

JUNE 27, 2011

Wabash County Council met in regular session on Monday, June 27, 2011 at the Honeywell Center in the Crystal Room. Claude Markstahler opened with a word of prayer. Chairman James Kaltenmark led the pledge of allegiance. Kaltenmark called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. with all members present: Kaltenmark, Markstahler, Randy Curless, Gary Nose, Jeff Dawes, Ted Little and Daryl Evans. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway.

The first order of business was to review the minutes of the May 23, 2011 meeting. Nose made a motion to approve the minutes with two (2) spelling and two (2) grammar corrections; his motion was seconded by Evans and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Steve Johnson, Executive Director of Wabash County Solid Waste District presented the monthly financial report:

1. Stated the special assessment has been completed. The total distribution received was \$251,874.50. Three (3) percent of the collections were retained by Wabash County Government for administrative costs as per the agreement and resolution.
2. June 13th the Solid Waste Board approved refunding the assessment fee on all agriculture related parcels due to the fact that they were not included in the language of the resolution. The properties in question are not bare ground but have a barn or shed and have a different classification. The language of the resolution will be changed next year to resolve this situation. Refunds will be distributed after the July board meeting.
3. The Board is establishing an official appeal process and steps regarding each different classification.
4. Recycling participation is still 20% over last year
5. Electronics are the most shipped item. Johnson stated 18 of 24 pallets on the last shipment were televisions.
6. Drop-off recycling fluctuated due to the weather
7. Received 3,000 pounds of hardback books from the Roann Public Library and Northfield school library and taken to the Learn More Center where they removed what they wanted and returned the remainder to Solid Waste. Johnson stated these type of books are not a part of the normal recycling process. Solid Waste has set up a free book give-away in lobby of the Solid Waste facility.
8. Created a local program that offers recycling containers for different functions and agencies; 20 containers will be available throughout the year. Request for usage can be submitted to the Solid Waste Office.
9. Nose asked what the Solid Waste Board's plan was to use the special assessment funds. Johnson stated the board is working on a financial plan.

10. Nose asked how is the payment set up for the note for the Solid Waste facility. Johnson explained it is stated in the note that payment will be submitted as soon as possible. Curless stated that Solid Waste has been loosing \$70,000 - \$80,000 per year and had to use savings equity to cover it but now this is helping to build the balance. Givens stated the intent is to pay off the debt. Johnson stated the income this year is consistant with last year's income.

Jeff Hobson, Executive Director Community Corrections reported on the 2011-12 Grant Budget. Hobson stated:

1. This year's budget has not changed from the 2010-2011 budget.
2. The Community Correction budget runs from July 1 to June 30
3. The Community Correction 2011-2012 budget totals \$409,176.34.
4. The Indiana Department of Corrections submits a portion of their \$27 million budget to 77 counties. Wabash County receives \$207,000 for the Grant Budget. Community Corrections generates Project Income totaling approximately \$190,000 to supplement the budget.
5. Evans asked what Home Detention Preventative Maintenance entails. It is a total of \$8,525. Hobson stated this is for repair costs on the building.
6. Little asked if Wabash County has a great number of repeat offenders. Hobson stated there is a three (3) year recidivism test being done to see how often we have repeat offenders. Hobson stated this is a new study and we are only in the second year. This is tracked by the State based on data submitted. Hobson stated there may be a 20-25% repeat rate as a soft number. The national average is in the 45% range. Wabash County is slightly under that average.
7. Little asked how the education program works within the prisons? Hobson stated there are programs that assist the inmates but most are not there long enough to qualify. As part of the Day Reporting Program, Heartland Career Center has provided GED information, lap-tops to assist with GED, hardbound books and study guides. Hobson stated they are working with retired teachers who are administrating the GED program. Hobson stated an in-house study was completed a few years ago that showed only 30% had high school diplomas or GEDs.
8. Hobson stated in a local news story Indiana was rated highest in incarceration per capita. Hobson stated this is mostly due to the mandatory sentences that were attached to drug convictions in the 80's. The push is to keep people at the local level. There is a PEW study based on a recommendation by a committee to redesign how sentencing is done in Indiana but it is currently stayed due to concerns from prosecutors.

9. Little stated if the State is cutting funding more costs will fall to the county. Hobson stated the DOC has requested an additional \$4 million in funding but it is yet to be seen.

Nose asked how many people use the CC programs per day; averaging 32 people in Home Detention, 5 in Work Release, 6 in Community Transition Program and Day Reporting is around 24 plus a few that were carried over from last year.

10. Nose stated Community Correction’s budget is higher than the Clerk, Auditor, Treasurer, Recorder and both courts. The budget is \$70,000 short of the Sheriff’s budget and \$47,000 shy of Central Dispatch. It is two (2) times the Prosecutor’s budget and \$50,000 over the Probation Department. Nose stated Hobson’s salary is higher than any elected official accept the Sheriff. Nose also expressed concern about salaries for other CC employess. Nose stated this is a high budget for an average of 32 people per day. Nose stated this concerns him deeply. Hobson stated they returned almost \$6,000 to the State that they did not need for the 2009-2010 budget. This program was originally designed with the intent of growth, but due to the economy many people cannot pay for the Home Detention Program and end up serving jail time; ultimately the numbers have decreased. Hobson stated if this program is not available there would be more inmates in the jail.

11. Markstahler asked if staff could be cut due to lower number using the program. Hobson stated he is not prepared to cut his staff and that would have to be decided by the advisory board.

Evans made a motion to approve the budget request and amend the salary ordinance for the remainder of the year; his motion was seconded by Little and passed by a 5-2 vote. Nose and Markstahler opposed.

Public Comments: Regarding Agenda items: no comments were offered.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriation requests as advertised:

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE 2011 NO VI**

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; now, therefore: SEC. 1, Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND # 0001
WABASH COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION #0001-0022

Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
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0001-0022-03-431-011 Other Services and Charges				
- Additional Legal Fees	\$ 3,494	\$ 3,494	7	0
Unappropriated (New Fund)				
- Revolving Fund – Demolition Costs	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500	7	0
This request is for quoted demolition costs for the Welsh unsafe building premise order. A court order provides opportunity for recovery of funds.				

Plan Commission Director Mike Howard stated the Plan Commission is looking at homes in small communities. The fees are higher due to the fact that halfway through the process the State changed the rules and the paperwork was doubled. Howard stated this is for working on three (3) properties. One property has been sold to county. There is also a small house in Lagro that had a fire. Howard stated a judgment has been approved for a total of \$15,000 toward the deeded owner of the property. Howard stated initially a fund was to be set up for fee collection for this kind of project but it was not set up properly and approximately \$12,600 each year was appropriated into the General Fund where the fund was set up. Howard stated the Plan Commission would like to re-establish a revolving fund outside the General Fund. Howard stated IC 36-7-8-14 allows this fund to be established. Auditor Ridgeway said a resolution would need to be created to set up this fund. Little requested that Plan Commission Attorney Larry Thrush draft a resolution and allow County Attorney Steve Downs to review so that this fund can be established. Howard agreed. Nose stated there were two (2) homes built on America Road in Liberty Township and asked if Howard knew they were part of a group program allowing the housing of previous inmates. Howard stated they do not ask the purpose of the building project with a permit application, so there is no legal right to deny the application for a home builder. Nose made a motion to approve both requests; his motion was seconded by Dawes and passed by a 7-0 vote.

COUNTY HEALTH FUND # 0010

0010-0000-01-412-011 Personal Services				
- County Health Officer	\$ 3,608	\$ 3,608	7	0

Dr. James R. Rudolph was hired as of June 1, 2011. The Wabash County Board of Health and Wabash County Commissioners approved hiring Dr. Rudolph with a pay increase for the Health Officer position from \$6,000 to \$12,000 annually. This request is for the remainder of 2011.

President of the Wabash County Health Board Dr. Jeffrey Pyle introduced Dr. James Rudolph as the new Wabash County Health Officer. Dr. Pyle stated the professional liability insurance will be covered by Dr. Rudolph's current employer at no additional cost. Markstahler made a motion to approve request; his motion seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote.

WABASH COUNTY POLICE PENSION FUND #0022

0022-0000-01-413-074 Other Services and Charges
 - Sheriff's Pension Contributions - April \$ 2,287 \$ 2,287 7 0

Out of State Civil Process: \$13; Police Sheriff Sales: \$1,000; Wabash County Clerk: \$1,274

Little made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Evans and passed by a 7-0 vote. Wabash County Sheriff Bob Land stated that two (2) new vehicles have been added to the fleet. After equipping the vehicles, the total price for both vehicles was \$68,356. Land stated testing was held for the two (2) officer positions at the jail on Saturday. Out of the 66 applicants, 39 reported and 23 passed. Land stated the plan is to hire by August and have both officers attend the Police Academy in September. Land stated his computer server is full due to the new CAD system. He is trying to clean-up the files to make more space. Land stated he is still waiting on a quote at this time but stated an approximate quote to replace the server is \$15,000.

HOMELAND SECURITY HEALTH FUND # 0146

0146-0000-03-439-093 Other Services and Charges
 - Registration Fees/Per Diem \$ 500 Withdrawn

COUNTY TITLE IV-D INCENTIVE FUND # 8895

8895-0035-04-444-040 Capital Outlay
 - Wabash Circuit Court- Computer Equipment \$ 3,840 \$ 3,840 7 0

This request is to cover the cost of five (5) new computers for the Circuit Court. Money will be used from the IV-D Incentive Fund; child support enforcement funds. The computers are four (4) and (5) years old are have recurring problems.

Markstahler made a motion to approve the request; his motion was seconded by Dawes and passed by a 7-0 vote. Court Reporter Christa Stroup stated the software is no longer compliant and needs to be replaced. The cost will be \$1,940. Stroup also stated the mixer for the recording equipment is over ten (10) years old and is not compatible with the new computers. An emergency purchase was made to purchase the mixer. Both additional items will be submitted at the July meeting.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 27th of June 2011, by the above aye and nay vote.

The next order of business was to address Transfer Resolution No. 2011-8 and No. 2011-9:

TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2011-8

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1 Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expense of said county government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2011 the following additional sums of money are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

	Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
COUNTY GENERAL FUND - TREASURER				
0001-0003-02-421-012 Tax Statements	\$360.00	\$360.00	7	0

SEC. 2 WHEREAS, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have unobligated balances which will not be needed for the purposes for which appropriated, it is further resolved that the following existing appropriations be reduced in the following amounts:

INCREASE:				
COUNTY GENERAL FUND - TREASURER				
0001-0003-02-421-012 Equipment Repair	\$360.00	\$360.00	7	0

The leased Muratec copier that was placed in the Treasurer's Office last year recently needed to be serviced. The service call is \$120 per hour and there is only \$45 in the Equipment Repair account. I do not anticipate needing another service call but I am asking to transfer additional funds in the even that it becomes necessary.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 27th day June, 2011, by the above aye and nay vote.

TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2011-9

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1 Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expense of said county government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2011 the following additional sums of money are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

	Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
COUNTY GENERAL FUND - TREASURER				
0001-0003-02-421-012 Tax Statements	\$900.00	\$900.00	7	0

SEC. 2 WHEREAS, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have unobligated balances which will not be needed for the purposes for which appropriated, it is further resolved that the following existing appropriations be reduced in the following amounts:

INCREASE:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND - TREASURER

0001-0003-03-431-067 MPS Perry	\$900.00	\$900.00	7	0
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MPS Perry is a maintenance agreement account that was created after the budgets were approved in 2010 for 2011. This account pays for printer maintenance that was previously paid out of the Commissioner's budget.

Markstahler made a motion to approve both transfer requests; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 27th day June, 2011, by the above aye and nay vote.

Kaltenmark opened the floor for public comments on non-agenda items. Louella Krom discussed Agenda 21.

Auditor Jane Ridgeway:

1. Stated the County Wage Ordinance will need to be amended due to the Health Officer salary increase. Evans made a motion to amend the Salary Ordinance; his motion was seconded by Nose and passed by a 7-0 vote.
2. Presented the 2012 Council Budget. Ridgeway stated there is a 2% increase in salaries. Nose stated the Council has not had a raise in four (4) years. Dues and subscriptions are raised from \$215 to \$250. Council signed the budget request.
3. Budget Workshops are set for July 15th. The Council budget is set at 1:00 P.M.

James Kaltenmark stated the non-binding reviews will be held August 2nd and 3rd starting at 4:00 P.M.

COUNCIL REVIEWED:

May 2011 Auditor and Treasurer Financial Reports
 County Auditor's Certificate of Tax Distribution – June Settlement for County Funds
 Laketon Area Regional Sewer Board Certificates of Appointment

Little stated a second income study is being completed for the residents as opposed to the owners of the properties for the Laketon Area Regional Sewer District. Little stated the board members are currently funding the legal ads. Little suggested the Council consider assisting with funding for the RSB legal ads. Little stated he will submit a request at next week's meeting.

Curless made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 P.M.; it passed with a 7-0 vote.

The following individuals attended the June 27th Council meeting:

**If any names are spelled incorrectly, we apologize.*

Commissioners: Brian Hauptert, Barry Eppley and Scott Givens

Bonnie Corn

Louella Krom

Health Officer Dr. James Rudolph

Wabash County Treasurer Sharon Shaw

Plan Commission Director Mike Howard

Wabash County Sheriff Bob Land

Community Correction Director Jeff Hobson

Solid Waste Management Director Steve Johnson

Jim Dixon

Approved as written – July 25, 2011