TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 11, 2010

The Tippecanoe County Council met at 8:30 a.m. on May 11, 2010 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, Betty J. Michael, Kevin L. Underwood, and Kathy Vernon. Others present were: Auditor Jennifer Weston, Attorney David W. Luhman, and Secretary Kay Muse

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Councilmember Kemper moved to approve the minutes of April 13, 2010 regular meeting and the March 1, 2010 special meeting as presented, second by Councilmember Michael; motion carried.

AUDITOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT–*Jennifer Weston*

Beginning Net Balance	$472,982.50
Total Additional Appropriations	$ 11,500.00
Total Budget Reductions	$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Expenditures (to date)	$ 670.00
Uncommitted Funds	**$460,812.50**

Auditor Jennifer Weston stated that the circuit breaker amount has been revised from $409,000 to $485,000. The beginning net balance was lowered approximately $76, 000 from March to April, due to this adjustment. The new beginning balance is $472,982.50; the council has granted appropriations of $11,500, and miscellaneous expenses of $670, leaving a balance now of $460,812.50. Auditor Weston stated that fund balances are available in the report as usual; adding there are several deficits by way of grants, which is typical this time of year.

Auditor Weston stated that the council should be aware that the compliance with statement of benefits on the tax abatements would be coming up in June. Other items to consider in June will be a report of the health insurance fund and the impact circuit breaker has to other property tax based funds, such as reassessment, cumulative bridge, and cumulative capital development. Because circuit breaker was higher than expected there may need to be some reductions. For example, since all available cash for reassessment was budgeted, a reduction could be possible up to $10,000.

TREASURER'S REPORT–*Bob Plantenga*

Treasurer Bob Plantenga presented a three-month interest statement report. The interest earned dropped to $29,000 from $36,000 in February partially due to the reduction in the interest rates. The average interest rate is .39% and the weighted average is .43% at this time. In the month of April, Chase interest rate was .42% and is now at .40%. There is almost $59,000,000 in Chase, $14,000,000 in Bank & Trust and $2,300,000 in First Financial and does not include Certificates of Deposit. May 10, 2010 was the due date for the first installment of property tax and the county has collected nearly $51,000,000 of those taxes. Councilmember Kemper asked about the low interest rate on the $2.4 million in the EDIT landfill account. Treasurer Plantenga stated that the agreement with First Financial has recently expired and that percentage would be changing as soon as the cash management agreements are approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT *(Agenda Items)*

Councilmember Gutwein reminded the audience that the purpose of this item is for comments and questions on agenda items only so members may consider the comments during deliberations of the agenda items. Public comment on other issues is always welcome at the end of the meeting.

SUPERIOR COURT 3–Laurie Wilson
NCJFCJ Fund 637

Grant Facilitator Laurie Wilson requested a $2,234 appropriation of Indiana Judicial Center Grant to allow Judge Loretta Rush to attend the National Conference of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. This will cover all the cost associated with the attendance of this conference.

Appropriation $2,234

$555	Training Cost/Conference Registration
$979	Training Cost/Lodging
$700	Training Cost/Travel & Training

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

CASA–Colleen Hamrick
GAL CASA Grant Fund 501 Fund 501

Director Colleen Hamrick stated that this is the second portion of state funding that comes through on an annual basis and does require a match.

Appropriation $48,867

$35,994	Salaries & Wages/Full Time
$ 2,968	Social Security
$ 2,520	Retirement/PERF
$ 2,786	Salaries Wages/Part Time
$ 1,000	General Operating/Mileage Reimbursement
$ 1,500	Equipment/Office Equipment
$ 2,099	Office Expense/Office Supplies

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

Salary Statement

Director Hamrick is asking approval of a salary statement for the position of a regular part-time volunteer coordinator. This grant is through the Child Abuse Prevention Treaty Act (CAPTA) and is in the amount of $40,000.

Volunteer Coordinator Up to $24,115 per year

Regular Part Time Up to $24,115/yearly

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

Councilmember Kemper stated that if the funding for the position were not renewed then the position would be eliminated.

***BOARD OF ELECTIONS**–Laurie Wilson*
HAVA Accessibility Grant Fund 330

Grant Facilitator Laurie Wilson requested the appropriation of $25,000 of a Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grant to upgrade accessibility at several polling locations. This funding will be used for the paving of a parking area in front of the Romney Fire Station, door openers at several locations, and privacy screens for voting booths. Councilmember Gutwein asked if there was a priority list established or if the county had applied for specific items. Ms. Wilson stated the county applied for specific items.

Appropriation $25,000

$ 5,950	Elections/Misc.
$ 1,825	Elections/Election Expense
$15,425	Departmental/Election
$ 1,800	Departmental/Signage

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

***SURVEYOR**–Zach Beasley*
F-Lake Detention Fund 241

Project Manager Zach Beasley requested the appropriation of funds for the construction, maintenance, and operating cost. These monies are collected from new developments within a water shed. The developments must pay storage fees for the storm water discharge. These funds are intended for construction and maintenance activities of the drainage systems.

Appropriation $134,691

$67,345	Drainage Systems/Construction & Observation
$67,346	Drainage Systems/Maintenance

Berlovitz Detention Fund 248

Appropriation $57,347

$50,000	Drainage Systems/Construction & Observation
$ 7,347	Drainage Systems/Maintenance

- Councilmember Michael moved to approve the appropriations of Fund 241 and Fund 248 as presented, second by Councilmember Vernon; motion carried.

***TEMA**–Laurie Wilson*
District 4 Interoperable Communication Equipment Grant Fund 423

Grant Facilitator Laurie Wilson requested the transfer of funds within a Homeland Security Grant. This 2008 grant totaled $500,000 and the Department of Homeland Security has approved this request so the grant may be closed.

Transfer $3,407

$1,452	Training Cost/Misc to Emergency Equipment
$1,955	Administration/Other Professional Service to Emergency Equipment

HEALTH DEPARTMENT–Ron Cripe
North Central Health Services Grant Fund 119

Director Cripe stated that this would be used to purchase educational material for children. The Health Department does a considerable amount of Body Mass Index (BMI) on children, and this grant will help supply them with a large poster that offers healthy food choices for them.

Transfer $1,500

$1,500	Equipment/Data Processing to Contracts/Misc

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

HINI Grant Phase III Grant Fund 464

Transfer $3,000

$3,000	Administration/Other Professional Service to Departmental/Medical

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMISSIONER FYI

TEMA Director Mark Kirby thanked the council for their patience and support on the issue of equipment storage. Director Kirby stated that a redistribution of equipment is in the process of taking place at this time and the City of Lafayette and Purdue University have agreed to be the primary responder for HAZMAT within Tippecanoe County. Director Kirby added that they would also be taking responsibility for a portion of the equipment. TEMA will continue to be the primary responder for any counties other than Tippecanoe, but still within District 4.

Councilmember Basham read a written statement thanking Director Kirby for his efforts in finding a positive solution in these difficult economical times. Councilmember Basham stated that it is very important to reduce spending and show the taxpayer that the council does understand the financial challenges of today. Councilmember Gutwein stated that he also would like to thank Director Kirby for keeping in mind not only the economics, but also the safety of the public.

Commissioner Byers stated that although this is a step in the right direction, this is not a solution to all of the storage issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sheriff Tracy Brown announced the annual Sheriff's Fish Fry at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds June 4, 2010 and that this week is National Police Memorial Week. A ceremony will take place at 11:00 a.m. today at the Long Center.

Councilmember Basham moved to adjourn.

Tippecanoe County Council

Andrew S. Gutwein, President

Roland K. Winger, Vice President

John R. Basham II

Jeffrey A. Kemper

Betty J. Michael

Kevin L. Underwood

Kathy Vernon

Attest:
Jennifer Weston, Auditor