

Hancock County Council

August 12, 2009

The County Council of Hancock County, Indiana, met in the Commissioner Court in the Hancock County Courthouse Annex, Greenfield, Indiana, on the 12th day of August, 2009 at the hour of 8:30 A.M. in accordance with the rules of the Council. Council members present were William Bolander, Jack Leonard, Rosalie Richardson, Jim Shelby, Brian Kirkwood, Dick Pasco and Tom Roney. Also present were Auditor, Robin D. Lowder, and Deputy Auditor Ginny Martin, Ray Richardson, County Attorney.

8:30 am Recording begins

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

In the Matter of Additional Appropriation for Superior Court I) and replacement of Court Commissioner

Judge Snow appeared before Council to request an additional appropriation for the line item 0101-201-10-0035----Transcripts in the amount of \$5,000. Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to allow the additional appropriation to be transferred from Fund 0258 Food & Beverage, motion seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 7-0

Judge Snow also advised Council that Court Commissioner Amick will be retiring and request permission from the Council to replace the position. The Commissioner handles various types of cases for the other Judges. Councilman Shelby moved to allow a new Court Commissioner be hired but at a lower starting salary of maximum \$75,000 seconded by Councilman Pasco. Roll call vote 7-0

Aye

Nay

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

In the Matter of Public Meeting regarding the Tax Abatement for Covance)

President Bolander opened public meeting for the Covance tax abatement and ask for views from the public.

Brad DeReamer, City of Greenfield, Mayor addressed the Council on this issue to let them know the desire of the City of Greenfield to pass this tax abatement for Covance. They have been a great corporate citizen and good company in our community and by approving this abatement it is a tool that the City can use for economic development purposes.

President Bolander asked for any other public views on the abatement, there was no other response from the public.

President Bolander closed public meeting.

In the Matter of Covance Tax Abatement)

Ron Pritzke, Attorney for Covance presented to the Council the proposed Resolution 2009-8-1A as well as petition and information regarding the company, as presented to Council in their information package. Councilman Shelby made a motion to approve Resolution 2009-8-1A, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Vote 7-0

Council welcomed Covance to the community.

In the Matter of “Interdel Company”)

Dennis Maloy, Economic Development Council Director appeared before Council to advise of a new company that may be coming to the area. The company is called “Interdel” and is a spin-off company from Delphi that manufactures lithium ion batteries for the automobile market.

The company is looking at the Mt. Comfort corridor, one of the Access 70 complex buildings constructed by Browning.

They would make a capital investment of \$184,000,000 of this amount \$170,000,000 is in equipment alone.

A proposal is before the Council and includes the following components:

1. 10 year tax abatement for personal property, real property is already abated when Browning constructed the buildings.
2. The personal property abatement is 5.8 million, 3.4 accumulating the first three years.

3. Tax increment financing bond, not based on the real property in the tax allocation area in the Mt Comfort area but based on the personal property investment only.
4. The County could generate \$5 million in tax increment revenue, but don't commit the full amount only commit 3.5 million in the proposal.
5. The company would be the purchaser of the bonds. The county would be the conduit of the bonds only.
6. The Federal government stimulus act, has given a pool of funds the private sector can access if the County would create Mt. Comfort as a recovery zone. These stimulus \$ could be accessed.
7. That the Mt. Comfort area would be designated as a sub-zone of the Foreign Trade Zone.
8. Transportation infrastructure for the area around 300 N would be approximately \$15 million cost, Commissioners are already pursuing road improvements to the area.

Council gave approval for Dennis Maloy to proceed with the partnership of Interdel and the County and for Dennis to proceed with an informal proposal.

John Priorie addressed the Council regarding his concern about studying the situation with Interdel before any motions, votes etc.

In the Matter of Co. Extension Office)

Roy Ballard, from the County Extension Office appeared before Council to request that new carpet in the building be taken out of the CCD fund. The amount is approximately \$1,000 Councilman Pasco made a motion to allow this expense to come out of the CCD fund 4000 as long as the funds are in their appropriation line item seconded by Councilman Leonard. Vote 7-0

In the Matter of Dogs)

Doug Hancock, citizen of Hancock County appeared before Council to address the issue of dogs chasing his motorcycle. He has contacted all the appropriate chain of commands but has not received any help. His neighbor has 3 dogs that do the chasing. Council stated on record in support of Mr. Hancock's concerns.

In the Matter of Additional Appropriations for Weeds)

Alan Wicker, appeared before Council to request additional appropriation in the amount of \$2,000 for the Contractual Mowing line within the Commissioners budget. Councilman Kirkwood made a motion to allow the additional appropriation of \$2,000 to come out of Food & Beverage, seconded by Councilman Roney. Roll call vote 7-0

Aye

Nay

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

The Weed Board also requested that a separate fund be established for Weeds. Councilman Kirkwood motion to table this issue of creating a new fund indefinitely, seconded by Councilman Shelby. *No vote was taken.*

In the Matter of the Boiler Replacement at the Jail)

Donnie Smith, Sheriff Department appeared before Council to request the boiler at the Hancock County Jail that was replaced at the cost of \$11,323 be taken from the CCD fund. This was an emergency issue and the money was expended out of the Sheriff Department building and repair line item. Per Ray Richardson, County Attorney stated to Council this can be done. Councilman Roney motion to allow the transferring of \$11,323 from the CCD fund 4000 “other capital “ to the Jail Building and Repair line item 0101-380-30-0068 in the Jail budget . *No second and no vote were taken on motion.*

Donnie Smith also requested clarification on who needs to approve the spending of the Auxiliary Police Expense within Commissioners budget but in the CCD fund. If it is a CCD expense in the line item “Other Capital” then the Council needs to approve. Otherwise as long as it is appropriated and in the Commissioners budget in the Cumulative Capital fund you would need to report to them.

In the Matter of Assessor, Carole Maynard)

Carole Maynard, Assessor appeared before Council to advise of her hiring status. Debbie Kuntz who left county employment is being replaced by Cyndi Roberts (currently in her office) adding additional duties for Cyndi. Leta Leary and Jill Ebbert's jobs are being split among all other current staff workload. That leaves hiring one (1) full-time and different part-time people. Assessor wants to reallocate her money in her budget to allow for the additional duties amending the salary ordinance for 2009 in the general fund and giving her employees a raise. Council requested this issue be tabled until next month and Carole will provide an actual breakdown of the employees involved and job description changes.

In the Matter of the Highway Department Rehire)

Joe Copeland, Highway appeared before Council to advise that Vickie Jessup, assistant office manager is leaving County employment and requests to rehire her position. Councilman Shelby made a motion to allow Joe Copeland to rehire this position, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Vote 7-0.

In the Matter of Animal Control issues)

Doug Hancock had appeared before Council earlier to complain about the dogs chasing his motorcycle and the issue of the Animal Control giving out his name to the neighbor who owns the dogs. Mayor Brad Dreamer appeared before Council to discuss this issue. The Mayor agreed to resolve this issue and the city is working on an Ordinance regarding Animal Control and will be coming to the Council and Commissioners for the County to pass the same Ordinance.

In the Matter of Fire/Rescue with the City)

The Mayor, Brad DeReamer also addressed with Council the issue of reduced funding for fire/rescue with the city. The Mayor asked Council to consider giving them a 3 year phase out instead of a 2 year phase out. This would allow them to work with the townships.

Jimmie Roberts, Fire Chief also addressed the Council to get an idea as to what the Council is willing to do. Councilman Shelby and Councilwoman Richardson are working with Townships along with the County financial advisor Greg Guerrattaz . Council advised that this will be addressed at the budget hearings. The City wants an answer what is anticipated from the County. President Bolander told the Mayor to "count on the worst and hope for the best".

John Priorie addressed the Council with his concerns with allowing the Township Boards to be involved in these issues.

Break 11:16 am

Meeting reconvened

President Bill Bolander left the meeting.

Vice President, Leonard now presiding over meeting, called the meeting to order.

In the Matter of the Council Minutes)

Councilman Roney made a motion to approve the minutes for July 15, 2009 and the minutes for the morning and evening meetings on July 28, 2009 with the following amendments, seconded by Councilman Shelby. Vote 6-0

- Councilman Shelby amended page 9 of July 15th minutes regarding conversation about the Sheriff pension to read “the earning goal (instead of potential) is at 7%. Also, page 9 the figures given were for 2008 not 2009.
 1. This plan is a pay as you go plan and McKready & Keen as actuaries of the plan determined what is needed each year to meet the funding obligations. The earning goal is at 7%.
 2. These funds must be diversified for a good return and safer. Morgan Stanley advised that their figures show a -19.5% return for 2008 and there are discrepancies with their figures and the trustee of the plan.

Councilwoman Richardson stated that there were names that needed corrected and she will give them to Robin or Ginny.

Councilman Pasco left the meeting.

Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to allow that the Highway Dept be granted a temporary loan from the Rainy Day fund in the amount of \$300,000 for fund 0706 Local Road and Street. Loan is to be repaid by October 1, 2009 and fund 0706 will need an additional appropriation. Councilman Roney seconded. Vote 5-0

In the Matter of All Departments going Digital)

Councilman Kirkwood, voiced his opinion for all the County departments are required to convert to digital when possible. Councilman Shelby introduced Resolution 2009-8-3 to request that *all departments*, when applicable, convert their processes to digital and do so as soon as possible within their departments, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Vote 5-0

In the Matter of Sheriff Pension)

Councilman Shelby made a recommendation, that a study committee be formed to look into the Sheriff Pension Plan and should involve the following persons who are willing to allow the extra work and time to get answers to many questions regarding this issue.

Committee suggestions:

- (1) Commissioner
- (2) Council
- (1) Merit Board Member
- Auditor—Robin Lowder
- County Attorney—Ray Richardson

In the Matter of the Sheriff Bonus)

The State sets the meal rate at \$ 1.75 per inmate minus .51 high end being \$1.24 to meet the \$5,000 bonus , Sheriff provided meals at the state rate minus .68 which makes meals \$1.07 and makes him eligible for the full \$7,500 bonus.

Councilman Shelby made a motion to add to the 2010 budget and salary ordinance the Sheriff bonus of \$7,500 to be paid for his 2009 performance, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Vote 5-0

Councilwoman Richardson requested for 2010, another goal be added for the Sheriff to provide a report to Council quarterly from the drug seizures and materials seized.

Councilman Shelby proposed Resolution 2009-8-4 establishing the Sheriff bonus plan for 2010 and the goals set forth as follows:

- (a) providing a quarterly report of drug seizure monies and materials to the Council.
- (b) Keep accurate records and making a monthly report to the County Auditor of the number and cost of meals served to prisoners.
- (c) Keeping the quality and quantity of meals served to at least the standard of the previous year.
- (d) Holding the food cost per meal served to \$0.60 less than the state meal allowance for prisoners. Should the sheriff hold the cost to \$0.65 less than the state meal allowance for prisoners per meal, per meal the bonus will be increased by an additional \$2,500.00.

In the Matter of Budget 2010)

Councilman Shelby reported we are currently at \$15,834,027 before the budget hearings and our goal is \$15,200,000, leaving a deficit of \$634,000 yet to cut for the 2010 budget.

Councilman Roney made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Vote 5-0

Meeting adjourned

Recording stopped 12:28 pm

APPROVED on this day _____

AYE

NAY

ATTEST: _____
Robin D. Lowder, Auditor