

COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 14, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President, Josh McCarty.

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF 10/14/08 AGENDA

Mr. McCarty added under New Business an Update from Kathleen Hash, County Coordinator, on FEMA Flood Issues.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve the agenda as presented including the Update on FEMA. Mr. Price seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF 9/08/08 MINUTES

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve the 9/08/08 minutes as presented. Mr. Price seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vaughn Moore, tax payer from White River Township, appeared and stated the Indianapolis Star had written an article in reference to White River Township becoming incorporated. He was opposed to the idea and feels this should be a decision made by all White River residents by including the question on a ballot as a referendum.

He also brought up how he is still opposed to the trails in White River Township and feels the grant should be refused for trails.

Mr. McCarty noted he received a letter from the White River Township Trustee Jay Marks, thanking the elected individuals for their support in the Safe Trails School Grant that has been awarded. He also thanked Gary Vandegriff, Highway Director, and the White River Trails Committee that has assisted in allowing this Grant to be awarded to White River Township. In the coming weeks the best route will be selected.

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

1. SUPPLEMENTAL JUVENILE PROBATION – (296)

Suzanne Miller, Juvenile Chief Probation Officer, appeared to request transfer of funds for salary supplement lines items that are running short at the end of the year, along with

PERF and social security. She explained that she did not calculate correctly to allow the first pay in 2008 for the hours worked in 2007, which left the appropriations short.

Mr. Price moved to approve the requests as submitted. Mr. Hollenbeck seconded the motion.

Mr. West noted he is reluctant to allow departments to transfer funds to salary line items. He would like to see the request be an additional appropriation to reflect an actual expense for the line items.

The motion carried six to one, Mr. West voted nay.

From: 296.31000.000.296 – Professional Services	(\$ 1,727.00)
To: 296.11118.000.296 – Salary Supplement	\$ 400.00
To: 296.11119.000.296 – Salary Supplement	\$ 455.00
To: 296.14300.000.296 – PERF	\$ 724.00
To: 296.14200.000.296 – Social Security	\$ 148.00
From: 296.11117.000.296 – Salary Supplement	(\$ 467.00)
To: 296.11116.000.296 – Salary Supplement	\$ 467.00

2. SUPERIOR COURT NO. 2 – (133)

Cynthia Emkes, Superior Court No. 2 Judge, appeared to request some transfer of funds. She explained the original request was to transfer \$2,000 from Professional Services into Books. Since the request was submitted she realized she is going to be short in the Professional Services line item. She would like to propose that the \$2,000 be transferred from the Law Clerk position instead of Professional Services. Also, the Supplemental Public Defender’s Fund has \$5,000 in a Part-Time position that she would request to transfer to Professional Services that would give her a balance of \$10,000. That way she would not need to request an additional appropriation from the General Fund for Professional Services.

Mr. West commented again he does not like to transfer funds from salary line items.

Mr. Canary noted if the Council wants to approve additional appropriations for the line items that are short then a reduction also needs to be made or the department would be increasing their budget.

The motion carried six to one, Mr. West voted nay.

From: 100.12010.000.133 – Law Clerk	(\$ 2,000.00)
To: 100.25800.000.133 – Books	\$ 2,000.00
From: 299.11418.000.299 – Part-time	(\$ 5,000.00)
To: 299.31003.000.299 – Superior Court No. 2	\$ 5,000.00

3. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – (141)

Rob Norris, IT Director, was not in attendance.

Discussion was held on the request to transfer funds from Office Supplies into Overtime.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve the request as submitted. Mrs. Canary seconded the motion that carried six to one, Mr. West voted nay.

From: 100.21500.000.141 – Office Supplies	(\$ 1,000.00)
To: 100.19900.000.141 – Overtime	\$ 1,000.00

4. HIGHWAY – (201)

The request from the Highway Department to reduce \$2,000 from Stop Light Maintenance and increase Communications line items was tabled by a motion from Mr. Canary and seconded by Mr. Hollenbeck. The motion carried unanimously.

The council had a few questions and there was no one in attendance.

5. PLEASANT TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR – (112)

Darla McKnight, First Deputy Pleasant Township Assessor, appeared to request a transfer of funds from Equipment Maintenance to Office Supplies to purchase ink for their printers.

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

From: 100.36000.000.112 – Equipment Maintenance	(\$ 600.00)
To: 100.21500.000.112 – Office Supplies	\$ 600.00

6. VETERANS – (120)

Charles Russell, representing the Veterans Office appeared and distributed a letter to all members from Russ Bensheimer, Veterans Officer.

Mr. Price explained the requests on the letter cannot be addressed at this time. Additional appropriations must be advertised prior to the meeting.

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

From: 100.36000.000.120 – Equipment Maintenance	(\$ 245.71)
To: 100.21500.000.120 – Office Supplies	\$ 245.71

7. CASA FEE & DONATION FUND – (361)

Judge Emkes, representing Judge Loyd, and Tammi Hickman, Casa Director, appeared to request additional appropriations for the recent grant received by CASA from the Johnson County Community Foundation. The funds would be used for Court Appointed Special Advocates Program that was passed a few years ago by State Legislation without providing funding. Volunteers have been very difficult to come by for the amount of cases the court experiences. Fortunately they have obtained grant funds to help with the

workload. The money would also be used to purchase supplies that they lost in the recent flood.

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

361.31000.000.361 – Professional Services (new)	\$ 5,000.00
361.21500.000.361 – Supplies	\$ 1,338.00
361.44000.000.361 – Equipment (new)	\$ 1,648.00
361.35002.000.361 – Advertising (new)	\$ 8,860.00

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FUND – (389)

Judge Emkes requested a transfer of funds in the Alternative Dispute Resolution Fund from Part-time to Professional Services. The money is collected for most of the divorces that are held in the county with a fee of \$20.00. She explained the intent in the beginning was to hire a part-time employee; however, as it has turned out they have hired an individual who works for several programs and is paid from Professional Services. This is the only low-income program for mediation and divorce cases.

Mr. Canary moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Price seconded the motion that carried six to one, Mr. West voted nay.

From: 389.11400.000.389 – Part-time	(\$10,000.00)
To: 389.31000.000.389 – Professional Services	\$10,000.00

8. WIC – (215)

Tracy smith, WIC Coordinator, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$820 for a reimbursement they received to have a WIC Conference.

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

215.32120.000.215 – WIC Peer Counselor	\$ 820.00
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9. SURVEYOR CORNER PERPETUATION – (269)

Connie Reynolds, Surveyor’s Office Manager, appeared to request an additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,017.75 for Professional Services.

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

269.31000.000.269 – Professional Services	\$ 1,017.75
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10. SHERIFF – (105)

Terry McLaughlin, Sheriff, appeared to request an appropriation for their participation in the OPO/BCC and Blitz 56 for the months of August and September.

Mr. Price moved to approve the request as presented. Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

100.19900.000.105 – Overtime \$ 2,324.70

JOHNSON COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEFERRAL – (288)

Sheriff McLaughlin also asked for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$15,000; \$7,000 would purchase new equipment for three merit deputies that would include PBT’s, Nextel phones, and radars and \$8,000 for the purchase of a scanning device to scan drivers’ license.

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

288.44100.000.288 – Miscellaneous Equipment \$ 15,000.00

INMATE MEDICAL – (903)

Sheriff McLaughlin then asked for an appropriation from the Inmate Medical Fund to help with medical expenses.

Mr. Hollenbeck moved to approve the motion as requested. Mr. Price seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

903.30100.000.903 – Inmate Medical Co-pay \$ 49,000.00

JAIL – (124)

The last request Sheriff McLaughlin requested from the General Fund was \$32,000 for Hospital/Medical claims. He anticipates this will cover the expenses for the remainder of the year.

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

100.30900.000.124 – Hospital/Medical \$ 32,000.00

11. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – (127)

Forrest Sutton, Emergency Management Director, appeared to request several transfer of funds from various line items to Equipment in order to purchase four phones for their EOC office.

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

From: 100.21500.000.127 – Office Supplies (\$ 100.00)
From: 100.21600.000.127 – Operating Supplies (\$ 100.00)
From: 100.27500.000.127 – Emergency Funds (\$ 400.00)

From: 100.32200.000.127 – Postage	(\$ 50.00)
From: 100.32400.000.127 – Utilities	(\$ 300.00)
From: 100.36200.000.127 – Communications	(\$ 300.00)
From: 100.32000.000.127 – Dues & Subscriptions	(\$ 100.00)
To: 100.44000.000.127 – Equipment	\$ 1,350.00

Emergency Management-Discussion of a new position for 2009

Mr. Sutton explained after the flooding they realized an additional position is needed titled “Deputy Director”. He noted the position should have been requested a few years ago. His department receives 60% reimbursement from a grant for their salaries and benefits. The salary would be \$32,000 a year.

Mr. Sutton realized the position could not be approved at this time since the budget hearings for 2009 are completed.

**12. COUNTY ASSESSOR – (109)
PROPERTY REASSESSMENT – (265)**

Mark Alexander, County Assessor, appeared to request approval for two positions that have been approved for 2009. He found money within his budgets to fund the positions for 2008. The backlog in the County Assessor’s Office personal property department and the County Auditor’s mapping department warrants the positions starting in 2008.

He noted tax statements are scheduled for mailing next week, which starts the 45 days for taxpayers to request a review by the Assessor. He estimates the office could hear approximately 3,000 reviews.

Mrs. Knowles asked if this would result in overtime expense.

Mr. Alexander responded only the department managers would receive overtime compensation. He also noted they have a backlog of entering the sales disclosures data because the port was not operational on July 1st by DLGF as scheduled. This has resulted in 800 sales disclosures that have yet to be entered by his office.

Mr. Price asked if the taxes for next year would be on time.

Mr. Alexander responded he estimates perhaps a spring payment of July 15th in 2009. He is advocating the county do provisional billing next year.

After some discussion, Mr. West moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Price seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

From: 100.18204.000.109 – Real Property Deputy	(\$ 2,000.00)
To: 100.18202.000.109 – Personal Property Deputy \$ 23,500	\$ 2,000.00
From: 265.19900.000.265 – Overtime	(\$ 4,212.00)
To: 265.18207.000.265 – Deputy Plat Map (2) \$ 23,500	\$ 3,600.00
To: 265.14300.000.265 – PERF	\$ 335.00

To: 265.14200.000.265 – Social Security

\$ 277.00

13. SUPERIOR COURT NO. 3 – (134)

Kim Van Valer, Superior Court No. 3 Judge, appeared to request additional appropriations for Professional Services, Office Furniture/Equipment, Part-time, and Court Reporter. She explained the Professional Services request is needed to pay for public defenders, psychological evaluations and interpreters. As talked about earlier in the evening using the Supplemental Public Defenders Fund she would have to return to appropriate the money. At this time she respectfully requested at least \$12,500 for Professional Services and would appear next month for funds from the Supp Public Defenders Fund. The equipment request would be used to purchase a fax machine. The Part-time money is needed to handle the additional paperwork to close cases since the new Judge will be starting in January. The original request was \$3,000, however she felt \$2,800 would be sufficient. The last request is for a short fall in the Court Reporter's line item because of paying a former employee her vacation time when she left.

Mr. Price asked when the position was filled did she follow the salary schedule the Judges spoke of when all the courts employees' salaries were amended.

She stated her Bailiff moved to the Court Reporter's position and thought she had been with the county eight to ten years. She felt the individual was very qualified to be a Court Reporter at the approved salary.

Mr. Price asked if the new employee started at the lowest level.

She did not pay anyone less than what the position has been approved for 2008.

Mrs. Knowles moved to approve the following requests. Mr. Canary seconded the motion that carried six to one, Mr. Price voted nay.

100.31000.000.134 – Professional Services	\$ 12,500.00
100.40100.000.134 – Office Furniture & Equipment	\$ 350.00
100.11400.000.134 – Part-time	\$ 2,800.00
100.11313.000.134 – Court Reporter	\$ 1,017.77

14. ANIMAL SHELTER – (219)

Emily Williamson and Dawn Phelps from Animal Control appeared to request several transfer of funds to the Equipment line item. They explained the funds would be used to purchase cages and a dirty surgeon table (washing stand) for the new shelter. They also would like to purchase a hydraulic gurney to move large animals in the new shelter.

Ms. Phelps explained she feels they will have sufficient funds left in the line items to pay claims for the remainder of the year. The largest expense disbursed from their Utility line item is the disposal of the animals.

Discussion was held on whether the county should pay for the disposal of animals or pay for the repair and moving of the crematorium. That request for the repair of the crematorium is next on the Agenda.

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

From: 219.44000.000.219 – Office Equipment	(\$ 3,177.00)
From: 219.36000.000.219 – Equipment Maintenance	(\$ 2,000.00)
From: 219.33100.000.219 – Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	(\$ 3,000.00)
From: 219.36200.000.210 – Communications	(\$ 1,500.00)
From: 219.32400.000.219 – Utilities	(\$ 6,250.00)
To: 219.41601.000.219 – Other Equipment	\$ 15,927.00

15. COMMISSIONERS – (122)

Ms. Williamson and Ms Phelps from Animal Control also requested the appropriation of \$26,506.60 for the repair of the current crematorium. They explained the county received this amount of money from the insurance company in 2007 and the funds were receipted into the General Fund. Ms. Williamson explained they paid a deposit of \$12,000 to the company to start the repairs on the crematorium from their Animal Shelter’s Building Fund because the price was going to increase \$5,000 if payment was not made in September. If approved they would like to pay their Animal Shelter’s Building Fund back. Ms. Williamson explained to move the crematorium; walls have to be removed, pipes have to installed underneath the unit, and it has to be moved by a heavy-duty truck because the crematorium weighs approximately twelve tons. Once moved, new smoke stacks need to be installed. She received a few quotes that ran from three to eight thousand dollars just to move the crematorium.

Mr. Hollenbeck suggested repairing the crematorium and leaving it at the current location.

Discussion was held on the different options on repairing the crematorium and moving it or purchasing a new one.

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

100.43300.000.122 – Jo. Co. Animal Shelter (crematorium)	\$ 26,506.60
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16. RAINY DAY – (506)

Mr. Price moved to approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$400,000 for Employee Group Health Insurance. Mrs. Knowles seconded the motion that unanimously carried.

506.14400.000.506 – Employee Group Health Insurance Medical	\$400,000.00
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VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

FEMA Update

Kathleen Hash, County Coordinator, and Stephanie Sighting, Emergency Management Administrative Assistant, appeared to brief the Council on the status of FEMA reimbursements. They distributed a detailed project worksheet to each of the Council members to review.

Mrs. Hash started from the beginning when the Flood of June 2008 occurred up until current issues. She noted the replacement of the Oren Wright Building based upon the original facility elevated to comply with the City of Franklin's floodplain with top elevation of the lowest occupied floor would be two feet above the base floor elevation. The estimated cost would be approximately \$ 4.57 million dollars.

She and Stephanie reviewed the following handout: *See attachment*

Coroner Fees

Phil Wilson, Council's Attorney, informed the Council he received a phone call from the County Corner to address the possibility of charging for autopsies, photos, DVD's, and reports.

The Council directed Mr. Wilson to research other counties on this type of fees.

State Legislators

Mr. McCarty asked if the Council would like to invite State Legislators to their meeting to discuss various issues. The other members concurred.

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