

COUNCIL MINUTES - JULY 10, 2006**MATTER OF MINUTES**

A motion by Don VanWye to approve the minutes of the June 5th council meeting was seconded by Larry Moughler and carried.

MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

A motion by Janet Ordway to approve the treasurer's request for \$3,000 for Overtime and \$4,000 for Part Time was seconded by David Yarde and carried.

A motion by Keith Crow to approve the surveyor's request for \$9,000 for contractual services and \$10,000 for surveying supplies to purchase additional Harrison markers for the corner perpetuation marking project was seconded by Don VanWye and carried.

A motion by Keith Crow to approve the commissioners' request for CCD in the amount of \$10,000 repairs to the air conditioning compressor for the courthouse and \$18,480 for health department renovations was seconded by Don VanWye and carried.

MATTER OF TRANSFERS

A motion by David Yarde to approve the sheriff's request for transfer of \$2,592.60 from Building Improvements to Building Repairs for the jail was seconded by Janet Ordway and carried.

A motion by Robert Wilder to approve the request from Sunny Meadows of \$1,000 from Land Improvement to Building Repairs and \$5,000 from Food Supplies to Equipment Repairs was seconded by Don VanWye and carried.

A motion by Keith Crow to approve the transfer of tobacco settlement monies in the amount of \$214.73 from Office Supplies to Travel, and \$331.98 from Office Supplies to Equipment was seconded by Larry Moughler and carried.

MATTER OF DEKALB COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Newly appointed director of the DeKalb County Economic Development Partnership, Galen Eberhart was introduced by attorney James McCanna. Mr. Eberhart distributed a brief biography of his past work experience in Whitley County and stated that his new office was open for business at 1324 South Grandstaff.

Questions from Councilmen Crow and Smaltz concerned the possibility of ethanol plants locating in DeKalb County and the relevance of business leaving the community. Mr. Eberhart stated that the environment is conducive to business, and he believes that the area has much to offer. Councilman Wilder welcomed Mr. Eberhart to the community and thanked him for his attendance at the council meeting.

MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT

Councilman Wilder announced that the tax abatement committee had met to consider compliance forms (CF-1) for tax abatement for 2007 for several industries. With the exception of Wal-mart Distribution Center, all applicants were considered to be in substantial compliance. The committee will defer the Wal-mart CF-1 to the City of Garrett, as the area was annexed in 2002 and although the Wal-mart abatement was granted by the county in October of 2000, this is the first time the proper forms have been filed with the auditor to allow the abatement.

A motion by Robert Wilder to receive the report of the abatement committee and approve the CF-1 for all other considerations to include Magic Coil, MCP Investments, HS Processing, Heidtman Steel, Iron Dynamics, Steel Dynamics, Structures, Inc., and Rhinehart Leasing and for President Smaltz to sign the compliance forms was seconded by Don VanWye. Councilman Wilder explained that the committee considers several factors including number of employees and the assessed value of total investment compared to the actual being reported on the compliance form. The motion was carried unanimously.

MATTER OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

Jack Smith reported for the IS Department stating that photo identification badges have been recommended for employees, however it should be understood that this would certainly not prove helpful should a person carrying a weapon enter the building. Jack expressed the need to purchase three more panic buttons for newly established office areas. Jack mentioned the issues surrounding security methods used by other counties. Noble County has closed all but one entrance to secure its courthouse. This entrance employs a uniformed officer using devices to screen anything carried as well as a metal detector through which visitors and employees must walk.

The City of Auburn will offer high speed internet, and is requesting to locate two antennae on the roof of the courthouse during the county fair to promote the use of wireless equipment. This service would also provide wireless service to the courts. The City of Auburn will make the presentation to the commissioners at their meeting on July 24.

Jack stated that there is some progress with the parcel identification and mapping for the City of Auburn within the GIS.

The county web pages have been updated in several areas. Now included are voter registration information and highway mapping to include such information as road repair areas.

Software for anti-virus and elimination of SPAM has been purchased. The Barracuda software should remedy the slowdown or lag in the email service, as much SPAM is still getting through.

MATTER OF CENTRAL DISPATCH

Councilman Smaltz opened the discussion and explained that members of the committee for central dispatch were present to address the council and commissioners regarding areas of concern.

DeKalb County Information Systems director Jack Smith stated that the need is not always understood, but that the county has the technology and is ready to proceed.

Mike Goode of the Auburn Fire Department addressed the importance of inter-operability and radio inconsistencies. Mike feels the county needs to advance to 800 Megahertz to be able to speak to other counties. There can be as much as a 15-minute delay in service due to a second incidence when transmitting via VHF.

Auburn Police Chief Martin McCoy stressed the need to consolidate communications for better services and safety.

Auburn Information Services director Chris Schweitzer stated that current technology is extremely inefficient with much duplication of data entry and delay.

Paul Brewer read a statement from Brad Stump who could not be present, and then stated his position as a former police officer and dispatcher, that information is not always transferred correctly. As in the situation between Auburn operating on 800 MHZ, and the county on VHF, there is a great need to combine the services and the committee will continue to do its best to help.

Auburn Mayor Yoder stated that the systems are doing too much multi-tasking at present to handle more than one situation effectively. The mayor cited a confrontation at the skating rink where he has used a cellular phone to call for assistance. Cellular calls are routed to the county, and the response time was lengthy as a city officer was needed. The situation was resolved before an officer arrived, but the issue could have been far worse and help could have been too late.

Sheriff John Dennis has held several different positions in his 31 years in county law enforcement, and while multi-tasking is of course very important, the time lag in the incident described by the mayor could very well have been a factor when he experienced his own heart attack. Therefore the sheriff stressed the importance of communication and response time, and wishes to get this project done.

Councilman Smaltz stated that if emergency services could be more efficient with lower response time in the event of a tornado, train wreck or other circumstance that county residents deserve this service. The estimated cost of the building construction, equipment and staff has been considerably reduced from what was thought to be the original high cost of \$18.5 million to \$9.6 million with continued operating and maintenance cost estimated to be \$1.2 million per year thereafter.

Councilman Wilder questioned financing, and asked Attorney McCanna if he had been advised by consultant Michael Claytor. Bonding could be used, however general obligation bonds can only amount to 2% of the counties assessed value. The cap on general obligation bonds would be \$14 million. Lease rental bonds would be another option which could be backed by the county, or revenue from additional 911 surcharge fees added to all county telephone statements.

Councilman Yarde questioned issues of new business coming into the county while others are shutting down and leaving, and wondered if there was some other way to accomplish the project aside from acquiring a large county debt. Also Mr. Yarde asked for the commissioners feelings and input on the matter.

Commissioner Kaufman stated that he feels this is not a conservative project and advised caution, although he did not deny the need. He also stated that Elkhart County had a great deal of help with the excavation and other portions of work being done by their county highway department.

Councilman Crow asked for a new accounting of the costs and the reduction.

Councilman Smaltz stated that he will actively pursue grants, and Councilman Crow wondered if waiting could mean that the cost might be lowered by the appearance of more vendors. Three main vendors are accepted by the state Erickson, Motorola and Johnson.

Auburn Police Chief Marty McCoy stated that the project is not bare bones and not the Taj Mahal but somewhere in between.

Councilman Wilder stated that he has been working in county government since 1981. The question of central dispatch has been passed over twice, but now has the support necessary to be accomplished and he would like to have it done. A motion by Councilman Wilder that the DeKalb County Council join the many emergency services and communities that have already given their support to the concept of central dispatch and further that our support would include backing and financing whether it be general obligation bonds, or lease rental or increase in E911 surcharge fees and would ask that the commissioners use their authority to initiate a financing proposal that would be brought back before this counsel as soon as is reasonably possible. The motion was seconded by Larry Moughler who explained that his reason for seconding the motion was that he resides in the far northeast portion of the county and has seen a greater amount of highway and rail traffic coming into Auburn than ever before. There has never been a disaster or any occasion for the need for this kind of communication, but we can not wait for this to happen. Mr. Wilder stated that the process was certainly not over, but a step has been taken toward reaching a solution. The group will be searching for a means to use dollars in the

most efficient way possible hoping for low bids and that there are still costs that may need to be cut.

The motion was carried by a show of hands with 5 aye votes. Nay votes were cast by councilmen Yarde and VanWye.

Councilmen Crow and Wilder thanked the committee.

Paul Brewer asked, "What does the committee do now?"

Ben explained that the decision now lies with the commissioners, and attorney McCanna stated that the committee must see that Thayer's latest report is given to the commissioners to help with the decision.

MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Crow asked the auditor if the issues had been resolved with the state Legislative Service Agency for release of the SPTRC. The auditor responded that the programming has been created and information sent for the state to approve. The information has been acknowledged, but there has yet to be a review of the material.

MATTER OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

A joint closed session was requested by the commissioners to allow for discussion of an employment matter with the council.

MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Robert Wilder to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Janet Ordway and carried.

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; now, therefore:

Sec.1. BE IT ORDAINED (RESOLVED) by the County Council of DeKalb County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the said municipal corporation the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to laws governing the same:

		AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED	VOTE AYE	NAY
<u>ADDITIONALS</u>					
<u>COUNTY GENERAL (0100)</u>					
<u>Treasurer (3)</u>					
Overtime (1105)	<i>J/DY</i>	\$ 3,000.00	<u>3,000</u>	7	0
Part Time (1075)		\$ 4,000.00	<u>4,000</u>	7	0
<u>Surveyor (6)</u>					
Contractual Services (3433)	<i>RW/DY</i>	\$ 9,000.00	<u>9,000</u>	7	0
Surveying Supplies (2213)		\$ 10,000.00	<u>10,000</u>	7	0
<u>CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT (2530)</u>					
Non-Budgeted Expenditures (99.5000)	<i>Ad/DW</i>	\$ 10,000.00	<u>10,000</u>	7	0
Non-Budgeted Expenditures (99.5000)		\$ 18,480.00	<u>18,480</u>	7	0
<u>TRANSFERS</u>					
<u>COUNTY GENERAL (0100)</u>					
<u>Jail (23)</u>					
From: Building Purchase & Improvements (4412)					
To: Building / Structure Repairs (3367)	<i>DY/JO</i>	\$ 2,592.60	<u>2592.60</u>	7	0

Monday

433

July 10, 2006

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Sunny Meadows (24)

From: Land Improvement -
Home (4110)
To: Building / Structure
Repair - Home (3381)

\$ 1,000.00

\$1,0007 0

From: Food Supplies (2225)
To: Equipment Repair -
Home (3377)

RW/DVW

\$ 5,000.00

5,0007 0

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT
(0520)

From: Office Supplies
(99.2211)
To: Travel (99.3323)

\$ 214.73

214.737 0

From: Office Supplies
(99.2211)
To: Equipment (99.4443)

AC/Lm

\$ 331.98

331.987 0

ADOPTED THIS 10TH DAY OF JULY, 2006

NAYAYE

Bj Smoot

Robert Walker

Shirley L. Miller

Donald E. W. Wye

James Ordway

Larry Moughler

Keith A. Crow

ATTEST:

Sharon G. Hayes

Sharon G. Hayes
County Auditor