

**AUGUST 21, 22 & 23, 2007**

Wabash County Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 21, 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 July 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 consider the Additional Appropriation requests as advertised for Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2007 No. VIII:

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS  
ORDINANCE 2007 NO. VIII**

**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**

**Commissioners**

<b>Personal Services – Sherriff’s Pension Fund</b>	\$ 5,256.00	\$5,256.00	7	0
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**For July 2007: 204 Claims for Superior Court, 201 Claims for Circuit Court.**

This request was approved on a motion by Nose, second by Kaltenmark and a 7-0 vote. Fuller also commented that he would like for the Auditor to start making monthly payments into the Sheriff’s Pension Fund now based on the proposed contributions for 2008 instead of waiting until next year.

**Coroner**

<b>Other Services &amp; Charges – Autopsies</b>	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 7,600.00	7	0
<b>Other Services &amp; Charges – Autopsies</b>		\$ 8,000.00	7	0

**Coroner McDonald request: “Can not predict how many cases may come up that will require an autopsy.”**

Following discussion Ridenour moved to approve only \$7500 of the request at this time wanting the Coroner to return to the Council with\* requests as needed instead of the total estimated amount for the rest of the year. His motion was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote. Following an accounting by Auditor Jane Ridgeway for bills currently due, Ridenour amended his motion to approve\* \$ 7600 at this time, seconded by Eppley and approved 7-0. Before the budget hearings were completed, on Thursday, August 23rd, the Auditor’s office presented more past due bills for autopsies filed by the Coroner on Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> totaling an additional \$8000.

Markstahler moved to approve an additional \$8000 of the original \$20,000 request, his motion was seconded by Eppley and an additional \$8,000 was approved on a 7-0 vote.

#### COUNTY HEALTH FUND

Other Services & Charges – Equipment Repair           \$ 2,200.00     \$ 2,200.00     7     0

The Environmental Health Office is in the process of getting a GIS Database Program from Purdue. The current computers do not have either the storage capacity, hard drive space or the Ram required to initiate the database program being designed by Purdue University. Also the current video card is incapable of viewing the GIS mapping data being prepared by Schneider Corp. One system will be for storage and access, the other for data entry. Included were 3 quotes as required by the county.

When first addressed, no employees of the Health Department were present to explain the request so it was Tabled on a motion by Ridenour, second by Little and a 7-0 vote of the Council. Later in the meeting when Jennifer Swango and Kathryn Carter-Lower arrived, Ridenour moved to remove the request from the Table, seconded by Eppley and removed by a 7-0 vote. As explained by Swango the request submitted was for new computers with \* monitors to be used for the data base being developed for a GIS layer to show existing septic systems in the county. Swango and Assistant Lynn Ellis would be using and maintaining the data and would need more powerful computer systems for the size of the data as their current computers are over five years old and do not have enough memory. Following discussion, Ridenour moved to approve the request, seconded by Eppley and approved by the Council in a 7-0 vote.

#### COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FUND

Other Services & Charges – Food (Work Release)     \$ 40,293.00     \$ 40,293.00     7     0

Director Jeff Hobson requests: Transfer from Project Income (and appropriate) to Grant fund to cover food for Work Release.

Following discussion, Council approved this request on a motion by Eppley and a second by Markstahler along with a 7-0 vote.

#### E 911 FUND

Capital Outlay – Other Equipment                   \$ 7,553.00     \$ 7,553.00     7     0

Director Sandy Beeks: Request from Emergency Management to replace VHF Base Radio repeater that is 45 years old. New Kenwood Base Radio repeater will comply with all the FCC regulations. All Public Safety base radio repeaters in the county are in compliance except the Emergency Management radio. Full compliance date is January 1, 2013. However the cost of replacing this unit will continue to rise. The FCC rules were established in 2000 requiring this change to be made.

Following discussion with EMA director Bob Brown and E-911 Coordinator Sandy Beeks, Ridenour moved to approve the request. His motion was seconded by Markstahler and approved by a 7-0 vote.

#### RECORDERS RECORD PERPETUATION FUND

Other Services & Charges – Computer SW & Training \$ 7,250.00     \$ 7,250.00     7     0

Requested by Recorder N. Gribben: Transfer from Security Protection Fund, Money held in a separate fund, software installed and paid by Recorder.

Auditor Jane Ridgeway explained the Recorder's request as an action of the



Consideration was given to the large amount of “unfunded liability” carried by Wabash County for unused Employee Benefits paid at retirement or termination. This has been an ongoing burden for the tight General Fund budget as well as other Funds; causing burdens for department heads that have not had sufficient notice to put the payouts in their budgets. Additional Appropriations have been needed in order to have enough funds to hire replacement personnel. In checking with State officials it was decided that the Council could designate the County’s Rainy Day Fund to be used for the current nearly \$500,000 in accumulated unused Employee Benefits. Eppley made a motion for Council to proceed with a Resolution to use the Rainy Day Fund for this purpose. His motion was seconded by Little and passed on a 7-0 vote. The Council asked the Commissioners as the Board of Finance to designate the fund to receive earned interest on the balance to help the fund to grow to meet future demands. By Statute the Council can elect to transfer unspent appropriation amounts to the fund at year end if financially feasible.

No other business, Kaltenmark moved to adjourn, seconded by Ridenour and the meeting adjourned on a 7-0 vote.

The Council will hold a Special Meeting for discussion to consider the implementation of the new Local Option Income Taxes. Fuller said he would like to invite our local Senators and House Representatives as well as Umbaugh Associate representative Todd Samuelson and AIC representatives. The meeting on will be held on Monday evening, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at the Honeywell Center as that would hold more people than the Commissioners’ meeting room.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, September 10, 2007 in the Commissioner’s Meeting Room at the Wabash County Courthouse at 8:00 A.M. This meeting will also be for the Final Budget Hearing and Approval.

\*Amended as approved September 10, 2007.