

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 10, 2012

The Tippecanoe County Council met Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room of the County Office Building. Councilmembers present were: President Andrew S. Gutwein, Vice-President Roland K. Winger, John R. Basham II, Jeffrey A. Kemper, Kevin L. Underwood, Kathy Vernon, and David R. Williams. Others present were: Auditor Jennifer Weston, Attorney Dave Luhman, and Secretary Tillie Hennigar.

President Gutwein called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Attorney Dave Luhman requested nominations for the office of President.

- President Gutwein moved to nominate Roland Winger for the office of President, second by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

Attorney Dave Luhman requested nominations for the office of Vice President.

- Councilmember Basham moved to nominate David Williams for the office of Vice President, second by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

President Winger thanked Councilmember Gutwein for his past service and presented him with a Gutwein Heritage cookbook obtained by the County Commissioners.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS - Appointments, Assignments, Meeting Times

Auditor Jennifer Weston stated the meeting times were approved at the last meeting but the Appointments and Assignments need approved.

President Winger said the one item remaining is the library board appointment. Councilmember Gutwein indicated there is an outstanding request and the gentleman being asked to serve has requested more time to consider the appointment. The library is aware and appreciates the efforts of the Council to obtain a board member.

President Winger stated the Assignments are internal. The Council liaisons for the County Extension Office and Fairgrounds should be changed from Gutwein to Williams.

See Appendix A for the approved list of Appointments.

- Councilmember Williams moved to approve the Appointments as presented, second by Councilmember Gutwein; motion carried.

See Appendix B for the approved list of Assignments.

Councilmember Kemper questioned his Appointment on the Lafayette Economic Development Commission as it expired 12/31/11. Attorney Luhman said it would automatically renew and Mr. Kemper would serve another term. Appendix B is amended to show updated dates for the Lafayette Economic Development Commission as 1-01-12 to 12-31-14.

President Winger requested updated copies of the Assignments and Appointments be distributed to department heads.

AUDITOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT – Jennifer Weston

Auditor Jennifer Weston presented two handouts. The first is a Preliminary General Fund Financial Statement, January 2012. The cash balance for the General Fund was \$2.7 million, which is higher than anticipated due to \$2.7 million of unspent budget. The remaining 10% of property taxes will be distributed later this week or early next week. Adding in the \$910,000 from property taxes, the cash balance is \$3.6 million. With expected revenue in 2012 of \$17.9 million, adding in 2012 property taxes, and subtracting an allowance for Circuit Breaker, the total available is \$40.9 million. Deducting encumbrances (expenses incurred in prior year but carried over and paid in January) from the \$40.9 million and the Council approved budget for 2012 of \$38.1 million, leaves a beginning net balance of \$1,766,897.08. Auditor Weston explained the numbers in red are estimates and could change slightly. The allowance for Circuit Breaker won't be known until taxes are billed in March or April.

Beginning Net Balance	\$1,766,897.08
Total Additional Appropriations	\$ 0.00
Total Budget Reductions	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Expenditures (to date)	\$ <u>0.00</u>
Uncommitted Funds	\$1,766,897.08

TREASURER'S REPORT – Bob Plantenga

Treasurer Plantenga reviewed the report of bank statements from November. The total interest for the month was \$186,000 compared to \$70,000 in October. Two factors contributed to the increase, property tax money being held in November, and Fund 320 EDIT Landfill. There was a revision of investments in Fund 320 and everything was sold. Most investments were sold at a premium creating \$113,449.26 interest. November ended with \$107 million in Lafayette Bank & Trust, a majority of which is property tax holdings. Over half of those holdings are gone, leaving a current balance of \$58,000 million. Chase includes a few balances until accounts can be closed. First Financial and Lafayette Savings Bank remain approximately the same each month at \$10 million and \$13 million. At the end of 2011, \$550,000 of interest was collected, due to \$70,000 from the Homestead Rebate Fund. Councilmember Basham inquired about limits with Lafayette Bank and Trust and Lafayette Savings Bank. Treasurer Plantenga said to not be charged banking fees, Lafayette Bank and Trust has a \$31 million minimum. Lafayette Savings Bank sets a limit for public funds around \$13 million.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items

There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA

Regular Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2011

Regular Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2011

TEMA 2009 SHSP Grant Fund 414

Transfer

\$1,958

Equipment/Emergency Equipment to
Contracts/Consultants

- Councilmember Williams moved to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Councilmember Gutwein; motion carried.

SUPERIOR COURT 3**Court Improv Proj FY11-12 Fund 634**

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said Superior Court 3 received \$3,901 of additional grant funds for the court improvement project. Superior Court 3 accidentally overspent the prior year and the Indiana Supreme Court granted additional unused grant funds from other counties.

Grant Appropriation \$3,901

\$3,901

Contracts/Consultants

- Councilmember Williams moved to accept the grant as presented, second by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

CARY HOME**ICJI Byrne JDAI 2012 Fund 145**

Ms. Wilson stated the grant is from Indiana Criminal Justice Institute for the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative program. It is the second year for the grant program and the \$36,400 will be used for contracts with consultants to assist with the program.

Grant Appropriation \$36,400

\$36,400

Contracts/Consultants

- Councilmember Vernon moved to accept the grant as presented, second by Councilmember Williams; motion carried.

Rebecca Humphrey, Youth Services Executive Director, explained the first three entries of the Amended Salary Statement were for positions approved in November, 2011. The fourth entry for the Juvenile Evidence-based Programs Coordinator is part of the restructure started in November. The job description changed for the position, went through reclassification, and was recommended for a salary increase. The salary increase will be paid from the restructure of the Clinical Services Director with no additional burden to the General Fund.

Amended 2012 Salary Statement \$152,584

\$34,175/year	Accounts Manager
\$49,228/year	Clinical Program Coordinator
\$31,048/year	Clinical Case Manager
\$38,133/year	Juv Evidence-based Programs Coordinator

- Councilmember Williams moved to approve the Cary Home Salary Statement as submitted, second by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

JUVENILE ALTERNATIVES

Title II Reduce Detention 2012 Fund 520

Grant Administrator Wilson said Juvenile Alternatives received a grant from Indiana Criminal Justice Institute for \$55,000 to pay for the salary and benefits of a Surveillance Officer.

Grant Appropriation \$55,000

\$27,388	Salary & Wages/Full Time
\$ 2,095	Social Security
\$ 2,328	Retirement/PERF
\$ 8,800	Contracts/Consultants
\$13,827	Insurance/Health Insurance
\$ 132	Insurance/LTD
\$ 91	Insurance/Life
\$ 339	Insurance/Workers Compensation

- Councilmember Vernon moved to accept the grant as presented, second by Councilmember Williams; motion carried.

Ms. Wilson presented the Surveillance Officer Amended 2012 Salary Statement.

Amended 2012 Salary Statement \$27,388

\$27,388	Surveillance Officer
----------	----------------------

- Councilmember Williams moved to approve the Salary Statement as presented, second by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

MITS
EDIT Fund 301

Auditor Weston explained the request is typical for the end of the year. Expenses are paid up front and reimbursement is received from other departments. Other funds then pay back EDIT. The appropriation allows MITS to spend the reimbursements. .

Additional Appropriation \$22,214

\$22,214 Software Licensing

- Councilmember Gutwein moved to approve the EDIT Fund 301 as submitted, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

SHERIFF CONTRACT FOR 2012

Sheriff Tracy Brown said the Sheriff Contract is the same as the past three or four years and asked for Council's consideration to approve the Compensation Agreement.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the Sheriff Contract as submitted, second by Councilmember Basham; motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were none.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Luhman presented the Amendment To & Renewal of Operating Agreement with South Side Landfill (SSL) for the Tippecanoe County Trash Transfer Station. The Commissioners have worked with SSL to expand the recycling facility and provide pick up and storage of hazardous materials. The Commissioners approved extension of the Operating Agreement on December 5, 2011, extending the term for five years, expiring on 12/31/2020. In exchange, SSL will provide funding for the capital improvements to the recycling facility and for receiving hazardous material. Mr. Luhman requested Council's approval of the extension.

President Winger noted item 2A, condition 7 of the Amendment referring to the facility availability as significant to the public. Councilmember Basham agreed with President Winger and added it is imperative the public realize they are going to receive better service.

Councilmember Kemper voiced a concern regarding an unpaid insurance bill for Wildcat Creek Solid Waste Management District (WCSWD). Mr. Luhman indicated the issue would fall with the WCSWD Board and has no direct connection to the County Commissioners or Council. Commissioner Byers noted the bill has been paid for a full year.

- Councilmember Basham moved to approve the amendment as presented, second by Councilmember Gutwein; motion carried.

COMMISSIONER FYI

Commissioner Byers said looking at the current uncommitted balance it might be a good time to raise the rate for Cumulative Bridge Fund. Also, there is \$360,000 per year in anticipated revenue under death and gift inheritance. The State is trying to eliminate inheritance, which would mean losing \$360,000 of funds.

President Winger said making sure the highway and bridge budgets are healthy is a challenge this year and years to come. It will be one of the ongoing concerns.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Wright – 4523 S. County Line Rd W., Westpoint: Mr. Wright asked the Councilmembers and Commissioners to talk louder as it is sometimes difficult to hear in the audience, especially President Winger and Commissioner Murtaugh. Referring to Commissioner Byers comment, Mr. Wright said he is very happy to see an additional balance which indicates money has been saved. The tax rate was increased to the maximum amount and now there is more money, it doesn't mean it has to be spent. He challenged the Council to return the uncommitted balance (referred to by Commissioner Byers) back to the taxpayer.

President Winger said the reason there is an increase in the cash balance is because spending didn't exceed what was taken in and that way of thinking will continue.

Clerk Christa Coffey said in working with the Public Defender's Office and looking at money due to the County in 2009, 2010, and 2011, there are Criminal Court costs of \$859,000 and Public Defender fees of \$288,000. As it is time consuming, she didn't look prior to 2009 and also didn't know what direction the Council and Judges would want to take. Christa has received approval from State Board of Accounts for someone to work out of her office to pursue collection. As she feels it is past time to begin working on the project, she asked if she should continue to work with Councilmembers Kemper and Underwood. Clerk Coffey said she is open to share a worker or invest \$20,000 for a part time person. The Clerk's office has access to BMV records and other necessary data to locate people. Since the cases are criminal, information such as social security number, date of birth, and driver's license is also available. If collection is unsuccessful, a collection agency could be used.

Councilmember Kemper inquired about previous discussions regarding collection agencies and asked if an update was available. Clerk Coffey indicated she could put an update together from her office. Last year, unpaid Child Support fees were submitted for collection with phenomenal success. Christa said there is some improvement in Public Defender fees but modification to the standard sentencing order is needed. With an addition of language to apply the cash bond to fees before release, the Clerk's office could receive those funds. Otherwise, the person goes to the court to get the bond release. If the judge doesn't assess fees, the Clerk's office can't receive them.

Councilmember Kemper moved to adjourn.

Tippecanoe County Council

Roland K. Winger, President

David R. Williams, Vice President

John R. Basham II

Andrew S. Gutwein

Jeffrey A. Kemper

Kevin L. Underwood

Kathy Vernon

ATTEST:

Jennifer Weston, Auditor

2-14-12