

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
December 11, 2007

The Tippecanoe County Council met at 2:00 p. m. Tuesday, December 11, 2007 in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members present were: President Jeffrey A. Kemper, Vice President Thomas P. Murtaugh, Andrew S. Gutwein, Betty J. Michael, David S. Byers, Kathy Vernon and Kevin Underwood. Others present were: Auditor Jennifer Weston, Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Jennifer Prange.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve minutes from the November 13, 2007 meeting, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

AUDITOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT – Jennifer Weston

Financial Report

Uncommitted Funds as of January 2007	\$ 1,981,908.39
YTD Council Approved Appropriations as of November	\$ 1,155,318.00
YTD Council Approved Reductions	+\$ 13,148.00
YTD Miscellaneous Expenditures	\$ 9,704.18
Uncommitted Funds available:	\$ 431,034.21

Auditor Weston reported General Fund appropriations were not requested in December. She also distributed a revenue report reflecting eleven months of collection as compared to the twelve month projection.

TREASURER'S INTEREST REPORT – Robert Plantenga

Treasurer Plantenga reported the average interest rate decreased $\frac{1}{4}$ %. The high balance interest rate for October remained around 5%, in November it decreased to 4.75%. With the Federal rate being cut, Auditor Plantenga believes the rate will continue to drop. Interest accumulated from the General Fund to date totaled approximately \$1.1 million, Cum Bridge interest \$300,000 and CD interest approximately \$174,000. December deposits are expected to be around \$300,000. The amount budgeted for interest income in 2007 has been met, and he anticipates \$2 million in interest for the General Fund in 2007.

RESOLUTION 2007-26-CL; ERA Application of the Warehouse of Lafayette

Joe Seamen, Lafayette/West Lafayette Development Commission and Katie Culp, representative for The Warehouse of Lafayette discussed the preliminary declaration for the project. The Warehouse of Lafayette located on US 52 and County Road 350 is considering expansion of a 30 acre parcel to create additional warehouse space for local and new companies interested in relocating to Lafayette. Ms. Culp is requesting a preliminary designation for an Economic Revitalization Area for speculative development. The development would depend on the tax abatement status which would offer competitive rental rates to businesses interested in relocating to the area. Ms. Culp reported the new facility would create additional jobs and support local companies for construction of the new facility. She proposed with approval the first building will be constructed in the spring and the second building in the fall.

- Councilmember Vernon moved to approved Resolution 2007-26-CL, second by Councilmember Murtaugh
- Councilmember Gutwein made a motion to amend the original motion to approve the ERA application for 2 years, Councilmember Vernon concurred, second by Murtaugh; motion carried.

COURT SERVICES

Violence in Community Fund 576

Grant Coordinator Laurie Wilson requested approval for a grant appropriation. This grant was received from the Coalition for a Safe and Drug Free Tippecanoe County to be used for drug screens.

Grant Appropriation: \$12,684

\$12,684 General Operating/Drug Screen

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve the grant appropriation as requested, second by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

PROSECUTOR – Kristen McVey

IV-D Prosecutor Incentive Fund 256

Deputy Prosecutor Kristen McVey requested an additional appropriation of funds received from the State for reimbursements for year end work.

Additional Appropriation: \$35,860

\$60 General Operating/Misc.
 \$24,000 Salaries & Wages/Part Time
 \$8,000 Salaries & Wages/Overtime
 \$2,600 Social Security
 \$500 General Operating/Misc.
 \$700 Equipment/Data Processing

- Councilmember Murtaugh moved to approve the additional appropriation as requested, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

Pre Trial Diversion Fund 260

An additional appropriation was requested by the Prosecutor to match grant funds received for Pre Trial Diversion Funds earlier in the year.

Additional Appropriation: \$25,575

\$25,575 General Operating/Misc

- Councilmember Murtaugh moved to approve the additional appropriation as requested, second by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

Criminal Justice Fund 601

Grant Appropriation: \$25,575

\$18,575 General Operating/Misc
\$7,000 Equipment

- Councilmember Vernon moved to approve the grant appropriation as requested, second by Councilmember Murtaugh; motion carried.

CASA

CASA Donation Fund 151

Additional Appropriation: \$273

\$273 Donations/Misc

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve the additional appropriation as stated, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

COURT SERVICES

Auditor Weston reported Court Services had not previously had a need for part time help; therefore, the 2007 Salary Statement did not list a part time rate. They would like to utilize part time for an Intake Specialist.

Salary Statement: \$8-12 per hour

\$8-12per hr. Hourly Intake Specialist

- Councilmember Gutwein moved to approve the salary statement as stated, second by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

CORONER

General Fund 001

Auditor Weston informed the Council the Coroner has \$3,000 available for transfer.

Transfer: \$3,200

\$3,200 Part Time to Autopsies

- Councilmember Underwood moved to approve the transfer for \$3,000 from Fund 001 as requested, second by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

BUILDING COMMISSION – Ron Highland

Building Commissioner Ron Highland briefly discussed the 2008 business plan for Building Permits. He reported building permits are down with single family dwellings decreasing drastically. He anticipates a decrease in building permits for 2008.

General Fund 001

Commissioner Highland explained additional office supply funds are needed to purchase permits for public distribution.

Transfer: \$2,000

\$2,000 Salaries/Wages to Office Supplies

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

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

General Fund 001

Transfer: \$4,000

\$1,000 Social Security to Transportation Supplies

\$1,500 Social Security to Environmental Supplies

\$1,500 Salaries/Wages to Medical Supplies

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve the transfer as requested, second by Councilmember Underwood; motion carried.

COUNTY ASSESSOR – Samantha Steele

Reassessment Fund 281

County Assessor Samantha Steele requested part time funds for township trustee assessor's work performed throughout the year. She proposed unexpected work has been completed by the county assessor and townships alike in 2007.

Transfer: \$5,000

\$5,000 Equip/Capital Outlay to Salaries/Part Time

- Councilmember Vernon moved to approve the transfer as requested, second by Councilmember Gutwein; motion carried. Councilmember's Underwood, Byers and Michael voted against the request.

SHERIFF – Major Williams

Major Williams requested a transfer for the Advance Correctional contract and food for the remainder of 2007.

Transfer: \$30,000

\$10,000 Salaries/Wages to Medical

\$10,000 Deputies to Medical

\$10,000 Social Security to Food

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve the transfer as stated, second by Councilmember Byers; motion carried.

SHERIFF'S COMMISSARY EXPENDITURES

Resolution 2007-27-CL to approve the Sheriff Commissary Fund Expenditure was presented for approval. Attorney Luhman explained the resolution authorizes the Sheriff to use commissary funds for annual expenditures.

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve Resolution 2007-27-CL for the Sheriff's Commissary Fund Expenditures, second by Councilmember Murtaugh; motion carried.

AUDITOR – Jennifer Weston

General Fund 001

Transfer: \$3,500

\$3,500 Salaries/Wages Full Time to Office Supplies

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

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

President Kemper advised the Council to review the proposed meeting dates, council assignments and appointments. The February Council meeting was moved to Wednesday, February 13, 2008 and the November meeting to Wednesday, November 12, 2008. President Kemper proposed budget hearings begin on August 25, 2008.

President Kemper recommended appointments and assignments be approved at the January meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Byers questioned the process of canceling an abatement due to closure of a business. Attorney Luhman explained Council members would not act on such an abatement until the business comes before the Council for compliance approval.

YOUTH SERVICES UPDATE – Rebecca Humphrey

Director Rebecca Humphrey reported a site has been identified with approval from the Commissioners and Judge Loretta Rush. The property is located on Elston and Old Romney Road. She presented an offer to the Council for review and approval. With a church located near the property, Director Humphrey met with the elders and the congregation of a church for approval of the purchase. She indicated all were in favor of the Juvenile Center and the location. The property is 16.94 acres, zoned GB and residential, located on the CityBus route and in the Tippecanoe School Corporation.

Tom Gillam, 345 Elston Road, Lafayette, shared his concern with the proposed location of the Juvenile Center. He is a neighbor of the church and suggested the facility should be located in a rural area rather than a densely populated area. He is also concerned about the type of individuals being housed in the facility. Mr. Gillam expressed interest in discussing the possibilities of the facility with the Youth Services Director.

Attorney Luhman gave details regarding Resolution 2007-28-CL; Interest to Acquire Real Estate. He confirmed by statute, the Council has to adopt a resolution to purchase real estate over \$25,000 before the Commissioners can take any action. He added this resolution will authorize the Commissioners to pursue the offer and obtain appraisals.

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve Resolution 2007-28-CL, second by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

Director Humphrey announced a Juvenile Justice Forum will take place on February 25, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Tippecanoe Room.

CARY HOME – Jason Kniola

Director Kniola updated the Council regarding the Cary Home for Girls. He reported the modular has been moved and is currently awaiting state approval for licenses. The projected date of completion is February 1, 2008. Director Kniola explained the delayed opening should not affect the General Fund; Cary Home for Boys is servicing double the expected amount of boys.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES UPDATE – Angela Smith Grossman

Director Angela Smith Grossman reported the department has a \$378,000 cash balance and \$625,000 in outstanding bills with 71% of the bills from the last half of October and November. The million dollar loan from the county has been paid; a small settlement and reimbursements are expected to keep the department on track in 2008.

COMMISSIONER'S FYI – KD Benson

Commissioner Benson thanked the Council for their support in site selection for the Juvenile Facility. She invited the Council and others to visit the county offices participating in the door decorating contest. The Department Head lunch will be held on December 12, 2007; Commissioner Benson invited the Council to attend. Commissioner Benson will attend an AIC meeting to discuss government reform. Joe Buntin, Highway Supervisor, will retire on December 31, 2007 after 20 years with the county. The reception will be held on December 20, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in the Tippecanoe Room.

PUBLIC COMMENT

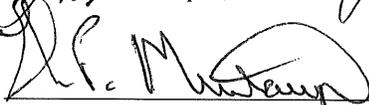
None

- Councilmember Vernon moved to adjourn.

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL



Jeffrey A. Kemper, President



Thomas P. Murtaugh, Vice President



Betty J. Michael



David S. Byers

absent
Andrew S. Gutwein

Kevin L. Underwood
Kevin L. Underwood

Attest: Jennifer Weston
Jennifer Weston, Auditor

Kathy Vernon
Kathy Vernon