

COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 13, 2007

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

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF 11/13/07 AGENDA

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

V. APPROVAL OF 10/09/07 MINUTES

Mr. West moved to approve the 10/09/07 minutes as submitted. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

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

ANIMAL SHELTER – (219) ANIMAL SHELTER GENERAL DONATION FUND – (262)

Emily Williamson, Interim Warden, and Dawn Phelps, payroll and claims clerk for the shelter, appeared to request a part-time rate of \$8.00 to \$12.82 per hour. Ms. Phelps explained this would allow them to explore the possibility of part-time road officers as a way to decrease overtime, as well as retain their part-time employees with higher valued skills.

Mr. West questioned if they increase the part-time rate will there be enough in the budget.

Ms. Phelps responded “yes”.

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

Part-time rate (\$ 8.00 to \$12.82 per hour)

262-200.0 – Claims

\$ 192.00

TREASURER – (103)

Rita Sievertson, County Treasurer, appeared to request a transfer of funds from Lockbox Fees into Office Supplies to purchase needed materials.

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

From: 103-310.0 – Lockbox Fees	(\$ 1,500.00)
To: 103-215.0 – Office Supplies	\$ 1,500.00

CORONER – (107)

David Lutz, County Coroner, appeared to request a transfer of funds from Pathology & Toxicology into Supplies.

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

From: 107-305.0 – Pathology & Toxicology	(\$ 850.00)
To: 107-215.0 – Supplies	\$ 850.00

Mr. West moved to approve the following transfer of funds:

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR – (112)

From: 112-360.0 – Equipment Repair & Maintenance	(\$ 629.00)
To: 112-213.0 – Office Supplies	\$ 629.00

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION – (116)

From: 116-112.4 – Part-time Clerical	(\$ 1,674.00)
To: 116-215.0 – Office Supplies	\$ 1,674.00

COMPUTER SERVICES – (141)

From: 141-399.0 – Professional Services	(\$ 605.00)
To: 141-410.0 – Office Equipment	\$ 605.00

SUPERIOR COURT NO. 2 – (133)

From: 133-301.0 – Professional Services	(\$ 600.00)
To: 133-216.0 – Books	\$ 600.00

SUPPLEMENTAL ADULT PROBATION – (297)

From: 297-301.0 – Professional Services	(\$ 500.00)
To: 297-114.0 – Part-time	\$ 500.00

HEALTH MAINTENANCE FUND – (214)

From: 214-230.0 – Educational Materials	(\$ 560.00)
To: 214-410.0 – Environmental Equipment	\$ 560.00

Mr. Canary seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

PARK & RECREATION – (128)

Chris Johnston, Park Superintendent, appeared to request several transfer of funds into Equipment Leases (\$15,474.28), Department of Corrections (\$20,233.25), and

Building/Land Improvement (\$23,815.72). The request for Equipment Leases is to pay G.M.A.C. for the six new trucks. The D.O.C. request is needed to cover their 2007 payment as the money budgeted in the account was used to pay 2006 D.O.C. wages. The amount for Building & Land Improvements would be utilized to build a new campground restroom facility.

Mr. Canary inquired about the \$42,000 still in their Non-Reverting Fund.

Mr. Johnston responded they are using the Non-Reverting to improve the Park Office and the footing at Independence Park.

Mr. Johnston stated they have a bid from 4-D Builders in the amount of \$63,000 to construct the new restroom facility. The \$23,000 would be paid to 4-D in 2007 and they agreed to wait for the balance until 2008.

Mr. Hollenbeck asked if they are planning to obtain other quotes for the restroom.

Mr. Johnston responded "yes".

Mr. West commented that it was discussed at the Budget Hearings to have a committee meet to discuss the future facilities of the Park. He would like to see that happen before improvements are made.

After some discussion, Mr. Johnston withdrew the request of the transfer for \$23,815.72 to build a new campground restroom facility.

Mr. West moved to approve the following requests as presented. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

From: 128-111.0 – Salary Superintendent	(\$ 12,505.94)
From: 128-113.1 – Recreation Director	(\$ 2,968.34)
To: 128-352.0 – Equipment Leases	\$ 15,474.28
From: 128-113.1 – Salary Superintendent	(\$ 1,877.95)
From: 128-119.1 – Part-time	(\$ 13,460.33)
From: 128-118.0 – Salary Park Maintenance	(\$ 4,894.97)
To: 128-353.0 – Dept. of Corrections	\$ 20,233.25

FAMILY & CHILDREN – (218)

Laura Gentry, Department of Child Services Director, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$60,621 for Child Welfare Services. She distributed to the Council the Budget Estimate for 2008 and a budget worksheet projection. She explained they received the money from the State for Child Prevention Services.

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

218-300.8 – Child Welfare Services

\$ 60,621.00

K. Mark Loyd, Circuit Court Judge, appeared explaining statutorily Circuit Court oversees the budgetary process with regards to the Child Welfare Services. He distributed a detail of the services that Family & Children provides. He noted Ms. Gentry will be relocating to Bartholomew County’s Child Welfare Services. Once the new Director has been assigned to Johnson County he would be happy to return to the Council with more information of the budgetary process.

COMMISSIONERS – (122)

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE & REPAIR – (204)

Gary Vandegriff, Fleet Director, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$20,000 for Vehicle Repair & Maintenance from the General and Highway Funds. He explained they have had several major repairs over normal maintenance and also upgrading equipment for the new Sheriff’s Vehicles. They also had extensive repairs to Highway vehicles. He requested \$70,679 from the auction proceeds of highway surplus equipment and would like to purchase a few smaller vehicles.

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

122-360.0 – Vehicle Repair & Maintenance

\$ 20,000.00

204-331.0 – Vehicle Repair & Maintenance

\$ 20,000.00

204-410.0 – Other Vehicles (Trucks)

\$ 70,679.00

PLANNING & ZONING – (117)

Brian Waterman, Planning & Zoning Director, appeared to request a salary ordinance amendment for the Recording Secretary/Archivist from \$21,866 to \$22,500. They do not need additional funds to complete the request. He explained the increase was based upon the education and experience of the individual. The 2008 approved amount for the position is \$22,960, however they will reduce the salary to \$22,500 for 2008.

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

117-142.0 – Recording Secretary/Archivist \$21,866 to \$22,500

SHERIFF – (105)

Terry McLaughlin, Sheriff, appeared to request a transfer of funds from Dispatchers into Part-time Dispatchers and an additional appropriation of \$498.64 for their participation in the Operation Pullover and D.U.I. projects.

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

From: 105-128.8 – Dispatcher	(\$ 1,354.00)
From: 105-131.0 – Dispatcher	(\$ 1,971.98)
From: 105-131.1 – Dispatcher	(\$ 5,000.00)
To: 105-162. 0 – Part-time Dispatchers	\$ 8,325.98
105-165.0 – Overtime	\$ 498.64

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Price reported that the Council received a letter from Superior Court No. 2 Judge, Cynthia Emkes, explaining the Courts will be appearing before the Council at the January 2008 meeting requesting salary adjustments that was discussed at the Budget Hearings.

NEW BUSINESS

**Amendment to the Johnson County Police Retirement Plan and Benefit
Fourth Amendment to add a Special Early Retirement Window**

Sheriff McLaughlin appeared to request the approval from the Council for the Fourth Amendment to the Johnson County Police Retirement Plan. This would allow members who have attained age 52 to either retire from the plan and receive immediate commencement of an unreduced retirement benefit, or enter the DROP with a frozen retirement benefit and delay retirement until the end of their DROP period (a maximum of 3 years from date of DROP entry). He reiterated what was discussed at the Budget Hearings that he would pay for a portion of the Inmate Medical costs from the Commissary Funds in the amount that the County pays for the increase in their Police Pension due to this amendment. He can only commit to pay a portion for Inmate Medical from Commissary until the end of his term (December 31, 2010).

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

Planning & Zoning (tabled from October)

Discussion of the Stormwater Utility & Adoption of Fees

Mr. Price informed the Council he attended the Board of Commissioners meeting to discuss the Stormwater Utility. He suggested the County use current staff within the Planning & Zoning Department. At this time the County could meet the six requirements without charging the utility fee to the taxpayers. The Commissioners concurred.

2007 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program

Mrs. Knowles reported the County received a grant through the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) for a path & pedestrian/bicycle bridge (trail) in the Center Grove area in the amount of \$221,000. The trail would connect West Grove Elementary to Wake Field Subdivision. She publicly thanked Gary Vandegriff, Highway Director, the Center Grove Trails Committee, County Sheriff, Center Grove School Board, and Local Businesses for all of their help and support.

Capital Projects Board – HEA 1478

Mr. Price stated he spoke with Mike Reuter, Financial Advisor, and Mr. Reuter explained that Hamilton County adopted an Ordinance prohibiting the Capital Projects Board from reviewing, revising, and reducing the budget, tax rate, and tax levy of each political subdivision. Mr. Price gave the information to the Council Attorney, Phil Wilson, for his comments.

Mr. Wilson reported effective January 1st, 2009 a nine member, Capital Projects Board per I.C. 6-1.1-29.5 and I.C. 6-1.1-17 will be established. The Board has the power to review, revise, and reduce the budget, tax rate, and tax levy of each political subdivision. That would be based upon the gross numbers budgeted for a department or office. The County Council may adopt an Ordinance before July 1st on any year prohibiting the Capital Projects Board from having such power.

State Legislators

Mr. Price suggested having local State Legislators appear at the December 3rd Council Meeting to update the Council on pressing issues.

There being no further business, Mr. Canary moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion.