

JULY 23, 2007

Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, July 23, 2007. Prayer was offered by Jim Kaltenmark. Chairman Bob Fuller called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with all members present: Dean Eppley, Bob Fuller, Claude Markstahler, Gary Nose, Jim Kaltenmark, Mike Ridenour and Ted Little. The minutes of the June 25, 2007 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Markstahler and approved by a 6-0 vote. The minutes of the Special Session held on July 16, 2007 were also reviewed and Markstahler moved to approve them as written. His motion was seconded by Ridenour and approved by a 6-0 vote. The first order of business was to readdress the Additional Appropriation requested by the Drainage Board on June 25th. The request was Tabled for additional information from County Surveyor Cheri Slee.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE 2007 NO. VI - AMENDED**

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
COUNTY GENERAL FUND				
Drainage Board				
Other Services & Charges – Professional Services	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	7	0

HISTORY: Request Advertised and Considered on June 25, 2007.

Motion to approve made by D. Eppley, died for lack of a second.

Motion to TABLE REQUEST for more information made by T. Little, seconded by C. Markstahler; passed 7-0.

Following discussion and review of additional information presented, Eppley made a motion to remove the request from the table and approve it. His motion was seconded by Little and approved by a 7-0 vote.

Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and Tabled on the 25th day of June, 2007 by the recorded 7 aye and 0 nay votes. Read again in full and adopted on the 23rd of July, 2007 by the above recorded aye and nay vote.

Slee also discussed the purchase of a used truck with the Council; stating that the \$16,000 appropriated in her 2007 Budget was not enough to secure a good used four-wheel drive truck with the trade of her 1993 truck which now has 73,000 miles on it. The Council reviewed a quote Slee presented and discussed looking into a utility truck.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriations Requests as advertised for Ordinance 2007 No. VII:

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE 2007 NO. VII**

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
COUNTY GENERAL				
Commissioners				
Personal Services – Sherriff’s Pension Fund	\$ 6,118.00	\$ 6,118.00	7	0

For 190 Claims serviced in Superior Court, 165 Circuit Court, Clerk’s Report and Sheriff’s Secretary’s Report during the month of June, 2007.

Markstahler moved to approve the request for the Pension Fund. His motion was seconded by Little and passed on a 7-0 vote.

Little then addressed the Personnel Policy concerning Unused Employee Benefits paid upon an employee leaving Wabash County Government employment due to the number of requests presented. Commissioner Templin stated the Board of Commissioners has asked that employees give notice prior to the budget approval for the year in which they plan to leave but other situations come up and they do not have advance notice.

Chairman Fuller stated that he feels the whole concept needs to be addressed concerning this “exit bonus money”. Discussion followed that due to the constraints of the County’s funds there would be more available for the employees who are working for the County if it was not so expensive to pay for unused sick and vacation time allowed for exiting employees. Little commented that we have an “antiquated” policy and when we try to set a realistic budget we are not anticipating all of the unfunded liability that the current policy allows. There were questions as to whether or not these requests could be approved to be paid in the next fiscal year so that they could be a part of a set budget. It was decided that this will be addressed at budget time; also that Auditor Jane Ridgeway is looking into setting up an Unfunded Liability Fund to help set aside funds to be used for the required payouts.

Sheriff				
Personal Services – Deputies	\$ 3,502.24	\$ 3,502.24	5	2
Due to the resignation of Matt Shrider, additional appropriations are being requested for the following unpaid benefits:				
22.5 Sick days & 7 Vacation days for a Total of 29.5 days @ \$118.72 for the total amount of \$ 3,502.24.				

Jail				
Personal Services – Dispatcher	\$ 6,966.00	\$ 6,966.00	5	2
Due to the resignation of Lilly Overman (effective 11/1/07) additional appropriations are being requested for the following unpaid benefits: 64.5 Sick days @ \$108.00 = \$ 6,996.00				

Personal Services – Asst. Jail Commander \$ 1,782.00 \$ 1,782.00 5 2
 Due to the resignation of Sally Bennett (effective 8/1/07) additional appropriations are being requested for the following unpaid benefits: 12.5 Sick days & 4 Vacation days for a Total of 16.5 days @ \$108.00 = \$1,782.00.

Personal Services – Jail Officers \$ 1,148.40 \$ 1,148.00 5 2
 Due to the resignation of Josh Maller additional appropriations are being requested for the following unpaid benefits:
 6 Sick days & 5 Vacation days for a Total of 11 days @ \$104.40 = \$ 1,148.00.

Following the discussion above, Markstahler moved to approved all four of the Sheriff’s employee pay-outs. Kaltenmark seconded the motion and the they were approved by a 5 aye and 2 nay (Fuller and Little) vote.

Personal Services – Group Insurance \$30,000.00 \$30,000.00 7 0
 Projected year-end shortage of funds for this line item. As of 6/28/07 there is \$12,820.92 balance in this line item.

Markstahler moved to approve this request and his motion was seconded by Ridenour and approved by a 7-0 vote.

Other Services & Charges – Inmate Medical \$ 5,309.45 \$ 5,309.45 7 0
 Projected year-end shortage of funds for this line item.

Little moved to approve the Inmate Medical request. His motion was seconded by Markstahler and approved by a 7-0 vote.

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND

Capital Outlay – Bridge 208 \$ 1,000.00 \$ 1,000.00 7 0
 This account had been closed. The State Audit required rebilling of some materials. This amount is needed to cover the current invoice. There will also be one more invoice, however the amount is not known at this time.

Highway Superintendent Phil Amones was asked more detail about the project which was the rehab of the railroad overpass bridge on old State Road 24. Nose moved to approve the request following the discussion and Eppley seconded the motion. It was approved by a 7-0 vote.

COUNTY HEALTH FUND

Personal Services – Administrative Assistant \$ 7,000.00 -0- 5 1
 This request was for an employee (Mrs. Ellis) who was hired to fill a position that was vacated by Miss Pattee when she left Wabash County to work for Grant County. When Miss Pattee left she was paid \$22,210. The Council dropped the pay (for this position) to \$18,210. Mrs. Ellis has come to us with a strong work background (Resume Attached). She is working for the Environmental Division, Vital Records and Nursing (when needed). As of this year we have collected \$21,752.00. Each department is bringing in more money which will cover the salary increase that is so needed. We are asking to bring her up to deputy pay. Mrs. Ellis is very capable and deserving of the same pay as a deputy. She has proven to be of great asset to our county. – Dr. Pyle, Health Board President.

Following discussion, Little made a motion to deny the request with the comments that he would prefer to have County Coordinator Jim Dils work with the department heads for Job Classifications and salary recommendations. His motion to deny was seconded by Nose. Before the vote, Eppley moved to amend the request to increase the current pay by \$2000. for 2007. His

amendment died for lack of a second. A vote was taken on the motion to deny and it passed on a 5 aye to 1 nay (Eppley) vote. (Markstahler had to leave the meeting early for a funeral.) Fuller stated that he also would prefer that Dils be used to guide the decision about employee raises and job classifications.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FUND

Personal Services – SS/FICA	\$ 925.50	\$ 925.50	6	0
Personal Services – Hospital Insurance	\$ 925.50	\$ 925.50	6	0

Per the Department of Corrections request, we had to increase the above two (2) line items to match our grant totals.

Requested by Jeff Hobson, Director of Community Corrections.

Ridenour moved to approve the increases requested. His motion was seconded by Eppley and passed on a 6-0 vote. The Council also requested an Annual Report on the Community Corrections department.

PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION FUND

Personal Services – Secretary Salary	\$ 2,031.26	-0-	6	0
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Vicki Williams final day of work is June 19, 2007. She has 91 Vacation hours due her and 63 Sick hours due her. Her annual pay was \$24,000.00, divide that by 26 pays = \$13.19 per hour. Submitted by Wabash County Prosecutor Bill Hartley.

Tammy Burnsworth represented the Prosecutor to discuss the unused benefits pay out. Discussion followed of Ms. Williams employment time with the Prosecutor’s office. The policy she was hired under did not address being awarded for previous time employed in the Sheriff’s department prior to termination and a pay out of all unused time then. Little moved to deny the request as presented. His motion was seconded by Eppley and passed on a 6-0 vote.

Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 23rd day of July, 2007 by the recorded aye and nay vote. The Auditor was directed to present the above additional appropriations to the Department of Local Government Finance for approval as by law provided.

Chairman Fuller read a letter from Governor Daniels about the extension of the deadline to pass a Local Option Income Tax. The Council decided they would like to schedule a public meeting for discuss to consider the implementation of the taxes. County Assessor Kelly Schenkel was present and commented that only 3 appeals had been filed by taxpayers this year. She stated about 50 taxpayers had 25% increases and a few increased by 15% but most increases were under 10% and 65% of the Industrial and Commercial taxes did not change. Fuller said he would like to go ahead with the special meeting and invite our local Senators and House Representatives as well as Umbaugh Associate representative Todd Samuelson. It was decided to hold the meeting on August 27th if possible at a public location that would hold more people than the Commissioners’ meeting room. Auditor Jane Ridgeway will make the arrangements for a special meeting.

No other business, Eppley moved to adjourn, seconded by Ridenour and the meeting adjourned on a 6-0 vote.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, August 21, 2007 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room at the Wabash County Courthouse at 8:00 A.M. Budget Hearings for 2008 funding will be held following the regular meeting with Department Heads on August 21 and 22 with a recap and discussion of the Budget on August 23rd.