

COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 9, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President, John Price.

I. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Josh McCarty, Anita Knowles, Beth Boyce, Steve Hollenbeck, Ron West, and Charles Canary. Phil Wilson was present as the Council's attorney.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF 3/12/07 MINUTES

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

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chris Johnston, Johnson County Park Superintendent, and Drew Eggers, Assistant Park Superintendent, appeared to introduce themselves before the Council.

VI. JOHNSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY – CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

Beverly Martin, Library Director, appeared to discuss the proposed plan for their Capital Projects Fund. She explained a copy of the Indiana Code that allows for the creation and continuation of a Library Capital Projects Fund was sent to the Council. The current tax rate is .0085 and generates approximately \$600,000 to \$700,000 per year that is used to keep their technology, major repairs, and infrastructure in place. 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 17th. She will return in May to ask for the Council's approval of the rate.

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

PROSECUTOR DEFERRAL – (327)

Michelle Murray, Prosecutor's Office Administrator, appeared to request that line item 327-110.2, Deputy Prosecutor, become a part-time position with an hourly rate of \$27.50.

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve the request as presented. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

327-110.2 – Deputy Prosecutor \$27.50 per hour

COMMISSIONERS – (122) – tabled from March

R.J. McConnell and Mitch Ripley, Johnson County Commissioners, along with Phyllis Palmer, Hendricks County Commissioner, appeared before the Council to discuss the new County Executive Manager's position that was tabled from March. Tom Kite,

Johnson County Commissioner, arrived during the discussion of the position. Mr. McConnell explained they would like to change the proposed position from County Executive Manager to County Administrator. He noted Hendricks County has this position in place and that is why Ms. Palmer was there to answer any questions the Council may have.

Ms. Palmer explained their County is the second fastest growing County in the State and Hendricks County has a lot of similarities with Johnson County. They often compare themselves with Johnson County. She remarked their Administrator screens items of what the Commissioners need to address and also makes recommendations. He does not make decisions for the Board of Commissioners. He also answers phone calls and manages projects. She noted the position has been well worth the money. Hendricks County has a Human Resource position, too.

Mr. West remarked after looking at the job description for the new position, he asked what is it currently that the Commissioners cannot do and the new position could.

Mr. McConnell explained they are unable to do all the research necessary to make good decisions in an orderly and concise fashion. Also, be at the county offices on a daily basis to interact with people who have questions, prepare for the next meeting, and gather information on projects.

Discussion was held how Department Heads under the Board of Commissioners have performed some of the duties in the past that Ms. Palmer spoke about and how that could be done again.

Mitch Ripley, County Commissioner, noted the position in Hendricks County works with the Council and Commissioners.

Mr. West commented the new position has the general perception of being someone that would be doing the job or work of the Commissioners. He has not had one person in the last month to say this position is a good idea; the public has been adamantly opposed.

Mrs. Boyce thanked Ms. Palmer for attending the meeting and explaining Hendricks County Administrator's duties to the Council.

Mr. West asked Ms. Palmer what they paid their County attorney. Johnson County is paying \$65,000 to the County Attorney.

Ms. Palmer responded approximately \$20,000 a year; however, that does not include the hourly charges for litigation, and planning & zoning board meetings.

Mr. McConnell explained if the new position were approved that would enable the Commissioners to restructure and save attorney fees.

Mr. McCarty remarked he felt the Board of Commissioners should be available on a day-to-day basis.

Mr. West moved for the question.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve the new position of a County Administrator. Mrs. Boyles seconded the motion that failed with a two to five vote. Mr. Hollenbeck, Mr. McCarty, Mr. Canary, Mr. Price, and Mr. West voted nay.

COUNTY SURVEYOR PERPETUATION FUND – (269)

Doug Lechner, County Surveyor, appeared to request a transfer of funds in the amount of \$20,000. He explained the funds would be used to hire a consulting firm to look for corner stones.

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

From: 269-410.0 – Equipment	(\$ 20,000.00)
To: 269-315.0 – Professional Services	\$ 20,000.00

SHERIFF – (105)

Terry McLaughlin, Sheriff, appeared to request \$3,511.58 in overtime for their participation in Operation Pull-Over/D.U.I grant.

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

105-165.0 – Overtime	\$ 3,511.58
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COURTHOUSE SECURITY – (126)

Sheriff McLaughlin requested a transfer of funds from two Security Officers into the Security Officer Supervisor's line item. He explained the money is needed for a short fall because of an employee retiring.

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

From: 126-111.2 – Security Officer	(\$ 1,000.00)
From: 126-111.3 – Security Officer	(\$ 4,200.00)
To: 126-110.0 – Security Officer Supervisor	\$ 5,200.00

SUPERIOR COURT NO. 3 – (134)

Mr. Price noted he spoke with Kim Van Valer, Superior Court No. 3 Judge, and the request for a transfer of funds is under \$1,500. She would like to purchase some headsets for the new phones.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as submitted. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

From: 134-215.0 – Office Supplies	(\$ 850.78)
To: 134-401.0 – Office Furniture/Equipment	\$ 850.78

COUNTY ALCOHOL & DRUG FUND – (332)

Shannon Barrick, Coordinator of Alcohol & Drug, appeared to request a change of title, part-time money with different rates, equipment money, and FICA funds. She explained the service the department provides is to assess offenders from three of the county courts. The fee is \$300 that normally takes 1½ hour to assess. Currently there are only two individuals and she is requesting \$25,000 for a professional part-time at an hourly rate of \$10.00 and also hiring another part-time person for \$9.00. She really would like to have the \$25,000 amount become a full-time position. The fund does have sufficient amount of money to pay for the requests.

Discussion was held on making the request a full-time position. Because of advertising the Council suggested returning next month to request the full-time position.

Mr. West moved to approve the following as presented. Mr. McCarty seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

332-111.0 – Coordinator to Director (title change)	
332-113.0 – Part-time \$9.00	\$ 6,000.00
332-114.0 – Professional Part-time \$10.00	\$ 25,000.00
332-410.0 – Office Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
332-142.0 – FICA	\$ 2,500.00

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND – (206)

Gary Vandegriff, Highway Director, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$250,000 for Bridge #15. The appropriation will cover an estimated \$129,109.58 for our local construction match, \$76,950.36 for the construction inspection estimate, and leave the remaining funds as a buffer to cover any change orders during construction or any increases due to a bid being selected by INDOT, which is higher than our current estimate.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried with six ayes. Mr. Canary abstained from voting.

206-471.0 – Bridge 15	\$250,000.00
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LOCAL ROAD & STREET – (207)

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as submitted. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

207-470.0 – Stones Crossing/Morgantown Roads	\$200,000.00
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HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION & RECONSTRUCTION – (205)

Mr. West moved to approve the request as submitted. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

205-481.0 – Stones Crossing/Morgantown Roads \$900,000.00

Mr. Vandegriff noted he would return in June to request additional appropriations for 200 North and 200 East. He will send any updated information to the Council prior to the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

There being no further business, Mr. Canary moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. McCarty seconded the motion that unanimously carried.