

**August 19 & 20, 2008
2009 Budget Hearings**

Council Members met with Department Heads on Tuesday, August 19 and Wednesday, August 20, 2008 beginning at 4:00 p.m. each day to go over proposed Department Budgets for 2009.

**August 21, 2008
Regular Session**

Wabash County Council met in regular session on Thursday, August 21, 2008 at 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 proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway.

The minutes of the July 28, 2008 minutes were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Little; motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriations as advertised for Additional Appropriations Ordinance 2008 NO. VIII:

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE 2008 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
CORONER				
0001-0007-03-431-012 Other Services & Charges				
- Autopsies	\$ 4,334.00	\$4,334.00	7	0

Marilyn McDonald, Coroner requests additional funds to cover costs for autopsies. Ridenour questioned that services in January but the bills are just now being submitted. McDonald states that she just received the bills. Fuller states the bills need to be paid. Fuller made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Motion was seconded by Ridenour; motion passed 7-0.

CORONER

0001-0007-03-432-023 Other Services & Charges					
- Travel & Mileage	\$ 513.00	\$ 513.00	5	2	

McDonald, Coroner, asked the Commissioners to approve a claim retroactively for her and a deputy for lodging in Fort Wayne during a class for State Certification. The Commissioners discussed the travel policies of the county and told McDonald they would have appreciated being asked prior to the class, but considering the distance back and forth to Fort Wayne each day with mileage at \$.44 per mile they approved the request to go to Council for funded on a motion by Templin, second by Hauptert and a 3-0 vote.

Eppley made a motion to approve the appropriation. Markstahler seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Little and Fuller were the dissenting votes. Council members discussed that the Commissioners should have a written policy about regarding training, overnight stays and mileage. Council members asked that training, travel expense and mileage be separated out for the 2009 budget.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

0001-0029-01-413-074 Personal Services					
- Sheriff's Pension Fund	\$ 6,414.00	\$ 6,414.00	7	0	

July 2008 228 Claims @ \$13.00-Superior Court – 137 Claims @ \$13.00-Circuit Court – Clerk's Report and Secretary's Report

Markstahler made a motion to approve appropriation. Eppley seconded the motion; motion passed 7-0.

Jail					
Other Services & Charges					
-Inmate Medical	\$ 36,310.00	Tabled	5	2	

Leroy Striker, Sheriff requests additional funds to pay for additional medical care. A discussion revolved around medical care costs that the Sheriff's department is required to "do no harm", so therefore care/medications must be provided. Ridenour made a motion to table this item. Little seconded the motion. Ridenour wanted to make sure someone from the Council contact the county's representative and senator to voice concerns over inmate medical costs. Ridenour asked that Ridgeway invite County's State Representative and Senator to the September meeting. Nose stated that he was concerned that Medicaid denied payment for the covered drug prior to the inmate's incarceration. Nose called for the vote. Motion to table the item was approved 5-2. Little and Nose opposed. Little and Nose wanted to make a point that they dissented due to the fact that they would have denied the appropriation. Council Members would like to invite a representative from the Indiana Hemophiliac & Thrombosis Center, Inc. and the County's Attorney to the September meeting. Also, Ridgeway asked for clarification from Striker if he was contacting the Indiana Hemophiliac & Thrombosis Center, Inc. to inform them that the appropriation had been tabled. Striker stated he would.

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

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2008-15**

**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
DECREASE:				
COUNTY HEALTH LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE FUND				
0113-0000-03-439-113 Vaccines	\$ 1,358.72	\$ 1,358.72	7	0

SEC. 2 WHEREAS, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have un-obligated 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:				
COUNTY HEALTH FUND				
0010-0000-02-422-047 Nurse Meds	\$ 1,358.72	\$ 1,358.72	7	0

Dean Gifford, Health Officer, requests to transfer funds to clean up the budget and put vaccine expenses together. Little made motioned to approve the transfer. Ridenour seconded, motion passed 7-0.

In other business Council reviewed:

July 31, 2008 Financial Report. Ridgeway noted that a \$500,000.00 temporary loan had been made from Local Roads & Streets Fund to Family and Children Services as per the Resolution passed at the July 28, 2008 meeting.

Ridenour raised the issue of buy out of unfunded employee benefits. Ridenour state that his concern is increasing liability as months and years pass. An ordinance was passed to pay for unfunded employee benefits out of the Rainy Day Fund. Ridenour motioned to pay out the unfunded liability of only the sick leave hours. Nose seconded. Little wanted to make sure the rainy day fund had enough funds to pay out. Auditor Jane Ridgeway stated that the Rainy Day Fund had a July 31st balance of \$573,577.00 which is more than enough money. The exact cost of eligible sick hours in reserve earned prior to 1-1-2007 (when Commissioners changed the personnel policy) was estimated but will be verified and confirmed with individual employees. Motion passed 7 – 0. Council requested that the Auditor and Human Resources Director Jim Dils verify the sick leave balances and process checks for the buy out prior to the end of the year.

Fuller explained to those in attendance that the Council Members decided last night to suspend the Budget Hearings/Summary & first Reading of the 2009 Budget. Council Members state that they need time to digest and review the information that has been given to them. Fuller states the submitted budgets were good. Fuller states that what needs to be verified is the information that the State has provided. Council Members are open to calling special meetings.

Ridgeway reported that there is a September 15, 2008 deadline on Declaration of County Tax Rates for the fiscal year October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008. Little states he is not comfortable with going with the same rates. After much discussion the Council tabled this until they have a better grasp on the budget.

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

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