

## **WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, May 22, 2017 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Jeff Dawes called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Seven Council members were present: Dawes, Randy Curless, Matt Dillon, Kyle Bowman, Lorissa Sweet, Philip Dale, and Matthew Mize. Bowman opened with a word of prayer and Dawes led in the Pledge of Allegiance. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by the County Auditor's office.

Chairman Dawes 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 approve the minutes of the April 24, 2017 meeting. Dale made a motion to approve the minutes. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Keith Gillenwater, President and CEO of EDG of Wabash County was in attendance to present the Wabash County Tax Abatement compliance report for Hipsher Tool & Die, Inc., Midwest Eye/Vision Properties, and Advanced Ag Resources, Inc. He explained that he had visited each business in order to determine if they were in compliance with tax abatement requirements as requested by Council last year when compliance procedures were expanded to include a personal visit from him. He reported that Hipsher Tool & Die, Inc. has a personal property ten-year abatement and had exceeded both hiring goals and wage commitments. Hipsher has retained the new equipment that was purchased as a result of the abatement and verified in place in 2016. Gillenwater reported that Midwest Eye/Vision Properties has a ten-year personal property and real property abatement. He stated that they employ 124 employees and have made a total investment of \$1,619,907 in personal property and \$617,799 in real property. The company is fully compliant and has retained new equipment that was purchased because of abatement and was verified in place during his visit. Gillenwater reported that Advanced Ag Resources, Inc. has a ten-year personal property abatement and has exceeded both hiring goals and wage commitments. They have retained the new equipment that was purchased as a result of abatement and was verified in place in 2016. Gillenwater recommended that the Council finds all companies in compliance with the tax abatement requirements. Council member Dale stated that he was impressed that all three businesses have exceeded the tax abatement requirements. Curless made a motion to approve the tax abatement compliance for all three businesses. Dale seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Gillenwater also submitted the 2016 Annual Report of the Economic Development Group of Wabash County and stated that he is available for any questions that Council may have about the report.

Elaine Martin, Wabash County Clerk of the Courts was present to explain a change in vendor for the electronic poll books to be used in the 2018 election. She stated that she will be preparing the 2018 budget for submission in July 2017 with some changes in election equipment. She said that the current vendor had misrepresented ongoing costs and had never disclosed negative features of the equipment. Martin stated that there is no more memory remaining in the current software which results in additional costs to upgrade and that the current software is not user-friendly. Since 2012, when the software was chosen by the study committee, some other vendors have developed superior software and so she will be budgeting to include new equipment at a total cost of \$31,000, but with a savings of \$7,000 each year in current charges when the equipment is replaced.

County Treasurer, LuAnn Layman was present to request the appointment of a council member to audit the Treasurer's bank statements as required by the State Board of Accounts. Since Councilman Matthew Mize is the Council's liaison to the Treasurer's office, he was appointed to work with the Treasurer to complete the audit.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriation requests: Present for the request was Circuit Court reporter, Christa Stroup.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**  
**ORDINANCE #2017-04**

**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, 2017 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:**

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUND – #1218**

	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Capital Outlay – Computer Equipment #1218-40400-000.0000	5,000.00	5,000.00	7	0

Explanation: Per Judge Robert McCallen, Circuit Court but presented by court reporter, Christa Stroup: The Circuit Court computers (5) were last purchased in 2011. They are beginning to slow down and Microsoft software is outdated. The appropriation is to replace those five computers, new and larger monitors to assist with a new software we're using for e-filing and the updating of Microsoft Office. \$2,081.00 will be taken out of the Court's budget in the General Fund. This fund is a separate one from the General Fund and it is funded by fees paid by defendants.

Mize made a motion to approve the amount requested. Dillon seconded the motion and it passed by a 7-0 vote.

Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted this 22nd day of May, 2017 by the above aye and nay vote. The Auditor was directed to present the above additional appropriation to the Department of Local Government Finance for approval as provided by law.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION  
2017-85-03**

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, 2017, 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.

**DECREASE: GENERAL FUND #1000**

<b>IDACS/NCIC</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amt. Approved</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
<b>#1000-30140-000.9600</b>	<b>275.32</b>	<b>275.32</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>

**INCREASE: STATEWIDE 911 FUND #1222**

<b>Capital Outlay –Computer equipment</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amt. Approved</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
<b>#1222-40060.000.0000</b>	<b>275.32</b>	<b>275.32</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>

Explanation submitted by Central Dispatch Director, Sandy Beeks but was not present: Received notice from State Board of Accounts that Printers (equipment) are not allowed to be paid out of the Statewide 911 Fund. Need to transfer funds to correct the error.

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

Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted this 22nd day of May, 2017 by the above aye and nay vote.

Chairman Dawes reminded all council members that if they are planning to attend the County Council Conference to be held in Shelbyville this year, they need to contact Auditor Shepherd next week so that she can make hotel reservations.

Chairman Dawes recognized the retirement at the end of May, 2017 of Purdue Extension Educator, Teresa Witkowske and thanked her for her service to Wabash County.

Council reviewed:

April 2017 Auditor & Treasurer Financial Reports

April 2017 Solid Waste Management District Income & Expense Statement

With no other business to come before the Wabash County Council, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2017.

**The following individuals also attended the May 22nd Council meeting:**

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

Deputy Auditor B.J. Grube, County Commissioners Barry Eppley and Scott Givens, Sheriff Bob Land, Attorney Mark Frantz, Bonnie Corn, Louella Krom, Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Mackenzie Klemann, and The Paper reporter Emma Rausch.