

AUGUST 22, 2006

The Wabash County Council met in regular session on August 22, 2006 at 8:00 A.M. in the Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Bob Fuller called the meeting to order with all seven Council members present. Prayer was offered by Leon Ridenour. The minutes of the July 24th meeting were reviewed. Dean moved to approve the minutes with a correction noted of a misspelled word: "excert" should be "excerpt"; and 2 revisions of words: "those" should be "three", "indoor" should be "enclosed". Bergman seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by a 7-0 vote. The first order of business was to consider the additional appropriation requests as advertised and presented in Additional Appropriation Ordinance 2006-VIII.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2006 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
COUNTY GENERAL				
Auditor				
03-436-055 Other Services & Charges-GIS Tax Boundaries Layer	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	7	0

This request is for the Tax Boundaries Layer of G.I.S. as presented to the Council from the GIS committee last month.

Bergman moved to approve the request as presented. His motion was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote.

04-444-092 Capital Outlay – Calculators	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	7	0
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This request is for the purchase of two new Calculators for the Auditor and new Deputy Auditor.

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

County Commissioners

01-413-074 Personal Services - (Sheriff's Pension Fund- July)	\$ 5,993.00	\$5,993.00	7	0
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This request for the Sheriff's Pension Fund is based on claims for process serving for Superior and Circuit Courts in July, 2006.

The Sheriff's Pension fund additional appropriation was approved on a motion by Nose, a second by Little and approved with a 7-0 vote.

Emergency Management

04-444-048 Capital Outlay – Communications	\$ 11,000.00	\$11,000.00	7	0
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Indiana Dept of Homeland Security has available to all counties a Laptop Computer Grant for GIS/emergency responders (law enforcement, Fire Depts., & EMA) that will provide these computers through EMA. This grant must be completed by Oct 30, 2006. The laptop computers will have the Orthophotography and emergency mapping system installed so that responders can provide information to EMA and state homeland security. This is a reimbursement grant. This is 2005 money and that is the reason for the short timeline. It is being submitted to the council now in order to meet the advertising deadline for the Aug 22 meeting and will have more detailed information for the council to consider on the meeting date.

Ridenour wanted to make sure the reimbursed grant monies would go back into the General Fund. Bergman moved to approved subsequent to receiving the grant money. It was seconded by Nose and approved by a 7-0 vote.

County Jail

03-453-053 Other Services & Charges (Water) \$ 4,000.00 \$ 4,000.00 7 0

Requested for a projected 5 month shortage of funds: 5 x \$800 = \$4,000.00

Eppley motioned approval to pay request. It was seconded by Markstahler and approved by a 7-0 vote.

03-435-054 Other Services & Charges (Sewage) \$ 4,800.00 \$ 4,800.00 7 0

Requested for a projected 4 month + shortage of funds: 4 x \$1,200.00 = \$4,800.00

Eppley motioned to approve payment. It was seconded by Markstahler and approved by a 7-0 vote.

COUNTY HIGHWAY

04-445-043 Capital Outlay -Trucks/Tractors \$ 200,000.00 \$200,000.00 7 0

We have determined that a great savings to Wabash County can be obtained by purchasing 2 more trucks from our current bids. In 2007, because of the new Federal Regulations, the new Ultra Low sulfur diesel fuel will be mandatory. Therefore, truck manufacturers are building new engines to accommodate the new fuel. The additional costs for new engines will drive the cab & chassis costs upward as much as \$15,000.00 per unit depending on the manufacturer. Considering this, we have decided an emergency exist and are pursuing the 2007 quote on trucks now.

Nose asked Rice if purchasing now meant that trucks will not be purchased next year. Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent, stated "That's right."

Following discussion, Bergman moved to approve up to \$200,000.00 for 2 trucks. It was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote.

E-911

03-436-062 Other Services & Charges – Equipment Repair \$ 3,714.00 \$ 3,714.00 7 0

This request if for repairs to the Generator at the Solid Waste that runs Wabash County (Sheriff Dept, Wabash Co Fire, and Wabash City)

Following discussion Little moved to approve request for Generator. It was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote.

SURVEYOR'S CORNER PERPETUATION

03-436-055 Other Services & Charges - GIS Cornerstone Layer \$ 12,600.00 \$ 12,600.00 7 0

GIS Cornerstone Layer—Cornerstone information will be used in creating the base map as presented to the Council last month.

Little moved to approve the request for the GIS Cornerstone Layer. It was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote.

CUMULATIVE REAPPRAISAL

03-436-055 Other Services & Charges – GIS Initial Cost/Parcels \$ 58,000.00 \$ 58,000.00 7 0

This request is for the Initial cost of implementing G.I.S.: For 10% down payment on contract (Parcels \$270,000) and first quarterly payment due in 2006 as presented to Council by the GIS Committee last month.

A motion was made by Little to approve payment for GIS initial cost/parcels for \$58,000.00. It was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote.

LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE

03-439-093 Other Services & Charges – Conference Registration (Tabled until Sept 11, 2006) 7 0

Requesting registration fee for Jane Skeans and Lori Foust to attend Clinical Vaccinology Course November 3-5, 2006 in Atlanta, Georgia

The Council stated it was \$500.00 per nurse. Council requested a break down of the actual cost: travel, hotel, per diem. Bergman motioned to table this request until the September 11, 2006 meeting to review a more detailed listing of expenses. His motion was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote.

CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

04-444-040 Capital Outlay – Computer Hardware \$ 50,000.00 \$ 50,000.00 7 0

Request is for the cost of upgrading computer hardware equipment as submitted for proposal to implement G.I.S. and (Phase II) of state mandated IT upgrades for the Courthouse and in implement GIS.

Bergman motioned to approve request for upgrading computer hardware equipment. It was seconded by Eppley and approved by a 7-0 vote.

Council reviewed the July 31 financial report for all county funds. As well as the following: The Community Corrections Report for the grant year period July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006. “Major Moves” information from the state for the expected October 13, 2006 distribution. Informational Fact Sheets from the DLGF concerning new legislation: “Circuit Breaker” for property tax relief & Systems Standards.

Council then held 2007 Budget Discussion hearings with the Commissioners and individual department heads going through the requests submitted by each department and working on approval or cuts that needed to be made to fit with the state allowed property tax levy rates. Following departmental hearings Tuesday and Wednesday, Council meet with department heads on Thursday, August 24th at 9:30 A.M. to review the process and present an overview of cuts deemed necessary for the coming year. Little noted that once again the specific individual department budget requests were all competent and reasonable and he shared the appreciation of the Council for the work done. However the state only allows a certain percentage of growth in the maximum tax levies and with the assessed values being unknown this year due to the new “trending” value system and the rising operational costs to the county that the Council cannot control, the budget is very tight again this year and they had to made some difficult decisions and cuts. Fuller presented to the department heads some the results of the budget cuts in an overview: 1) They put in a 3% salary increase for all county employees to attempt to do the “greatest good for the greatest number”, 2) They did not fund longevity for 2007. Fuller noted that the Council and Commissioners have been holding meetings to work on a new personnel policy and are considering a merit system of job classifications and will try to do whatever they can to consider longevity or merit raises as the budget year unfolds. 3) They added a position for a “County Coordinator” to help to coordinate purchasing and evaluate other savings for the county as well as to work as a human resource person to work on employee evaluations and to assist the Commissioners and Council with research and special projects as needed. A more detailed job description and duties will be written by the Commissioners and the Council. 4) They cut the funding from the Commissioner’s budget for the part-time switchboard operators at the courthouse.

No other business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Eppley, seconded by Little and a 6-0 vote. The next regular meeting will be the September 11, 2006. The council will meet on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 8:00 A.M for their regular monthly meeting and for final adoption of the 2007 Budget.