

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Wabash County Council met in session on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 in the Courthouse Meeting Room of the Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Kyle Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Seven Council members were present: Bowman, Matthew Mize, Randy Curless, Matt Dillon, Lorissa Sweet, Philip Dale, and Barbara Pearson. Bowman led in a word of prayer and Pledge of Allegiance. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by the County Auditor's office. Chairman Bowman requested that those present silence their cell phones and stated that all public comments regarding agenda and non-agenda items are permitted and encouraged.

The first order of business was to review the minutes of the July 20, 2020 Council meeting. Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Cheri Slee, Wabash County Surveyor and Barry Eppley, Wabash County Commissioner requested approval for a loan for the Jerome Metzger drain. Mize made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-85-08 a resolution authorizing a loan to finance reconstruction of the Metzger Drain #599. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-85-08

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LOAN TO FINANCE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE JEROME METZGER DRAIN #599

The Wabash County Drainage Board has determined that it will cost up to \$75,000.00 to reconstruct the Jerome Metzger Drain #599.

This cost is an amount that the owners of the land to be assessed may conveniently pay in installments over a five (5) year period.

Having made such determinations, the Drainage Board, under I.C. 36-9-27-97.5, has asked the County Council to obtain a loan from a bank, trust company, savings association, or savings bank authorized to engage in business in Wabash County, to finance such reconstruction, with the interest on the loan part of the final assessment under I.C. 36-9-27-84(a), and, notwithstanding I.C. 36-9-27-85(c), with interest on the loan charged back to the benefited landowner at a rate that is set in accordance with I.C. 36-9-27-97.5(b).

Any loan obtained under I.C. 36-9-27-97.5: (1) must have a fixed or variable interest rate; (2) must mature within six (6) years after the day it is obtained; (3) shall be repaid from installments collected from assessments of landowners over a five (5) year period; and (4) is not subject to the provisions of I.C. 36-9-27-94 that concern interest.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED:

That the Wabash County Council shall obtain a loan in the amount of up to \$75,000.00 to reconstruct the Jerome Metzger Drain #599, with the interest on the loan part of the final assessment under I.C. 36-9-27-84(a), and, notwithstanding I.C. 36-9-27-85(c), with interest on the loan charged back to the benefited landowner at a rate that is set in accordance with I.C. 36-9-27-97.5(b).

Nathan Fansher of Crossroads Bank presented the business loan agreement for \$75,000 at an interest rate of 2.500% to be signed. The loan shall be repaid from installments collected from assessments of landowners with no cost to the county. Slee also requested the Council consider putting more funds into the General Drain fund so that the funds would be available to loan without going to the bank.

Tim Brouch was appointed to the North Manchester Library board. Dale motions to appoint Brouch to the board and Sweet seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Matt Dillon presented Resolution NO. 2020-85-09 letting the Governor know that Wabash County Council supports moving to Stage 5 of the Back on Track Indiana plan.

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-85-09

RESOLUTION OPPOSING CONTINUATION OF STAGE 4.5 OF THE BACK ON TRACK INDIANA PLAN

WHEREAS, the Governor of Indiana, on March 6, 2020, under Executive Order 20-02, declared a public health emergency due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pursuant to Indiana Code 10-14-3 *et seq.*;

WHEREAS, the Governor of Indiana, on March 16, 2020, under Executive Order 20-08, issued a stay at home order which imposed various economic restrictions on all Hoosier citizens and businesses;

WHEREAS, the Governor of Indiana, on May 1, 2020, under Executive Order 20-26, outlined the roadmap to reopen Indiana, including the stages of the Back on Track Indiana plan, and the gradual lessening of economic restrictions;

WHEREAS, there are in effect certain economic restrictions imposed by Governor Eric Holcomb as part Stage 4.5 of the Back on Track Indiana plan under Executive Orders 20-35, 20-26, and 20-39, until August 27, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Wabash County economy is highly dependent upon retail, restaurant, tourism, and industry, and such economic restrictions have had a significant negative impact on the citizens and businesses within Wabash County;

WHEREAS, as of August 13, 2020, according to the Indiana COVID-19 Data Report Dashboard, Wabash County has only had 190 positive cases of COVID-19 and 5 deaths related to COVID-19 since March 27, 2020, and our hospitals and clinics are not overburdened by the number of COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, based on Wabash County's COVID-19 data, continuation of Stage 4.5 of the Back on Track Indiana and related economic restrictions is no longer necessary for Wabash County.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The Wabash County Council opposes any further continuation of Stage 4.5 of the Back on Track Indiana plan and the related economic restrictions for Wabash County. The Wabash County Council supports moving to Stage 5 of the Back on Track Indiana plan and fully reopening the economy as being in the best interests of the citizens of Wabash County.

Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes. Pearson seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

The next order of business was to address the additional appropriation requests.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE #2020-07

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, 2020 the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

CLERK IV-D Incentive #8899

Clerk IV-D Incentive	Requested	Appropriated	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Other Supplies & Services					
Background check fees	\$200.00	\$200.00		7	0
#8899-30167-000-0000					

Explanation submitted by Auditor Shepherd that employees and Clerk that have access to Child Support program must have background checks and be fingerprinted now. This money is reimbursed through the IV-D program to the county.

Curless made a motion to approve the request. Dillon seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2020-03

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to transfer appropriations from one major budget classification to another within the same fund; 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, 2020 the following sums of money are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the appropriated accounts herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

<u>INCREASE</u>	Amount	Amount	AYE	NAY
GENERAL FUND	Requested	Transferred		
Exam of Records				

1000-30890-000-0029	\$90,000.00	\$90,000	7	0
MVH Restricted				
Drivers Payroll				
1173-11115-000-0000	\$120,000.00	\$120,000	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:

<u>DECREASE</u>			AYE	NAY
GENERAL FUND				
Part Time				
1000-11700-000-0029	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	7	0
MVH Restricted				
Liquid Bituminous				
1173-26000-000-0000	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00	7	0

Dillon made the motion to approve the transfers. Dale seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 25th day of August 2020 was a review of the estimated property tax levy limits and estimated reductions due to circuit breakers for each taxing district. Auditor Shepherd distributed copies of the 2021 Estimated Property Tax Caps Impact report and the 2021 Estimated Maximum Levy Reports to the Council for review and/or recommendation. She also submitted a comparison of 2021 levies and tax caps to last year.

Council reviewed:

Auditor & Treasurer Financial Reports - July 2020

Wabash County Solid Waste Management District's Income Statement - July 2020

Indiana Department of Transportation letter regarding Bridge Rehabilitation over Wabash River on SR 13, 0.45 Mile South of SR 15 North Junction, Wabash County-REVISED

With no other business to come before the Council, Chairman Bowman adjourned the meeting.

The next scheduled meeting of the Wabash County Council is Monday, September 21 at 6:00 P.M.

The following individuals also attended the July 20, 2020 County Council meeting:

**If any names are spelled incorrectly, we apologize.*

Deputy Auditor Shelly Bauccho, County Commissioners Barry Eppley, Brian Hauptert, and Jeff Dawes.