

**MAY 29, 2007**

Wabash County Council met in session on Tuesday, May 29, 2007. Chairman Bob Fuller called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with all members present. Prayer was offered by Jim Kaltenmark. The minutes of the April 23, 2007 meeting were reviewed. Ridenour made a motion to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote. The first order of business was to address the Additional Appropriations Requests in Ordinance 2007 No. V:

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS  
ORDINANCE 2007 NO. V**

**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:**

Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
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**COUNTY GENERAL FUND  
Commissioners**

<b>0001-0029-01 Personal Services – Sherriff’s Pension Fund</b>	<b>\$ 5,533.00</b>	<b>\$5,533.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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**Claims for process serving Superior Court and Circuit Court, Clerk’s report and Sheriff’s Secretary Report of collections.** Eppley made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Little and approved by a 7-0 vote.

**COUNTY HEALTH FUND**

<b>0010-0000-03-439-058 Other Services &amp; Charges Environmental Health Care – GIS Data Base</b>	<b>\$ 9,000.00</b>	<b>\$9,000.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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This is to purchase the GIS program Data Base, set-up and training from Purdue. This program will be used for permits, maps, inspection reports and other data collections. The Environmental Health Specialist will be using the GIS the most. The Wabash County Health Board approved the purchasing of this program.

Eppley moved to table this request. It was seconded by Little and approved by a 7-0 vote. This was later re-visited when Health Department officials were present. Markstahler moved to untable the Health Department request. It was seconded by Eppley and untabled by a 7-0 vote. After much discussion with Health Environmental Specialist Jennifer Swango and Vital Records Clerk Katherine Carter-Lower, Markstahler made a motion to approve the request. It was seconded by Kaltenmark and passed by a 7-0 vote.

**PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION FUND**

<b>0101-0001-04-444-042 Capital Outlay – Equipment</b>	<b>\$ 4,500.00</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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This is a request for software for the State’s Mobile Data System for the North Manchester Police Department. Markstahler made a motion to accept the Prosecutor’s request. It was seconded by Kaltenmark but failed to pass by a 2 aye 5 nay vote with Council members expressing the desire to have more information. After Terri Weaver of the Prosecutor’s office arrived, Markstahler retracted his motion to accept and following discussion, moved to approve the Prosecutor’s request as presented, Kaltenmark seconded this motion and it was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**EMA 2007 PUBLIC SAFETY COMPUTERS GRANT FUND**

<b>0159-0000-04-444-040 Capital Outlay – Computer Equipment</b>	<b>\$ 17,902.00</b>	<b>\$17,902.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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Indiana Dept of Homeland Security has made available a grant for additional computers for EMA and Public Safety Agencies in Wabash County. This is a reimbursement grant from IDHS that addresses GIS uses by emergency responders and other agencies that are connected to emergency response. Requested by Bob Brown, Wabash County EMA Director.

Following discussion, Markstahler moved to approve the request as presented. It was seconded by Little and approved by a 7-0 vote.

**Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2007 by the above recorded aye and nay vote.**

The Council also briefly discussed the EMA Capability Assessment for Salary Reimbursements for 2008 with Brown.

Next the Council addressed an Amendment to the 2007 Salaries and Wages Ordinance for Wabash County, changing the rate of hourly pay for experienced Security Officers for the Courts as follows:

**AMENDED 2007 SALARIES AND WAGES ORDINANCE FOR WABASH COUNTY**

**WHEREAS: Public Law No. 231 requires County Councils to fix salaries of County Officials and Employees for the year 2007:**

**SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that the salaries and wages of County Officials and Employees and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2007 as follows:**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Department</b>
<b>Part Time Security Hourly @ \$12.00 - \$15.00</b>	<b>CIRCUIT COURT</b>
<b>Part Time Security Hourly @ \$12.00 - \$15.00</b>	<b>SUPERIOR COURT</b>
<b>Part Time Security Hourly @ \$12.00 - \$15.00</b>	<b>PROBATION</b>

**Approved on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2007.**

This amendment was approved on a motion by Ridenour, a second by Eppley and a 7-0 vote.

The Auditor presented the Agreement to Furnish Wabash County with Ambulance and Rescue Service by the City of Wabash. The Agreement was explained by the Commissioners and following discussion, Eppley moved to approve the Agreement and Authorize the Council to sign it. His motion was seconded by Markstahler and approved by a 7-0 vote.

Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway presented the Financial Report for the period ended April 30, 2007 and explained that to date no funds have been borrowed from the Local Road and Street Fund for County General Fund operating revenue. With property tax collections being done on time in Wabash County it is hoped that she can postpone any Temporary Loans until later in the year. Ridgeway also presented the Council with copies of information from the County Auditor's Spring Conference regarding changes by the Indiana State Legislature and how many of them will directly affect County government and Property Tax Collections. She reminded the Council of the State Called Conference for County Councils to be held in Columbus Indiana on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Three members of the Wabash County Council: Gary Nose, Claude Markstahler and Dean Eppley have been registered to attend.

Following discussion of the new legislation and possible new Income Taxes to be passed by counties, Eppley recommended retaining a professional Government Financial Consultant. The Council was in agreement to set up a Special Meeting if necessary for this action. Nose requested that the Council may also want to revisit the possibility of establishing a Local Option Dog Tax also.

Chairman of the Commissioners Les Templin introduced Jim Dils who has been employed as the first Wabash County Coordinator. Templin also recognized Larry Rice, the retiring Wabash County Highway Superintendent and voiced his appreciation for Rice's many years of service to Wabash County.

Also discussed were recent public comments in the media about the condition of Wabash County roads and the funds used for maintenance. Following much discussion, Little suggested that there would be a benefit from forming a committee to pursue establishing a long-range plan for the roads and to help give the newly appointed Highway Superintendent Phil Amones direction. Little stated he would be in favor of re-visiting the possibility of establishing a LOHUT (wheel tax) but only in conjunction with a long range plan. Council and Commissioners were in agreement about forming a committee and Eppley stated he appreciated the opportunity to bring the subject up and thought the discussion was good and needed.

Eppley then moved to adjourn, seconded by Ridenour and the meeting adjourned on a 7-0 vote. The next meeting will be held June 25, 2007 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room at the Wabash County Court House at 8:00 A.M.