TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2011

The Tippecanoe County Council met at 7:00 p.m. on April 12, 2011 in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members 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 David W. Luhman, and Secretary Kay Muse.

President Gutwein called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Councilmember Williams moved to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2011 regular meeting as presented, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

AUDITOR'S REPORT – *Jennifer Weston*

Auditor Weston said the year began with a balance of $794,368.74. Of $94,486 requests, the Council has granted $5,875 in addition appropriations. Reductions of $828 and Miscellaneous Expenditures of $2,822.86 leave an uncommitted fund balance of $786,498.88. An update reflecting the final settlement and circuit breaker will be submitted at the May meeting. The Fund Balance Report shows that Funds 15, 262, and 356 are American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) stimulus money. Previously, they were federal funds and were deposited in the General Fund; however, because they are now classified as federal stimulus funds, they will be accounted for separately. An additional report with the packet shows all court budgets and balances. The report includes accounts from the Jury Pay Fund. Councilmember Winger stated the report would be helpful before considering additional appropriations for the courts.

Beginning Net Balance	$794,368.74
Total Additional Appropriations	$ 5,875.00
Total Budget Reductions	$ 828.00
Miscellaneous Expenditures (to date)	$ 2,822.86
Uncommitted Funds	**$786,498.88**

TREASURER'S REPORT – *Bob Plantenga*

Treasurer Plantenga said that that February interest in down slightly. He added that several variables such as the number of days in a month affects the amount of interest earned in a period. A portion of the County's holdings in Lafayette Savings Bank had to be moved to Lafayette Band & Trust, which is at a lower interest rate and contributed to less interest earned. There was previously $20.7 million in Lafayette Savings Bank and it now has a balance of approximately $12 million. The time limit for cashing 2008 Homestead Rebate checks ended December 31, 2010. Any unclaimed funds from the property tax rebates must be returned to the State. However, there is approximately $70,000 in interest money that will go into the General Fund to cover expenses in the issuing of those checks. Tax bills will be mailed later this week; they were printed and stuffed by the Treasurer's Office.

PUBLIC COMMENT – *Agenda Items*

None

RESOLUTION 2011-10-CL – *Endorsing the Amendment of the Tippecanoe County Cumulative Capital Tax Improvement Plan*

Attorney Luhman stated that Resolution 2011-10-CL endorses Resolution 2011-09-CM previously adopted by the Commissioners. Resolution 2011-09-CM updates the County's Cumulative Capital Tax Improvement Plan. New projects include the Annual Building and Maintenance Funds Project YY, which shall provide annual funding from the Cumulative Capital Tax for repairs, maintenance, and improvements of County facilities, including Tippecanoe County Office Building, Courthouse, and 629 North Sixth Street. Funding for Project YY for 2011 is in the amount of $255,015. Project BBB Capital Outlay Expenditures for the Calendar Year 2009 and Project CCC Capital Outlay Expenditures for the Calendar Year 2010 have been added. Project DDD Capital Outlay Expenditures for the Calendar Year 2011 includes items that are anticipated to be paid from the Cumulative Capital Tax in 2011 and totals $656,807. In addition, funding in 2011 also includes the three ongoing projects previously mentioned. Those projects and amounts are Project 00 Copier Leases $125,000, Project HH Grant Contingency $10,000, and Project TT Capital Outlay Services Computer Hardware & Software Information $214,668. Councilmember Gutwein asked if these items were also considered in the budget hearings. Attorney Luhman confirmed they were.

Councilmember Gutwein stated that these are items that were discussed and approved during budget hearings last August. This resolution amends the plan to include these items.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve Resolution 2011-10-CL as presented, second by Councilmember Winger; motion carried.

SUPERIOR COURT 1
General Fund 001

Councilmember Kemper said that Bailiff Angie Thompson asked him to explain the basis for this request. The use of pauper attorneys has increased due to the special regulations put in place by the State. This has, in turn, caused Pauper Attorney cost to increase. Superior Court 1 has $30,000 in outstanding bills and only $ .73 in their Pauper Attorney account. Evaluation Services shows a balance of almost $3,000 however there are additional requests for evaluations and they will use the balance in the next two months. Law Book Subscriptions are due in May and June. Although there is not much left in the Jury Pay Fund, that fund has very limited use so the Council could wait on that request. Councilmember Basham asked if the pauper attorney fees could be recovered. Councilmember Kemper said that the Courts are concerned with following the law when appointing pauper attorneys; however, they are scrutinizing defendants to assure they are indigent before ordering pauper counsel to defendants. Any recovery of funds would be collected through the Public Defender or Prosecutor. Councilmember Vernon asked if the appropriation of $30,000 for pauper attorney expenses would bring outstanding bills up to date. Councilmember Kemper replied that would depend on whether there are any unbilled fees for Superior Court 1. Councilmember Vernon asked if a procedure could be put in place requiring billing for services be provided in a specific amount of time. Auditor Weston said that if the $30,000 request were approved today then Superior Court 1 would have used $48,000 this year. The request at budget time was for $20,000 with $17,000 being approved.

Additional Appropriation $34,500

$30,000	Court Expense / Pauper Attorney
$ 4,000	Court Expense / Evaluation Services
$ 500	Court Expense / Law Book Subscriptions

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve additional appropriation for Superior Court 1 in the amounts of $30,000 for pauper attorney, $4,000 for evaluation services, and $500 for law book subscriptions, second by Councilmember Winger; motion carried.

SUPERIOR COURT 3
Scholarship B Grant Fund 636

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said that Judge Rush received a $2,000 grant with a $500 match that would allow her to attend the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in New York City.

Grant Appropriation $2,500

$ 2,500	Training Costs / Travel & Training

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

SUPERIOR COURT 5
General Fund 001

Councilmember Kemper said that Judge Meade provided a detailed breakdown of special defender issues in Superior Court 5 and has provided documentation to support the entire amount. He added that Judge Meade is in attendance if the Council has any questions for him.

Additional Appropriation $9,932

$ 9,932	Court Expense / Pauper Attorney

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriations as presented, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

PROSECUTOR – *Pat Harrington*
Adult Protective Services Fund 250

Prosecutor Harrington said that an employee who previously did not participate in the County's medical insurance plan has now chosen to take it. He added that Adult Protective Services Fund 250 is supported through a grant from the state. Prosecutor Harrington withdrew a request of $8,500 for Equipment / Vehicles.

Additional Appropriation $12,151

$12,000	Insurance Benefit / Health Insurance
$ 90	Insurance Benefit / Long Term Disability
$ 61	Insurance Benefit / Life Insurance

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve additional appropriations of $12,000 for health insurance, $90 for long term disability, and $61 for life insurance, second by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

Pre-trial Diversion Fund 260

Prosecutor Harrington said that Fund 260 is a non-general non-taxpayer fund. State statute authorizes the Prosecutor to purchase equipment with these funds. Investigators have previously used their personnel vehicles to transport witnesses and serve subpoenas. Many of them have small children and are not

comfortable using their personnel vehicle. The vehicle purchased with this appropriation will not be a take-home vehicle and will only be used for law enforcement for the purpose of investigations. Councilmember Basham noted that there is approximately $400,000 in Fund 260.

Additional Appropriation $19,000

$19,000	Equipment / Vehicles

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

PUBLIC DEFENDER *– Amy Hutchinson*
General Fund 001

Councilmember Kemper said that he attended a meeting with Public Defender Amy Hutchinson, Chief Deputy Bill Lindblom, and the Public Defender Board. Many items were discussed including today's request. Although the Public Defender does not have as large a budget as the Prosecutor, they are required to provide many of the same services. Some of the expenses include staff attorney, expert witnesses, substance abuse evaluations, psychological evaluations, and many other items. During budget hearings, the Public Defender's budget of $140,000 was reduced to $30,000 in order to get the budget approved by the State. They have spent $26,000 to date. Councilmember Gutwein said that when cuts were made to this department it was felt that some of that money could come back through Fund 555, Public Defender user fees. Fund 555 does not have a large balance at this time. However, there could possibly be funds available from that fund later in the year.

Additional Appropriation $30,000

$30,000	Administrative / Other Professional Service

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the appropriation as presented, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

PROBATION
Probation Pregnancy Supervisor "B" Grant Fund 514

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said that this is year two of an Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Grant. Since the first year was so successful Indiana Criminal Justice Institute granted the entire amount asked for. The grant pays the salary of a part-time Probation Pregnancy Supervisor. Councilmember Vernon asked for clarification on accountability that the numbers submitted back to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute showing this project is justified. Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said that was correct, adding that a quarterly report is sent to them for review. There is also an annual report that shows cost versus benefit.

Grant Appropriation $26,818

$23,844	Salaries & Wages / Part Time
$ 1,824	Social Security
$ 430	General Operating / Mileage Reimbursement
$ 720	Utilities / Internet Access

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve the appropriation as presented, second by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

CARY HOME FOR CHILDREN
General Fund 001

Juvenile Alternatives Director Tammy Patrick said that this appropriation would pay a portion of the cost for employee uniforms. This insures that Cary Home Employees wear appropriate clothing.

Transfer $1,000

$ 1,000	Administrative / Other Professional Service to Departmental / Uniforms

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

FOCUS Program Fund 154

Juvenile Alternatives Director Tammy Patrick said the FOCUS program ended in February 2010. The surplus of funds will be used to purchase assessments for youth. Councilmember Williams asked if the assessments were similar to the former FOCUS program. Director Patrick said that the assessments would be used to evaluate the needs of youth.

Additional Appropriation $433

$433	Administrative / Other Professional Service

- Councilmember Vernon moved to approve the appropriation as presented, second by Councilmember Williams.

Councilmember Basham asked since the fund balance is lower than the requested amount would there be any more money placed in this fund. Auditor Weston said that the balance in Fund 154 is $345.98. She added that the Council should not appropriate more than that amount since there is no additional source of revenue.

- Councilmember Vernon moved to approve the amended appropriation of $345.98 from Fund 154, second by Councilmember Williams; motion carried.

JUVENILE ALTERNATIVES
Restorative Justice (ICJI) Grant Fund 539

Juvenile Alternatives Director Tammy Patrick said that this transfer would allow for the use of all remaining grant funds for "year one of the grant" before the grant end date. Year two of this grant has been awarded. Councilmember Basham asked if this is a reimbursement grant. Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said this grant is a reimbursement grant and funds must be appropriated before they can be reimbursed.

Transfer $5,706

$ 2,719	Salaries & Wages / Full Time to Equipment / Data Processing Hardware
$ 2,010	Salaries & Wages / Full Time to Contracts / Consultant
$ 604	Social Security to Contracts / Consultant
$ 308	Retirement / PERF to Contracts / Consultant
$ 40	Insurance Benefit / LTD to Contracts /

		Consultant
$	25	Insurance Benefit / Life to Contracts / Consultant

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

Restorative Justice (ICJI) "B" Grant Fund 538

Juvenile Alternatives Director Tammy Patrick said that this is year two of the Restorative Justice "B" Grant. Juvenile Alternatives has chosen to use a contracted consultant as an alternative to hiring a full time employee with benefits. Councilmember Kemper asked if Juvenile Alternatives could submit a report on the services the County would be receiving for the $40,000 contract. Director Patrick replied that a report would be provided along with the reports that are sent to the Indiana Justice Criminal Institute on a quarterly basis.

Grant Appropriation $40,000

$ 40,000	Contracts / Consultant

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

HIGHWAY *– Opal Kuhl*
Project Fund 780

Director Kuhl said that Fund 780 is used for federally funded projects. When setting the budget for this year this item was placed under Roads Infrastructure Paving and should have been placed under Operating Miscellaneous because it will be used for Right-of-Way purchases. Right-of-Way is needed for the Cumberland Project, Highway Safety Improvement Project (HSIP) signs, and the Burnett Road and Ninth Street Project.

Transfer $1,000,000

$1,000,000	Roads Infrastructure-Paving to General Operating / Misc.

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

TEMA *– Wm. "Smokey" Anderson*
TEMA EMPG Supplement Grant Fund 413

Director Anderson said this grant appropriation would be used to purchase three VHF radios and sideboards for a truck. The radios will replace radios that must be upgraded by 2013. Councilmember Winger asked if the radios would be narrow banding capable. Director Anderson replied that TEMA would be coming before the Council in the future asking for funding to replace the out of date equipment. Councilmember Vernon asked if there is grant funding available for this project. Director Anderson replied that there are no grants available for this project. He added that the State has chosen not to fund narrow banding. The project has been in the works for about 10 years and is too large for the State to assume. Councilmember Vernon asked, "What is the benefit of narrow banding?" Director Anderson replied that narrow banding refers to the channel bandwidth of mobile radio systems. Narrow banding will allow for greater efficiency in radio communications.

Grant Appropriation $ 3,750

$ 3,750	Equipment / Emergency Equipment

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

2008 SHSP Exercise Grant Fund 415

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said that when this grant was received the State had not yet determined how it could be used. The State has recently approved use of the grant for the National Level Exercise in May.

Transfer $8,395

$ 1,741	Overtime to Training cost / Misc.
$ 133	Social Security to Training Costs / Misc.
$ 126	Retirement / PERF to Training Costs / Misc.
$ 6,395	Office Expense / Misc to Training Costs / Misc.

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

TEMA District Response Task Force 4 (DRTF4) Equipment Grant Fund 417

Director Anderson said that this grant is for the purchase of equipment for District Task Force 4. Items such as bulletproof vest, helmets, and other equipment will be mostly for law enforcement. He added that very little of the equipment would be stored at TEMA. Councilmember Winger asked if the new "Gator" would be stored in Tippecanoe County or go to another county in the District. Director Anderson said that item is for medical use and the Tippecanoe Emergency Ambulance Service (TEAS) would most likely be storing it at Station 9.

Grant Appropriation $183,000

$147,060	Equipment / Emergency Equipment
$ 10,890	Equipment / Data Processing Hardware
$ 25,050	Departmental / Uniforms & Clothing

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

***WIC** – Colleen Batt*
Salary Statement

Director Batt presented salary statements for two positions for approval. Councilmember Gutwein asked if the positions are a continuation of current positions. Director Batt replied that they are new positions requested by the Indiana State Department of Health WIC Office. She went on to say that, the duties of the positions would go beyond the scope of the day-to-day services. Councilmember Vernon stated that Director Batt did provide justification for these positions to the classification committee.

Salary Statements $36,953

Dietitian/Nutritionist	$36,953 Annual PAT 3
Asst. State Breastfeeding	

Coordinator	$41,209 Annual PAT 4

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

WIC "B" Grant Fund 881

Director Batt said this grant appropriation is for the salary of two new positions, benefit increases for current staff, and cost involved in the upcoming conference to be held in Tippecanoe County.

Grant Appropriation $226,500

$ 32,569	Salaries & Wages / Full Time
$ 32,300	Insurance Benefit / Health Insurance
$ 2,492	Social Security
$ 2,361	Retirement / PERF
$ 31,778	Departmental / Educational Materials
$125,000	Training / Misc.

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

WIC Peer Enhancement Grant Fund 882

Director Batt requested a reduction in the Indiana State Department of Health Peer Enhancement Grant. She added that this reduction would allow fund to be distributed to other counties. Director Batt stated that WIC does have enough funding remaining to carry out all planned activities.

Reduction $123,800

$123,800	General Operating / Misc.

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

Director Batt stated that the National WIC Association anticipates that the amount of funding the federal government has allocated to the WIC program will continue through the end of the year.

HEALTH *– Ron Cripe*
North Central / Chronic Health Fund 119

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said that Riggs Community Health Center donated $2,000 for the continuation study of chronic health issues. Councilmember Vernon asked for a report showing cost verses benefits of the study. Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson replied that she would forward the request to Director Cripe.

Additional Appropriation $2,000

$2,000	Administrative / Other Professional Service

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

H1N1 Grant Fund 462

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said that the Center of Disease Control approved the purchase of a tent to be used for public health emergencies with unused H1N1 funds.

Grant Appropriation $52,015

$52,015	Equipment / Emergency Equipment

- Councilmember Williams moved to approve the appropriation as presented, second by Councilmember Underwood.

Council members Gutwein, Vernon, Winger, and Basham had several questions such as when the tent would be used, where the tent would be stored, how many people are required to set the tent up, what is the shelf life of the tent, how often would the tent be used, how many tents should the County have access to in the event of an emergency, and how much time is required to set up the tent. Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said that the tent would be used for health clinics including vaccine clinics. She added that 6 people are required to set the tent up. When not in use by the Health Department other agencies, such as the Red Cross, could utilize the tent. TEMA Director Smokey Anderson said that the tent can be placed on a pallet and a forklift used to place the tent on a storage rack. The life of the tent is approximately 10 years. Once the tent is transported to the site, the time required to set the tent up is 10 to 15 minutes. The recommended number of tents for a community the size of Lafayette is seven. Ms. Wilson said that it is the intention that the tents would be used to house people in the event of a catastrophic event. The County has until July 30, 2011 to purchase the tent. Councilmember Winger said that he was not prepared to approve this request today. Councilmember Williams said that further inquiry and consideration is warranted.

- Councilmember Williams moved to table the request, second by Councilmember Winger; motion carried.

Hospital Planning Grant B Fund 473

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said that this is a grant from the Indiana State Department of Health. It is to help fund a part-time position and purchase backpacks for the Medical Reserve Corp, office supplies, and booklets.

Grant Appropriation $5,000

$ 1,301	Salaries & Wages / Part Time
$ 99	Social Security
$ 1,209	Office Expense / Office Supplies
$ 575	Departmental / Educational Supplies
$ 1,816	Equipment / Misc.

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

Medical Reserve Corps CBA Grant Fund 482

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said this transfer would cover the increased airfare associated with training costs.

Transfer $197

$ 97	Office Expense / Office Supplies to Travel & Training
$ 100	Office Expense / Printed Forms to Travel & Training

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

Master Tobacco Settlement Fund 762

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said this transfer is for the printing cost of assessment forms. It also serves as the match for a $2,000 grant.

Transfer $5,000

$ 3,200	Utilities / Internet Access to Office Expense / Printed Forms
$ 1,800	Equipment / Misc. to Office Expense / Printed Forms

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

SHERIFF *– Tracy Brown*
TSC Resource Officer Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) Grant B Fund 207

Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson said this grant funds a Resource Officer at Tippecanoe School Corporation. It is year two of the grant and there is a 10% match. Councilmember Basham asked if funding would continue for this item. Grant Administrator Laurie Wilson stated that as long as the County is doing a good job funding would continue for a third year.

Grant Appropriation $ 54,444

$ 48,985	Salaries & Wages Full Time Employee
$ 5,459	Equipment Sheriff Equipment

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Romney Sewer

Councilmember Basham said that efforts are continuing on the Romney Sewer Project.

Public Defender Committee

Councilmember Kemper said that the collection of fees was discussed at the Public Defender Committee meeting and efforts to collect those fees will be increased.

Court Services

Councilmember Kemper said an update from Court Services shows that increased efforts to collect fees shows a decline in uncollected fees by about 8%. If projections are on target, Court Services should end April with approximately $91,000.

TEMA

Director Basham said that a position vacated last year would need to be filled with two part-time or one full-time employee. Director Anderson said that TEMA is down a position because a vacated position was not filled last year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Vernon said that most of this meeting was spent talking about grants. One of the issues is how to sustain some of these programs if funding is not available. Councilmember Vernon asked if the Council could get an update on the Wellness Center since opening two months ago.

COMMISSIONER FYI

Commissioner Byers said TEMA was recently reviewed by the State and was given an excellent review. Narrow banding must be addressed since it is mandated by the State. The Medal Of Honor Bridge will be dedicated on May 6 on CR 500 East and many dignitaries will attend. Leadership Lafayette will have a luncheon on Thursday April 14, 2011 here at the County building. The bids for the courthouse windows came in $500,000 less than anticipated, however, a vendor has been contracted to evaluate the condition of the limestone. April 30, 2011 Wabash Volunteer Fire Department has an "All you can eat Pancake & Sausage Breakfast". He closed by asking, "What price do you put on an emergency?" Emergency personnel understand the importance of having the proper equipment, such as a tent, during an emergency.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Randy Young, *8949 Tyler Road* – commended the Council for the evening meeting. He asked if the 2010 County Annual Report (CAR) had been published. Auditor Weston replied that it would be published April 22, 2011.

Jim Stalker, *1680 W 400 S* – said that he lives on the south side of Lafayette in the county. The City of Lafayette is in the planning stages of a trail system. However, that plan ends at the city limits. Mr. Stalker encouraged the Council to extend those trails into the county. He added that being a staff member at Wea Ridge Middle School has allowed him to witness children who walk to school arriving in wet clothes from walking in the ditches. Many of the subdivisions are isolated from each other and trails could tie them together. Trails would enhance the area and increase property values. A good example is the Monon Trail in Indianapolis.

Councilmember Basham said that he does have concerns with the children walking along highways to school. However, some of the responsibility falls on the developers.

Director Kuhl said that the County was involved in the planning of the trail system.

Paul Wright, *West Point* – said that he appreciates the discussion on the grants and Tippecanoe County receives a lot of grant money. If that grant money is no longer available how will those items be funded. Mr. Wright said that the purchase of the tent should be scrutinized before approval. He added that a budget for a dietitian was approved and the taxpayers are footing the bill. The federal government has difficultly cutting even a nickel. They talk about the millions cut but they never mention the percentage

of the cuts, which is less than 1% at this time. Tippecanoe County could not cut the budget and taxpayers are paying $4 a gallon for gasoline. Property taxes overall have increased on property that the value that has decreased. It is the Council's responsibility to contain it. The idea for the trails is a great idea but who is going to pay for it? How many people would pay to use those trails? Mr. Wright stated that he is tired of paying.

Christa Coffey, *Clerk Tippecanoe County* – said that she is working with the Public Defender to create a plan to track reimbursement data. She went on to say the same information could be used to track claims for the courts.

James Werner, *Lafayette* – said that he appreciates the evening meetings since it allows the public a chance to address the Council. He spoke recently attending an Area Plan Commission (APC) meeting and some policy statements adopted by APC are meant to further the objectives of providing sufficient housing to meet the needs of all current and future residents. However statements 12, 19, and 21 need to be reviewed.

Policy statement 12 says that the APC staff will gather accurate information on inventory, cost, and trends in the housing market; gather information on the housing needs of low and moderate income households, including minority households; and seek data identifying trends in markets including , empty-nesters, student housing, rentals and starter homes. Mr. Werner stated that some of this is already done by the County Assessor and asked if the APC also needs to do it.

Policy statement 19 says to provide housing at the proper price points for the jobs we have and the jobs we are attracting. APC staff will conduct further study to determine those price points for use by the home building community. Mr. Werner feels the Assessor should do this.

Policy Statement 21 states "In order to promote the greater safety and integrity of rental units in Tippecanoe County, identify and prioritize overcrowded rental units and target enforcement efforts accordingly. Support the establishment of a countywide rental inspection program." Mr. Werner proposed that Policy Statement 21 read "In order to promote the greater safety and integrity of rental units in Tippecanoe County, local governments should provide education about possible hazards in the home and provide guidance for homeowners and renter if occupants express concerns."

The policy statements and proposed changes submitted by Mr. Werner are available in the Auditor's Office.

Councilmember Winger, *Vice President, Tippecanoe County Area Plan Commission* – thanked Mr. Werner for his input on this item. He added that the last time the Housing Plan Element of the Master Plan was updated was 30 years ago. The items Mr. Werner is referring to are Policy Statements not Ordinances. It is in draft form and is available on the County website under the APC department. The process has been that the original plan was submitted in January and then taken to various entities for presentation. APC did have concerns as to some of the statements although it is not an ordinance and never will be. The smaller ordinance committee of the APC was assigned the task of looking at it and presenting a final draft for approval by the APC full approval no later than the July meeting. The APC supports the establishment of a countywide inspection program; however, the input is well taken and will be reported at future APC meetings.

Terry Masterson, *1115 Central Street* – expressed his appreciation of evening meetings. He added that attendance would be low because there are no controversial items on the agenda. However if they are held on a regular basis attendance will improve. Mr. Masterson added that impact fees should be levied on developers to help pay for road improvements and sidewalks when a subdivision is developed. The

wheel tax money that was previously used to fix sidewalks and roads has been used to build and improve roads in newly developed subdivisions. Developers will not build sidewalks unless they are required to do so. In some of the subdivisions, the roads are so sub-standard that residents cannot park in front of their homes. Other proposed policy changes will be made to APC.

Councilmember Winger, *Vice President, Tippecanoe County Area Plan Commission* – said the most expedient way to get input to the APC on this subject is to do so through the County website.

Dan Church, *7310 N 50 W* – said that this is only the third Council meeting he has attended. This is mostly due to working during the day and people with jobs are working hard to keep them so they cannot miss work. Mr. Church added that he was pleased to hear discussion about some of the requested appropriations however, the $1,000,000 appropriation for the Highway Department was approved without any question. Taxes should be going down not up.

Councilmember Gutwein, *President, County Council* – said that for clarification the $1,000,000 for the Highway Department was not an appropriation but a transfer. That funding had been previously approved. Today's request moved those funds between two accounts.

Michelle Blaas, *5700 Angelina Way Lafayette* – thanked the Council for scheduling evening meetings so that the public can attend the meetings.

Councilmember Kemper moved to adjourn.

Tippecanoe County Council

Andrew S. Gutwein, President

Roland K. Winger, Vice President

John R. Basham II

Jeffrey A. Kemper

Kevin L. Underwood

Kathy Vernon

David R. Williams

ATTEST:

Jennifer Weston, Auditor 5-10-2011