

**TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2000**

The Tippecanoe County Council held a special meeting on Thursday, November 9, 2000 at 2:30 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members present were: President Jeffrey Kessler, Vice President David S. Byers, Connie Basham, Margaret K. Bell, Ronald L. Fruitt, Jeffrey A. Kemper, and David S. Koltick; Secretary Pauline E. Rohr. (Auditor Robert A. Plantenga and Attorney David W. Luhman were representing the County at the Excess Levy Hearing in Indianapolis.)

West Lafayette Mayor Sonya Margerum was present to discuss various topics with the Council.

President Kessler called the meeting to order.

I CAPITAL PROJECTS

A. US 231 Project:

Mayor Margerum stressed the need for continued support for:

- Completion of the western leg of US 231 from S. River Rd. to SR 26 in 2003 by INDOT.
- Finalization of the route from SR 26 to US 52 and I-70 to I-65
- Completion of a Land Use Study by Area Plan in Wabash Township to receive maximum public input before the route is finally established. This will aid decisions for location of additional housing in the Township.

B. Juvenile Facility:

Mayor Margerum wants the County to fully study juvenile needs. Look at areas of prevention and construction of a juvenile detention facility. Councilmember Koltick is worried that beds in such a facility will be empty. He cited Wabash Valley Hospital as an example. Councilmember Basham said a Juvenile Detention Facility will include evaluation services as well as treatment.

C. Law Enforcement Agencies:

Mayor Margerum said all law enforcement agencies in the County seem to be working well together. She thinks there would be a break down in functions if there were a single law enforcement agency for the entire county. The Mayor urged law enforcement to work toward a central dispatch.

D. Continue Support for Wabash Landing:

Mayor Margerum urged continued support for Wabash Landing because it will add to the tax base and enhance downtown Lafayette, The Ice Skating Rink that will be located there will be open to the entire county.

II. JOINT EFFORTS NOT RELATED TO CAPITAL PROJECTS

A. Parks:

The three park boards have worked in close cooperation and the Mayor hopes that will continue. She said the Celery Bog Nature Center is serving West Lafayette and the County well.

Mayor Margerum thinks we need to look at dealing with pollution of the Wabash River from all county sources.

B. Wildcat Creek Solid Waste District:

As president of the District Board, Mayor Margerum requested that the County either establish the District as a department with a budget or agree to let the District setting it own tax rate. She sees this as something that needs to be addressed in the near future.

III ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A. Education and School Issues:

The Wall Street Journal listed as its two high tech priorities an educated workforce and proximity to a research oriented university. Purdue University, Ivy Tech, Community College, and our good school systems are fulfilling these priorities. Mayor Margerum thinks we need to stress these educational opportunities through our economic development strategies.

Mayor Margerum underlined the need for public support for cooperation among the school corporations. She is especially concerned with the West Lafayette School Corporation and proposes possible transfers of undeveloped land between it and the Tippecanoe School Corporation. Community discussions might help.

Mayor Margerum favors the formation of a Red Carpet Host Committee, with a budget, to promote and show our community to visitors would be useful.

IV. GRANTS AND FUNDING

A. State:

Mayor Margerum said the two mayors and the Commissioners need to continue meeting with our area legislators to establish priorities for the entire community and work towards funding those from Build Indiana Funds and other available funding sources.

The Mayor said we need to continue lobbying efforts for State and Federal Highway Funds. She thinks we should ask the State to use the surplus for highways rather than hand out minimal refunds. She also thinks Area Plan needs additional staff and funding.

V. PLANNING

A. 2020 Strategic Planning Support:

Although this project is just beginning, Mayor Margerum stressed continued support and participation. She said the cities and county need to take the recommendations seriously and decide how they can benefit all.

President Kessler asked how the County and West Lafayette can work together on GIS and if she favors installing fiber optics as the City of Lafayette is doing. Mayor Margerum responded that West Lafayette's GIS base is with Purdue but it is compatible with the County's GIS. She said a representative has been attending the meetings related to fiber optics but they haven't proceeded with installation. She thinks it is a good idea to put conduit in when there is the opportunity and she supports working together on it. She said Purdue has installed fiber optics in the Research Park.

Councilmember Byers asked if there are areas in dealing with Purdue's planned expansion in which the County could help West Lafayette. Mayor Margerum said transportation issues certainly affect the entire county and noted that most of Purdue's future expansion will probably occur outside the City of West Lafayette.

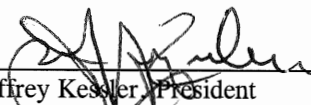
Councilmember Koltick asked the Mayor's view of the types of development that should be allowed in Wabash Township. Mayor Margerum said she requested a Land Use Study by Area Plan to serve as a guide for the types of housing that should be allowed in areas of growth in the Township.

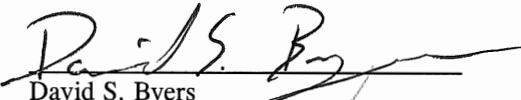
ADJOURNMENT

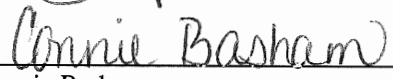
After thanking Mayor Margerum for her time, President Kessler adjourned the meeting.

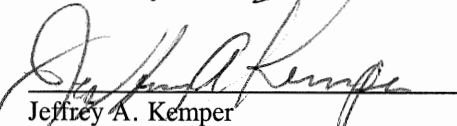
Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL

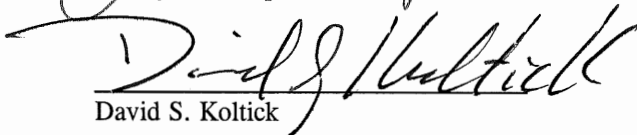

Jeffrey Kessler, President



David S. Byers


Connie Basham


Jeffrey A. Kemper


Margaret K. Bell


David S. Koltick

Attest: 
Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor


Ronald L. Frütt