

## Hancock County Council

July 14, 2010

The County Council of Hancock County, Indiana, met in the Commissioner Court in the Hancock County Courthouse Annex, Greenfield, Indiana, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 2010 at the hour of 8:30 A.M. in accordance with the rules of the Council. Council members present were William Bolander, Rosalie Richardson, Jim Shelby, Jack Leonard, Dick Pasco, Brian Kirkwood and Tom Roney. Also, present were Auditor, Robin D. Lowder, Deputy Ginny Martin, Ray Richardson, County Attorney.

Council President William Bolander, who presided, called the meeting to order.

### **In the Matter of Public Hearing for Additional Appropriation)**

President Bolander opened a public hearing for the additional appropriation for Local Road & Street in the amount of \$53,340.

Public opposed as follows:

- John Priorie appeared before Council opposing the additional appropriation. Why the additional needed? Need to do other adjustment first. Mr. Priorie also voiced his concerns with the Mt. Comfort road project however; this additional appropriation is a different issue. Council advised of a public meeting on July 29, 2010 at the Methodist Church at 7:00 pm and at that time it will be appropriate for Mr. Priorie to voice his concerns. Councilman Shelby agreed that the public does need to be more informed on this issue.

Councilman Kirkwood made a motion to have comments limited to 2 minutes, seconded by Councilman Bolander. Vote 7-0

- Randy Harrison, resident of Vernon Township, wants more information on the website.
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- Janet Brown, resident of Greenfield, advised Council she prefers evening meetings for her convenience. And her concern is with the Mt. Comfort road project.

Joe Copeland, Highway Engineer came into meeting and answered questions regarding this issue.

- Don Hauk opposes the additional appropriation.

Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to close public hearing, seconded by Councilman Shelby. Vote 7-0

Councilman Kirkwood made a motion to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$53,340, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Roll call vote 5-2. Motion passed.

Aye

Dick Pasco

Brian Kirkwood

Rosalie Richardson

Bill Bolander

Tom Roney

Nay

Jim Shelby

Jack Leonard

**In the Matter of Southern Hancock Schools Referendum)**

Bob Yoder, Assistant Superintendent for Southern Hancock Schools appeared before Council to request Council to certify the question for a 0.24 increase in tax rate for relief of their County General budget and circuit breaker impacts. If certified, the question will be on the 2010 November election ballot.

Councilman Shelby made a motion to certify the Southern Hancock School Corporation referendum be referred to the County Election Board, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 7-0

Break 9:30 am

Council reconvened 8:41 am

**In the Matter of Re-Establishment of Cumulative Funds)**

Councilman Shelby made a motion to open public hearing for the re-establishment of the Cumulative Bridge Fund 0790 at 0.05 and the Cumulative Capital Development Fund 4000 at 0.05, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 7-0

Public Hearing opened for public.

- John Priorie opposed the re-establishment of both the funds.

No other opposition, Councilman Shelby made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 7-0

Councilman Shelby made a motion to re-establish fund 0790 Cumulative Bridge fund at the rate of 0.05 for 2011, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Vote 7-0

Councilman Shelby made a motion to re-establish fund 4000 Cumulative Capital Development fund at the rate of 0.05 for 2011, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 7-0

**In the Matter of Superior Court I )**

Judge Snow, appeared before Council to advise he has two (2) employees retiring effective September 30<sup>th</sup> and request to replace his staff. Councilman Pasco made a motion to allow Judge Snow to rehire the positions, but he is to bring them under what the current staff is making allowing them to learn the job and work up to the cap salary level, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Vote 7-0

**In the Matter of Covance CF-1)**

Bryce Wolfe, Covance appeared before Council to discuss the CF-1 tax abatement form. Covance is in compliance. Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to approve the CF-1 tax abatement, seconded by Councilman Shelby. Vote 7-0

**In the Matter of Hancock County Education Alliance)**

Rob Meck, Hancock Regional Hospital, Harold Gibson, land development coordinator and Bob Molnar, Executive Director, appeared before Council to continue discussion of the County's contribution to the new Hancock County Education Alliance venture, and answer questions Council may have. They also further explain the value of education in Hancock County. The Alliance is requesting \$450,000 annually from the County for operations beginning in 2011.

Greg Guerrettaz, Financial Solutions presented the Education Alliance Economic Impact to Hancock County Government.

The Council recommended a public hearing for all tax payers to be heard in an open forum environment. The Education Alliance agreed to meeting. The meeting is set for Tuesday, August 17, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the Commissioners Courtroom, 111 American Legion Place, Greenfield Annex building. The County Council, Commissioners and Education Alliance will attend for a question and answer session with the public.

**In the Matter of Re-hire at E911 Center)**

Connie Hoy, Director appeared before Council to request to re-hire an employee who has resigned. Councilman Kirkwood asked Director why there have been so many resignations within the E911 Center and suggested a personality testing company prior to hiring. Councilman Pasco made a motion to hire for the opened position, seconded by Councilman Leonard. Vote 7-0

**In the Matter of Transfer for E911 Center)**

Connie Hoy, Director requested a transfer from equipment maintenance 1156-000-30-0061 to holiday pay 1156-000-10-0056 in the amount of \$3,000. And dispatch system maintenance 1156-000-30-0067 to holiday pay 1156-000-10-0056 in the amount of \$2,500. Councilman Roney made a motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Vote 7-0

**In the Matter of Mt. Vernon Referendum)**

Bill Riggs, Superintendent for Mt. Vernon Schools appeared before Council to request Council to certify the question for a 0.12 increase in tax rate for relief of their County General Fund budget. If certified, the question will be on the 2010 November election ballot, if the school board does approve the action. Councilman Shelby made a motion to certify the Mt. Vernon School Corporation referendum be referred to the County Election Board, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 7-0

Break 11:30 am

Reconvened 11:45 am

**In the Matter of 2011 Budget)**

Council discussed the 2011 budget. Councilman Shelby advised according to Greg Guerrettaz our financial consultant felt that the 2011 budget was conservative.

**In the Matter of CEDIT Special Tax)**

Councilwoman Richardson did not agree to address this issue without the public input, she has received several phone calls and they have many questions. After discussion among Council members, Councilman Shelby wants to reconsider not implementing the special tax at this time. “We need to keep the pressure on efficiencies without relying on the tax.”

Council discussed CEDIT Special Tax for Economic Development and scenarios involved in the decision. Attorney Ray Richardson advised that the Council has until November 1, 2010 to decide. Mayor DeReamer, appeared before Council to advise how the special tax is being spent by the City. The money is being used for Economic Development purposes. The original Ordinance is null and void according to Ray Richardson when it was rescinded in April. The tax will continue until October 1, 2010.

Councilman Pasco introduced Ordinance 2010-7a, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood.

Councilman Kirkwood made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-7a on the same day of introduction. To impose the County Economic Development Income tax at a rate of 0.10% in addition to the tax imposed under Hancock County code for the Library, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Roll call vote. 6-1 motion failed.

Aye

Councilman Pasco  
Councilman Kirkwood  
Councilwoman Richardson  
Councilman Leonard  
Councilman Bolander  
Councilman Roney

Nay

Councilman Shelby

**In the Matter of Employee Day Off)**

Councilman Bolander proposed a Resolution to recommend to the Commissioners that each employee receive the day off for their birthday, this is due to the employees not receiving any raises for a 2 year period of time, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson.  
Roll call vote 6-1

Aye  
Councilman Pasco  
Councilwoman Richardson  
Councilman Leonard  
Councilman Bolander  
Councilman Roney  
Councilman Shelby

Nay  
Councilman Kirkwood

Councilman Leonard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 7-0

Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED on this day \_\_\_\_\_

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ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin D. Lowder, Auditor