

**TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2005**

The Tippecanoe County Council Meeting began at 1:40 P.M. followed by the Council's Public Hearing at 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 8, 2005 in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members present were: President Kathy Vernon, Vice President Ronald L. Fruitt, David S. Byers, 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.

President Vernon convened the recessed meeting at 1:40 P.M.

AUDITOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT: Robert Plantenga

Auditor Plantenga reported the 2005 uncommitted County General Funds through January 31, 2005 are \$186,231.98 due to a lower beginning Net Balance than was reported in January. He pointed out the uncommitted balance does not reflect the proposed \$40,000 reduction by the Prosecutor on today's Agenda.

Auditor Plantenga briefly reviewed the Revenue Report and Fund Balances.

Councilmember Fruitt asked the outstanding balance owed to the County by the DOC (Department of Corrections) for housing inmates. Sheriff Anderson, who was in the audience, responded he wasn't sure but said they are finding that at least ten (10) inmates held monthly don't qualify for DOC reimbursement. Auditor Plantenga said the amount collected for 2004 is less than was projected but he is sure the State will eventually pay the amount owed.

Councilmember Byers asked how mandated claims will be paid if the uncommitted balance is \$0. Attorney Luhman responded the claims could probably be paid with money borrowed from the cash balance that would have to be repaid at the first of the next year. Auditor Plantenga noted that \$175,000 was appropriated in the Rainy Day Fund in the Council's Budget. He said if 2005 revenues are greater than anticipated, the cash balance for 2006 will be increased.

President Vernon emphasized that the Council has to look at appropriation requests carefully since approximately \$186,000 of uncommitted funds have to last 10½ months.

Councilmember Kemper asked for an explanation of Miscellaneous Expenditures that already total \$198.75 for 2005. Auditor Plantenga explained that the Statute says fees for attendance at State-called conferences by the State Board of Accounts, the Department of Local Government Finance, and the State Election Board are paid without an appropriation. This allows attendance regardless of the County's financial condition.

TREASURER'S INTEREST REPORT: Chief Deputy Treasurer Shannon Withers

Mrs. Withers distributed the Interest Report showing the average interest rate for December 2004 was 2.26%.

Revenue Committee Recommendation: Re: On-line Credit Card Payments

Mrs. Withers reported the Revenue Committee recommended disbanding the current \$5.00 convenience fee for paying property taxes on-line with a credit card and contracting with Official Payment for on-line credit card payments. At no cost to the County, Official Payment will accept all credit cards and collect a maximum convenience fee of 3% from the taxpayer. She said Official Payment estimates a set-up time of 30-60 days which will allow ample time before the May 10th deadline. After speaking with MITS Director Diane Hawkins, Mrs. Withers reported MITS will have no problem with the set up for Official Payment.

- Councilmember Byers moved to eliminate the \$5.00 convenience fee and allow the County to contract with Official Payment for on-line credit card payments for property taxes, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

FYI: Commissioner KD Benson

- Vision 2020 will meet at Jefferson High School tonight from 5:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.
- The Commissioners will hire Mike McMillen, recommended by the Juvenile Justice Commission, to help interpret the Feasibility Study and provide staffing recommendation and cost estimates for the Juvenile Justice Center. Interested Councilmembers are invited to attend the meeting with Mr. McMillen, the Commissioners, and Judge Rush from Noon to 3:00 P.M., Monday, February 14th.
- The League of Women Voters will hold a public forum on Tuesday, February 15th at 7:00 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room regarding the Juvenile Justice Center.
- The annual fundraising luncheon for the Richard G. Lugar Series for Excellence in Public Service will be held on Thursday, February 24th.
- Commissioner Benson will travel to Washington DC at the end of February to meet with Senators, Bayh, Lugar, and Buyer regarding Tippecanoe County projects.
- The Commissioners are considering increases to Building Permit Fees.

President Vernon announced the Public Hearing portion of the County Council Meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Due to an unresolved omission in the January 11, 2005 Minutes, Councilmember Michael moved to continue approval until the March 8, 2005 Meeting, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

FORENSIC DIVERSION PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Councilmember Kemper announced that Judge Don Johnson was unable to attend today's meeting but he is involved with the "Thinking for a Change" Forensic Diversion Program for youth who are on Probation. Judge Johnson will conduct 22 sessions over 2½ months at Ivy Tech State College with the help of Daylene Powers who is associated with Wabash Valley Hospital.

Councilmember Kemper introduced Al Strange, Indiana State Police Master Detective, who is the Coordinator for the Tippecanoe County Regional Drug Task Force. Mr. Strange is on the Forensic Diversion Team that works with adults on Probation.

Mr. Strange said the Forensic Diversion Program, created by the Legislature, is funded with a 3 year grant in the amount of \$150,000 to target persons with mental health and drug abuse problems. Mr. Strange said 74% of the individuals who are housed in the DOC are there because of drug related problems and 68% of them will re-offend within 3 years. Tippecanoe County's program currently has 20 individuals but they hope to expand that number to approximately 40. With an annual cost of \$30,000 per inmate, Mr. Strange said it will be a savings for taxpayers to keep individuals out of the DOC and, since employment is a requirement for involvement in the Program, the individuals will pay taxes. He said the Program gives participants the opportunity to straighten out their lives and become assets in society.

PUBLIC DEFENDER REIMBURSEMENT UPDATE: Public Defender Amy Hutchison and Public Defender Committee Member Pat Harrington

Mr. Harrington reported the County received the first Public Defender Reimbursement check in December 2004 in the amount of \$60,135 which was a 40% reimbursement. He expects the next check in approximately 60 days.

Mr. Harrington said they are proposing the addition of a new full time Public Defender who will work only on appeals that average 20 per year. If the reimbursements continue at the 40% rate, he thinks paying this individual a salary of \$55,000 per year would about equal the amount the County pays to hire private Pauper Attorneys. He said 7 murder appeals have already been filed for 2005. If this position is approved, a part-time employee would also be needed to type transcripts. Mr. Harrington said all the judges are favorable to a full time Public Defender for appeals but acknowledged this position would not contribute to our compliance numbers for reimbursement.

PROSECUTOR: Jerry Bean (Refer to 1/11/2005 Minutes)

Reduction of Appropriation: \$40,000.00

20,000.00 Federal Drug Match
15,000.00 Witness Fees
5,000.00 Transcripts & Records

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve the reduction of \$40,000 in the Prosecutor's General Fund Budget, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Commissioner KD Benson

Additional Appropriation: \$6,626.00

5,868.00 Appointed Official
449.00 Social Security
309.00 Retirement

Salary Ordinance	Position	Rate	Salary
Full time	Director	4,002.50	48,030.00

Commissioner Benson requested approval of the appropriation to pay the difference between the 2005 budgeted amount and the amount needed to pay the new Emergency Management Director. Mark Kirby, the new Director, has greater longevity with the County than the former Director.

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

SUPERIOR COURT III: JAIBG JAMS Grant "B" Fund 134: Superior Court III Fiscal Officer Kathy Timberlake & Cary Home Director Rebecca Humphrey

Additional Appropriation: \$33,882.00

4,499.00 Cash Match
29,383.00 General Operating/Misc

Ms Timberlake explained there is JAIBG Grant money available to fund the JAMS Program at Cary Home. Court Services previously agreed to provide the funding but it was later determined that JAMS did not qualify for Court Services' funds.

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve the appropriation for the JAMS Program from Fund 134, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

PROBATION Adult User Fee Fund 510: Chief Probation Officer Kipp Scott

Additional Appropriation: \$56,048.00

49,353.00 General Operating Misc
6,695.00 General Operating Misc

Mr. Scott requested approval of the appropriation of \$49,353 to pay 11 installments to Information & Records Assoc. for Docuware and the appropriation of \$6,695 to pay Probation Officers' salaries.

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve the appropriations in Probation Adult User Fee Fund 510, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

CASA: Jewelers for Children Grant Fund 504: CASA Director Coleen Hamrick**Appropriation of Budget: \$7,000.00**

6,756.00 Salary
244.00 Training Supplies

Salary Ordinance	Position	Rate	Salary
Part-time	Director	20.25/hr	
	Asst. Director	13.49/hr	
	Office Manager	10.71/hr	
	Clerical/data processing	9.00/hr	

Mrs. Hamrick requested approval of the appropriation of the grant money to pay additional hours for CASA staff, but made the following adjustments to the appropriations' request and the salary ordinance:

Appropriation of Budget: \$7,000.00

5,109.00 Salary
421.00 Social Security
1,500.00 Training Supplies

Salary Ordinance	Position	Rate	Salary
Part-time	Director	20.66/hr	
	Spec Proj Coord	11.50/hr	

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve the appropriation of \$5,109.00 for Salary, \$421.00 for Social Security, and \$1,500.00 for Training Supplies, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.
- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve the \$20.66 hourly rate for the Director and the \$11.50 hourly rate for the Special Projects Coordinator, seconded by Councilmember Murtaugh; motion carried.

CLERK: Child Support Incentive Fund 162: Clerk Linda Phillips**Additional Appropriation: \$26,951.00**

5,000.00 Part-time
383.00 Social Security
21,568.00 Miscellaneous

Mrs. Phillips requested approval of the appropriation of monies received from the State that is dedicated to fund IV-D Child Support activities. She said she is not sure how the appropriation for Miscellaneous will be spent. Auditor Plantenga said it can be shifted to appropriate line items.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriation, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

WIC: Peer Enhancement Fund 882: Coordinator Colleen Batt**Appropriation of Budget: \$60,000.00**

16,000.00 Salaries & Wages
10,750.00 Office Supplies
10,750.00 General Operating
22,500.00 Contracts/Miscellaneous

Mrs. Batt explained this is a one-time grant that will pay part of the salary for the Assistant Coordinator and pay for increased hours for some part-time employees. She said this grant is part of a National health goal to increase breast feeding rates of our population. WIC is working with rural counties in surrounding areas.

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve the appropriation of Fund 882 for WIC, seconded by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2005-06-CL: Endorses Res 2005-04-CM, Amendment to Cum Cap Plan

Resolution 2005-06-CL will appear in its entirety in the Ordinance and Resolution Book in the County Auditor's Office.

Attorney Luhman read the projects to which funding was added for 2005:

Project QQ	2005 Capital Outlay	\$900,181
Project D	Fairgrounds Improvements	\$100,000
Project HH	Grant Contingency	\$ 20,000
Projects G, K, N, R, AA, & KK	Facility Maint. for CH, TCOB, & 629	\$137,500
Project W	Voting Equipment Loan Repayment	\$191,111
Project OO	Copier Leases & Maintenance	\$127,000
Project NN	Purdue Firing Range	\$ 9,000
Project II	Part-time salaries, special projects	\$ 16,168
Project TT	Courthouse wiring	\$100,000
Project JJ	MITS System Admin/Oper salary/benefits	\$159,155
Project JJ/T	MITS Software Maintenance	\$180,310
Project JJ/T	MITS Telephone Maintenance	\$ 18,000
Project JJ/T	MITS Hardware Maintenance	\$ 75,000

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve Resolution 2005-06-CL, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS: Cum Cap Fund 010**Additional Appropriation: \$113,100.00**

13,100.00 Maint/Bldg Improvements
100,000.00 Bldgs/Residential Sin Fam

The appropriation for \$13,100.00 will pay for expenses incurred to put the freight elevator back in service in TCOB. The appropriation of \$100,000 will pay for the purchase of the Teal Road property adjacent to the Fairgrounds.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriations in Cum Cap Fund 010, seconded by Councilmember Byers; motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2005-07-CL: Endorses Res 2005-05-CM, Amendment to EDIT Plan

- Resolution 2005-07-CL will appear in its entirety in the Ordinance and Resolution Book in the County Auditor's Office.

Attorney Luhman read the additional funding for current projects and the additional Project Forty-eight (48)

Project 3	Surveyor's Dept/Section Corner Markers	\$193,507
Project 34	NPDES Phase II Stormwater Mgmt System	\$1,000,000
Project 20	General Drain Improvements/Stormwater Assessment	\$1,000,000
Project 38	Grant Coord. & Water Quality Ed. positions salary/benefits	\$102,474
Project 28	Vision 2020	\$10,000
Project 27	Hoosier Heartland Corridor	\$10,000
Project 19	Laf-W. Laf. Econ. Dev. Corp	\$50,000
Project 39	Wabash River Parkway Commission	\$2,500
Project 40	Grant Contingency Funds	\$15,000
Projects 2 & 24	Debt Service/Interest Courthouse/Garage Bonds	\$1,788,409
Project 7	Warning Sirens	\$23,900
Project 4	Ambulances	\$100,000
Project 42	Funding reserve for Youth Facility	\$500,000
Project 43	Economic Development Incentive Funds	\$200,000
Project 6	GIS Salaries & Supplies (incl. ½ MITS Dir. Salary)	\$235,994
	GIS 20" LCD upgrades	\$16,000
	GIS Plotter/Scanner	\$20,000
	GIS Software	\$15,000
	GIS Storage Area Network	\$25,000
	GIS Hard Drives/RAM Upgrades	\$70,000
Project 48 (new)	Regional Sewer District Expansion Enabling Funds	\$20,000

Attorney Luhman explained that all these projects were included in the 2005 Budget except the new Project 48 that will provide enabling funds for communities to address faulty septic systems and join the expanded Regional Sewer District.

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve Resolution 2005-07-CL, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

AUDITOR: Jury Pay Fund 550**Reduction of Appropriation: \$7,000.00**

1,000.00 Superior Court
4,500.00 Superior Court II
1,500.00 Superior Court V

Auditor Plantenga explained that \$25,000 was appropriated for the courts in Jury Pay Fund 550 for 2005. However, since they used more of Fund 550 than anticipated in 2004, the beginning cash balance for 2005 was too low to support the appropriation. He pointed out that, because money comes into this fund each month, the amount of reduction can be lowered to \$3,000 to give the courts more to work with. This will make the total appropriation \$22,000 that will match the cash balance in Fund 550 as of today. He recommended the following reduction amounts:

Reduction of Appropriations: \$3,000.00

500.00 Superior Court
1,500.00 Superior Court II
1,000.00 Superior Court V

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve the reduction of appropriations of \$500 for Superior Court, \$1,500 for Superior Court and \$1,000 for Superior Court V, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

The League of Women Voters will hold a public forum on Tuesday, February 15th at 7:00 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room regarding the Juvenile Justice Center.

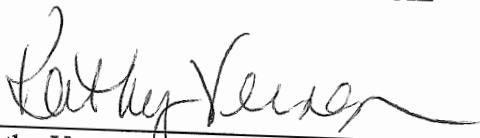
The Council is invited to attend a workshop and annual meeting of the Tippecanoe County Soil & Water Conservation District at 9:30 A.M., Tuesday, March 8, 2005 at the J. S. Wright Forestry Center in rural West Lafayette.

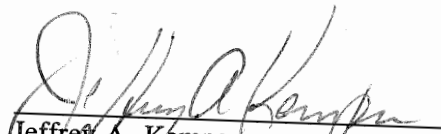
The Council will hold a joint meeting with the Commissioners and Financial Consultant Greg Guerrettaz at 11:30 A.M., Tuesday, March 8, 2005. The Council's Meeting will follow at 1:30 P.M. followed by the Council's Public Hearing at 2:00 P.M.

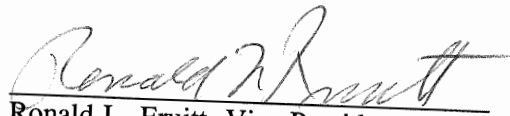
ADJOURNMENT: 3:18 P.M.

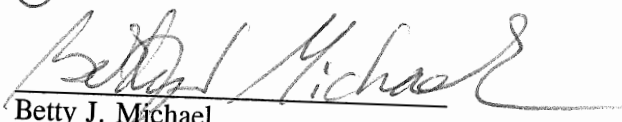
- Councilmember Byers moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

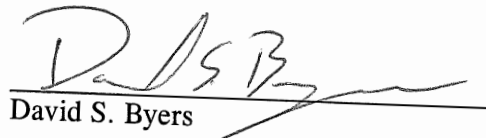
TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL

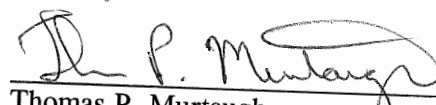

 Kathy Vernon, President

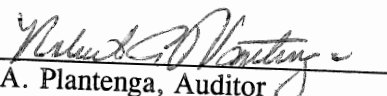

 Jeffrey A. Kemper

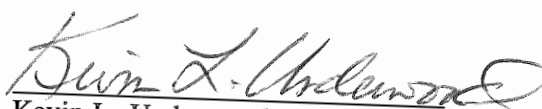

 Ronald L. Fruitt, Vice President


 Betty J. Michael


 David S. Byers


 Thomas P. Murtaugh

Attest: 
 Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor


 Kevin L. Underwood