

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, December 7, 2015 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Mike Ridenour called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Seven Council members were present: Ridenour, Randy Curless, Claude Markstahler, Bill Ruppel, Jeff Dawes, Matt Dillon, and Kyle Bowman. Markstahler opened with a word of prayer and Ridenour led in the pledge of allegiance. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by the County Auditor's office.

Chairman Ridenour stated that all public comments regarding agenda and non-agenda items are permitted and encouraged.

The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2015 meeting. Ruppel made a motion to approve the minutes. Dillon seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote.

The next order of business was the consideration of an amended Rainy Day Fund Ordinance that would outline the specific and protected use of accumulated monies for the construction and financing of a new jail facility. Council members had been given a copy of the ordinance earlier so Ridenour took questions or comments from Council members. Ruppel made a motion to waive the second reading of the ordinance. Curless seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote. Dillon made a motion to approve the amended ordinance as presented. Ruppel seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote. See ordinance as follows:

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 85-15-2015 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO 85-12-2013 WHICH CREATED A** **RAINY DAY FUND**

Under I.C. 36-1-8-5.1, by Ordinance No. 85-12-2007, the County established the Wabash County Rainy Day Fund.

Ordinance 850-12-2007 was previously amended by Ordinance No. 85-12-2013 and by Ordinance No. 2014-85-18.

The County Council and Board of Commissioners now wish to again amend said Ordinance.

From time to time, the County finds itself having to pay certain non-recurring expenses that were unanticipated at the time its' budget was adopted.

To cover such expenses, the County wishes to broaden the purpose for which monies in the Rainy Day Fund may be used.

The purpose of the Rainy Day Fund should be to pay non-recurring, unanticipated, and unbudgeted expenses for the construction and financing of a new jail.

The Department of Local Government Finance may not reduce the County's actual or maximum permissible levy as a result of a balance in the Rainy Day Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The purpose of the Wabash County Rainy Day Fund shall be to pay non-recurring, unanticipated, and unbudgeted expenses for the construction and financing of a new jail.
2. The source of funding for the Rainy Day Fund may include unused and unencumbered funds under:
 - 2.1 I.C. 36-1-8-5 (special levy tax);
 - 2.2 I.C. 6-3.5-1.1-21.1 (CAGIT special account);
 - 2.3 I.C. 6-3.5-6-17.3 (COIT special account);
 - 2.4 Subject to approval of the Board of Commissioners and amendment of the County's Capital Improvement Plan, I.C. 6-3.5-7-17.3 (CEDIT special account);
 - 2.5 Any other funding source specified in a resolution adopted by the County Council and Board of Commissioners under I.C. 36-1-8-5.1 and not otherwise prohibited by law; including but not limited to the public safety county adjusted gross income tax under I.C. 6-3.5-1.1-25(b), and/or
 - 2.6 Interest earned on monies in the fund; but shall be no more than ten percent (10%) of the County's fiscal budget per fiscal year.
3. Subject to the provisions of I.C. 36-1-8-5.1, the Rainy Day Fund is still subject to the same appropriation process as other County Funds that receive tax money.
4. This Ordinance shall be effective upon adoption by both the County Council and the Board of Commissioners.

ADOPTED by the County Council of Wabash County, this 7th day of December, 2015.

County Council of Wabash County, Indiana
By: Mike Ridenour, Chairman

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana this 7th day of December, 2015.

Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana
By: Brian Haupert, Chairman

Attest: Linda Conrad, Wabash County Auditor

The next order of business was the consideration of an ordinance authorizing the acquisition of a blanket bond or crime insurance policy and fixing minimum coverage amounts. County Attorney Steve Downs could not be present, so the ordinance was explained by Downs' associate, Attorney Mark Frantz who stated that the issuance of blanket bonds could save the County approximately \$4,000 in comparison to the issuance of individual county officials' bonds. The ordinance was read by Chairman Ridenour. Ruppel made a motion to waive the second reading of the ordinance. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote. Dawes made a motion to approve the ordinance as read. Curless seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote. See ordinance as follows:

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 85-16-2015**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A BLANKET BOND OR CRIME INSURANCE POLICY AND FIXING MINIMUM COVERAGE AMOUNTS**

WHEREAS, to protect the County of Wabash, Indiana ("County") and to safeguard the integrity of public monies, Indiana law requires certain public officials and County employees to file individual surety bonds;

WHEREAS, Indiana law allows the County, by its fiscal body, to authorize, by ordinance, purchase of a blanket bond endorsed to cover faithful performance and include aggregate coverage amounts sufficient to cover all persons required to be bonded pursuant to and described under IC 5-4-1-18(a);

WHEREAS, Indiana law allows the County, by its fiscal body, to authorize, by ordinance, purchase of a crime insurance policy that provides coverage for criminal acts or omissions committed by officers, employees, contractors, commission members, and persons acting on behalf of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County, through its County Council, desires to authorize, the County Auditor to make such a purchase of a blanket bond endorsed to include faithful performance of all persons required to be bonded pursuant to IC 5-4-1-18(a) and to set forth minimum coverage amounts.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The County, acting by and through its' County Auditor, is authorized to purchase, as needed, a blanket bond endorsed to include faithful performance to cover the faithful performance of all County employees, commission members and others acting on behalf of the County, including officers, employees and contractors described under IC 5-4-1-18(a), and include aggregate coverage amounts sufficient to cover all persons required to be bonded, or a crime insurance policy that provides coverage for criminal acts or omissions committed by officers, employees, contractors, commission members, and persons acting on behalf of the County.
2. The minimum bond amount for public officials described under IC 5-4-1-18(d), including that for county treasurers, county sheriffs, circuit court clerks and Barrett Law Fund custodians, as well as those employees directed to file an individual bond by the County Council, is fixed at an amount which must equal thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for each one million dollars (\$1,000,000) of receipts of the officer's office during the prior complete fiscal year, which may not be less than thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) nor more than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) unless a greater amount is approved.
3. The minimum bond amount for the County Auditor, pursuant to IC 5-4-1-18(d), is fixed at not be less than thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000).
4. The minimum bond amount for public officials described under IC 5-4-1-18(e), including county recorders, county surveyors, county coroners, and county assessors is fixed at not less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).
5. The minimum bond amount for individuals described under IC 5-4-1-18(a)(7) who are employees or contractors of the County and whose official duties include receiving, processing, depositing, disbursing, or otherwise having access to funds that belong to the federal government, the state, the County, or another government entity, pursuant to IC 5-4-1-18(e)(2), is fixed at not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000).
6. All ordinances or portions thereof in effect prior to the effective date and in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

ADOPTED by the County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, this 7th day of December, 2015.

County Council of Wabash County, Indiana
 By: Mike Ridenour, President

Attest: Linda Conrad, Wabash County Auditor

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriation requests. The County Commissioners, Highway Superintendent John Martin, County Health Officer David Roe and Health Department Registrar Kathryn Carter-Lower, and Wabash County Solid Waste Management District Executive Director Jen Rankin were present to explain the requests. County Assessor Kelly Schenkel was not present for the request.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE #2015-85-11

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, 2015 the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND - #1000

	<u>Amount</u> <u>Requested</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
GENERAL FUND – Commissioners				
FICA/Medicare #1000-17100.0029	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	7	0

Explanation: Original budget was \$300,000 but line items for Mental Health (\$194,000) and Mental Retardation (\$64,000) had to be moved from the budget of the Rainy Day Fund to the budget of the General Fund. This left \$41,489.00 for FICA-Medicare for the entire year. Council appropriated \$75,000 on Jan 27 and another \$125,000, but still short from the original budget request.

Dillon made a motion to approve the request. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 7-0.

COVERED BRIDGE FUND - #1134

	<u>Amount</u> <u>Requested</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
Roann Covered Bridge #1134-30700	\$1,000.00	\$1000.00	7	0

Explanation: Due to increases in electrical and phone rates along with an increase in the cost of inspection of the sprinkler system, this account has run out of money with bills to pay yet this year.

Ruppel made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 7-0.

CUMULATIVE REAPPRAISAL FUND - #1224

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
CUM REAPPRAISAL FUND				
Reassessment Contract #1224-30192-00	\$10,505.00	\$10,505.00	7	0

Explanation: The account is short because of the changes of the due date of assessment from March 1 to January 1.

Dillon made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion and it passes by a vote of 7-0.

COUNTY HEALTH FUND - #1159

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
Contracted Services #1159-30650-000.0000	\$477.00	\$ 477.00	7	0

Explanation: Intraset Technologies back-up storage, Datto Alto 2 backup for three months. Commissioners' minutes of Aug. 24th stated that the Health Dept. would pay for this by an additional appropriation for October, November, December, 2015.

Per Dr. Roe: This monthly expense (\$158.72) was not included in the 2016 budget request so may need to additionally appropriate the amount next year. He stated that it remains to be seen if this service is even necessary. Health dept. officials intend to discuss this with the vendor, Intraset in January, 2016.

Ruppel made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION FUND - #8850

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
Legal Services #8850-30100-000.0000	\$15,000.00	-0-	7	0

Explanation: The request is for the payment of the "Statement of Account" from Attorney Larry C. Thrush for legal services related to the Local Health Maintenance Fund issue.

Dr. Roe stated that this request was not voted on by the Health Board but, rather, proposed only by Health Board Chairman Dr. Jeff Pyle. Dr. Roe also stated that the Health Board is in contact with the State Dept. of Health and is attempting to settle the matter without further "clenched fists". He stated that the Health Board wishes to work together with County Council.

Council member Dawes stated that he has two problems with this request. First, the approval of this request could encourage other county departments to contract with an attorney and try to sue the County because of disagreements instead of trying to work together to solve disagreements or problems. Secondly, he stated that approval of this particular legal services payment is not a prudent use of taxpayer money and grant funds. Dawes made a motion to deny the request. Markstahler seconded the motion; it passed by a vote of 7-0.

WABASH SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
Office Supplies	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	6	1 * Markstahler
Material Management	\$23,000.00	\$23,000.00	7	0

Explanation: Office Supplies account is a negative \$1,012.41 as of 11/9/15 due to cost increase of supplies. Material Management account is \$12,466.49 as of 11/9/15. Additional amount is needed due to increase in disposal and operating costs.

Dillon made a motion to approve the request for additional office supplies. Dawes seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-1 with Markstahler in opposition. Ruppel made a motion to approve the request for additional material management costs. Dillon seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted this 7th day of December, 2015 by the above aye and nay vote. The Auditor was directed to present the above additional appropriation to the Department of Local Government Finance for approval as provided by law.

The next order of business was to address the Transfer of Funds requests. County Auditor Linda Conrad, Highway Superintendent John Martin and Central Dispatch Director Sandy Beeks were in attendance to explain the requests. County Prosecutor Bill Hartley was not in attendance.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
2015-85-06**

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, 2015, the following 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:

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.

COUNTY GENERAL FUND #1000

<u>COUNTY AUDITOR</u>	Amount Requested	Amt. Approved	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
#1000-30500 Computer Maintenance Training	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	7	0
INCREASE:				
#1000-11401 Part-time Hourly	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	7	0

Explanation: Currently paying Parcel Maintenance Deputy and Part-time Deputy out of Auditor’s part time. Need to secure enough money for the rest of year.

Dillon made a motion to approve the transfer request. Dawes seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 7-0.

COUNTY HIGHWAY (MVH) FUND #1176

	Amount Requested	Amt. Approved	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
#1176-40500 Underbody Plows	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	7	0
INCREASE:				
#1176-30623 Truck, Tractor Equipment	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	7	0

Explanation: To cover expenses for remainder of 2015.

Dillon made a motion to approve the transfer request. Dawes seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 7-0.

STATEWIDE 911 FUND #1222

	Amount Requested	Amt. Approved	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
#1222-30500 Computer Maintenance Training	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	7	0
INCREASE: GENERAL FUND				
#1000-12300 Part-time dispatchers	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	7	0

Explanation: We had training for EMD for all employees. We also had some unexpected dispatcher medical costs. Director Beeks stated that the Statewide 911 monies are allowed to be used to supplement dispatcher expenses.

Ruppel made a motion to approve the transfer request. Dillon seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 7-0.

COUNTY GENERAL FUND #1000

<u>PROSECUTOR IV-D</u>	Amount Requested	Amt. Approved	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
#1000-30651.0009 Leases	\$202.00	\$202.00	7	0
INCREASE:				
#1000-17300.0009 Insurance	\$202.00	\$202.00	7	0

Explanation: Due to premium increase in April, not enough was appropriated.

Dawes made a motion to approve the transfer request. Ruppel seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 7-0.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 7th day of December, 2015 by the above aye and nay vote.

Council reviewed:

Auditor & Treasurer Financial Reports for October & November 2015

Wabash County Solid Waste Management District income and expense statement – Oct. 2015

The 2016 County Council meeting schedule was distributed to members by Auditor Conrad. Chairman Ridenour suggested that the members review the meeting dates between now and the first meeting in January which is scheduled for January 4th, 2016 and then, at that time approve the schedule.

Commissioner Brian Hauptert stated that the raising of the Bi-Centennial Flag in recognition of the 199th anniversary of Indiana statehood is scheduled for Friday, December 11, 2015 at 12:00 noon. County Auditor Conrad reported that State Senator Jim Banks will be in attendance.

With no other business to come before County Council, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2016.

The following individuals also attended the December 7th Council meeting:

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

Chief Deputy Auditor Marcie Shepherd, Deputy Auditor B.J. Grube, County Commissioners Barry Eppley, Brian Hauptert and Scott Givens, Sheriff Bob Land, Purdue Extension Director Teresa Witkoske, Miriam Ruppel, Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Mackenzie Klemann, The Paper reporter, Emma Sue Rausch, and "105.9 The Bash" reporter, Tim Arnett.