

*Hancock County Council Meeting*

*March 13, 2013*

The County Council of Hancock County, Indiana, met in the Commissioner Court in the Hancock County Courthouse Annex, Greenfield, Indiana, on the 13th day of March 2013 at the hour of 8:30 A.M. in accordance with the rules of the Council.

Council members present were:

Bill Bolander

Jim Shelby

John Jessup

Tom Roney

Kent Fisk

Marc Huber.

Councilwoman Bledsoe was not in attendance.

Also, present were Auditor, Robin D. Lowder, Deputy Auditor Ginny Martin, Ray Richardson, County Attorney.

President Bill Bolander called the meeting to order.

*In the Matter of Township EMS assistance)*

Paul Cooper, Blue River Township Trustee appeared before Council for their signature and approval of the Inter-local agreement for the County to assist financially with the township EMS. The money will go directly to the townships. Councilman Shelby made a motion to approve all (3) Inter-local for Blue River, Jackson and Brown Townships. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jessup. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Public Hearing opened 8:30 am for the following appropriations:

- Cornerstone Perpetuation in the amount of \$10,000 for purchase of a tool box for the Surveyor's truck.

Councilman Fisk made a motion to approve the additional appropriation per Resolution 2013-3-1. The motion was seconded by Councilman Huber. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

- Local Road and Street in the amount of \$500,000 for road maintenance and repair.

Joe Copeland will be in later in the meeting to address this appropriation.

Citizen John Priorie addressed Council with his concerns regarding the Local Road & Street appropriation and what it is being used for.

Public Hearing closed.

*In the Matter of the Library)*

Dianne Osborne, Joe Mohr and Dave Gray appeared before the Council to present their 2012 Annual Report. Dave Gray was introduced as the new Director of the Library due to the retirement of Dianne Osborne the end of April.

Greg Guerrettaz, Financial Solutions on behalf of the Hancock County Library appeared before Council to explain the refunding of the outstanding Library bonds at a much lower interest rate, with a savings of approximately \$300,000. The Library Board has approved the Resolution but the County Council also needs to approve. Councilman Fisk made a motion to approve Resolution as presented. Councilman Huber seconded the motion. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

*In the Matter of Rescheduling of April Council meeting)*

The Hancock County Council meeting will be reset from Wednesday, April 10, 2013 to April 17, 2013.

*In the Matter of Emergency Management Grant)*

Larry Ervin, Emergency Management appeared before Council to request to advertise for an additional appropriation for a grant he is receiving to purchase computers. The Council gave approval for Auditor to advertise.

*In the Matter of the Budget Committee Meeting)*

- Pat Powers, Rosalie Richardson and Lyn O'Neal from Community Corrections came to budget meeting. Discussion of the large balance in the vending fund, its uses and future needs of the balance that is currently in the fund. Nick Gulling will be asked to research why the Jail population and Community Corrections are down.
- Budget Calendar-budget process moved ahead by a month.
- 2% pay increase for 2014 to employees. Councilman Shelby made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Huber. Vote 6-0 motion passed.
- Discussion that the Library tax be reduced for next year.
- Highway issues discussion with Joe Copeland at the Budget meeting.

This is Council's proposal.

DEFINITION OF ROAD MONEY = LRFS, MVH & WHEEL TAX

1ST PRIORITY IS TO PUT \$1,000,000/YEAR ON ROAD MAINTENANCE USING ROAD MONEY.

\$450,000 MVH/WHEEL TAX  
 \$550,000 LRFS  
 \$1,000,000

TO KEEP SAME BALANCE IN MVH FOR 2013 CUT \$500,000 TO \$250,000 AND ADD \$250,000 FROM GOVTOR F&B OR COMBO.

- ROAD BUILDING OR MAJOR ROAD CHANGES SHOULD BE LOOKED UPON AS CAPITAL PROJECTS WITH MONEY COMING FROM SAVINGS ABOVE \$1,000,000/YEAR OR SEARCHING FINANCING TO BE PRESENTED UPON WITH COUNCIL.
- ALL COUNTY ROADS HAVE PRIORITY ABOVE 600W NORTH OF I70. WITH THAT PROJECT FINANCING COMING FROM TIF FOR LOCAL PART. LOOK TO DO 600W SOUTH OF 40 AS PLANNED.
- MAKE ALL ROAD MONEY APPROPRIATIONS FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS
- REQUEST 5 YEAR PLAN FOR ROAD MONEY APPROPRIATIONS OF THE

Original appraisal	Crt Appraisers Fees	3/11/2013 Notes
3,000	9,000	Remainder
1,200	18,000	Not Settled
9,200	16,500	Remainder
1,000	****	
,900	****	
1,700	****	
9,800	****	
10,800	43,500	

ROAD MAINTENANCE FUNDING

450,000 PER YEAR FROM MVH/WHEEL TAX

NEED \$1,000,000/YEAR FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE.

COUNCIL PROPOSAL IS:

450,000 MVH/WHEEL TAX  
 550,000 LRFS  
 \$1,000,000

BUT FOR 2013 SINCE BALANCE OF MVH IS SO LOW PROPOSE:

250,000 MVH/WHEEL TAX  
 500,000 LRFS  
 250,000 GOVT/F&B  
 1,000,000

Greg Guerrettaz , Financial Solutions advised Council that any time you do an additional appropriation from a cash balance it impacts the next year budget. If the \$500,000 is approved it will bring the cash balance in Local Road & Street to an unacceptable level, approximately, \$130,000.

Councilman Fisk asked Commissioner Stevens what the plans are for Local Road & Street for the next 3 years. It was the understanding that these monies have already been budgeted for Mt. Comfort project at 300 N and 600W for the next 3 years, and additional monies are needed to improve other roads.

Commissioner Stevens advised that it was the basis of his campaign to move forward in the infrastructure and part of that is the Mt. Comfort project. Councilman Shelby advised he had no problem with using Local Road & Street for infrastructure but not in that area. There is a need of \$1,000,000 per year for road maintenance. Councilman Fisk stated that projects such as this are capital projects and bonding may have to be approved for projects of this type.

*In the Matter of CCD)*

Commissioner Stevens was not aware of the number needed as an additional amount for the CCD requests. This will be tabled until next month and Commissioner Towle will come in to Council to request additional monies for CCD.

*In the Matter of Emergency Management Performance Grant)*

Larry Ervin, Emergency Management, appeared before Council to request an appropriation for \$3,910 to purchase computers. Council gave approval for Auditor to advertise.

*In the Matter of Highway/Cum Bridge and Local Road & Street)*

Joe Copeland, Highway appeared before Council.

Requesting the following:

- Approval for additional appropriation to be advertised in the amount of \$584,800 for Cumulative Bridge Fund 1135. Council gave approval to Auditor to advertise.

The additional requested makes up the following projects:

1. Bridge 59
  2. Bridge 145
  3. Bridge 114
  4. Bridge 2
  5. Large Culverts
- The additional appropriation Resolution to be signed and approved in the amount of \$500,000 for County Highway Fund 1176.23000.000.0530 Road Improvement Lohut/Wheel, needed for road repair.

The Resolution to approve the additional appropriation was not approved by Council. Greg Guerrettaz advised Council that if this is approved it would drop the cash balance too low.

Councilman Shelby stated that it was discussed in the budget meeting that if \$250,000 was taken from MVH and the other half from another source it would be a better option. Council is also asking for a listing to be put on the Resolution when it is approved as to what the money is being spent on by project.

Joe stated that \$2.5 million is needed for roads. Currently, only \$400,000 is being spent from MVH with no paving done. Roads are deteriorating even more due to more funds needed. The funds from MVH and Local Road combined currently is approximately \$1 million.

Councilman Fisk stated the County needs to get aggressive with

road maintenance. Joe stated that all MVH monies are overhead and include no federal aid projects. Local Road & Street is used for federal projects. Councilman Huber stated we are not taking care of what is needed because of the 600 & 300 corridor and the rest of the County is falling apart for this one road. Joe stated the Commissioners have final approval on the priorities. Council wants to pursue the options discussed but are not able to approve the \$500,000 additional appropriation today.

*In the Matter of Sheriff)*

Brad Burkhart, Sheriff Department appeared before Council to provide an Annual Jail report.

Council break.

*In the Matter of PEERS Foods)*

Public Hearing opened 10:00 am for PEER Foods tax abatement.

No comments from public.

Public Hearing closed

Ron Pritzke, Attorney for PEERS Foods appeared before Council to present the confirming Resolution 2013-3-3 Councilman Roney made a motion to pass the confirming Resolution 2013-3-3 , motion seconded by Councilman Fisk. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Skip Kuker, Economic Development reported to Council about the Community Economic Development prospects and possible reasons why business is not drawn to Hancock County. The main reason currently is square footage for new business and the conservative actions being taken, Hancock County is not aggressive. Education and skilled jobs are also a factor.

*In the Matter of Planning Department)*

Mike Dale, Planning Department presented his 2012 Annual Report to Council.

*In the Matter of the LOIT Committee)*

Councilman Jessup reported that the LOIT Committee had their first meeting. Members on Committee: John Jessup, Kent Fisk, Marc Huber, Brad Armstrong and Paul Cooper. An application process was discussed for Townships to request EMS assistance. And that the Committee would be the designated point of contact receiving the applications from the Townships and doing the preliminary review, then bringing the recommendation to the Council. Councilman Jessup advised that if Council decides to help a particular Township, the money would come from a pre-distribution, the money taken out before it goes to any entity.

Councilman Jessup provided a copy of the application to Council.

Councilman Jessup made a motion to accept the application as submitted, motion was seconded by Councilman Fisk. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Councilman Shelby made a motion to approve the application, and that the Hancock County LOIT Public Safety Committee be established and they will be the oversight and bring applications and recommendations to the Council, seconded by Councilman Jessup. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

*In the Matter of February minutes)*

Councilman Shelby made a motion to approve the February minutes as written, seconded by Councilman Jessup. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Councilman Jessup made a motion to accept the Executive Session minutes as written dated December 12, 2012, seconded by Councilman Fisk. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Councilman Shelby made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Fisk. Vote 6-0 motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved this date: April 17, 2013

Aye

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Nay

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Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin D. Lowder  
Auditor