

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, May 20, 2019 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Kyle Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Five Council members were present: Bowman, Matthew Mize, Randy Curless, Lorissa Sweet, and Philip Dale. Barbara Pearson and Matt Dillon were absent. Sweet led in a word of prayer and Bowman 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.

The first order of business was to review the minutes of the April 15, 2019 Council meeting. Sweet made a motion to approve the minutes. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a 4-0 vote in favor with Mize abstaining due to his absence from the April meeting.

Next, on the agenda was Jason Cussen, Director of the Wabash County Bowen Center and Kurt Carlson, President and CEO of the Bowen Center organization who were present to update the Council on the services provided by the Bowen Center and to also receive feedback from the counties that they serve. CEO Carlson explained that Wabash County has been part of the Bowen Center's core counties since the inception in 1961. He stated that Wabash County contributed \$204,970 of the total county funds to assist with the 52,702 services provided to Wabash county clients. He stated that all county dollars were used exclusively in Wabash County. He reported that the Wabash Center employs 59 employees and it serves 1,979 county clients. The Bowen Center also provides services to 11 county schools through the (EAP) Employee Assistance Program. Director Jason Cussen reported that the Wabash Bowen Center has inpatient, outpatient, rehabilitation services, medication and treatment services and recently, opioid treatment centers. Bowen currently treats 15 clients from the county's judicial Drug Court program and the Bowen Center provides all mental health assessments for the Wabash County jail. He stated that the county sheriff serves on the Wabash Bowen Center's board of directors. Council members asked questions concerning drug treatment and costs. Chairman Bowman thanked the Bowen representatives for explaining and updating the Council on Bowen's services.

The next order of business was to address the additional appropriation requests. Present for the requests were Sheriff Baker and Highway Superintendent John Martin.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE #2019-85-03

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, 2019 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:

LIT PUBLIC SAFETY FUND #1170

	Requested	Appropriated	AYE	NAY
Supplies -Vehicle Equipment #1170-23103-000-0000	\$26,325.00	\$26,325.00		
Capital Outlay - Motor Vehicles #1170-40430-000-0000	<u>\$18,647.00</u>	<u>\$18,647.00</u>		
Total:	\$44,972.00	\$44,972.00	5	0

Note: Sheriff Baker had previously requested the purchase of two vehicles with sheriff's equipment at the April 2019 Council meeting and Council directed him to submit exact figures at the May 2019 Council meeting.

Explanation submitted by Sheriff Baker: Request to purchase and equip two marked vehicles for two merit deputy positions. One year lease payment for two vehicles is \$18,296.88, also \$350.00 document fee to Crossroads Bank for a total of \$18,646.88. Cost to equip vehicles is \$25,620.00 to COPSGEAR .com and for the sheriff stripes is \$704.84 to MFY Design LLC for a total of \$26,324.84. The lease will be for three years with payments of \$18,296.88 per year.

At the meeting, Sheriff Baker explained that he has located another vendor that can supply the vehicles faster and for a bit less money. Council members agreed that Baker should use his discretion regarding the vendor, but the amount for approval would remain the same.

Mize made a motion to approve the request. Dale seconded the motion and it passed by a 5-0 vote.

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND #1135

	Requested	Appropriated	AYE	NAY
Bridge #144 Design Engineering #1135-30586-000-0000	\$87,000.00	\$87,000.00	5	0

Explanation submitted by Superintendent Martin: To fund the engineering cost for the repair of a bridge approach that is washed out on Bridge 144, CR 1050S over Grant Creek.

At the meeting, Martin stated that approximately 75% of the engineering cost will be reimbursed by FEMA. Chairman Bowman asked if Martin is furnished with a project fee schedule and Martin stated that he is given a fee schedule.

Curless made a motion to approve the request. Dale seconded the motion and it passed by a 5-0 vote.

	Requested	Appropriated	AYE	NAY
Bridge Inspections #1135-30522-000-0000	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	5	0

Explanation submitted by Superintendent John Martin: To fund the account /line item for 2019 bridge inspections.

Mize made a motion to approve the request. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a 5-0 vote.

COVERED BRIDGE FUND #1134

	Requested	Appropriated	AYE	NAY
Roann Covered Bridge #1134-30770-000-0000	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	5	0

Explanation submitted by Highway Superintendent John Martin: Need to appropriate additional for the replacement of the sprinkler pipes that have rusted and have holes in the lines causing the system to fail. At the meeting, Martin stated that the sprinkler system is out of service until repaired.

Mize made a motion to approve the request. Dale seconded the motion and it passed by a 5-0 vote.

Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 20th day of May 2019 by the above aye and nay votes. The Auditor was directed to present the above additional appropriations to the Department of Local Government Finance for approval as by law provided.

The Council next addressed the overtime at the county jail with Sheriff Baker. Chairman Bowman stated that it had been brought to Council's attention by the Auditor's office that the jail employees' overtime has thus far included two pay periods for a total of \$6,000.00. Bowman stated that Council approved the hiring of new jailers because the department is understaffed, but asked Baker how much longer the overtime would continue. Baker stated that in this situation, comp time cannot be used because the employees would never be able to use the comp hours, so overtime was necessary until the department is fully-staffed. Baker stated that jailers have been hired but are currently in training. He said that three new hires will begin on June 3rd and two of these Heartland-trained individuals will be jail training certified. Baker stated that he still needs to hire one more jailer. Council member Mize asked how the overtime is impacting the budget and Baker explained that the overtime is being paid by money appropriated for positions that are unfilled and that as soon as the department is fully-staffed, the overtime will cease. Mize made a motion to approve the overtime as budgeted to date. Dale seconded the motion and it passed with a 5-0 vote. Bowman suggested that possibly a maximum amount of overtime should be set. Mize made a motion to allow overtime for jail employees working extra hours up to the time that the department is fully-staffed again, approximately June 3rd when the new jailers are hired and working. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a 5-0 vote. Baker added that he is currently interviewing for the new school resource officer positions.

Council reviewed:

April 2019 Auditor & Treasurer Financial Reports

April 2019 Wabash County Solid Waste Mgmt. District Income Statement

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, June 17, 2019 at 6:00 P.M.

The following individuals also attended the May 20th County Council meeting:

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

Deputy Auditors B.J. Grube and Shelly Baucio, County Commissioners Jeff Dawes and Brian Hauptert, Attorney Mark Frantz, and Deputy Sheriff Tyler Guenin.