

**MARCH 24, 2008**

Wabash County Council met in regular session on Monday, March 24, 2008 at 8:00 A.M. in Commissioners' meeting room of the Wabash County Courthouse.

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, Gary Nose, Jim Kaltenmark, Mike Ridenour, Ted Little and Claude Markstahler.

The minutes of the February 25, 2008 were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve as written. The motion was seconded by Ridenour and approved by a 7-0 vote.

Bill Konyha, CEO/President of the Economic Development Group of Wabash County (EDG), presented two (2) ordinances concerning the POET –North Manchester Ethanol Plant for First Reading as follows; 1) Tax Increment Revenue Bonds, and 2) Solid Waste Facility Revenue Bonds. Following discussion, Eppley made a motion to approve the first reading of both ordinances. It was seconded by Little and passed with a 7-0 vote. Council also set a Special Session Meeting for April 10, 2008 for final approval on the Ordinances following the action of the Economic Development Commission and the Redevelopment Commission Public Hearings on the ordinances.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriation requests as advertised

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**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS  
ORDINANCE 2008 NO. III**

**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**

**County Commissioners**

0001-0029-01-413-074 Personal Services – Sheriff's Pension Fund	\$ 8,409.00	\$ 8,409.00	7	0
<b>February 2008 – 291 Claims @ \$13.00 – Superior Court/ - 179 Claims @ \$13.00 – Circuit Court, Clerk's Report, and Secretary's Report.</b>				

Markstahler made a motion to approve request. It was seconded by Kaltenmark and passed by a 7-0 vote.

0001-0029-03-431-000 Other Services and Charges – Professional Services  
Contract for Homestead Rebate Checks \$ 6,500.00 \$ 6,500.00 7 0

**Boyce Forms/Systems: For Homestead Rebate Processing Agreement.**

Ridenour made a motion to approve request. It was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 7-0 vote.

**Planning**

0001-0022-03-431-021 Other Services and Charges – Professional Services \$ 12,000.00 \$ 12,000.00 7 0

**Request is for unpaid balance of services to date in Terra Nova vs. Wabash County Board of Zoning Appeals.**

**Balance for professional services to BZA from May 31, 2007 to February 15, 2008. Balance is for legal review of Comprehensive Plan.**

Little made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Ridenour and passed with a 7-0 vote.

**ADULT PROBATION USER FEES FUND**

0060-0000-04-444-042 Capital Outlay – Computer Equipment \$ 3,000.00 \$ 3,000.00 7 0

**This officer is respectfully requesting that Council approve the addition of \$3,000.00 from Adult Probation User Fees to the Capital Outlay budget to cover the costs of replacing two (2) old computers which have crashed.**

Eppley made a motion to approve request. It was seconded by Markstahler and passed by a 7-0 vote.

**WABASH COUNTY CEDIT**

0121-0000-03-Other Services and Charges – Laketon Regional Sewer District \$ 5,000.00 \$ 5,000.00 7 0

Rachelle Owen, Rural Community Assistance Program, reviewed the Laketon Regional Sewer District Planning Phase; public hearing, engineering firm studies, income survey. *Following discussion, Ridenour asked Owen to confirm that “there would be two (2) public hearings prior to moving forward and ultimately the decision would rest in the hands of the Commissioners and Council”.*\* Eppley made a motion to approve request for \$5,000.00 for income survey. It was seconded by Little and passed by a 7-0 vote.

0121-0000-03-439-117 Other Services and Charges  
– North Manchester TIF District \$50,000.00 \$50,000.00 7 0

0121-0000-03-Other Services and Charges – CR 800 N Project \$150,000.00 \$150,000.00 7 0

**Request is for upcoming or ongoing projects as presented.**

Eppley made a motion to approve request for TIF District and CR 800N Project request. It was seconded by Little and passed with a 7-0 vote.

**DRUG COURT FUND**

0158-0000-03-431-015 Other Services and Charges – Drug Testing \$ 3,000.00 \$ 3,000.00 7 0

**Grant money approved to be placed in the Drug Court Fund in Drug Testing Fund.**

Ridenour made a motion to approve request. It was seconded by Kaltenmark and passed by a 7-0 vote.

**This Additional Appropriation Ordinance was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 24th day of March, 2008 by the above aye and nay vote.**

The Council also reviewed the Amended Additional Appropriations requests from the Coroner; Tabled February 25<sup>th</sup>.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS  
ORDINANCE 2008 NO. II  
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
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**COUNTY GENERAL**

**Coroner**

Other Services and Charges – Autopsies	\$ 20,000.00	0	Denied
Other Services and Charges – Mileage	\$ 500.00	0	Denied
Other Services and Charges – Cell Phones	\$ 500.00	0	Denied
Other Services and Charges – Postage	\$ 25.00	0	Denied
Other Services and Charges – Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 100.00	0	Denied

Marilyn McDonald, Wabash County Coroner, filed a claim with the Auditor’s office for a bill received from Life Med. in December, 2007 for three (3) fire victims transported from North Manchester to Wabash and then to Fort Wayne. The bill totaled \$4,092 for the transport of all three (3), but in one trip. Council stated they thought it was a triple fee for one transport - Nose stated it appeared to be “false billing”. The invoice had already been paid through the available budgeted funds for the new year, causing the Coroner’s 2008 budget to be drained for the upcoming year’s expenses. Council wanted these to be reviewed by County Attorney Steve Downs. Council discussed with McDonald that she turn in her claims in a timelier manner to avoid further issues with her budget. The amended additional request for the Coroner was reviewed and tabled by the Council. Eppley made the motion to table. It was seconded by Ridenour and passed with a 7-0 vote. Council also discussed with the Coroner other transportation quotes from Freels Enterprise; \$85.00 for transport between two (2) points in Wabash County and \$150 from Wabash County to North of Indianapolis, with other locations to be decided if need be. Also, body bags would run \$10 – Life Meds are \$70 per bag. Eppley made a motion to allow \$10,000.00 of the Additional Appropriation requests, but his motion died for lack of second. Following more discussion, Ridenour made a motion to deny the amended additional requests. His motion was seconded by Markstahler and passed by a 7-0 vote. They asked

that future claims be brought to them for consideration as presented. **NOTE: Following the Council Meeting, McDonald received and gave to Auditor Jane Ridgeway from Life Med a check totaling \$2,728.00. Life Med agreed to refund the over-charges for the three fire victims and only charged as one transport.**

Council also reviewed a letter from Indiana State Coroners Training Board with McDonald. It stated that two of her deputy coroners had not successfully completed the required courses as described by I.C. 36-2-14-23. The ISCTB has requested that all payment to the two (2) deputy coroners be withheld until said persons have successfully completed the required training. The two Deputies are not county employees. They are paid as independent contractors.

**This Additional Appropriation Ordinance was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 24th day of March, 2008 by the above aye and nay vote.**

The Council also reviewed the following requests for Transfer of funds:

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION**

**NO. 2008-07**

**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, 2008 the following additional 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:**

		Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
<b>DECREASE:</b>					
<b>RECORDERS PERPETUTAION FUND</b>					
0098-0000-00-000-000	CASH	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	7	0

**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:**

**INCREASE:**

<b>COUNTY GENERAL FUND - SURVEYOR</b>					
0001-0006-04-444-042		\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	7	0
	-Capital Outlay-Office Equipment				

Little made a motion to approve transfer request. It was seconded by Kaltenmark and passed by a 7-0 vote.

**This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 24th day of March, 2008, by the above aye and nay vote.**

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION  
NO. 2008-08**

**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, 2008 the following additional 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:**

	Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
<b>DECREASE:</b>				
<b>DRUG –FREE COMMUNITES GRANTS FUND</b>				
0111-0000-03-439-114 Drug Court	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	7	0

**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:**

<b>INCREASE:</b>				
<b>DRUG COURT FUND</b>				
0158-0000-03-431-015 Drug Testing	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	7	0

**This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 24th day of March, 2008, by the above aye and nay vote.**

Auditor Jane Ridgeway presented An Amended 2008 Salaries and Wages Ordinance for Council to sign with the following notation:

**AMENDED  
2008 SALARIES AND WAGES ORDINANCE  
WABASH COUNTY**

**Whereas: Public Law No. 231 requires County Council to fix salaries of County Officials and Employees for the year 2008:**

**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, 2008 as follows:**

Position	Department	Bi-weekly	Annual
<b>JUVENILE PROBATION FUND</b>			
0061-0000-01-412-015	Day Reporting – T. Cavins	988.73	\$25,967.00

*Note: When Dallas Duggan requested an Additional Appropriation last month of \$392.25; “so that the person will be paid the same salary as a Deputy Clerk” I did not realize he had also encumbered \$2,883.81 from the 2007 Budget.*

<i>2008 Budget</i>	<i>\$22,690.94</i>
<i>Encumbrance</i>	<i>\$2,883.81</i>
<i>Additional Appr2/08</i>	<i><u>\$392.25</u></i>
	<i>\$25,967.00</i>

**Signed and approved on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008.**

Teresa Witkoske who is interim Wabash County Extension Director updated Council on the two (2) positions in the Extension Office. Nancy Radabaugh’s 4-H Youth Educator position will be filled by Pandora Woodward. She is set to start on April 9, 2008. Currently Woodward will be filling the position of Nancy Radabaugh, but will not be taking on the Director Title that Radabaugh also filled. Witkoske will hold that position until qualifications are met by current or future staff. The Ag and Natural Resources Educator Position formerly held by Matt Moorman is currently still open and the position will be re-advertised by Purdue.

Sheriff, Leroy Striker, reviewed a claim he had received and submitted to the Commissioners totaling \$127.37 requesting funds be paid by the county to the Wabash City Police for the Transport of EDO (Emergency detention order) from Wabash County to the Bowen Center of Warsaw. In the past, the Sheriff’s department would always handle the EDO’s. Striker stated he could find no law that stated the County as the transport source. Also, Striker had found no other county that has had a claim in this manner. Striker contacted the State Board of Accounts and no set fee had been set.

Striker stated there is no conflict between the County and City Police. He just wanted to know who will pay this and how to handle in the future with transport of EDO’s. Council will take under advisement.

Council reviewed a letter from the DLGF informing them that the Indiana General Assembly House Enrolled ACT (HEA) 1001 transfers the township assessor’s duties to the county assessor in all townships with parcels fewer than 15,000, effective July 1, 2008. Along with this letter came a Potential Circuit Breaker Credits report showing the changes after this transfer of assessor’s duties takes place for the 2009 and 2010 years.

Council also reviewed the February 29, 2008 Financial Report. Councilman Little told Council that Wabash County is one of the first seven counties and currently Wabash County is one out of eleven, with all the Budget and Assessment data filed and are ready and waiting on the State to finalize our tax rates and hold budget hearings.

Wabash County Resident Jim Dixon came before the County Council with no request, no complaint; needing nothing. Dixon merely expressed to the Council to know how much he appreciated all the hard work that they do for Wabash County.

No other business, Eppley made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kaltenmark and the meeting closed with a 7-0 vote.

**Reminder:** A Special meeting to be held Thursday, April 10 at 11:00 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room at the Wabash County Courthouse.

The Next regular meeting will be held Monday, April 28, 2008 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room at the Wabash County Courthouse at 8:00 A.M.

\*Amended (by Ridenour) with approval on April 28, 2008.