TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
TIPPECANOE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JOINT MEETING
MAY 15, 2007

The Tippecanoe County Council and Tippecanoe County Commissioners held a joint meeting on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at noon 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, David S. Byers, Betty J. Michael, Kathy Vernon, and Kevin L. Underwood. Commissioners present were: President KD Benson, Vice President John L. Knochel, and Member Ruth E. Shedd. Others present were: Auditor Jennifer Weston, Commissioners' Assistant Frank Cederquist, County Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Jennifer Prange.

Tippecanoe County's financial consultant and President of Financial Solutions Group, Inc., Greg Guerrattaz was also present.

President Benson called the Commissioners' meeting to order.

President Jeff Kemper called the Council's meeting to order.

Greg Guerrattaz introduced HEA 1478, section 39 regarding the Homestead Credit. Auditor Weston provided information regarding the inventory reported per taxing district, net residential value, and the calculated credit rates. She added that a method was created locally and approved by the state. Auditor Weston intends to address the credit further at the June council meeting.

Mr. Guerrattaz distributed a suggested key for the Capital Improvement Priority (CIP) plan. The key incorporated the rating of projects and the importance to the county. They are as follows:

Project #1: required by the state, considered to be an emergency by the state
Project #2: very high needs project with state action in the future if project not completed
Project #3: if completed will result in savings with the county and operating costs
Project #4: not a required project
Project #5: funded by economic development as a result of growth (specific funding source)

Mr. Guerrattaz suggested each member of the financial team prioritize the capital projects based on this priority key.

JUVENILE FACILITY – Rebecca Humphrey

Youth Services Director Rebecca Humphrey discussed possible locations for a facility. Her reports included estimated costs and recommendations for various youth services. In determining the facility location, existing buildings have been explored in Tippecanoe County. Director Humphrey noted that the facility will cost approximately $22,500,000 not including the land. She noted that investing in the facility at this point will eventually decrease the number of detainees in our jail. Director Humphrey suggested co-locating a female facility behind Cary Home to allow the staff to serve both facilities.

Judge Rush stated that she is concerned about the amount of money currently being considered for the facility. She is fearful that this burden on the community may further delay the entire process. She encouraged the commissioners to move forward on the female residential facility in

an effort to better serve the community. She noted that these plans have been discussed for years and to date no action has been taken.

Councilmember Gutwein discussed the possibility of moving forward with the alternative services. Director Humphrey suggested co-locating services such as JAMS and SHOCAP to reduce the capacity in the detention center. Expansion and co-location will allow additional services to be added and increase the number of youth served in the community.

Greg Guerrattaz, further discussed the Business Plan for the county and provided a summary of each department head's responsibility to help complete the plan. He noted that department cooperation is essential to complete the overall plan for the county.

WEST POINT ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Commissioner Benson reported West Point has requested street closure for their annual car show. Highway has approved this request and alternative routes have been established.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to approve the request to close streets in West Point, second by Commissioner Benson; motion carried.

The next joint meeting will be held July 10, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. with Greg Guerrattaz.

ASSOCIATION OF INDIANA COUNTIES (AIC) – David Bottorf & Angie Devorak

David Bottorf discussed HEA 1478 regarding changes in tax and funding options for local government. The Capital Review Board will act as the coordinating board on capital projects to assist in collaboration within county government. He noted DLGF will provide guidelines for a five year plan that supplies a general description of the political subdivision. It will also identify facilities owned to be updated every 2 years. He noted all controlled projects over $7,000,000 are included except Storm Water Management and various water, drainage, highway, road, and bridge projects. The state level board is relinquishing control to the county effective 2009.

Local options income tax options:

- Option A - Levy Growth: new revenue generated from income taxes rather than property taxes with a 2 year commitment and a 1% cap; creation of a stabilization fund with double the income tax rate in the first year

- Option B - Property Tax Relief Income Tax: increase income taxes up to 1% for direct reduction of property taxes with three different options, local homestead credit, local PTRC, across board property relief to all classes of property

- Option C - Public Safety Income Tax: Option C requires implementing Options A & B, capped at 0. 25%, divided only between cities, towns and counties.

Mr. Bottorf added the Circuit Breaker cap on a taxpayer's net liability cannot be more than 2% of gross value. Our county would have been impacted by $1.8 million, however with the legislative changes the impact will be less than $1,000.

This bill consolidated levy appeals into four options.

President Kemper thanked Angie Devorak and David Bottorf for attending today's joint meeting.

- Commissioner Knochel moved to adjourn the commissioner's session.
- Councilmember Underwood moved to recess.

TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL

Jeffrey A. Kemper, President

Betty J. Michael

Thomas P. Murtaugh, Vice President

David S. Byers

Andrew S. Gutwein

Kevin L. Underwood

Attest:
Jennifer Weston, Auditor

Kathy Vernon

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KD Benson

KD Benson, President

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Ruth E. Shedd, Member

ATTEST:

Jennifer Weston

Jennifer Weston, Auditor