

**TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 12 2005**

The Tippecanoe County Council held a Public Hearing at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, July 12, 2005 in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members present were: President Kathy Vernon, Ronald L. Fruitt, Jeffrey A. Kemper, Betty J. Michael, Thomas P. Murtaugh, and Kevin L. Underwood. Others present were: Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr. (Councilmember David S. Byers was absent.)

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

***PUBLIC HEARING: E-911 Fees***

Sheriff William "Smokey" Anderson and E-911 Director Capt. Rick Walker presented their case for requesting the increase of the E-911 Fee from \$.95 to \$1.52 per month per land line. Sheriff Anderson said the \$.57 increase is 3% of the average monthly per land line cost for Verizon customers. The E-911 Fund pays the lease on the Motorola System used by all emergency entities in the County, provides DATA technology for those entities, and pays salaries for seven (7) Dispatcher positions. Sheriff Anderson said the \$.95 surcharge, established in 1991, was sufficient and allowed us a cash surplus for several years but Verizon's 400% increase last July and the 2% monthly decrease in the number of land line users are two factors that are contributing to the shortfall in the E-911 Fund. It was reported that land line users decreased 8% in the last twelve (12) months and 16% since 2000. The Sheriff noted that Wireless 911 fees are governed by the State.

The following is a summary of Auditor Plantenga's handout showing the financial status of E-911:

E-911 Cash Balance as of 6/30/05 (Fund 176)		\$ 737,294.61
Total Estimated Revenue 7/1/05-12/31/05 (based on higher fee)		\$ 679,002.00
Total Cash & Expected Revenue		\$1,416,296.61
Unspent 2005 appropriations	\$1,563,956.06	
2005 Budget reductions to be requested 8/09/05	\$ 554,500.00	
Expected Expenditures 7/1/05-12/31/05		\$1,009,456.06
Anticipated Cash Balance as of 12/31/05		\$ 406,840.55
Expected 2006 Revenue		\$1,529,076.29
Requested 2006 Budget		\$1,928,060.00
2006 Shortfall		\$ 398,983.71

Councilmember Murtaugh commented the Council has no choice since the E-911 shortfall cannot be funded by the General Fund.

President Vernon commented this increase is a fix for now but the issue will have to be addressed again in the next few years. She said the County has to continue 911 because it is a public safety issue and the citizens are used to this service.

Sheriff Anderson interjected that other counties are also raising their 911 fee. He listed other counties in our area and the fee they currently charge:

Benton	\$2.50
Carroll	\$2.20
Clinton	\$1.60
Fountain	\$1.77
Montgomery	\$1.60
Warren	\$1.65
White	\$2.20

Sheriff Anderson said Porter County that has demographics similar to ours charges \$1.50. Hendricks county is seeking an increase from \$1.00 to \$2.06.

There were no other comments.

***ORDINANCE 2005-21-CL: Amending Tippecanoe County Code Repealing Section 91.02 & Adding New Section re Monthly Emergency Telephone System Fee (E-911)***

Attorney Luhman read Ordinance 2005-21-CL that will appear in its entirety in the Ordinance and Resolution Book in the County Auditor's Office.

Councilmember Fruitt requested clarification that a roll call vote will be taken followed by a vote to suspend the rules to allow a vote on second reading today. Attorney Luhman confirmed that it will take a unanimous vote to suspend the rules to allow a vote on second reading today. The impact will be that, under the Statute, the increased rate takes effect on the first day of the second month following adoption which will be September 1, 2005. He noted a previous calculation using the increased rate showed a financial impact of \$38,000 for each month delayed.

- Councilmember Murtaugh moved to approve Ordinance 2005-21-CL on first reading, seconded by Councilmember Michael.

Auditor Plantenga recorded the vote:

Kathy Vernon	Yes
Ron Fruitt	Yes
Jeff Kemper	Yes
Betty Michael	Yes
Tom Murtaugh	Yes
Kevin Underwood	Yes
Dave Byers	Absent

- The motion to approve Ordinance 2005-21-CL passed 6 – 0 on first reading.

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to suspend the rules and allow a vote on second reading the same day presented, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.
- Councilmember Murtaugh moved to approve Ordinance 2005-21-CL on second reading, seconded by Councilmember Kemper.

Auditor Plantenga recorded the vote:

Kevin Underwood	Yes
Tom Murtaugh	Yes
Betty Michael	Yes
Jeff Kemper	Yes
Ron Fruitt	Yes
Kathy Vernon	Yes
David Byers	Absent

- The motion to approve Ordinance 2005-21-CL passed 6 – 0 on second and final reading.

#### ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2005 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

#### ***AUDITOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT: Robert Plantenga***

Auditor Plantenga reported the 2005 uncommitted County General Funds through June 30, 2005 are \$92,047.13. He noted the Revenue Report reflects the receipt of Property Tax revenues in June. He explained that we receive \$40 million of Property Tax Replacement Credit (PTRC) per year for the entire county from the State in six payments: two the first half of the year and four the second half of the year. The receipt of only two payments in the first six months helps account for the \$1.2 million negative balance in General Fund 001.

Auditor Plantenga referenced a letter he sent to the State Budget Agency regarding Tippecanoe County's repayment plan for our delinquent billing of institutional care of juveniles held at Department of Corrections facilities. He believes the State is satisfied with our four (4) year repayment schedule. He said the County can use Residential Psychiatric Treatment Fund monies to pay debt but we won't know until the beginning of the year if there is a balance in that Fund. If there is not a balance, it will be necessary to use a General Fund appropriation in the County Council's 2006 Budget.

#### ***TREASURER'S INTEREST REPORT: Chief Deputy Shannon Withers***

Mrs. Withers distributed the Interest Report showing the average interest rate for May 2005 was 2.99%.

Councilmember Fruitt asked if the County is on target with the interest estimated in the 2005 Budget. Auditor Plantenga responded that we have earned approximately \$500,000 of the budgeted \$525,000.

#### ***SUPERIOR COURT II***

##### **Transfer: \$300.00**

From:	001-7102-413-32-10	Travel & Training	300
To:	001-7102-412-20-10	Office Supplies	300

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

#### ***PUBLIC DEFENDER: Amy Hutchison***

Salary Statement	Position	Rate	Salary
Full time	Deputy Public Defender	3@ 1,994.88	
		7@ 2,094.58	20,647.00

Mrs. Hutchison requested approval of the salary statement to pay a full time Deputy Public Defender position that was combined from two part-time positions. She said, because the part-time Deputy Public Defenders already receive health insurance benefits, this will be less cost to the County.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the salary statement for a full time Deputy Public Defender position, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

#### ***AUDITOR: Bob Plantenga***

Salary Statement	Position	Rate	Salary
Full time	Juv Financial Compliance	13@ 939.38	
		11@ 1,022.08	23,454.82

Auditor Plantenga requested approval of the reclassification of this position from COMOT I to COMOT II because this individual has taken over the job of collecting Juvenile Detention Reimbursement Orders for Superior Court III. Wagner, Irwin, & Scheele as well as the County Reclassification Committee approved this reclassification. Auditor Plantenga said he will use Part-time funds to supplement the difference in salary this year and Plat Book Funds to supplement the salary next year because this individual also works with the Plat Books.

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve the salary statement, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

#### ***SUPERIOR COURT VI: General Fund 001***

**Additional Appropriation: \$2,657**  
2,657 Pauper Counsel

It was noted that a bill for this amount was included with the request.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriation of \$2,657 for Pauper Counsel, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

***SUPERIOR COURT VI: Race & Gender Fairness Grant Fund 548: Grant Coordinator Christine Chapman***

Additional Appropriation: \$10,000  
10,000 Translator

Mrs. Chapman explained that this is a continuation grant in the amount of \$10,000. We received a check for \$9,500 but, due to our need and because we have a certified Interpretator, we received another check for \$500. This grant is effective through June 30, 2006.

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve the appropriation of \$10,000, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

***CORONER***

Additional Appropriation: \$20,000  
20,000 Autopsies

Councilmember Kemper said he was unable to meet with the Coroner to discuss the request but it was noted the Council appropriated \$8,000 for Autopsies last month. Auditor Plantenga reported the current balance in Autopsies is \$2,500. He said the Coroner spent approximately \$36,000 through the first six (6) months in this line item.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve \$6,000 for Autopsies, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

***COURT SERVICES: Substance Abuse/Mental Health Fund 575***

This request for additional appropriations was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

***COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Executive Director Pat Scowden & Office Manager Darlene McCray***

Mr. Scowden explained that these Budgets and Salary Statements reflect a restructuring of personnel that has been approved by Wagner, Irwin, & Scheele, the County Classification Committee, and the Community Corrections Advisory Board. He will request the Commissioners' approval at their meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup>. The restructuring will save approximately \$62,357.

**Project Income Fund 216**

Appropriation of Budget	\$2,054,347
Salary Statement	\$1,148,065
Day Reporting/Road Crew Asst	\$9.00/hr
Secretary	\$8.50/hr

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve the Appropriation of Budget in Fund 216 and the Salary Statement, seconded by Councilmember Kemper.

**Adult Grant Fund 218**

Appropriation of Budget	\$797,779
Salary Statement	\$507,352
Day Reporting/Road Crew Asst	\$9.00/hr
Secretary	\$8.50/hr

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the Appropriation of Budget in Fund 218 and the Salary Statement, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

**Juvenile Grant Fund 540**

Appropriation of Budget	\$231,638
Salary Statement	\$149,015

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve the Appropriation of Budget in Fund 540 and the Salary Statement, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

**Community Transition Fund 220**

Appropriation of Budget	\$88,920
Salary Statement	\$51,686

- Councilmember Murtaugh moved to approve the Appropriation of Budget in Fund 220 and the Salary Statement, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

***COMMISSIONERS: Stockwell Rehab Grant Fund 793: Grant Coordinator Christine Chapman***

Appropriation of Budget: \$150,000  
150,000 Contracts/Misc

Mrs. Chapman explained that Stockwell was awarded an Indiana Housing Finance Authority Grant in the amount of \$150,000 to help homeowners pay for their sewer hook-up and the rehab of some homes.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriation of \$150,000 for Fund 793, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

**FYI: Commissioner KD Benson**

- \* Today is Commissioner Ruth Shedd's birthday.
- \* A committee prioritized Tippecanoe County INDOT projects and rated the Hoosier Heartland Corridor #1.
- \* The Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's new Executive Director is Stan Lambert who will have an office in the Depot.
- \* Councilmember Murtaugh and Auditor Plantenga were members of the County's Dragon Boat Team that came in second in their heat in the challenge race.
- \* Butler International Inc. will host an open house from 4-6 P.M., Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at Purdue Research Park. They are located in the old Whirlpool Building.
- \* The next Department Head luncheon will be held at Noon, August 10<sup>th</sup> in the Tippecanoe Room.
- \* The 4-H Fair is July 16<sup>th</sup> through July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**OTHER BUSINESS****Wheel Tax Funding**

At the request of Councilmember Michael, Highway Executive Director Opal Kuhl reported on 2005 Paving Program projects funded by approximately \$400,000 of Wheel Tax money. Dust Control was funded by Wheel Tax as well as the following resurfacing projects;

<u>Road</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
900 E	100 S	200 S
900 E	400 N	700 N
700 W	SR 25	Division Rd.
75 E	500 N	600 N
975 E	US 52	SR 28
975 E	SR 28	1 <sup>st</sup> Railroad
975 E	1 <sup>st</sup> Railroad	1200 S
975 E	1200 S	1300 S

**2006 Budget**

President Vernon encouraged the Councilmembers to contact the departments they represent to discuss their 2006 Budget requests.

Councilmember Fruitt suggested that the Chairman for each department take the lead on meeting with the department heads. If the Chairman thinks it is necessary, he can then call on the Member to meet also.


**Next Meeting**

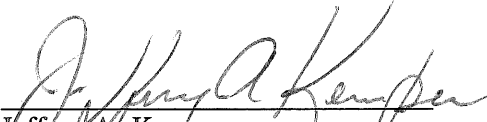
The next County Council meeting will be held at 1:00 P.M. followed by the Council's Public Hearing at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 9, 2005 in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building.

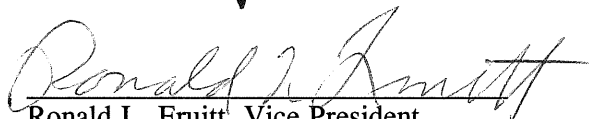
**ADJOURNMENT**

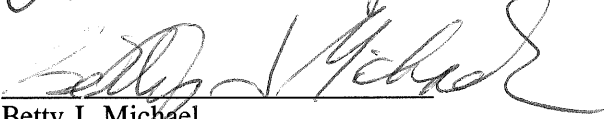
- Upon Councilmember Fruitt's motion, the meeting adjourned.

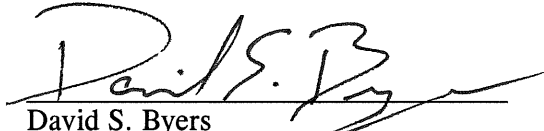
**TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL**

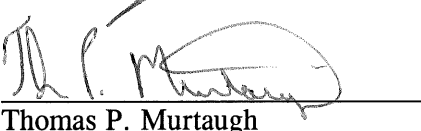
  
Kathy Vernon, President


  
Jeffrey A. Kemper

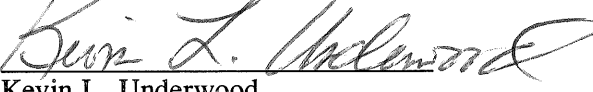
  
Ronald L. Fruitt, Vice President

  
Betty J. Michael

  
David S. Byers

  
Thomas P. Murtaugh

Attest:   
Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

  
Kevin L. Underwood