

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JUNE 26, 2007

The Howard County Council met Tuesday, June 26, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those present included Council President Richard Miller, Vice President James Papacek, and Members Stanley Ortman, Leslie Ellison, Jeffrey Stout, Joseph Pencek and Paul Wyman. Also in attendance were Assistant County Attorney Brian Oaks and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was opened by Sheriff Marshall Talbert and conducted by President Richard Miller.

President Miller recognized and welcomed City Councilman Robert Hayes.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the May 22, 2007 Council Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Pencek.

IN THE MATTER OF OPENING COMMENTS:

Councilman Joseph Pencek submitted copies of information he gathered from a meeting sponsored by Eric Miller, Founder of Advance America. Also present at this meeting, from Howard County, were Councilman Papacek, Auditor Wells, and Treasurer Lake. This information has to do with the subject of repealing property taxes, and includes information and statistics gathered by Mr. Bill Styring, who is an economist in the State of Indiana and helped write Governor Doc Bowen's tax proposal in 1973. Mr. Pencek made a motion to invite Mr. Eric Miller to the July 24, 2007 Council Meeting to make a brief presentation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Papacek and carried.

Councilman Papacek commended Sheriff Talbert and Captain Vincent on the report received from the Jail Inspection. Mr. Papacek reviewed the report and it was "just outstanding", as well as the commendations listed.

Councilman Leslie Ellison distributed copies of information referring to the Downtown Library Revitalization.

Councilman Paul Wyman congratulated the Downtown Association for their highest grossing and most highly attended Strawberry Festival. He reminded the Council that this weekend is the Haynes Apperson Festival, celebrating Kokomo's automotive heritage. The festival will conclude with a fireworks show at Foster Park on Saturday evening.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2007-HCCO-26

President Miller introduced Mr. Tom Guevara from Crowe Chizek to speak concerning the Special COIT Tax allowed by House Bill HEA1478. This bill dramatically changes the financing of local governments, providing significant options in respect to dealing with the growth in property tax, and Property Tax Replacement / Homestead Credits. The Special COIT Tax is just a small portion of HEA1478, and deals with the loosely defined Public Safety costs. After distributing handouts, Mr. Guevara gave an overview of certain aspects of the Bill, to the Councilmembers, especially concerning the three different Special COIT Taxes. Discussion ensued between Council members, and questions were asked and clarified.

At the conclusion of this presentation, discussion ensued concerning the reduction of the Special COIT Tax from .25% to .20%, and Ordinance No. 2007 HCCO-26 was presented. This is an ordinance of the Howard County Council amending Ordinance No. 2007-HCCO-12 to reduce the Special Jail and Juvenile Detention Center County Option Income Tax imposed under IC 6-3.5-6-28. At the conclusion of discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Papacek to adopt Ordinance No. 2007-HCCO-26 thereby reducing the previously approved Special COIT Tax rate from .25% to .20%. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman. Discussion and comment ensued. The motion was voted on and carried unanimously.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2007-HCCO-24 - ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Ordinance No. 2007-HCCO-24 - Additional Appropriations was read in full by Auditor Ann Wells and acted upon as follows:

APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTED:**REQUESTED:****APPROVED:****001 Howard County General Fund****005 Howard County Sheriff**

03213.00	Travel & Training	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
03340.00	Meals For Prisoners	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00

Sheriff Talbert informed the Council that the request of \$3,000.00 is for training for the new Courthouse Security officers and the \$75,000.00 request is for feeding of the prisoners. He commended the job the head cook is doing in keeping inmate food costs to \$3.00 per inmate per day.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the request of \$3,000.00 in line item 03213.00, Travel and Training and \$75,000.00 in line item 03340.00, Meals For Prisoners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

009 Howard County Coroner

03263.04	Ambulance Transportation	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
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County Coroner Brad Bray explained to the Council that Body Transportation would be a better description for this line item. Transportation has been negotiated at \$50.00 per transport. The Coroner's office has been using Emergency Management Agency for transport, but since the fire at the EMA building, he has had to use other vendors. Sometimes that means an increase in costs. He hopes this will carry him through to the end of the year.

For the Council's information, Mr. Bray informed them that, due to the Grant County Coroner's Office misidentification of a body, several years ago, the State has passed legislation concerning the need for DNA identification and finger-printing. That will increase the cost to fund the Coroner's Office.

The request of \$5,000.00 in line item 03263.04 was approved on a motion made by Mr. Ortman and Mr. Ellison. Councilman Stout abstained from the vote.

035, 037, 038 Howard County Kinsey Youth Center

03000.00	Other Services & Charges (<i>Finger Printing</i>)	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
	<i>(\$1,500.00 in 035 & 037, \$3,000.00 in 038)</i>		

According to Kinsey Youth Center Director Jan Weaver, the State's Department of Child Services has required all state licensed child caring facilities to have their entire staff fingerprinted and their names run through FBI checks, looking for certain types of offenses, and confirming identity. The State has contracted with PrideRock Holding Co. to do that fingerprinting service at a cost of \$60.00 per record. Discussion ensued concerning clarification of costs and services. The \$6,000.00 figure will cover the costs of the current staff, and allow for some new hires.

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Papacek and carried to approve \$6,000.00 to line item 03000.00, Other Services & Charges as listed above.

TOTAL COUNTY GENERAL FUND		\$ 89,000.00	\$ 89,000.00
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010 Howard County Health Department

01111.00	Health Officer	\$ 8,493.00	\$ 8,493.00
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At their May 14th meeting, the Board of Health appointed Dr. Don Zent to be the new Health Officer. The Board of Health has increased the work load of the Health Officer from 2-3 hours / month to 1-2 hours / week, and has set the salary at \$24,000.00. This appropriation request is for the increase amount from the current \$15,000.00. Health Department Director Kristine Conyers distributed copies of a Health Officer Salary Survey for the Board's information, listing surrounding Counties, their Health Officer's annual salary, and the time spent in the Health Department.

A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve the request of \$8,493.00 to line item 01111.00, Health Officer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

144 Howard County Recorder Perpetuation Fund

01117.00	Overtime	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 15,500.00
01114.01	Job Share	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 8,500.00

Recorder Linda Koontz informed the Council that this request is to continue the work of digital indexing that the Chief Deputy is doing at home. The additional monies for the Job Share line item is for daily indexing being done at home, on line, by a part time employee.

A motion was made by Mr. Stout, seconded by Mr. Papacek and carried to approve the request of \$15,500.00 in line item 01117.00, Overtime, and \$8,500.00 in line item 01114.01, Job Share.

TOTAL PERPETUATION FUND	\$	24,000.00	\$	24,000.00
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<u>150</u>	<u>Howard County Cumulative Capital Fund</u>			
03000.00	Other Services & Charges (<i>E911 Tower</i>)	\$	5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	<i>Commissioner Approval 06/04/07</i>			
04018.00	Equipment - Maintenance	\$	30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
	<i>Equipment Replacement for all buildings - Commissioner approval 05/07/07</i>			
04725.00	Building Repair	\$	10,600.00	\$ 10,600.00
	<i>Howard Haven - Commissioner approval 06/04/07</i>			

Commissioner President Raver addressed these requests by stating that they have been recommended for approval by the Board of Commissioners. Before turning the podium over to Commissioner Bagwell and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Art Fross, Mr. Raver reminded the Council that these line items, in the County General fund, start with a -0-appropriation at the beginning of the year. That not being very realistic, he recommended budgeting money for those accounts in County General and Cumulative Capital. His suggestion was duly noted.

Commissioner Bagwell presented the need for additional funds in the E-911 Tower account to complete the installation of fencing around the tower. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the request of \$5,000.00 in line item 03000.00, Other Services & Charges. Sheriff Talbert took this opportunity to "publicly commend" Commissioner Bagwell and the Council for funding this project. The radio problems that were previously experienced have been solved, and the system will work in any kind of weather. It is appreciated by emergency personnel county-wide. Kinsey Youth Director Jan Weaver echoed the sentiments voiced by Sheriff Talbert.

Mr. Fross clarified that the original intent of this Equipment-Maintenance request was to put money into the account for equipment replacement for all buildings, as needed. Since the request was approved by the Board of Commissioners for recommendation to the Council, a hot water heater at the Kinsey Youth Center has broken and needs to be replaced. That will take up about \$22,500.00 of the present request. Another \$30,000.00 will be requested next month that will hopefully carry us through the end of the year. Mr. Fross reminded the Council that both the Criminal Justice Center and the Kinsey Youth Center are the same age and are in operation 24/7, three hundred sixty-five days a year. Repairs and replacements are to be expected. The maintenance department currently has several employees certified in heating and air conditioning.

The request for \$10,600.00 in Building Repair is for the removal of a tank from the basement of the County Home, and the subsequent wall repair.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried to approve the request of \$30,000.00 to line item 04018.00, Equipment - Maintenance, and \$10,600.00 in line item 04725.00, Building Repair.

TOTAL CUMULATIVE CAPITAL FUND	\$	45,600.00	\$	45,600.00
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<u>515</u>	<u>Howard County Misdemeanant Fund</u>			
03237.00	Canine Services (Recertification)	\$	4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00

Sheriff Talbert reminded the County Council that K-9 handler, Mike Ogle, was called to active duty to Iraq. It was Sheriff Talbert's decision to assign to K-9 Kanto, another dog handler, Officer Paul Cherry. That means that Officer Cherry had to be trained and Kanto had to be re-trained to respond to Officer Cherry. Because Kanto would be used to help find a prisoner who had escaped the Criminal Justice Facility or would be used to help find contraband or drugs in the facility, it would be an appropriate use of Misdemeanant Funds.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the request of \$4,000.00 to line item 03237.00, Canine Services.

TOTAL ADDITIONALS ALL FUNDS	\$	171,093.00	\$	171,093.00
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IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2007-HCCR-14 - TRANSFERS:

Resolution No. 2007-HCCR-14 - Transfers was read in full by Auditor Ann Wells and acted upon as follows:

	Transfer From:	To:	AMOUNT REQUESTED:	ALLOWED:
<u>001</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>			
<u>015</u>	<u>Veterans Services</u>			
03212.00	Postage	03241.00 Printing <i>New Line Item - 2007 Budget</i>	\$ 132.00	\$ 132.00

In the absence of Veterans Service Officer Allen Polsgrove, Chief Deputy Auditor Laurie Martin explained to the Council that Mr. Polsgrove had turned in a claim for the printing of business cards. The Veterans Service budget does not include a line item for Printing so one had to be created and a transfer from an 03 line item needs to be approved. Mr. Polsgrove will be in at a later date to ask for additional money to reimburse the postage line item.

The transfer of \$132.00 from 03212.00, Postage, to 03241.00, Printing, is approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Wyman.

<u>023</u>	<u>Howard County Personnel Department</u>			
03121.22	Maintenance & Svc Contracts	03253.22 Equipment Repair	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00

Personnel Director Wanda McKillip informed the Council that this request is to pay for a printer repair that could not be handled by the Information Systems Department.

The transfer of \$325.00 from 03121.22, Maintenance & Svc Contracts to 03253.22, Equipment Repair was approved on a motion made by Mr. Ortman and seconded by Mr. Stout.

<u>010</u>	<u>Howard County Department of Health</u>			
01116.00	Environmental Health Specialist	01116.01 Part Time	\$ 3,276.00	\$ 3,276.00
<u>213</u>	<u>Howard County Health Bioterrorism Grant Fund</u>			
02350.00	Office Supplies	03216.00 Communications	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
<u>215</u>	<u>Howard County Local Health Maintenance Fund</u>			
02360.00	Office Supplies	04722.00 Equipment	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

Ms. Conyers informed the Council that the Environmental Health Specialist is now on FMLA and this transfer is to pay for the part time replacement.

The transfer in the Bioterrorism Grant is to cover phone costs that resulted in a transfer and removal of lines that were not able to be done by the phone company in a timely manner. It resulted in the fund being depleted and additional funds being needed through the end of the year.

The transfer in the Local Health Maintenance Fund is to put safety monitors on the vaccine freezer and vaccine refrigerator.

The transfer of funds were approved as listed above, on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Wyman.

IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE NO. 2007-HCCO-25 - AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2007:

Salary Ordinance No. 2007-HCCO-25 - Amending Salary Ordinance for 2007 was read in full by Auditor Ann Wells and acted upon as follows:

		REQUESTED:	APPROVED:
<u>010</u>	<u>HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH</u>		
01111.00	Health Officer	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 24,000.00

The Salary Ordinance was amended as submitted above on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Ellison.

IN THE MATTER OF THE WAYFINDER SIGNAGE TASK FORCE:

Ms. Peggy Hobson, Director of the Kokomo Visitor's Bureau, presented a project promoted by the Wayfinder Signage Task Force. Ms. Hobson also introduced Ms. Kim Lafollette, President of the Kokomo Downtown Association. About one year ago, the Kokomo Downtown Association and the Visitor's Bureau met together for some long range planning, and talked about the need for signage in Howard County, to direct visitors and prospective investors to the Downtown area. They formed the Wayfinder Signage Task Force. The benefits of the signage program would be consistent and welcoming signage for attractions and directions, the creation of a good first impression for visitors and possible investors, ease of navigation and improved County and City integration system for the roadways. Three companies were invited to meet with the Task Force and submit information and photos (or drawings) of previous projects. Ms. Hobson presented pictures of current signage as well as the photos and drawings of new signage available. The Task Force is looking at current laws in effect, and possible locations for the signage. They plan on the installation of forty (40) signs by the end of the year 2008. The Wayfinder Task Force is planning on applying for a Federal Transportation Enhancement Award; that would require the support of several organizations. If the grant is awarded, there would be a 20% match of funds involved. There is a projected cost of around \$200,000.00 for forty signs, but a final cost has not been determined.

IN THE MATTER OF THE EMA PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Commissioner Bagwell informed the Council that at the June 18th Commissioner Meeting, a committee was formed to oversee the reconstruction of the EMA building (*please refer to page five, "In The Matter Of The Insurance Report Concerning The EMA Building Fire" of the Regular Commissioner Meeting minutes dated June 18, 2007*). This EMA Planning Committee includes Art Fross, Larry Smith, Ted Cain and Commissioner Bagwell. Mr. Bagwell asked that the Council also assign a representative. President Miller volunteered for the position. There will be a meeting at 11:00 am. on Tuesday, July 10th.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Sheriff Marshall Talbert submitted the following items for Council information and approval:

1. **Commissary Report:** Sheriff Talbert distributed copies of the Monthly Commissary Report for May, 2007. The ending balance is \$19,184.49. D.A.R.E. products and the Annual Inspection Meal were two big expenditures for the month.
2. **New D.A.R.E. Officers:** Two officers have been assigned to the D.A.R.E. Program; Officer Jordan Buckley and Officer Steve Kline. The previous D.A.R.E officers were Officer Dave McKinney and Captain Vincent.
3. **Commissary JPay:** JPay is operational. This is an internet program that allows inmate's family and friends to submit funds to the inmate's Commissary account.
4. **Vehicle Lift For The Highway Garage:** Due to the fire that destroyed the EMA Building, the Highway Department has allowed the EMA mechanic to do Emergency Vehicle repair at the Highway Garage. The garage does not presently have a vehicle lift. Sheriff Talbert and Highway Engineer Ted Cain have agreed to share the cost of a Vehicle Lift that will remain at the Highway Garage. There is money in the Sheriff's Auto Repair line and he would like to transfer \$3,000.00 of those funds to a new equipment line item, for the purchase of the Lift. A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to authorize the transfer of \$3,400.00 from the Sheriff's Auto Repair line to a new line item for Equipment Purchase. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried.
5. **Inventory Needs For 400 Inmates:** Sheriff Talbert distributed copies of a report of the projected inventory needs for four hundred (400) inmates in the Criminal Justice Center. This report is a listing of supplies that have to be on hand, and was prepared by SSgt. Robin Byers.
6. **Cub Scout Day Camp Presentation:** Earlier in the evening, slides were presented recording the special program of the Sheriff's Department at a Cub Scout Day Camp at Lance's Pit. This presentation was made by Major Rogers, Captain Vincent and the S.W.A.T. team, and was very well received and appreciated. Sheriff Talbert expressed appreciation to the Council for their generosity in supplying needed equipment that enables the Department to do its job.

7. **One Church / One Inmate Program:** Sheriff Talbert informed the Council that Councilman Les Ellison will be involved in the One Church / One Inmate Program. Sheriff Talbert expressed appreciation to volunteers that work in the program. There is a lower rate of recidivism for inmates that participate.

There being no further business to be brought before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Ellison.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:

RICHARD A. MILLER, PRESIDENT

JAMES T. PAPACEK, VICE PRESIDENT

PAUL G. WYMAN, COUNCILMAN

STANLEY E. ORTMAN, COUNCILMAN

LESLIE ELLISON, COUNCILMAN

JEFFREY A. STOUT, COUNCILMAN

JOSEPH A. PENCEK, COUNCILMAN

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR

Howard County Council Meeting June 26, 2007