324.0 – Communications

**ANIMAL SHELTER GENERAL DONATION FUND – (262)**

Shawn Donovan, Warden, appeared to request an appropriation from their donation fund.

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

262-200.0 – Claims \$ 9,150.00

**ANIMAL SHELTER BUILDING DONATION FUND – (264)**

Mr. Donovan explained this money would be used for the preliminary steps required to create a defined RFP and to keep the process in motion.

Discussion was held on how this project was progressing and the reasoning for hiring someone to do the work that Central Nine has done in the past and could do again.

Mr. Price made a motion to approve the request as presented. Mr. Canary seconded the motion. The motion carried five to two; Mr. Reed and Mr. Mason voted nay.

264-320.0 – Professional Services \$ 10,000.00

**OLIVE BRANCH ROAD PROJECT FUND – (263)**

Don Sanders, Highway Director, appeared before the Council to have the monies generated from a certificate of deposit appropriated into line item #263-410.0, Olive Branch Road Project.

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

263-410.0 – Olive Branch Road \$ 92,069.00

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / ADULT PROJECT INCOME – (209)**

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / JUVENILE GRANT – (213)**

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / JUVENILE PROJECT INCOME – (216)**

Al Hessman, Executive Director, was present to seek approval of salary adjustments, which reflect a 3% increase across the board, with a few exceptions – the biggest one being changing the correctional officers' salaries to be equivalent to the correctional officers' salaries at the Jail.

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

Salary from January 1, 2006 – June 30, 2006

209-110.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$11,808.50

209-111.0 – Work Crew Assist \$13,631 to \$14,040

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209-112.0 – Correctional Officer \$12,387.50 to \$12,759  
 209-113.0 – Correctional Officer \$12,994 to \$13,384  
 209-114.0 – Field Officer \$13,568 to \$13,975  
 209-116.0 – Field Officer \$12,933.50 to \$13,321.50  
 209-118.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$12,163  
 209-119.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$12,163  
 209-120.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$12,163  
 209-121.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$11,808.50  
 209-122.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$11,808.50  
 209-123.0 – Correctional Officer \$13,631 to \$14,040  
 209-124.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$11,808.50  
 209-125.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$12,163  
 209-126.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$12,163  
 209-130.0 – Receptionist \$9,500 to \$9,785  
 209-132.0 – Correctional Officer \$11,332 to \$11,808.50  
 209-133.0 – Statistical Manager \$16,250 to \$17,000  
 209-134.0 – Assist. Director Supplement \$750  
 209-135.0 – Office Administrator Supplement \$750  
 209-136.0 – Correctional Officer Supplement \$429

213-112.0 – Juvenile Casemgn \$14,963.50 to \$15,412.50

216-113.0 – Juvenile Casemgn \$14,263.50 to \$14,691.50

216-114.0 – Juvenile Casemgn \$12,710.50 to \$13,092

216-115.0 – Juvenile Alternatives Coord. Supplement \$522.50

216-116.0 – Juvenile Casemgn Supplement \$389

**COMPUTER SERVICES – (141)**

Rob Norris, Director, appeared to request an additional appropriation for Professional Services to purchase a Personal Property Data Management System from Appraisal Research Corporation. This amount includes the software, installation, and training for the assessors. He also noted that this is needed to be compliant with the mandated reporting requirements from the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF).

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

141-399.0 – Professional Services \$ 17,000.00

**ELECTRONIC MAP GENERATION FUND – (905)**

Mr. Norris stated that the money generated for this fund comes from the sale of maps, digital and paper. As the fund accumulates a balance, they can then appropriate the money to purchase any supplies needed for providing the electronic maps to the public and for services needed to maintain the maps. He then asked that the following be appropriated:

905-210.0 – Claims \$ 17,000.00

Mr. Mason moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. McCarty seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**SHERIFF – (105)**

Sheriff Terry McLaughlin was present to request an additional appropriation into #105-165.0 (Overtime) for reimbursement of overtime paid out from the BCC Seatbelt Enforcement and Operation Pullover/DUI Indiana Blitz 45.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Reed seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

105-165.0 – Overtime \$ 7,848.35

**COUNTY EXTRADITION FUND – (211)**

Sheriff McLaughlin also requested an appropriation for the County Extradition Fund; these monies are used to pay for expenses relating to the pick up of inmates all over the United States.

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

211-200.0 – Claims \$ 10,000.00

**MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER FUND– (307)**

Sheriff McLaughlin then requested an appropriation of \$25,750.00 be made to pay for the Medical Office Manager position, which the salary is paid from the Sheriff’s Commissary Fund.

Mr. Reed moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Price seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

307-110.0 – Medical Office Manager \$25,000 to \$25,750 \$ 25,750.00

**BYRNE JUSTICE ASST GRANT (JAG) – (349)**

Sheriff McLaughlin explained that this money will be used for the McGruff Drug Education supplies.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Mason seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

349-200.0 – Supplies (McGruff Drug Education) \$ 5,000.00

**Discussion regarding the Pension Fund – DROP Program**

Sheriff McLaughlin commented that this is a new program available to County Government. He noted that Elaine Beaty from McCready & Keene was also present to explain this in further detail and answer any questions.

Ms. Beaty stated that this is a new program that was passed in the last session of the General Assembly. She noted that this DROP program, which stands for Deferred

Retirement Optional Program, can be added to the retirement plans that are currently existing for Sheriff's departments throughout the State of Indiana; this is not mandatory, it is optional. The intent is to give an added perk to the members who work past retirement age.

To enter the program:

- member must be at least 55 years old to be eligible
- the member must sacrifice something, such as additional years of service credit (maximum of amount of service credit years is 32; they must have less than that to be eligible)

If a member chooses this option, they then freeze their pension benefit – forfeiting years of service and any salary increases. What they get is an accumulation of benefit that is paid out in a lump sum when they leave employment along with their monthly payment. This program is designed to be cost neutral.

Sheriff McLaughlin commented that he feels this program is a win-win option. It does not cost the County anything, and the members could get a small lump sum when they retire if so desired. Both he and Ms. Beaty stated that they would get the Council Members some more literature on this program.

### **Sheriff's Contract**

Sheriff McLaughlin stated that the contract for his salary reflected a 3% increase.

Mr. Reed moved to approve the contract as presented. Mr. Price seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2006 Sheriff Contract

\$ 91,061

### **Request an increase in the E-911 Surcharge to \$2.15 (see December 2005 minutes)**

Steve Dhondt, Consortium Board member, gave the Council members information that reflected expenditure projections with rate increases for three years and the annual estimated revenue based upon different rates for six years.

Discussion was held on the salaries for the E-911 Operators. Mr. Dhondt noted that the revenue generated from this surcharge increase would help offset the Operating Budgets for the different entities.

Mr. West stated that there needs to be a pro-ration formula set for the different entities as to how these monies would be distributed. He also commented that he would rather use this additional revenue as a funding mechanism that the Sheriff could use to give raises to his employees instead of the Council trying to fund them which would then provide relief to the General Fund, noting that the salary adjustments could not be paid directly from this fund and that a process would need to be enacted to do this.

Sheriff McLaughlin also added that for safety purposes, all entities of police and fire, need to be on the same level for their communications. With this increase, everyone would have the same communication equipment instead of it being dependent on whether or not an entity has funds available for the purchase of the communication upgrades.



Mr. McConnell responded yes.

Mr. Mason then noted that he would abstain from discussion due to a possible conflict of interest.

Mr. McConnell also noted that they have talked with several engineering firms and other highway directors within the State to identify good candidates for this position. They want to hire someone who has experience in all fields including road construction and all of the different funding elements; they would like to avoid on-the-job-training. This person also needs to be a good manager and technician and can oversee and understand the jobs, which should help save time and money for the county. He added that with this restructuring at the highway, he feels there are current employees that are willing to step up and take on more responsibilities.

Mr. Price expressed concern with having a position that oversees everything and the affect it would have on the final results of duties due to the long hours and busy schedule. He feels like it would be hard to find a good P.E. who also has good management skills; and noted it takes a full time person to oversee the highway work and another full time person to oversee the engineering work.

Mr. McConnell agreed that that is a concern, but feels like this is the first step in the right direction that the County needs to be going to.

Mr. West asked that if next month, could Mr. McConnell have some more defined numbers and information as to the re-structuring of the highway department. He also noted that he values Mr. Price's input on this matter due to his prior experience.

Mr. McConnell replied that they don't want to do too much re-structuring internally until they get this position filled; then that person would do they changes as they saw fit. He also added that he would like to get this ball rolling quickly and requested to have a special meeting held prior to the next regular Council meeting so that action could be taken to change the budget and they then could hire someone.

There was some discussion held regarding the salaries of similar positions compared to the surround counties.

It was decided then to hold a special meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 at 6:00 pm.

There being no further business, Mr. Reed moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.