

**TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2003**

The Tippecanoe County Council held its Regular Meeting at 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 9, 2003 in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Council members present were: President Connie Basham, Vice President Ronald L. Fruitt, David S. Byers, Jeffrey A. Kemper, Jeffrey Kessler, Betty J. Michael, and Kathy Vernon. Others present were: Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr.

President Basham called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Basham then offered a prayer.

RESOLUTION 2003-23-CL: Confirms Funding of Community Mental Health Centers

Resolution 2003-23-CL will appear in its entirety in the Ordinance and Resolution Book in the County Auditor's Office.

This resolution confirms the County Council budgeted funding for community mental health centers in an amount equivalent to an annual tax rate of 2 cents (\$0.02) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of taxable property within the county or as adjusted by the general reassessment for 2004.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve Resolution 2003-23-CL, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2003-24-CL: Confirms and Ratifies the County Surveyor's 2004 Salary

Resolution 2003-24-CL will appear in its entirety in the Ordinance and Resolution Book in the County Auditor's Office.

Attorney Luhman summarized the resolution that confirms the salary for a registered surveyor has been fixed at \$71,400 while the salary for a non-registered surveyor has been fixed at one and one half times less or \$47,600.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve Resolution 2003-24-CL, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2003-25-CL: Confirms and Ratifies the County Coroner's 2004 Salary

Resolution 2003-25-CL will appear in its entirety in the Ordinance and Resolution Book in the County Auditor's Office.

Attorney Luhman summarized the resolution that confirms the salary for a coroner who is licensed to practice as a physician in Indiana has been fixed at \$36,176 while the salary for a coroner who is not licensed to practice as a physician in Indiana has been fixed at one and one half times less or \$24,117.

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve Resolution 2003-25-CL, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

CHANGES TO 2004 BUDGET AFTER COMPLETION OF HEARINGS

Auditor Plantenga noted changes to the 2004 Budget since the completion of Budget Hearings:

General Fund 001: Superior Court 5

| | | | |
|-------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| 11-10 | Full Time Employees | 124,832 | 123,294 |
|-------|---------------------|---------|---------|

An incorrect number was included in the salary request.

Local Health Maintenance Fund 460: Health Department

| | | | |
|-------|---------------------|---|--------|
| 11-10 | Full Time Employees | 0 | 28,884 |
|-------|---------------------|---|--------|

Sufficient funding was added from Local Health Maintenance Fund 460 to elevate the Part-time Regular position to a Full Time Employee for one year only. With only one year to go, this will allow the employee to draw retirement.

Highway Fund 101: Highway

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--------|---------|
| 22-41 | Parts-Cars/Vans/Pick Ups | 9,000 | 0 |
| 22-50 | Inv/Supply/Tools | 64,000 | 115,500 |
| 22-60 | Tires | 30,000 | 0 |

These three line items were combined into one.

Reassessment Fund 280: County Assessor

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| 12-20 | Part-time – Other | 100,000 | 80,000 |
| 12-50 | Board Members | 30,000 | 10,000 |
| 17-50 | Workers Comp | 9,624 | 4,000 |
| 32-10 | Travel & Training | 13,000 | 5,000 |
| 36-55 | Plat Books | 4,000 | 0 |
| 43-35 | Consultant | 100,000 | 56,500 |
| 62-90 | Capital Outlay | 55,000 | 0 |

It was discovered during Budget Hearings that there was too much budget to support the cash balance in the Fund. With the County Assessor's cooperation, these cuts were made to make the expenditures for the remainder of 2003 and the 2004 Budget equal to the July 1, 2003 cash balance.

CARY HOME POSITION

- After confirming with the Auditor the amount needed to be cut is now minus \$9,555 and considering the Cary Home Director increased her 2004 revenue estimate an additional \$100,000, Councilmember Byers moved to amend the 2004 Budget to reflect the change for the Maintenance Technician position from part-time to full time for an additional \$7,973, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

COURT SERVICES BUDGET

Since his wife owns the building rented by Court Services, Councilmember Kessler announced he will abstain on the vote to approve the Court Services 2004 Budget.

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve the 2004 Court Services Budget and Salary Ordinance as presented, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried 6 – 0 with Councilmember Kessler abstaining.

FINAL APPROVAL OF 2004 BUDGET

Councilmember Michael moved to approve the Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates on second reading and approve the 2004 Budget with amendments, seconded by Councilmember Kessler.

President Basham read the following:

(quote)

Budget Form 4 (Rev. 1985)

ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

Be it ordained by the County Council of Tippecanoe, Indiana: that for the expenses of the County government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2004, the sums of money shown on Budget form 4-A are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenues to meet the necessary expense of County government, tax rates are shown on Budget Form 4-B and included herein. Two (2) copies of Budget Forms 4-A and 4-B for all funds and departments are made a part of the budget report submitted herewith.

Presented to the County Council of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and read in full for the first time this 25th day of August 2003.

Attest: _____
/s/Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

/s/Connie Basham, President

Presented to the County Council of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and read in full for the second time, and adopted, this 9th day of September, 2003, by the following vote:

| | Aye | Nay |
|-------------------|-------|-------|
| Connie Basham | _____ | _____ |
| Ronald L. Fruitt | _____ | _____ |
| David S. Byers | _____ | _____ |
| Jeffrey A. Kemper | _____ | _____ |
| Jeffrey Kessler | _____ | _____ |
| Betty J. Michael | _____ | _____ |
| Kathy Vernon | _____ | _____ |

ATTEST: _____

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

APPROVED BY: TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2003.

Connie Basham, President

Jeffrey A. Kemper

Ronald L. Fruitt

Jeffrey Kessler

David S. Byers

Betty J. Michael

ATTEST: _____

Kathy Vernon

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor

PUBLISHED BUDGET FIGURES FOR 2004 ARE:

2004 Net Assessed Valuation \$7,274,280,770

| <u>Fund</u> | <u>Fund Name</u> <u>Current</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Maximum</u> | <u>Excessive</u> | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| | | <u>Estimate</u> <u>Tax Levies</u> | <u>Estimated Funds</u> <u>to be Raised</u> | <u>Levy Appeals</u> | |
| 001 | County General | \$31,112,861 | \$20,430,283 | \$500,000 | \$14,040,068 |
| 010 | Cumulative Capital Dev | \$1,965,547 | \$1,425,760 | \$0 | \$1,384,232 |
| 011 | Cumulative Bridge | \$2,827,728 | \$2,909,713 | \$0 | \$2,245,846 |
| 020 | Jail Lease/Rental | \$1,072,000 | \$1,072,000 | \$0 | \$550,868 |
| 101 | County Highway | \$3,888,432 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 102 | Local Road & Street | \$976,600 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 176 | E-911 | \$1,743,774 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 280 | Reassessment | \$686,031 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 281 | Reassessment 2006 | \$0 | \$308,849 | \$0 | \$303,684 |
| 301 | EDIT | \$6,876,563 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 570 | Welfare/DFC | \$6,542,000 | \$2,955,419 | \$0 | \$3,905,512 |
| | Childrens Psych Treat | \$269,860 | \$269,860 | \$0 | \$0 |
| | Welfare/HCI | \$0 | \$326,283 | \$0 | \$296,621 |
| | Welfare/MAW | \$0 | \$403,970 | \$0 | \$367,245 |
| | Welfare/CSHCN | \$0 | \$100,992 | \$0 | \$91,811 |
| | TOTAL | \$57,961,396 | \$30,203,129 | \$500,000 | \$23,185,887 |

The 2004 estimated maximum levy limitation of the unit is: \$30,203,129

(unquote)

Auditor Plantenga recorded the vote:

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Connie Basham | Yes |
| Ronald Fruitt | Yes |
| David Byers | Yes |
| Jeffrey Kemper | Yes |
| Jeffrey Kessler | Yes |
| Betty Michael | Yes |
| Kathy Vernon | Yes |

- The motion to approve the Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates on second reading and the 2004 Budget with amendments passed 7 - 0.

APPROVAL OF 2004 SALARY ORDINANCES

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve the 2004 Salary Ordinances to reflect the salaries in the approved 2004 Budget, seconded by Councilmember Byers; motion carried.

EXCESS LEVY

Auditor Plantenga announced that, because the Sheriff's Retirement increased more than 10%, the County can appeal for an Excess Levy for the percentage over that or approximately \$38,000 in the County General Levy to cover that cost. Because this has to be appealed to the Local Government Tax Control Board in Indianapolis by September 19th, he asked for the Council's guidance. Councilmember Kemper thought the Council should authorize the Auditor to proceed.

As information for the Council, Attorney Luhman reported that earlier today the County Redevelopment Commission voted to rescind a property tax to offset the loss of the Homestead Credit for the SIA TIF District for 2004. As it happens, that amount of that tax would have been almost the same as the proposed Excess Levy. Auditor Plantenga said the Excess Levy will be a tax increase but one the County is entitled to. As a member of the Redevelopment Commission, Councilmember Kessler said they chose to rescind the tax for 2004 because the money was not obligated. However, he thinks this is different because the County will be funding the Sheriff's Retirement Plan.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to authorize the Auditor to submit the paperwork for an Excess Levy appeal for the Sheriff's Retirement Plan, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2003 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.
- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2003 Joint Working Session with the Commissioners, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Auditor Robert Plantenga

Auditor Plantenga reported the 2003 uncommitted County General Funds through August 31, 2003 are \$194,472.76. Today's requests for uncommitted funds total \$50,405.00. Referring to the General Fund Revenue Report, he said Excise Tax distributions were made to all the entities except Benton School Corporation. We will not receive our 2004 COIT certification until we have the Benton School Corporation and Otterbein Library rates.

INTEREST STATEMENT: Treasurer Oneta Tolle

Mrs. Tolle distributed the Interest Report showing the average interest rate for July 2003 was 1.16%. She announced the Treasurer's Office will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., Saturday, September 20, 2003 to give taxpayers additional time to pay their property taxes before the September 22nd deadline.

SUPERIOR COURT VI: Bailiff Lori Coddington**General Fund 001****ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$8,605**

| | |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1,000.00 | Judge Pro-Tem |
| 6,000.00 | Pauper Counsel |
| 500.00 | Supplies |
| 105.00 | Dues & Subscriptions |
| 1,000.00 | Jury Expense |

Jury Pay Fund 550**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$7,000.00**

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| 7,000.00 | Jury Expense |
|----------|--------------|

Judge Morrissey could not attend today's meeting but spoke briefly to the Council earlier during the Special Meeting with the Commissioners. There is a balance of \$361 in Jury Expense and he

estimates he will have seven to ten trials before the end of the year. The Judge said he will live with what the Council can appropriate today and will not return again this year.

- As former County Clerk, Councilmember Michael said this court does not have the habit of requesting more than is needed and moved to approve the requests for \$8,605 in General Fund 001, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.
- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve \$7,000 for Jury Expense in Jury Pay Fund 550, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

CORONER: Secretary Jane Haan

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$23,000.00

7,000.00 Transfer Service
26,000.00 Autopsies

Mrs. Haan said they have already spent half of the \$26,000 requested for Autopsies but do not have money to transfer.

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve \$7,000 for Transfer Service and \$26,000 for Autopsies, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

BUILDING COMMISSION

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$4,000.00

4,000.00 Travel & Training

Councilmember Michael stated the Building Commission has been taxed quite extensively because of the July 4th flood in addition to all the construction in the County. They are averaging \$2,050 per month in expenses but have a balance of only \$4,700 which she said won't carry them until the end of the year.

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve \$4,000 for Travel & Training, seconded by Councilmember Byers; motion carried.

CIRCUIT COURT: Judge Don Daniel

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$4,800.00

1,000.00 Pauper Attorney
3,000.00 Jury Expense
300.00 Law Books
500.00 Translator

Judge Daniel reported they have received bills totaling another \$4,800 since this request was submitted. With a request of \$3,000 for Jury Expense, Auditor Plantenga was asked the unappropriated balance in the Jury Pay Fund. After he reported a balance of \$12,000, Judge Daniel said his request does not qualify for the Jury Pay Fund because it is for meals and supplies for the jurors, not pay. Judge Daniel then amended his request to \$2,000 for Pauper Attorney, \$1,000 for Jury Expense, \$1,300 for Law Books, and \$500 for Translator for a total of \$4,800. Auditor Plantenga confirmed this is permissible since only the amount of the total request was advertised.

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve appropriations of \$2,000 for Pauper Attorney, \$1,000 for Jury Expense, \$1,300 for Law Books, and \$500 for Translator, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

MITIS: EDIT Fund 301

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$49,198.00

49,198.00 GIS Contracts

Auditor Plantenga said this line item needs to be appropriated before bills can be paid but he could not explain the contracts. MITS Director Diane Hawkins was called and asked to come before the Council to explain.

AREA PLAN

TRANSFER: \$11,350.00

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|----------------------|----------|
| From: | 001-2510-412-25-40 | Signage | 1,250.00 |
| To: | 001-2510-413-30-05 | Dues & Subscriptions | 250.00 |
| | 001-2510-413-32-10 | Travel Expense | 1,000.00 |
| From: | 001-2510-411-11-10 | Full Time Employee | 6,100.00 |
| To: | 001-2510-413-43-20 | Legal Services | 3,800.00 |
| | 001-2510-413-32-10 | Travel & Training | 1,000.00 |
| | 001-2510-413-30-05 | Dues & Subscriptions | 1,300.00 |
| From: | 001-2510-411-17-10 | Health Insurance | 4,000.00 |
| To: | 001-2510-413-43-20 | Legal Services | 4,000.00 |

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TRANSFER: \$10,000.00

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| From: | 001-9010-451-11-10 | Full Time Employee | 10,000.00 |
| To: | 001-9010-452-25-25 | Medical Supplies | 9,500.00 |
| | 001-9010-452-22-10 | Transportation Supplies | 500.00 |

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

ZONING ENFORCEMENT

TRANSFER: \$500.00

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|----------------------|--------|
| From: | 001-2710-413-25-55 | Photo Finishing | 200.00 |
| | 001-2710-413-30-05 | Dues & Subscriptions | 200.00 |
| | 001-2710-413-36-10 | Maintenance & Repair | 100.00 |
| To: | 001-2710-412-20-10 | Operating Supplies | 500.00 |

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilmember Kessler; motion carried.

JUVENILE ALTERNATIVES GRANT FUND 641

TRANSFER: \$3,200.00

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|----------------------|----------|
| From: | 641-5603-421-11-10 | Personal Services | 3,200.00 |
| To: | 641-5603-423-43-90 | Contractual Services | 3,200.00 |

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the transfer, seconded by Councilmember Fruitt; motion carried.

COUNTY ASSESSOR: Reassessment Fund 280

TRANSFER: \$3,700.00

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
| From: | 280-0510-413-36-55 | Plat Books | 3,700.00 |
| To: | 280-0510-412-20-10 | Office Supplies | 3,700.00 |

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve the transfer, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

AUDITOR

TRANSFER: \$2,085.00

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| From: | 001-0110-411-11-10 | Full Time Employees | 2,085.00 |
| To: | 001-0110-412-20-20 | Printed Forms | 1,900.00 |
| | 001-0110-413-32-10 | Travel & Training | 185.00 |

- Councilmember Byers moved to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

MTS: EDIT Fund 301 continued**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: \$49,198.00**

49,198.00 GIS Contracts

Mrs. Hawkins explained the County entered into an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lafayette to share the cost of an agreement with Woolpert for Aerial Photography to update GIS. The County received a payment from the City but she said she was told the money had to be appropriated before the bill to Woolpert could be paid.

- Councilmember Kessler moved to approve the appropriation in Fund 301, seconded by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

LIBRARY APPOINTMENT

President Basham announced that Dan Taylor, the Council's Tippecanoe County Library appointment, resigned effective September 30, 2003. She asked Councilmembers to submit names of potential appointees.

DFC DIRECTOR

President Basham introduced Steve Vaughn, the new DFC (Division of Family & Children) Director, who replaced Dave Ling earlier this summer. Mr. Vaughn is new in the Director's position but he has lived in Lafayette for 31 years and worked with the DFC for 30 years, most recently as the Northwest Regional Manager. Mr. Vaughn said the Council shouldn't expect major changes in office operations at the DFC. Their budget is increasing but they are working to find in-community placements.

NEXT MEETING

The next County Council Meeting will be held at 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, October 14, 2003 in the Tippecanoe Room of the County Office Building.

FYI: Commissioner KD Benson

- Flood update: The County is applying for a FEMA Grant to offer a buy-out to property owners located in the flood plain.
- She expressed the Commissioners' appreciation of the Council's work during Budget Hearings.
- Tippecanoe County is 1 of only 2 in the US to receive a grant for a Rational Speed Study.
- The County is in the final cut for an IDEM Grant for the Lauramie Watershed Project.
- There will be a September 11 memorial at 5:00 P.M. at Riehle Plaza.
- The Area Plan Commission hopes to announce the name of the new Area Plan Director at the next meeting on September 17th.
- Purdue University and Vision 20/20 will host diversity group meetings on September 29th and 30th with guest speaker Richard Florida. He will be speaking about embracing diversity for Economic Development.
- She thanked the Council for approving the appeal for an Excess Levy for the Sheriff's Retirement Plan.

President Basham thanked the Commissioners for their input during the 2004 Budget process.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lafayette City Clerk Lisa Decker was present to ask the Council's support of a City of Lafayette Resolution asking the Governor and the State Legislature to consider Property Tax relief measures. She asked for written support of the resolution that proposes the following:

(quote)

- Allow a payment extension without penalty for those taxpayers hit hardest by reassessment, so that any non-delinquent property taxpayer whose tax bill has increased more than 20% may pay the overage (the amount in excess of last year's tax bill) without penalty
- Adopt a deferral program for low income and retired taxpayers and senior citizens.
- Extend the filing deadline for the homestead exemption, mortgage exemption, and the "over age 65" exemption to give taxpayers every possible opportunity to file their exemptions.

(unquote)

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to authorize the President to sign a letter to the Department of Local Government Finance in support of the City of Lafayette's resolution for Property Tax relief, seconded by Councilmember Kemper; motion carried.

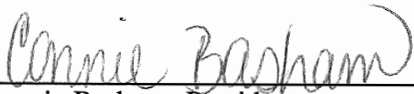
PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

- Upon a motion by Councilmember Fruitt and a second by Councilmember Kemper, the meeting adjourned.


TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL



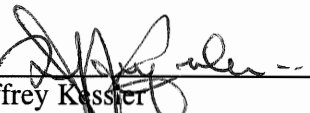
 Connie Basham, President



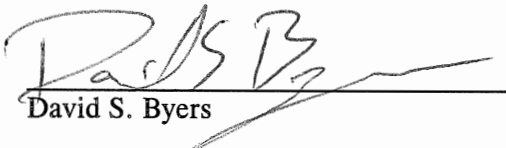
 Jeffrey A. Kemper



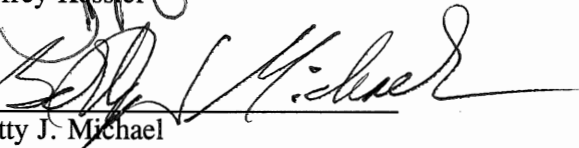
 Ronald L. Fruitt, Vice President




 Jeffrey Kasser



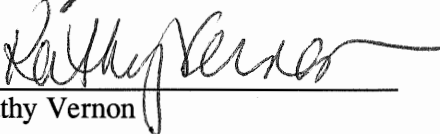
 David S. Byers



 Betty J. Michael

Attest: 

 Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor



 Kathy Vernon