

COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – AUGUST 13, 2007

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

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF 8/13/07 AGENDA

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF 7/9/07 MEETING MINUTES

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

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

VII. ASSOCIATION OF INDIANA COUNTIES-PRESENTATION OF HB 1478-LOCAL INCOME TAX

David Bottorff, Association of Indiana Counties Executive Director, appeared to give an overview of the Local Option Income Tax (HEA 1478). He explained HEA 1478 authorizes each county to impose additional rates of CAGIT or COIT, using current adoption mechanisms, to fund: (i) levy growth; (ii) property tax relief; and (iii) public safety costs. The Governor announced that he is extending the timeframe for adopting the new income taxes from August 1 to October 1.

Option A – Levy Growth Income Tax

HEA 1478 authorizes counties to impose an additional rate of CAGIT or COIT to fund levy growth for all civil units in the county (schools are not included). The maximum rate, which may be imposed for levy growth, is 1%. The ordinance imposing the additional income tax rate must specify that the rate is in effect for two years. The actual rate will be determined jointly by the DLGF and the Department of Revenue, based upon the DLGF's determination of the levy growth amount under IC 6-3.5-1.5.

The tax rate to be imposed included a component representing: (i) the sum of all adjusted maximum permissible tax levies in the county; (ii) the estimated growth in the family and children's fund for the ensuing year; (iii) the estimated growth in the children's psychiatric residential treatment services fund for the ensuing year; and (iv) the estimated growth in the county's maximum community mental health centers property tax for the ensuing year.

The tax rate the county imposes in the first year is two times the rate needed for all the levy growth components. In the subsequent year, the tax rate is reduced to the rate needed for all the levy growth components. It continues in effect unless the county acts to change the rate.

Levy Freeze

If a county chooses to fund levy growth with a local income tax, the controlled property tax levies of all political subdivisions in the county are frozen at the current maximum levies.

Stabilization Fund

In each county that chooses to fund levy growth with income taxes, a county stabilization fund is established. Fifty (50%) of the tax revenue attributable to the levy growth tax rate must be deposited in the revenue stabilization fund, and can only be used to make distributions to political subdivisions if the remaining tax revenue attributable to the levy growth rate is insufficient to fund the levy growth for that year.

Option B – Property Tax Relief Income Tax

HEA 1478 authorizes counties to impose an additional rate of CAGIT or COIT to fund property tax relief, either as uniform property tax replacement credits for all taxing units, to provide additional homestead credits or to provide additional property tax replacement credits for qualified residential property (homesteads, apartment complexes and rental dwelling units).

The maximum rate, which may be imposed for property tax relief, is 1%. A county is not required to impose a levy growth income tax rate in order to impose an income tax rate for property tax relief. The property tax relief income tax may be imposed even if the county does not impose the levy growth income taxes.

Option C – Public Safety Income Tax

If a county (other than Marion County) has imposed both a levy growth income tax and a property tax relief income tax, HEA 1478 authorizes the county to impose an additional rate of CAGIT or COIT to provide funding for public safety to counties, cities and towns. The maximum rate at which the public safety income tax may be imposed is the LESSER of: (i) the property tax relief income tax rate; or (0.25%).

Public safety is very broadly defined, and includes court costs, probation, operating, pensions, communications systems, equipment, police and fire salaries and pensions, ambulance and emergency medical services, community corrections, etc.

Mr. Bottorff also explained HEA 1001 – Circuit Breaker. It is aimed at helping Hoosiers by ensuring they don't pay more than 2 percent of their property value in taxes. The goal is to provide predictability in tax bills and equity among Hoosier taxpayers. The Circuit Breaker is slated to become mandatory statewide for residential property in 2007. Homeowners will not see the potential Circuit Breaker impact until their 2008 tax bill.

The Circuit Breaker expands to include all property types in 2009. Taxpayers will not see the impact of the expansion until their 2010 tax bill. The Circuit Breaker provides property owners with a credit for any amount of taxes over 2 percent. However, the 2 percent does not apply to the School's operating budgets.

The Council members thanked Mr. Bottorff for attending and sharing the information with them.

VIII. APPOINTMENT: County Park Board

Mr. Price explained the Council received a letter from Art Barr resigning from the Johnson County Park Board. He noted William (Bill) Walker submitted a letter asking to be considered for the appointment.

Mr. McCarty moved to appoint William (Bill) Walker to the vacancy of the Johnson County Park Board. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Mr. West asked if the Council needed to vote for someone to represent the County on the Convention Stadium Authority Board.

Mr. Price explained the Governor appointed Patrick Sherman from Greenwood to the Convention Stadium Authority Board.

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

WIC – (215)

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

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| From: 215-217.0 – Office Supplies | (\$ 200.00) |
| To: 215-410.0 – Equipment | \$ 200.00 |

PROSECUTOR DEFERRAL – (327)

Mr. Canary moved to table the following request until the September Council meeting because no one was in attendance representing the Prosecutor's Office to answer questions. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

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| 327-200.0 – Claims | \$ 251.92 |
| 327-313.0 – Deferral Program Participants | \$ 4,920.00 |

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE & REPAIR – (204)

Gary Vandegriff, Highway Director, appeared to request a transfer of funds from vehicle repair/maintenance to vehicle maintenance supplies. He explained they had paid an invoice from the wrong line item.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the following transfer as requested. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

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| From: 204-331.0 – Vehicle Repair & Maintenance | (\$ 10,069.56) |
| To: 204-221.0 – Vehicle Maintenance Supplies | \$ 10,069.56 |

PLANNING & ZONING – (117)

Brian Waterman, Planning & Zoning Director, appeared to request a transfer of funds from part-time to graduate assistant program line item. He explained Ball State University has increased the cost of the graduate assistant program from \$7,500 to \$8,500.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the transfer as requested. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

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| From: 117-150.0 – Part-time | (\$ 1,000.00) |
| To: 117-355.0 – Graduate Assistant Program | \$ 1,000.00 |

DRUG FREE COMMUNITY FUND – (331)

Lori Adams, Johnson County Citizens Against Substance Abuse Program Coordinator, appeared to request additional appropriations for the recommended 2007-08 grants.

Mr. Price inquired why there are so much grant funds still available. Also, the grants that are awarded does anyone monitor them to make sure they use the funds for the programs requested.

Ms. Adams explained she is planning on doing another grant cycle for treatment and justice. She noted the agencies have to send in a report four times a year.

Mr. Hollenbeck asked if all the schools in the county were contacted.

Ms. Adams responded “yes”.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the requests as submitted. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

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| 331-320.0 – Prevention/Education | \$ 29,612.00 |
| 331-310.0 – Treatment | \$ 12,500.00 |
| 331-330.0 – Justice | \$ 15,000.00 |

SHERIFF – (105) JOHNSON COUNTY SHERIFF L.E.C.E. – (325)

Terry McLaughlin, Sheriff, appeared to request additional appropriations for overtime from general for their participation in OPO/DUI and an appropriation for training/supplies from the Law Enforcement Continuing Education Fund.

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

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| 105-165.0 – Overtime | \$ 3,200.46 |
| 325-210.0 – Claims | \$ 1,722.00 |

COUNTY FAMILY & CHILDREN – (218)

Laura Gentry, Director of Department of Child Services, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$60,621 for the child welfare services account. She explained the funds would come from the State and be used for prevention programs such as child abuse and neglect.

Discussion was held on the balances in the line item and the cash.

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

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| 218-300.8 – Child Welfare Services | \$ 60,621.00 |
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CORONER – (107)

David Lutz, County Coroner, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$21,600 for pathology & toxicology. He explained the autopsies have increased \$400. He just recently received an invoice from Marion County dating back to December of 2006 through June 2007, which depleted the line item.

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

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| 107-305.0 – Pathology & Toxicology | \$ 21,600.00 |
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CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT – (254)

Jan Richhart, Johnson County Auditor, along with Kay Stephens, Mapping Deputy Auditor, appeared to request an additional appropriation to purchase equipment. Mrs. Richhart noted the Board of Commissioners approved the expenditure from Cum Cap on August 6th. She withdrew the request for the copier at this time and will return later after her office has finished reviewing demos. The original request was \$23,792 for the copier, printer, and scanner. She would still like to purchase the printer and scanner for the mapping department and the total amount would be \$14,950.

Discussion was held on how the maps have to be pieced together currently and the printer is very much needed. The Council asked if any of the equipment bonds money is left and requested a printout of the list for the Budget Hearings.

Mrs. Richhart responded Bill Hammond, former County Coordinator, had the information and she would need to speak with him.

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

254-414.0 – Office Equipment \$ 23,792.00

REQUESTS RE-APPROPRIATED DUE TO ADVERTISING ERROR

***DEPARTMENTS DO NOT HAVE TO ATTEND THE MEETING**

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the following. Mr. Canary seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

SUPERIOR COURT NO 2 – (133)(effective 1/1/07)

133-117.0 – Assistant Court Reporter \$25,504 to \$26,524 \$ 1,020.00

TITLE IV-D JUVENILE COURT – (137)

137-113.0 – Security/Bailiff – change title to

Assistant Court Reporter and reduce salary \$ 26,500.00

137-117.0 – Security Supplement – NEW \$ 5,187.00

SHERIFF – (105)

105-165.0 – Overtime \$ 1,346.44

SUPERIOR COURT NO. 3 – (134)

134-301.0 – Professional Services \$ 43,275.00

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY – (108)

108-115.5 – Victim Advocate (NEW) \$ 31,000.00

COMMISSIONERS – (122)

122-324.0 – Telephone Commissioners \$ 85,000.00

OLD BUSINESS

There was no “old business” to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Ordinance #2007-04 – Amendment to Council Ordinances 98-03 & 2000-02 Establishing Fees for Electronic Maps

Aaron Shaw, GIS Technician, appeared to request approval of Ordinance #2007-04 that would change the fee for a CD ROM Disk of GIS data to \$900 for the entire county.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve Ordinance #2007-04 as presented. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

Clerk- Request to reimburse their accounts from the interest money

Jill Jackson, County Clerk, appeared to explain the procedure she would like to do to handle a shortage of money due to posting errors. The office has an accumulated amount of \$846.00 in posting errors, which shows a shortage in their bank accounts. She spoke with Tammy White from the State Board of Accounts and she said the shortage

could be paid from the interest money the same as they pay for deposit slips, stop payment fees and any other bank charges. The shortages are due to the way the software program is set up by requiring each screen that has fees needs to be zeroed out each time. She noted they have also put the following safeguards in place to avoid future shortages:

1. Installed a camera in the collection office
2. Upgraded the computer system
3. Employees are required to circle the amount posted on the receipt & initial it before giving the receipt to the customer

Johnson County Comprehensive Plan Update – 2008 Budget

Brian Waterman, Planning & Zoning Director, appeared to discuss the Johnson County Comprehensive Plan Update prior to the Budget Hearing next week. He explained in late 2007 and concluding in the third quarter of 2008, the Johnson County Comprehensive Plan (Master Plan) will be updated. This process will consist of selecting a qualified consultant, drafting and approving a detailed scope of services, and commencing the project on November 1, 2007. It is anticipated that the new Master Plan will be adopted by June 30, 2008. His Department is budgeting \$160,000 in the Professional Services line item of the 2008 budget to pay the selected consultant. However, funding for this line item should be derived from the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (\$14,000), the I-69 Community Planning Grant (up to \$50,000), donations from private or public agencies, and the adopted increase in Department fees.

Some discussion was held concerning the Local Option Income Tax.

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