

**COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 8, 2007**

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

**I. ROLL CALL**

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

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. INVOCATION**

**IV. APPROVAL OF 1/8/07 AGENDA**

Mr. West noted that he had a correction to the agenda; the request from Superior Court #2 was asked to be tabled until the February 2007 meeting.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Price seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

**V. APPROVAL OF 12/4/06 MINUTES**

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

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**VII. NOMINATION AND ELECTION:**

**Council President**

Mr. Hollenbeck nominated John Price as Council President. Mr. Canary seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Mr. McCarty moved to close the nominations. Mr. Price seconded the motion that unanimously carried. Mr. West then declared Mr. Price Council President by acclamation.

**Council Vice-President**

Mr. Hollenbeck nominated Mr. McCarty as Council Vice-President. Mr. Price seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Mr. Canary moved to close the nominations. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. West then declared Mr. McCarty Vice-President by acclamation.

**VIII. APPOINTMENTS:**

**Council Attorney**

Mr. Canary moved to appoint Mr. Wilson as the Council's Attorney. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Alcoholic Beverage Commission Board (ABC)**

Mr. Price noted that he had received a letter from David Pollard, stating he was interested in serving on the ABC Board.

Mr. McCarty made a motion to appoint Mr. Pollard to the ABC Board. Mr. West seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

**Solid Waste (Council member)**

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

**County Park Board**

Mr. Price noted that he has received a letter from Albert Barr stating that he is interested in staying on the Park Board. Mr. Price has also talked to some of the Park Board members and they would like for Mr. Barr to stay on as well.

Mr. McCarty made a motion to re-appoint Albert Barr to the County Park Board. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion; the motion unanimously carried.

**Greenwood Public Library Board**

Mr. Price commented that he had received a letter from the Greenwood Public Library Board expressing they would like Michael Crumbo to be part of their board.

Mr. West moved to appoint Michael Crumbo to the Greenwood Public Library Board. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Plan Commission (Council member)**

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to appoint Mr. Canary to the Plan Commission Board. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

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

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

Jan Richhart, Auditor, commented that she is filling in for Rob Norris, Computer Service Director, to request funds to order supplies to maintain the electronic maps.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as submitted. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

905-210.0 – Claims \$ 7,500.00

**NATIONAL CHILDRENS ALLIANCE GRANT – (383)**

Michelle Murray, Prosecutor Office Manager, was present to request the following:

383-110.0 – Coordinator Salary \$5,860	\$ 5,860.00
383-142.0 – Social Security	\$ 450.00
383-143.0 – PERF	\$ 528.75
383-215.0 – Supplies	\$ 2,036.79
383-323.0 – Training	\$ 5,925.00
383-410.0 – Equipment	\$ 866.00

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

INSPECTION FEES – (276)

PLANNING & ZONING – (117)(effective 1/1/07)

Joe Rathz, Engineer Assistant, was present to answer any questions regarding the following requests:

276-210.0 – Claims	\$ 10,000.00
276-120.0 – Planning Engineer \$2,500	\$ 2,500.00
276-142.0 – Social Security	\$ 191.25
276-143.0 – PERF	\$ 225.00
117-141.0 – Secretary I \$22,521 to \$23,196	\$ 675.00

Mr. Price asked if there was some equipment listed in the bond for their department. Mr. Rathz responded yes, it was for vehicles and a plotter. He added the request now includes payment for the maintenance agreement of the plotter.

Mr. West inquired about the salary adjustments.

Miriam Rooks, Office Manager for the Department of Planning & Zoning, commented that there was a little confusion during the budget hearings and for whatever reason, this line item was not given a 3% salary increase and therefore they are asking for an adjustment.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the requests from both departments #276 and #117 as presented. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

VOTING SYSTEM REIMBURSEMENT – (908)

Jill Jackson, Clerk, was present to request additional appropriations for the Voting System Reimbursement Fund. At budget hearings, these items were originally listed in the Election Budget, and she was asked to take them from this fund instead because it is outside the levy.

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

908-116.0 – Custodian for Voting Devices	\$ 5,000.00
908-116.1 – Field Technicians	\$ 5,280.00
908-116.2 – Trainers	\$ 5,600.00
908-199.0 – Overtime	\$ 7,000.00
908-372.0 – Rental of Voting Places	\$ 1,500.00

CLERKS PERPETUATION FUND –(313)

Mrs. Jackson also requested additional appropriations, from a non-discretionary fund and outside the levy, to continue to fund a position that is being trained to replace the current Microfilm Director. She feels like this amount would be sufficient until the current director retires.

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

313-111.0 – Deputy Clerk	\$25,000	\$ 8,653.86
313-143.0 – PERF		\$ 713.94
313-142.0 – Social Security		\$ 662.02

CLERK – (101)

Mrs. Jackson then commented that her final request tonight was to ask for an additional appropriation to fund a Deputy Clerk position from the General Fund to replace the Deputy Clerk position that was funded prior to 2003. She explained that she has utilized part-time help, she has cross-trained her staff, she has implemented a new laser check printing program, they now process tax warrants electronically and have recovered \$29,000 in unclaimed IV-D funds from 2002. She has also used Perpetuation Funds to offset the shortage in part-time and overtime funds. The fact is they cannot keep up with the increasing caseload anymore with the same amount of staff that she had in 2003.

Mr. Price commented that he and a few other Council members had spoken with Circuit Court Judge Loyd. Judge Loyd relayed that the current staff in the Clerk’s office works efficiently; however they just need more help due to the increase in caseload.

Mr. Canary added that Judge Loyd also stated that he could mandate this position to be funded, but that he would not do that; also, they run the risk of letting criminals out early due to paperwork not being filed timely.

Mrs. Jackson explained that this position will also be a floater within her office and trained to fill in for other employees when they are off work so that their work does not get behind. She added that she has had some employees off work for long periods of time due to illnesses, which has left her even more short staffed.

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve the request as presented. Mrs. Knowles seconded the amount, which unanimously carried.

101-113.2 – Deputy Clerk	\$23,000	\$ 23,000.00
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WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR – (113)

Susan Wayman, White River Township Assessor, appeared to request a line item for communications and appropriate \$600.00 into that. She noted that she is still under a contract until June 22, 2007 and if she wants to get out before then, it will cost around \$175.00.

Mr. West suggested that Mrs. Wayman transfer money from Travel & Training on a monthly basis until June then re-evaluate the situation.

Mrs. Wayman agreed that she would come back next month and ask for a transfer.

COUNTY EXTRADITION – (211)

Sheriff Terry McLaughlin appeared to request approval for the following appropriation:

211-200.0 – Claims		\$ 10,000.00
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Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF – (105)

Sheriff McLaughlin also requested approval of the following for the OPO/DUI project:

105-165.0 – Overtime	\$ 3,510.92
105-111.0 – Sheriff	\$ 9,961.00

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

Later, Sheriff McLaughlin commented that he had actually submitted a letter to withdraw his request of \$9,961.00 prior to the special meeting in December. Mr. McCarty made a motion to approve the withdrawal of the #105-111.0 – Sheriff request. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

COURTHOUSE BUILDING SECURITY – (126)(effective 1/8/07)

Sheriff McLaughlin then stated that he would like to have the funds appropriated to pay for the three new security officers, which were approved in 2006.

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve the request as presented. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that carried five to one; Mr. West voted nay.

126-111.1 – Security Officer \$27,571	\$ 27,571.00
126-111.2 – Security Officer \$27,571	\$ 27,571.00
126-111.3 – Security Officer \$27,571	\$ 27,571.00

MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER FUND– (307)

Sheriff McLaughlin noted that he has funded this position’s salary from the Sheriff’s Commissary Fund over the past few years. This position will also be training the new Registered Nurse at the Jail Facility.

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

307-110.0 – Medical Office Manager \$25,750	\$ 9,903.80
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GIS DIRECTOR - \$50,000

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND – (206)

REASSESSMENT – (265)

Mike Sudac, GIS Director, was present and introduced himself to the Council and asked them if they had any questions for him.

Mr. Price commented that he had spoken with the Emergency Management Director in regards of the remainder of the money in the way of the grant and it was his understanding that it has not been approved yet.

Mr. Sudac replied that he has not had a chance to talk with the Emergency Management Director, but he did have a meeting scheduled with him in the morning.

Tom Kite, Commissioners, was also present and added that the funding for the salary from these line items should hold them over until the State approves the grant.

Mr. Sudac stated that he was meeting with other government agencies on the 24<sup>th</sup> and they will be addressing a strategic plan that they will implement and within that strategic plan they will discuss funding sources.

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

From: 206-310.0 – GIS Maintenance	(\$ 7,000.00)
To: 206-134.0 – GIS Director	\$ 7,000.00
265-114.0 – GIS Director	\$ 20,000.00

CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT – (254)

Highway Director, Gary Vandegriff, appeared before the Council stating that he would like to reduce the appropriation amount requested down to \$500,000.00. This was decided at a meeting with the Commissioners, which was held after the advertising deadline. At this meeting they decided not to appropriate the full amount, they would only do part of it because as they go through this process, they have to pay for the bills up front and then get reimbursed; it will take about two and quarter months for the State to reimburse us once we submit the bill. By only appropriating part of it now, hopefully this will free up funds to use for other county projects.

Mr. West asked if this was part of the \$1,000,000 grant for the East/West corridor study.

Mr. Vandegriff responded yes.

Mr. West then asked how long it would take to complete the study.

Greg Heneke from American Consulting was also present and spoke about what they are working on. He noted that part of the money was spent on preliminary design for a couple of pieces on Whiteland Road. There was also a study done on Worthsville Road and Stones Crossing. They are on a pretty aggressive schedule and hope to have everything done within six months.

Mr. West then replied that it was his understanding that the \$1,000,000 was to study what would be the best route for the location of the East/West Corridor. He didn't know that they have already determined the areas.

Mr. Heneke commented that they are looking at both the Stones Crossing and Worthsville area, plus a proposed interchange at Worthsville and I-65 and some work on Whiteland Road. When he spoke with the Commissioners several months ago, they tried to prioritize the areas that they wanted to spend most of the money on and one of the areas was on Whiteland Road between US 31 and I-65 to improve areas for emergency access. Another area was on CR 144 and Whiteland Road from SR 37 to SR 135.

Mr. McCarty then asked if they were looking at a patchwork of an East/West Corridor and not necessarily a grand thoroughfare running east/west through the county.

Mr. Heneke responded that was one way to look at it. The decision by the Commissioners was to spend the money where it needed to be spent the most at the beginning and ask the Federal Government for more money to fill it in from there.

Mr. Price stated that it was his understanding with this grant that this was suppose to be an East/West road tying, in a regional manner, Johnson, Shelby, and Morgan Counties all together. However, it sounds like now, they are doing a multitude of road improvements verses a true East/West road across the county with an interchange.

Mr. Heneke replied that is the plan for the future, but for now it is more important to fix some things on Whiteland Road and reserve the corridor up at Stones Crossing and Worthsville Road and work on getting the interchange done with this original money.

Mr. Price then commented that he is not disputing that those routes need attention; however, this has not been communicated to him that this was what was happening. It was his understanding, as well as the rest of the body and the public he has talked to, that this was going to be an east/west road.

Mr. Heneke responded that there have been different studies on east/west crossings and their needs to be work done on all of them. Their goal for now is to spread out this money and start addressing the most pressing needs for each one.

Mr. Vandegriff added that they have met with representatives from Shelby County and part of this study is an interchange justification study at Worthsville Road. This alignment will allow the opportunity for alignment from progress coming west from Shelby County, which will help with the regional tie in. Then they will continue to carry that alignment west towards SR 135, where the State will begin improving SR 135. We will then take SR 135 down to CR 144, then west again.

More discussion was held on how the development of the East/West corridor is being done and how the money is being spent for the studies.

Mr. West commented that he felt like this grant money was strictly for the development of the East/West Corridor and not to enhance different roadways; this was not good use of the funds.

Mr. Kite also spoke and said that he agreed that this has been studied way too long. Therefore, they are trying to enhance the roads to allow the traffic to move more smoothly and quicker across the county between SR 135 to US 31, then into Shelby County. To say that we are going to have an absolute corridor is too late.

Mr. McCarty noted that he understood the concept that the Commissioners were trying to do and agreed that it made pretty good sense because you don't want to run something through the middle of the school system.

Mr. Heneke stated that he would rather refer to this project as East/West Enhancements than to call it a corridor. To spend another million dollars on a study that doesn't get you any decisions doesn't get you anywhere. With this, you have improved the areas that need it to help with getting the traffic across the county.

Mr. West agreed with that; he just thought that the million dollars was going to get them a definitive area.

Mr. Vandergriff commented that in the short term that he has been there, the tying in of an interchange at Worthsville Road along with the State's plan of widening and improvements makes the most sense and allows the County not to take on as much and allows us to get our foot in the door with INDOT to give our input.

Mr. McCarty moved to approve the request as presented. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion, which carried five to one; Mr. West voted nay.

254-416.0 – Johnson County Transportation Enhancement \$500,000.00

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE & REPAIR – (204)

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND – (206)

LOCAL ROAD & STREET – (207)

Mr. Vandegriff then requested additional appropriations of monies that reverted back at the end of 2006 to purchase some safety wearing apparel. He explained that he has implemented a safety shoe policy within his department. He also requested additional appropriations for work on various projects within the county.

Mr. West moved to approve all of the above as requested. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

204-220.0 – Wearing Apparel \$ 3,712.15

206-469.0 – Olive Branch/Morgantown Road Intersection \$ 25,000.00

207-467.0 – Smith Valley Phase III \$ 917.01

207-470.0 – Stones Crossing/Morgantown Rd Intersection \$ 457,386.50

207-473.0 – Simon Road (County Road 200 North) \$ 87,172.56

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. West stated again that he would like to create some type of employee pool. These employees would be crossed trained and could help various departments. This could be beneficial to the departments that have more of the seasonal duties and when they have employees off work on medical leave. Ideally, this process should help save some money within the 100 series in the General Fund.

Mr. Price suggested they hold a workshop with department heads to see if they think this would be beneficial and feasible.

Mr. Hollenbeck commended Mr. West for a job well done while he served as President of the Council and expressed that Mr. Price will continue to do a great job as well.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinance #2007-01 – Permitting the transfer of Funds to the Johnson County Family & Children Fund

Mr. Price stated this was for a temporary loan of \$500,000.00 from the County to the Family & Children Fund.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

Resolution #2007-01 – Transferring 2007 Cash from the Cumulative Capital Development Fund to the Rainy Day Fund

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve the Resolution as requested. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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