September 19, 2002

Chairman, Gary Nose, called a special called meeting to order, with Paul Sites absent. Council met to consider wage increases, after learning from the Auditor that revised estimates, following Council budget amendments, indicated a larger than anticipated operating balance. Jim Craft, with the Dept. of Local Government Finance, told Council they may not change the budget after it's been approved, as it was on 9/9/02. Council is locked into the $ 6,027,888. figure for the Co. General budget, though they could make changes within that dollar total. He said a court case did allow that wages for the next year, may be changed up to the end of the prior year. This would pertain to elected officials, primarily, as their wages can't be changed once into the calendar year for which they have been set. Employee wages may be changed any time the Council wishes to do so. Council did approve a switch within the 100 series in the Pleasant Township Assessor budget. Line item # 111 will be $3031.00, # 112 will be $2375.00 and # 120 will be $1000.00.

E-911: Ted Little estimates raising the monthly access line fee to $2.00, should generate an additional $324,000. per year. He agrees, after talking with Town of North Manchester Council member, Don Rhinearson, that a compromise will have to be negotiated concerning the number of dispatchers' wages and benefits that will come from this fund. Likely no more than four Sheriff dispatchers, then inculde some from Wabash City and North Manchester. Commissioner, Les Templin, has talked with 911 coordinator, Sandy Beeks, about equipment maintenance and update costs, and the advisory board will meet soon. He has heard concerns from the general public about increasing the fees, and concerns verbalized by Wabash and Manchester police departments. Commissioner, Brian Haupert, is upset Council made the decision to move dispatcher wages from the Co. General fund before measures were taken to change the 911 fee. He thinks all county dispatcher wages should go back into the Co. General Fund, until changes are finalized. With no further business, Leon Ridenour, moved to adjourn, second by Joann Rauh, and passed.

/s/ Gary Nose /s/ Leon Ridenour /s/ Eugene Schenkel /s/ Joann Rauh
/s/ Ted Little /s/ Richard pepple ATTEST:_____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor