

Wabash County Council Chairman, Paul Sites, called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with all members present. Leon Ridenour shared a prayer and minutes of the 4/26 meeting were approved as written, moved by Joann Rauh, second by Ted Little, and passed. The Auditor reports the Co. General fund balance is \$603,063.72 as of 5/21/04. May receipts include the first half of certified shares at \$809,431.00 and property tax replacement credit of \$118,131.50. Paul Sites thanked the Assessor, Treasurer and Auditor's offices for their effort and cooperation to get tax statements out nearly on time. Treasurer, LuAnn Layman reports new legislation states that all property owners get a copy of their tax bill and a report of savings incurred thru new legislation. She doesn't have funds for printing and postage to notify those who don't receive tax statements because their taxes are paid by their lender. Bob Fuller suggested LuAnn contact lenders about sending a copy of the paid statement to owners. LuAnn will check. She also noted a representative from Manchester Metals was invited to attend today's meeting as they have asked the county to forgive delinquent property taxes, since the prior owner filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy. No one attended. The taxes have been delinquent since the fall of 2002. Real estate isn't exempt because of bankruptcy, but may be reduced to a minimum of 75% of the total due, with the mutual agreement of the Treasurer, Auditor and Assessor. The bankruptcy court says personal property is disallowed. Bob would like that in writing, so the court could be petitioned, if the county chose to do so. No action was taken today. Sheriff, Leroy Striker, asked Council to sign the Trust agreement with Merchants Trust Bank for management of the police pension. Council approved moving the program from Lake City Bank, earlier this year. Paul Sites signed the agreement. Leroy gave each Council member a copy of the jail assessment report, completed recently with federal funds. It includes recommendations and indicates moving to a Community Corrections program helps ease the system in the right direction. Sheriff Striker thinks the county is moving in the right direction. Emergency Management director, Bob Brown, reports he has a vehicle to sell, it will likely bring in \$500. or less. He asked Council to approve reimbursing the funds to his account, as the brakes on his sand hauler trailer need fixed. Council consensus is to follow the usual procedure of placing income in the Co. General fund, then Bob may ask for an additional appropriation. Council reviewed Resolution # 3 2004, which approves a 5 year tax abatement for new manufacturing equipment for Dexter Axle. They would like item # 6 to specify the abatement begins at 100% for the first year, and decreases by 20% each of the remaining four years (80%, 60%, 40%, 20%). After verifying that figures on the Statement of Benefits form covered only the new equipment, Bob moved to approve Resolution # 3, 2004, and approve the SB-1 form, second by Ted, and passed. Chairman Sites will sign the revised resolution. After addressing additional appropriation requests, Leon moved to adjourn, second by Joann, and passed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE V
 AMOUNT AMOUNT
 REQUESTED APPROVED AYE NAY
 COUNTY GENERAL
 Election

441 Capital Outlay (voting machines) \$150,000.00 0. 7 0
 Co. Clerk, Lori Draper, says the machines are mandated to be in place by the end of 2005. The county must designate funds to place a minimum of 1 handicapped accessible machine at each precinct. With a signed contract and equipment order, along with funding, the county is in line for federal reimbursement, but there aren't any guarantees. Council wondered if this commitment could wait until 2005. Paul Bergman asked if the county must pay up front and then be reimbursed, or just have funds allocated. Lori will get answers, and learn if there is a penalty for non compliance. Gary Nose moved to table the request until there is a contract indicating no payment is due until the end of 2005. There was no second to the motion. Ted suggested an addendum to the contract, indicating it's void if federal funds aren't received. Leon moved to table due to lack of available funds, second by Joann, and passed by all.

County Plan Commission

323 Other Services/Charges (mileage) 200.00 200.00 7 0
 This amount was cut from the 2004 budget for mileage. Director, Chad Dilling, is asking it be appropriated. Chad says permit fees to date total \$4100.00, down about \$1000. from this time last year. Those collections go into Co. General fund. Joann moved approval as requested, second by Ted, and passed.

County Commissioners

174 Personal Services (Sheriff pension) 5196.00 5196.00 7 0
 Ted moved approval as requested, second by Gary, and passed by all.

COUNTY HIGHWAY

Maintenance & Repair

2242 Supplies (2 culverts) 10,000.00 10,000.00 7 0
 Culverts are part of a waterway project. They will help both the roads and the area property owners. Ted moved approval as requested, second by Joann, and passed.

COUNTY HEALTH

182 Personal Services (training reimburse) 325.08 325.08 7 0
 183 Personal Services (training reimburse) 325.08 325.08 7 0
 184 Personal Services (training reimburse) 325.08 325.08 7 0
 Money reimbursed from the state for training. Should total about \$1300. by year's end. Joann moved approval on all three requests, second by Paul Bergman, and passed.

LOCAL ROAD & STREET

5403 Capital Outlay (800 S/200 E surface) 90,000.00 90,000.00 7 0
 Resurfacing between St. Rd. 15 and Old Rd. 15, and just beyond the dairy drive. Larry Rice will lay a 5 inch base and top with asphalt. He recommends a weight limit on CR 200 E. Gary moved approval as requested, second by Paul Bergman, and passed.

5404 Capital Outlay (800 S/200 E reconstruct) 30,000.00 30,000.00 7 0
 Estimated amount needed to reconstruct these roads around the dairy. Paul Sites thought the county should consider implementing a bonding policy for new businesses with the potential to damage roads. Larry Rice says Fulton Co. is the only one in the area that does that. Ted suggested Larry check with Elkhart County, a progressive county in his opinion. Permits allowing these large scale operations come from the state. Bob moved approval as requested, second by Joann, and passed.

5405 Capital Outlay (300 E/700 S/100 W/900 S) 40,000.00 40,000.00 7 0
 Reconstruct roads damaged by heavy trucks. Joann moved approval, second by Bob, passed.

JUVENILE PROBATION SERVICES

115 Personal Services (day reporting wages) 2726.50 2726.50 7 0
 171 Personal Services (Soc. Sec.) 251.75 251.75 7 0
 172 Personal Services (PERF) 312.63 312.63 7 0

Request is to appropriate grant funds thru the Criminal Justice Institute for Day Reporting wages. Probation Chief, Dallas Duggan, says the program is in the last two weeks for this school year. The numbers have been decreasing, which is the goal, but there are 10 attending today. Responding to Ted's question, Dallas said some students have been sent to the program as many as 3 times. The courts have added overnight detention after 3 referrals. As of 3/31, his records indicate of 192 referrals, 63 were repeat offenders. Joann moved approval on all 3 requests, second by Ted, and passed

PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION-USER FEE

116 Personal Services (wages) 4927.50 4927.50 7 0
 171 Personal Services (Soc. Sec.) 312.75 312.75 7 0
 173 Personal Services (insurance) 3256.50 3256.50 7 0

Second quarter wages and benefits coverage for Prosecutor staff. Ted moved approval as requested, second by Joann, and passed.

441 Capital Outlay (equipment) 11,638.75 11,638.75 7 0
 Prosecutor, Bill Hartley, uses the diversion program in North Manchester and Wabash City courts, along with county courts. He has discovered, and corrected, an error in the amount sent to the state from No. Manchester. Consequently, the balance has grown by about \$9,000.00. Since the funds are generated by offenders, buying equipment for police entities in the county seems the perfect use. \$9,216.00 will be used to buy surveillance equipment for the Sheriff, primarily for use at anhydrous ammonia sites. It may be used by other county units, too. \$1,324.75 will buy a new desk for his criminal investigator, and the balance of \$1,098.00 will buy 2 laser copiers for staff computers. Paul Bergman moved approval as requested, second by Bob, and passed.

HEALTH MAINTENANCE

316 Other Services/Charges 324.00 324.00 7 0

Money collected to pay for Hepatitis B shots. Ted moved approval, second by Joann, pass.

ELECTRONIC HOME DETENTION

441 Capital Outlay (equipment) 18,500.00 18,500.00 7 0

Will buy three computers and a server for the Probation Department. The network system no longer backs up data for protection. This equipment will relocate when Probation moves to Memorial Hall. Paul Bergman moved approval, second by Leon, and passed.

/s/ Paul Sites /s/ Leon Ridenour /s/ Ted Little /s/ Joann Rauh
/s/ Gary Nose /s/ Bob Fuller /s/ Paul Bergman

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor