

**TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2006**

The Tippecanoe County Council Meeting began at 2:00 P.M. Tuesday, August 8, 2006 in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members present were: President David S. Byers, Vice President Jeffrey A. Kemper, Betty J. Michael, Thomas P. Murtaugh, Kevin L. Underwood, and Kathy Vernon. Others present were: Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr. (Councilmember Ronald L. Fruitt was absent.)

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

AUDITOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT: Robert Plantenga

Auditor Plantenga reported the 2006 total uncommitted County General Funds through July 31, 2006 are \$736,135.16.

Other than Courts	Court Related	Total
\$343,842.16	\$392,293.00	\$736,135.16

Revenue

Line 32-10, Surplus Dog Tax (Last distribution. State will no longer collect.)	\$1,195.52
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Line 41-22, Prosecuting Attorney (Transferred from IV-D Incentive Fund. Committed at Budget time)	\$18,000.00
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Fund Balances

005, Excess Levy Fund (Over 100% of Property Tax was collected because of payments from prior year. If approved by State, may be able to put back into General Fund as revenue for 2006.)	\$112,684.04
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099, Rainy Day Fund-Econ Dev (Repayment of loan from DFC to General Fund)	\$1,000,000.00
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310, Self Insurance Fund (\$155,000 claim paid 8/3/06)	\$320,555.61
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Fund 550, Jury Pay Fund	\$29,673.27
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Fund 570, Family & Children (May not be sufficient until December Settlement)	\$1,628,116.67
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TREASURER'S INTEREST REPORT: Oneta Tolle

Mrs. Tolle distributed the Interest Report showing the average interest rate for June 2006 was 4.92%.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2006 Regular Meeting as distributed, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

SUPERIOR COURT II: Judge Thomas Busch

Additional Appropriations: \$105,602

83,000	Pauper Attorney
5,000	Jury Expense
550	Part-time
42	Social Security
16,380	Contractual/Legal Services
630	Court Expenses/Misc

Transfer: \$300

From:	001-7102-413-30-40	Medical	300
To:	001-7102-412-20-10	Office Supplies	300

Judge Busch explained these requests are due to the capital murder trial (Gauvin) scheduled in his court in November. He estimated \$27,000 of the Pauper Attorney request will be needed for trials other than the Gauvin trial for the remainder of the year. The Jury Expense request will replace funds transferred earlier in the year to Pauper Attorney.

Auditor Plantenga announced that \$5,000 for Jury Expense was advertised in both General Fund 001 and Jury Pay Fund 550. The Jury Pay Fund has an approximate balance of \$30,000.

Judge Busch noted that 50% of expenses incurred due to the capital murder case are reimbursed by the State. Auditor Plantenga reported that two checks of over \$7,000 each have already been received. Judge Busch said he is working with the Public Defender to control costs.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriation of \$5,000 for Jury Expense from Fund 550, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.
- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriation of \$83,000 for Pauper Attorney, \$5,000 for Jury Expense, \$550 for Part-time, \$42 for Social Security, \$16,380 for Contractual/Legal Services, and \$630 for Court Expenses/Misc from General Fund 001, seconded by Councilmember Michael.

Following a discussion regarding the amounts of unspent General Fund 001 appropriations for Jury Expense in the other courts and considering the remaining balance in Jury Pay Fund 550, Councilmember Kemper withdrew the \$5,000 for Jury Expense from the General Fund from his motion. Councilmember Michael agreed.

- The motion carried.
- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the transfer, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

SUPERIOR COURT: Bailiff Angie Thompson

Additional Appropriations: \$32,000

30,000 Pauper Attorney
2,000 Evaluation

Mrs. Thompson explained she is requesting \$30,000 for Pauper Attorney to pay past due bills.

Councilmember Kemper mentioned he received copies of itemized bills from the court and offered to share the information with other Councilmembers.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve \$30,000 for Pauper Attorney and \$2,000 for Evaluation, seconded by Councilmember Murtaugh; motion carried.

CIRCUIT COURT

Additional Appropriation: \$6,782

6,782 Pauper Attorney

Councilmember Kemper said this request will be used to pay bills the court is holding.

- Councilmember moved to appropriate \$6,782 for Pauper Attorney, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

Additional Appropriation: \$50

50 Mileage Reimbursement

Auditor Plantenga explained that the Auditor's Office paid a claim from the Randolph Township Trustee that exceeded the appropriation. He said, according to the odometer reading, this is for actual miles driven. Because the mileage was accrued for Personal Property assessing, the payment is not allowable from Reassessment Funds.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriation of \$50, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

WABASH RIVER HYDROLOGY & HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS FUND 333: Commissioner KD Benson

Additional Appropriation: \$50,000

50,000 Other Professional Services

Commissioner Benson explained this request will appropriate the local match provided by the Wabash River Enhancement Corp. for a study that will be performed by the Army Corp of Engineers. She said the study's results will tell us what we can and cannot do along the river corridor.

- Councilmember Vernon moved to appropriate \$50,000 in Fund 333, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

PARK: Superintendent Allen Nail

Transfer: \$9,900

From:	001-4310-463-38-10	Insurance	9,000
To:	001-4310-462-22-20	Garage, Gasoline	9,000
From:	001-4310-461-17-50	Workers Comp	900
To:	001-4310-463-32-10	Travel & Training	900

Mr. Nail explained the Insurance line item is property insurance that was over budgeted.

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve the transfers as requested, seconded by Councilmember Vernon.

Councilmember Vernon thanked Mr. Nail for finding money to transfer rather than asking for an additional appropriation for Travel & Training. She said it is important for his staff member to attend a conference.

- The motion carried.

WABASH CENTER FYI: Jeff Darling, Director and Jerry Withered, Board Member

Wabash Center Board Member Jerry Withered said they are fulfilling their promise to come before the Council annually and report on their activities. He expressed Wabash Center's appreciation for the Council's consideration of their past funding requests.

With the mission to optimize the quality of life for people with disabilities and special needs, Mr. Darling said Wabash Center needs continued County funding that will allow them continuity in the provision of their services. Some of those services are:

Children's Services: Over 450 children with disabilities and special needs were served last year in the First Steps & Child Care programs. Mr. Darling introduced Chris Pointer and her son John who has Cerebral Palsy. Ms Pointer said John started in First Steps and is now a participant in Day Care. She described the teachers as very receptive to recommendations from John's therapists and she has found the Day Care to be better than private options she explored.

EmployAbilities: Angela Miller is one of over 350 adults who was helped to find a job last year. She appeared with her job coach Susan Horn who explained that Angela is very well suited to child care and is now a full time child care employee at Wabash Center.

Work Services: Greenbush Industries: Greg Albregts, a 46 year old young man, appeared with his parents. The youngest of five children, his mother said Greg graduated in Special Education from McCutcheon High School. Greg said he currently works as a dishwasher at Purdue University and lives in his own apartment.

Councilmember Vernon commented that more tax dollars would be spent if there were no Wabash Center.

OTHER BUSINESS

Forensic Diversion Program: Superior Court V Judge Les Meade

Judge Meade explained that the Forensic Diversion Program is about how people with charges pending are handled. Instead of sending them to Jail during that time, some are selected to enter the Program to try to change their life style. Approximately 40 individuals are in the Program that may reach a maximum of 50. Applicants go through a stringent analysis and evaluation to determine if they are suitable. If the terms are violated, the individual goes to jail. While in the Program, participants can maintain their jobs and support their families and take other burdens off the community.

LTAP Presentation

Highway Executive Director Opal Kuhl informed the Council that LTAP (Local Technical Assistance Program) representative Tom Martin is willing to give a presentation on the Gas Tax if there is interest.

The presentation was scheduled for 1:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 12, 2006 in the Tippecanoe Room prior to the Council's Regular Meeting at 2:00 P.M.

FYI: Commissioner John Knochel

- He complimented Judge Meade and the other judges for helping lower the jail population with programs such as Forensic Diversion.
- Jason Kniola has been hired as Cary Home Executive Director beginning September 11, 2006.
- The September Department Heads Luncheon will be held at 11:30 A.M. at the Sheriff's Warehouse at the County Jail. The Sheriff and his Specialty Teams will demonstrate some of their equipment. "Smokey" cooked pork chops will be the meal attraction. A shuttle will run from Downtown for those who are interested.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Opal Kuhl announced she has Friends of Cary Home fundraiser coupons if anyone is interested. A \$5 contribution will purchase a \$10 coupon for L.S. Ayres that can be used on Saturday, September 16, 2006.

MEETINGS: Tippecanoe Room, County Office Building

The 2007 Budget Hearings will begin at 1:00 P.M., Monday, August 21, 2006 and continue until completed. President Byers announced that the Council will be charged with cutting \$900,000 to \$1,000,000 from the 2007 proposed budget which includes new positions recommended by the Commissioners and a 1% salary increase. It was noted that 1% equals approximately \$200,000. President Byers emphasized that the Council is here to represent all taxpayers when making budget decisions.


The County Council and County Commissioners will hold a Special Joint Meeting at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, September 12, 2006 for a presentation by LTAP (Local Technical Assistance Program) representative Tom Martin.


The County Council will hold its Regular Meeting at 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 12, 2006.

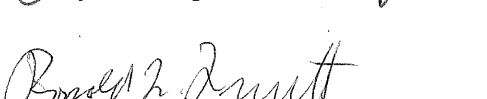
ADJOURNMENT

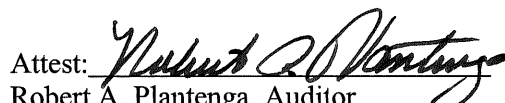
- The meeting adjourned upon the motion of Councilmember Michael and the second of Councilmember Kemper.

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL

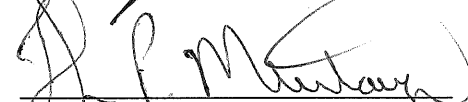

David S. Byers, President



Jeffrey A. Kemper, Vice President



Ronald L. Fruitt

Attest: 
Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor


Betty J. Michael


Thomas P. Murtaugh


Kevin L. Underwood


Kathy Vernon