

Council Chairman, Gary Nose, called the meeting to order at 12:30 P.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 7/29 meeting were approved as written, moved by Eugene Schenkel, second by Leon Ridenour, and passed. The board discussed eliminating the inventory tax and increasing the CEDIT tax as allowed by legislation. Ted says Senator Weatherwax recommends eliminating the inventory tax this year, while the county can get an additional .25% added to the CEDIT tax. Gary and Paul Sites are attending a meeting presented by the Barnes and Thornburg law offices next week, so Richard Pepple moved to table a decision until more information is available, second by Ted Little, and passed. A contract hasn't been signed with Life-Med for ambulance service by either the Town of North Manchester or the county. Life-Med has asked for an additional \$37,500.00. Joann Rauh moved to bring additional funding of both Life-Med and the City of Wabash services, using CEDIT funds, back on the table, second by Leon, and passed. At the July meeting, all Council members were opposed to funding the services until contracts for 2002 had been signed with both units. Ted moved to proceed with paying Wabash City an additional \$50,000. for 2002 only, using CEDIT funds, second by Joann, and passed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE VIII

	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED	AYE	NAY
COUNTY GENERAL				
Probation				
113 Personal Services (wages and benefits)	\$ 6,198.	\$ 6,198.	5	2
Office manager of 15 years resigned. After payment of accrued benefits funds aren't sufficient to cover the new employee for the rest of 2002. Joann moved to approve as requested, second by Ted, and passed, with Rich and Leon voting nay. Joann moved to approve the amended wages ordinance for Probation, second by Paul, and passed.				
USER FEE/ADULT PROBATION				
114 Personal Services ( wage increases)	\$ 9,387.	\$ 9,387.	6	1
The county doesn't meet the state schedule for Probation officers with 0 - 4 years experience. Our department has three employees in that range, and Probation director, Tina Edwards-Willey has offered to bring wages to the state scale using Adult User Fees. Joann moved to approve the request, second by Ted, and passed, with Leon voting nay.				
ELECTRONIC MONITORING				
311 Other Services/Charges (program funding)	\$ 18,000.	\$ 18,000.	7	0
Money needed to fund the program for the rest of 2002. Funds are generated by users of the monitoring system. Ted moved to approve as requested, second by Joann, and passed.				
COUNTY CORRECTIONS				
411 Capital Outlay (buy police car)	\$ 23,000.	\$ 23,000.	7	0
Proposed by Sheriff Roberts on 7/29, Gene moved approval, second by Ted, and passed.				
TRANSFER RESOLUTION II				
Increase: Memorial Hall				
431 Capital Outlay (landscape Judicial Center)	\$ 3,000.	\$ 3,000.	7	0
Decrease: Courthouse				
361 Other Services/Charges	\$ 3,000.	\$ 3,000.	7	0
The Wabash County Bar Association contributed \$500. toward the \$3,000. project. The balance will be paid from this account. Joann moved to approve, second by Ted and passed.				

Council opened 2003 budget discussions, indicating requests total \$ 7,458,538. with the maximum levy for Co. General, Health, Cumulative Bridge and Cumulative Reappraisal funds at \$ 3,226,994.00. The Co. General share is \$ 2,599,424.00. The 2002 budget is \$6,700,082., and in order to have an operating balance of \$ 500,000., the 2003 budget must be \$ 5,822,671.00. The 2001 estimate of operating balance was within \$300,000.00. The county will apply for an excess levy due to hardship. If approved that will add up to \$ 250,000.00. Ted estimates the 2003 budget needs to be about \$700,000. lower than 2002. Each department needs cut by about 10%, although he anticipates a minimum increase of \$ 150,000. for utilities, ect. Eliminating all capital outlay requests would save \$ 188,560.00. Co. General could borrow from another account, such as Road and Street, but it must be repaid, and Ted isn't sure funds will be available. An industry ploy is to lay off employees, downsize the workforce, or not fill positions vacated by retirement. Bowen Center representatives say their funding request is mandated by legislation, and year-end balances in excess of expenses are set aside for future needs, including expansion. 80 to 90% of their business is medicaid, and 70% of their families served have incomes of \$20,000. or less. Bowen staffing amounts to 65% of their budget, and in answer to Joann's request, they will provide a copy of their annual budget. Bowen serves a five county area, including Wabash Co., as a not for profit group. They have expanded into Allen, Noble and Stark counties as a for profit group, and don't get subsidies from those counties. RECORDER: Her operating expenses, excluding wages is \$5950., she has kept her budget down. PLAN COMMISSION: The Planning Board wants \$ 5000. in the Revolving fund for razing unsafe buildings, and \$ 1500. for legal fees. Next year building permits will be required for all buildings, including agricultural facilities, and a fee schedule will be established by the board. Funds generated will go into the Co. General fund, but the Planning board hopes Council will allow the additional budget funds, since fees will be generated. CO. AGENT: Vince offered to eliminate his computer lease agreement and use \$1,000. to buy 5 used computers from Purdue to replace the 5 leased units. He cut his mileage budget, saying he will forgo mileage payment in 2003, but needs funds for his staff. He offered a solution to meet the Purdue recommended wages for himself and Nancy Radabaugh, saying Purdue will eliminate an educator if wage recommendations aren't met. CO. ASSESSOR: Kelly will see if she can move \$25,000. for real estate maintenance to her Cumulative Reappraisal budget. It's used for pick up of new construction for assessment. E-911: Wages and benefits for radio dispatcher's could come from this fund, and there are 6 paid from the Jail budget. The county could raise their monthly fees from \$.80 to a maximum of \$2.00, which is currently charged by surrounding counties. Uses of the wire-less phone income is less restricted than funds generated by stationary phones. SHERIFF/JAIL: Sheriff Roberts offered cuts for both departments totaling \$10%, but thinks the cuts are total fantasy. His cuts left sufficient funding for adding a transport officer, and he feels his secretary should be paid the same as a first deputy. Sheriff Roberts shared the Indiana Code reference to pension funding, indicating that money didn't need to be budgeted in Co. General, since civil process serving fees' are used to fund the program. The Clerk's office collects at the time civil cases are filed. 30% per case goes into the Co. General fund. Each month the Sheriff presents a claim for \$12.00 per case served. That money goes into the pension fund. CEDIT: Several county residents spoke in support of CEDIT. The primary increase requests are for establishing a Revolving Loan Fund and a Training and Incubation grant fund. The WEDCOR board has voted to reinvent themselves, and strive to do more for our county. Paul supports the new plan, and three Council members who supported the establishment of WEDCOR, still support it. SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION: Asked that their employee be treated equally, as they are searching additional wage funding from their end. They also asked that their annual subsidy of \$ 4,500. be continued. WELFARE/FAMILY, CHILD: They're spending about \$105,000. each month for juveniles in institutions this year. They strive to keep children in a home environment whenever possible. CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU: Their 2003 budget of \$ 91,000. is funded by the Innkeepers tax. HIGHWAY DEPT.: Separate from Co. General, it's funded by taxes collected by the state. There's sufficient money for wage increases for this department, and Larry asked that longevity rates be increased to 1/2 of 1% of annual wage, times the number of years' worked. He also has requested a 5% wage increase, since no increases were granted for 2002. His five budgets are \$45,000. lower than his 2002 budgets. Leon voiced support of Larry's requests. SURVEYOR: John offered cuts to his budget, but says the law requires the requested compensation for a licensed Surveyor. PROSECUTOR, IV-D, PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION: The Prosecutor told Council his budgets couldn't be cut, and that the Council was required by legislation to fund his department as needed. Victim Assistant expenses are 80% reimbursed, and the first \$28,000. of IV-D is fully reimbursed, then 66% of the balance spent. CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURTS: The judges work diligently to collect court levied fees, but many aren't collected. Superior Court's pauper counsel cover about 600 cases each year. Both judges say a sound system is needed in each courtroom. They would like to investigate an internet program for legal updates rather than buying law books or CD's. The program is more current than annual purchases, and they think it runs about \$2500. per month. They're asking local attorneys to contribute towards the cost. Probation chief, Tina Edwards-Willey, strongly supports the security system in the Judicial building. PROBATION: Tina can't continue to deplete her User Fee funds, in an effort to spare Co. General funds. CLERK, ELECTION BOARD, VOTER REGISTRATION: Lori offered cuts in all

budgets, she will look into using IV-D incentive funds for internet access for her department. Next year are City elections only, a cities reimburse the county for expenses. Lori says the Election Board could vote to eliminate the Sheriff position from the polling board, cutting election expenses. Wells Fargo Bank has billed the Clerk \$3,000. for 1/2 year of bank charges, saying they will no longer waive the charge. She's negotiating, but there aren't funds budgeted for this expense. CO. HEALTH, HEALTH MAINTENANCE: Dr. Dannacher says fees for services are lower than surrounding counties. Health Maintenance is funded by cigarette tax money. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: This is the last year of a 3 year lease/purchase agreement for a department vehicle. Bob worked 42 hours per week in July, but is paid for only 15 hours per week. Council will meet again August 28th at 8:00 A.M. Council reconvened on August 28th with all members present. The Auditor reports the Co. General fund balance will be at \$200,000. after claims totaling \$457,000. are paid September 3rd. Five payrolls of about \$100,000. each are due before CAGIT and CEDIT payments are received in early November. The county can request an early draw on the December settlement, but it won't be a significant amount, since it's based on property tax payments made since the June settlement. The Indiana Bond Bank is offering cash-flow loans at 1.89% interest. Ted wants insurance premium payments moved or paid quarterly, as they are big drains on funds. In an effort to get maximum interest benefits, he also suggests holding until December, all payments that aren't required by law to be paid earlier. Council agrees to eliminate all 400 account requests except the Emergency Management vehicle lease, and will proceed with increasing the E-911 fee, so they can move all 6 radio dispatchers to that fund. Clerk, Lori Draper says she can use her IV-D incentive money for anything related to IV-D. She will buy microfilm equipment from the Clerk's copy fee fund, also microfilm if possible. After trimming, Council has the budget down to \$ 6,027,888. Council tentatively approved all 200, 300 and 400 accounts for the highway budgets. They discussed wage increases for highway employees of 4% or an across the board \$1,000. Gene moved for a 4% increase for highway employees, second by Ted, then Ted removed his second, and the motion was dropped. Council hasn't eliminated the possibility of wage increases for other county employees. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

/s/ Gary Nose      /s/ Leon Ridenour      /s/ Richard Pepple      /s/ Eugene Schenkel  
/s/ Paul Sites      /s/ Joann Rauh      /s/ Ted Little      ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Stefanatos