

## **WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, December 7, 2020 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Kyle Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Four Council members were present: Bowman, Randy Curless, Matt Dillon, and Barbara Pearson. Lorissa Sweet, Philip Dale, and Matt Mize attended via Zoom. Bowman opened with a word of prayer and led in the 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.

Bowman stated he would like to thank Randy Curless for his years of service on the County Council. Randy has been a respected council member with the utmost integrity. A plaque was presented to Randy.

The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2020 Council meeting. Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Minutes of the November 23, 2020 joint session was presented for approval. Pearson made the motion to approve the minutes. Mize seconded the motion; it passed by a 5-0 vote. Dillon and Curless abstained.

Bridge 143, a federal aid project, required signatures on a letter stating the county would fund the 20% matching portion of the funding. Dillon made the motion to approve the request. Curless seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote.

The Veteran Service office requested permission to replace a staff position that is becoming open in December. Dillon made the motion to approve the request. Pearson seconded the motion; it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Next on the agenda were the requests for additional appropriations.

### **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS** **ORDINANCE #2020-85-10**

**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:

**GENERAL FUND – JAIL**

<b>Other Services</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Inmate Transfers 1000-30331-000-0033	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	7	0

Explanation by Sheriff Baker (via Zoom): transfer costs for inmates have increased in an attempt to keep the numbers lower in the county jail. For the 2021 budget, the amount budgeted has been increased.

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

**GENERAL FUND – SHERIFF**

<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Investigation Supplies 1000-21202-000-0005	\$1,960.00	\$1,960.00	7	0

Explanation by Sheriff Baker (via Zoom): requesting to use seized and forfeiture drug money to pay for this software for drug task force investigations.

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

**FIREARMS FUND**

<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
1156-30652-000-0000	\$6,712.00	\$6,712.00	7	0

Explanation by Sheriff Baker (via Zoom): requesting to use seized and forfeiture drug money to pay for weapons for the drug task force.

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

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION**

**#2020-85-05**

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 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:

**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.

		Amount Requested	Amount Transferred	AYE	NAY
<b><u>INCREASE</u></b>					
<b>GENERAL FUND – Sheriff</b>					
Sheriff Pension	1000-30932-000-0005	\$1,188.00	\$1,188.00	7	0

<b><u>DECREASE</u></b>					
Flares & Ammo	1000-30220-000-0032	\$1,188.00	\$1,188.00	7	0

Explanation submitted by Sheriff Baker: Sheriff pension fees were more than the amount budgeted.

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

<b><u>INCREASE</u></b>					
<b>GENERAL FUND – Jail</b>					
Inmate Transfers	1000-30331-000-0033	\$11,600.00	\$11,600.00	7	0

<b><u>DECREASE</u></b>					
False Arrest Insur	1000-17700-000-0033	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	7	0
Food for Prisoners	1000-28600-000-0033	\$6,800.00	\$6,800.00	7	0

Explanation submitted by Sheriff Baker: To aid in the cost of inmate transfers that are being additional appropriated.

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

<b><u>INCREASE</u></b>					
<b>GENERAL FUND – Circuit Court</b>					
Office Supplies	1000-21100-000-0035	\$2,488.52	\$2,488.52	7	0

<b><u>DECREASE</u></b>					
Travel & Mileage	1000-30230-000-0035	\$500.00	\$500.00	7	0
PD Contempt	1000-30252-000-0035	\$500.00	\$500.00	7	0
Internet	1000-30270-000-0035	\$738.50	\$738.50	7	0
Juror Meals	1000-30960-000-0035	\$750.00	\$750.00	7	0

Explanation submitted by Judge Robert McCallen: The chairs in the courtroom are not in good shape and two currently are unable to be used. Want to purchase new chairs for the attorneys and clients to sit on.

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

<b><u>INCREASE</u></b>					
<b>GENERAL FUND – SUPERIOR COURT</b>					
Office Equipment	1000-40420-000-0036	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	7	0

<b><u>DECREASE</u></b>					
Computer Software	1000-22000-000-0036	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	7	0

Explanation submitted by Judge Benjamin Vanderpool: The balance is due after applying for a grant to upgrade the video conferencing equipment in the courtroom. The equipment allows for conferencing with other facilities and departments.

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

**INCREASE**

**GENERAL FUND – Veteran Service**

<b>Office Supplies</b>	<b>1000-21100-000-0025</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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**DECREASE**

<b>Education &amp; Training</b>	<b>1000-31100-000-0025</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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Explanation submitted by Sam Daugherty, Veteran Service Officer: Additional supplies are needed.

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

**INCREASE**

**GENERAL FUND – Coroner**

<b>Autopsies</b>	<b>1000-30120-000-0007</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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**DECREASE**

<b>Autopsy Supplies</b>	<b>1000-22410-000-0007</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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Explanation submitted by Coroner Suzie Lewis: Due to Covid more autopsies have been performed than anticipated.

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

**INCREASE**

**GENERAL FUND – Commissioners**

<b>Covid</b>	<b>1000-40019-000-0029</b>	<b>\$53,430.39</b>	<b>\$53,430.39</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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**DECREASE**

<b>COVID – 19</b>	<b>1000-20219-000-0029</b>	<b>\$19,000.00</b>	<b>\$19,000.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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<b>Covid</b>	<b>1000-30019-000-0029</b>	<b>\$34,430.39</b>	<b>\$34,430.39</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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Explanation submitted by Auditor Shepherd: Funds that were to be used in the Covid lines were not used once Wabash County received the grant from IFA. Once the grant was completed, some projects were approved by IFA but not paid for prior to the request for all funds. The approved projects are all now being paid from the Covid line.

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

**INCREASE**

**GENERAL FUND – Courthouse Complex**

<b>Office Supplies</b>	<b>1000-21100-000-0032</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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<b>Janitorial Supplies</b>	<b>1000-21600-000-0032</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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**DECREASE**

<b>Equipment Repairs</b>	<b>1000-30620-000-0032</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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<b>Building Repairs</b>	<b>1000-30600-000-0032</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
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Explanation submitted by Auditor Shepherd: Due to the increase in paper usage and office cleaning supplies, these accounts need more funds to finish the year.

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

Councilman Bowman stated there will be two meetings held on Tuesday, December 8 with Jim Higgins from London Witte for financing on the jail. Council members are urged to attend one of the meetings.

Council reviewed:  
October 2020 Auditor & Treasurer Financial Reports

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, January 4th at 6:00 P.M. This will be the organizational meeting; no business will be discussed.

**The following individuals also attended the County Council meeting:**

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

In person: County Commissioners Jeff Dawes, Barry Eppley and Brian Hauptert, Veteran Service Office Jeff Ritter.  
Zoom: Council members Phil Dale, Lorissa Sweet, Matt Mize, Sheriff Baker, and Wabash Plain Dealer Rob Burgess.

## **WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL**