

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 24, 2012

The Howard County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Richard Miller, Vice President Stan Ortman, and Members Leslie Ellison, Jeff Stout, Joseph Pencek, Dwight Singer, and John Roberts. Also present were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 27, 2012 Regular Council meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Ellison and seconded by Mr. Stout.

At this time President Richard Miller led in a word of prayer.

The minutes of the March 27, 2012 Joint Executive Session were submitted. The minutes were reviewed and approved for signature on a motion made by Mr. Singer and seconded by Mr. Roberts.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2012-HCCO-12 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Auditor Ann Wells read Ordinance No. 2012-HCCO-12 – Additional Appropriations in full one time and it was acted upon as follows:

		AMOUNT REQUESTED:	APPROVED:
<u>001</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>		
<u>015</u>	<u>Howard County Veterans Services</u>		
01117.00	Part Time	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00

Veterans Service Officer Robert Ladd submitted a request for additional monies in his Part Time line item, and took the opportunity to thank all the veterans in attendance for their support. Mr. Ladd is working between sixty and seventy hours per week and needs a part time person to work the whole year in lieu of just from April - October. The part time summer help has graciously agreed to be a summer volunteer. The Veterans Service Office currently has a work study person paid by the Veterans' Organization. This work study program will be completed in October of this year, and Mr. Ladd would like to hire the employee to the part-time position. Mr. Ladd was commended for the work that is accomplished in his office on behalf of Veterans of Howard County and surrounding counties.

A motion was made by Mr. Stout to approve the request of \$12,000 to line item 01117.00, Part Time. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and Mr. Pencek, and carried.

<u>002</u>	<u>Howard County Highway Department</u>		
22430.00	Bituminous	\$ 220,000.00	\$ 220,000.00
<u>006</u>	<u>Howard County Cumulative Bridge Fund</u>		
32250.00	Maintenance & Repair by Contract	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
<u>007</u>	<u>Howard County Local Road & Street Fund</u>		
32250.00	Maintenance & Repair by Contract	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00

Highway Superintendent / Engineer Ted Cain informed the Council that his budget was cut \$438,278.00 by the State of Indiana. The only place he could decrease the 2012 budget was in Bituminous. However, Mr. Cain did have money left from the 2011 budget, enabling him to request this Additional Appropriation. By law, Mr. Cain can use Bridge Fund money for paving roads that have a bridge on them. He is worried about next year's budget and its possible decrease. He may have to propose that any federal aid projects be funded from the EDIT Fund (Morgan Street, Touby Pike, etc.) and use the funds in Local Road and Street for our county roads. Insurance rates this year, also increased, and are paid from the Highway Budget, not by County General, as well as a .01% increase in PERF rates. Mr. Cain will be able to transfer money from Personal Services to help.

A motion was made by Mr. Singer to approve the additional request of \$220,000 in line item 22430.00, Bituminous in the Highway Fund, \$300,000 in line item 32250.00, Maintenance & Repair by Contract of the Cumulative Bridge Fund, and

\$80,000 in line item 32250.00, Maintenance & Repair by Contract in the Local Road and Street Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

<u>104</u>	<u>Howard County Juvenile Probation Fund</u>		
03410.00	Grant Match	\$ 2,222.00	\$ 2,222.00

<u>105</u>	<u>Howard County Adult Probation Fund</u>		
03113.00	Translator	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00

An e-mail letter was received from Chief Probation Officer Don Travis, apologizing for his absence, and outlining his additional requests in the Juvenile and Adult Probation Funds.

A motion was made by Mr. Roberts to approve the additional request of \$2,222.00 in line item 03410.00, Grant Match, of the Howard County Juvenile Probation Fund, and \$2,000.00 to line item 03113.00, Translator, of the Howard County Adult Probation Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

<u>252</u>	<u>Howard County Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund</u>		
04724.05	Building Upgrade – Sheriff	\$ 375,000.00	\$ Denied

Sheriff Steve Rogers submitted this request to complete the funding for a renovation project and Central Control Project at the Criminal Justice Center. The Board of Commissioners has reviewed the project and it's funding, making the recommendation to complete it from the Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund. Sheriff Rogers is also contributing money from his Technology Fund, and using 2012 budgeted money from the Cumulative Capital Fund. The Central Control Project is to update the current technology that controls the phone system, door operations, and intercom systems. If the system breaks down there can no longer be unescorted activity in the Criminal Justice Center, and there are no longer replacement parts available. The renovation project will add thirty-six (36) beds to the Jail's capacity, by modifying one of the recreation areas into a dormitory area. This project will also help to correctly house the female population. The current population is sixty (60), in an area built for thirty (30) inmates.

*At the conclusion of discussion a motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the request of \$375,000 to the **Cumulative Capital Fund (150)**, line item 04724.05, Building Upgrade – Sheriff, subject to the proper advertising of the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer. At this time a question was posed by Councilman Roberts as to why the money was requested from Jail & Juvenile COIT instead of the Cumulative Capital Fund. Commissioner Wyman stepped to the podium to give justification for the request from the COIT Fund. The Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund was instituted several years ago to give relief to property taxes, for operational issues of the Jail, as well as upgrade projects of this nature. Also, the Jail & Juvenile COIT has a greater fund balance than the Cumulative Capital Fund. This request can come from the COIT, specified for Jail projects, and leave the Cumulative Capital balance for other County entities that do not have a dedicated tax dollar fund. At the conclusion of this explanation, the motion was carried with five (5) aye votes and one (1) nay vote.*

<u>500</u>	<u>Howard County CEDIT Fund</u>		
03800.00	Nickel Plate Trail	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 145,000.00

Commissioner Wyman reminded the Council that the Nickel Plate Trail project was approved and budgeted in the 2012-2013 Capital Improvement Plan; \$145,000 in 2012 and \$145,000 in 2013. The Board of Commissioners has approved an amended Capital Improvement Plan that moves the \$145,000 from 2013 to 2012, in order to confirm with the State that the money for the project is appropriated in 2012. The total amount DOES NOT have to be spent in 2012. Also, the State of Indiana Supreme Court has made a ruling resulting in a possible impact on the Rails to Trails project. There may be homeowners entitled to compensation for the ground they owned when the railroad took that property. Both Mr. Wyman and Commissioner Moore spoke to the fact that it is not known what the full impact of that ruling will be, and no dollars will be spent until all impact is determined and clarified.

Discussion ensued including the sense of urgency to have the all the funds in 2012's budget, the decrease in highway funds in the coming years, the ownership of the railroad property used for the trails, the importance of this project, and the counsel concerning putting a contingency on the motion. Councilman Tom Miklik, Mr. Charlie Skogg, and Judge William Menges added to the discussion. A motion was made by Mr. Pencek to approve the request to move the appropriation of \$145,000 to line item 03800.00, Nickel Plate Trail, in the EDIT Fund, from 2013 to 2012. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts, and at the conclusion of discussion, the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2012-HCCR-08 – TRANSFERS:

Auditor Ann Wells read Resolution No. 2012-HCCR-08 – Transfers in full one time, and it was acted upon as follows:

<u>001</u>	<u>Transfer From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount</u>		
<u>010</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>		<u>Requested:</u>		<u>Allowed:</u>
	Howard County Assessor				
03266.00	Annual Adjustment Contract	01113.03 Trending Deputy	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00
03266.00	Annual Adjustment Contract	01117.00 Part Time	\$ 3,000.00		\$ 3,000.00
03266.00	Annual Adjustment Contract	01118.00 Overtime	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00

County Assessor Jamie Shepherd was not able to attend this evening's meeting. Her letter, listing all the reassessment tasks her office needs to complete, as well as their regular operating duties, stated that these transfers are needed in order to complete the reassessment process. In lieu of paying a contractual wage, her office is working extra hours in order to complete the requirement of a level II Assessor / Appraiser.

A motion was made by Mr. Stout, seconded by Mr. Singer, and carried to approve the County Assessor transfers as submitted.

IN THE MATTER OF PERSONNEL ISSUES:

Personnel Director Wanda McKillip submitted the following issues for the Board's information and approval:

1. **PERF Employer Certification:** Ms. McKillip submitted a PERF Employer Certification notice for Mr. Vernard Johnson, for years served as a Deputy Prosecutor from 1977 to 1979 that had previously been unaccredited. A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the PERF Employer Certification and authorize President Miller to sign on behalf of the County Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried.
2. **Library Appointment:** Ms. McKillip submitted an Official Appointment notice for Mr. Brad Bray to complete his unexpired term to the Greentown Public Library Board of Trustees, to expire December 31, 2013, as an appointee of the Howard County Council. Due to changes in the Indiana Code, the Greentown Town Council can no longer make those appointments. Two appointments have been assigned to the County to fill; one from the Board of Commissioners and one from the County Council. The Board of Commissioners will address their appointment, at their May 7th meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the appointment of Mr. Brad Bray to the Greentown Public Library as the Howard County Council appointment, to expire December 31, 2013. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE ISSUES:

Prosecutor Mark McCann submitted the following issues for the Council's information and approval:

1. **Replace Enforcement Clerk Position:** Prosecutor Mark McCann submitted a request to rehire an Enforcement Clerk to replace the current position holder who is leaving employment. The re-hire request for the Enforcement Clerk position was approved on a motion made by Mr. Stout and seconded by Mr. Ortman.
2. **Replace Deputy Prosecutor Position:** Because the Prosecutor's Office will be losing their Victim Assistance Grant, Mr. McCann is requesting that the full time position supported by this grant be changed to a part time position. A motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the full time Victim Assistance position to be changed to a part time position.

IN THE MATTER OF A REHIRE REQUEST IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Health Department Director Kent Weaver submitted a request to rehire the Nursing Coordinator Position, as the current Nursing Coordinator will be resigning June 1, 2012. A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the rehiring of the Nursing Coordinator Position at the Health Department. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2012-HCCR-9:

Commissioner Tyler Moore stepped to the podium to introduce Resolution No. 2012-HCCR-9, a resolution of the Howard County Council approving bank loans to finance reconstruction of regulated drains. There are a series of drains on the Surveyor's reconstruction list and the fund that supports those reconstructions has been depleted. The Surveyor's Office has proposed pursuing a loan (or line of credit) to help support the reconstructions. Invitations to Quote were sent to several local banks and the Board of Commissioners and the Drainage Board did receive a quote from First Farmers Bank & Trust. This quote met with specifications outlined in the Invitation to Quote and has been approved by the Drainage Board Committee on a project by project basis. Resolution No. 2012-HCCR-9 was approved on a motion made by Mr. Singer and seconded by Mr. Ellison. Councilman Stout abstained from the vote as he is a member of the First Farmer's Board.

Mr. Moore took this opportunity to remind the Council of the death of Surveyor Dave Duncan's father recently. He also informed them that former surveyor Dan Minor is struggling with health issues and in need of our prayers.

Attorney Larry Murrell recognized the efforts of Treasurer Martha Lake in helping to put this Resolution together.

IN THE MATTER OF A REHIRE REQUEST FOR SUPERIOR COURT II:

Superior Court II Judge Brant Parry submitted a request to rehire a Clerical position in his office. The current position holder and her family will be relocated out of Kokomo. A motion was made by Mr. Singer to approve the rehire request for the clerical position. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPOINTMENT REQUEST FOR THE HOWARD COUNTY SUCCESS COALITION:

Kokomo Councilman Tom Miklik addressed the County Council concerning a County Council appointment to the Howard County Success Coalition. Mr. Miklik gave a video presentation, explaining the Coalition as a Learn More Indiana program, a state level college success coalition annual plan. No funds are needed at this time; Mr. Miklik did ask that the Howard County Council, along with making an appointment, choose and participate in a "success activity". Information was distributed to the Council.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Stout and seconded by Mr. Singer.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:

RICHARD H. MILLER, PRESIDENT

STAN ORTMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

JEFF STOUT, MEMBER

LESLIE ELLISON, MEMBER

JOE PENCEK, MEMBER

JOHN ROBERTS, MEMBER

DWIGHT SINGER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR
Howard County Council Meeting April 24, 2012