

Council Members Ann Brown, Marion Huffer, Jamie Rough, Bill Northcutt, James Hancock, Nancy Cripe and Scott Ayres met in Regular Session on the 21st day of July 2011 at 8:30 a.m. to conduct business pursuant to the laws of Carroll County and the State of Indiana.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the Regular Meeting held June 16, 2011 were unanimously approved as written. JR/MH

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Treasurer Beth Myers gave her report stating she is working on the bank balance sheet. Myers knows there is nothing wrong or missing, just some money might be in the wrong account. She was instructed to go backwards before going forward. Myers is also working on the tax sale which will be held Friday, September 16. There were originally 301 parcels for sale, 71 have been removed. The Treasurer's Office is sending out 130 personal property demand notices. Ann Brown asked if Myers knew how much was outstanding on the personal tax rolls; Myers reported it was over \$47,000. The Council stressed that she needs to look into trying to get some of the money back.

AUDITOR: Auditor Elaine Hathaway e-mailed the Monthly Comparison Report, Monthly Financial Statement and Revenue & Expenditure Comparisons for June 2011. Hathaway reported the June collections for EMS were \$19,632.16. Hathaway also reported that the Assessor's Office had rolled values to the Auditor's Office and the Auditor's Office would meet the August 1 deadline for certifying net assessed values.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Marion Huffer gave the financial report noting that most revenue accounts are down. Jamie Rough will give the July report.

OLD BUSINESS:

SUPPLEMENTAL ADULT PROBATION ADDITIONAL: Justin Sheagley, Chief Probation Officer, was present to ask for \$1,362.30 additional for the salary of the 2nd Deputy Probation Officer. Sheagley stated that they must satisfy the salary schedule set by the State. The money will come from Supplemental Adult Probation. Marion Huffer moved to approve the additional, seconded by Nancy Cripe, passed unanimously.

PARK BOARD ADDITIONAL: The Carroll County Park Board asked for an additional of \$20,000 for new roofs at Deer Creek Park and French Post Park. They commented there was also a need to repair a basement door if the roof project comes in under \$20,000. Jamie Rough made a motion to approve the additional of \$20,000 for the roof replacement project, seconded by Scott Ayres, passed unanimously. Since the original request to the Commissioners was only for a roof at Deer Creek Park, they were instructed to go back to the Commissioners and ask to do the French Post Park roof and repair of the basement door if there are sufficient funds remaining from the \$20,000 additional.

VOTING RESOLUTION: Attorney Abigail Huffer was not present with the resolution to sign for voting procedures. Topic was tabled until the August meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

CUSTODIAN ADDITIONAL: Sheryl Shockley was present to discuss the termite problem in the Museum; it was more extensive than originally thought. Termite damage was found in both door jams; all the wood had to be replaced. Reliable Exterminators will be in the Museum July 22nd to drill and treat around the Museum. While here they will test the windows to make sure there is no termite damage there. Shockley requested an additional \$5,823. She has already paid \$3,644 out of her repair building and structure line item. Marion Huffer made a motion to appropriate \$5,823 from the Cum Cap fund to cover the Museum repairs. Seconded by Bill Northcutt, passed unanimously.

HIGHWAY OPEN POSITION: Paul Coutts asked for approval to replace a full-time mechanic. A truck driver lost his CDL license, so a mechanic replaced the truck driver and now he needs to replace a mechanic, they only have two. Ann Brown asked if there was enough money and Coutts stated he was in good shape money wise. Nancy Cripe made a motion to approve the Highway Department request for a full-time mechanic. Seconded by Marion Huffer, passed unanimously.

TRANSFERS: The following transfers were presented to the Council:

Department	From	To	Line Item # To & From	Amount Requested	Amount Approved	Motion Carried
Highway	Bookkeeper	Safety Supplies	0702-530-1000.03 0702-531-3000.85	\$300.00	\$300.00	JR/BN
	Truck Drivers	Overtime	0702-531-1000.10 0702-531-1000.60	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	JR/BN
	Bookkeeper	Foreman Overtime	0702-830-1000.03 0702-531-1000.13	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	JR/BN
	Garage & Mechanics	Overtime (Mechanics/Signs)	0702-533-1000.10 0702-533-1000.12	\$500.00	\$500.00	JR/BN
	Sign Man	Overtime (Mechanics/Signs)	0702-533-1000.11 0702-533-1000.12	\$500.00	\$500.00	JR/BN
Jail	Part Time Cooks	Extra Help Kitchen	0101-380-1000.04 0101-380-1000.07	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	MH/NC
Assessor	Training	Office Supplies	0336-000-3000.01 0336-000-2000.01	\$100.00	\$100.00	JR/MH
	Maintenance Contracts	Office Supplies	0101-008-3000.62 0101-008-2000.60	\$300.00	\$300.00	JR/MH
Treasurer	Printing	Postage	0101-003-3000.21 0101-003-3000-12	\$321.65	\$321.65	JR/BN

Highway Engineer Paul Coutts stated he needed the transfer because Mother Nature had caused most of the problem with the overtime accounts. Jamie Rough asked if the overtime amounts had been increased for the 2012 budget; Coutts indicated he had not, he was hoping for a milder winter. Rough made a motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Bill Northcutt, passed unanimously.

While Coutts was present he was asked about the property on Vianco Hill. Coutts stated it was his understanding that a deal was made concerning the property; he will research it and report to the Council.

Sheriff Burns asked for a transfer from part-time cooks due to the extra kitchen help working more than the part-time cooks due to medical reasons.

Assessor Neda Duff asked for a transfer to purchase paper to send out the Form 11s. She is not asking for the maintenance contracts in her 2012 budget, she checked and nothing had been spent out of the line last year.

Treasurer Beth Myers asked for a transfer from printing to postage so she could send out demand notices to personal property owners. Myers reported there was \$510,000 outstanding in real estate tax that was going to tax sale. She is going to check with the County attorney about publishing in the Comet, those individuals who owe the County taxes.

CARROLL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – INN KEEPERS TAX: A few months ago the subject of an Inn Keepers Tax was brought up, due to possible hotels along the Hoosier Heartland. A tax of up to 5% can be charged for any rental less than 30 days. Jim Hancock stated they have a sample ordinance for attorney Abigail Huffer to review. Local merchant Krista Watson was present and stated the Innkeepers Tax is a getting the cart before the horse situation. She stated she was not certain she would get the draw if she has to increase her price. The ordinance states that non-profit organizations were exempt; Watson said the Canal Association was thinking of constructing a building for overnight guests and would be in competition with her. The Carroll County Chamber is asking for a 5% tax. Marion Huffer asked Watson if the tax would really affect her business that much; Watson was not sure. Huffer also stated he was for the tax; it would not be Carroll County residents, it would be individuals outside the County paying the tax. The money raised would go to the Convention and Visitors Bureau which is part of the Carroll County Chamber. The ordinance will have to specify how the money is spent; State statute reads the money goes to the tourism bureau to advertize the County. The money will be collected and monitored by the Treasurer and Auditor. Julia Leahy of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce is checking with other counties to see how they handle enforcement. Since Attorney Huffer was not present, Jamie Rough made a motion to table further discussion until August. Seconded by Marion Huffer, passed unanimously.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP – AMBULANCE: Jefferson Township Trustee Rex Millhouse was present to discuss ambulance service to Jefferson Township. They have a contract with White County for ambulance service and they feel they are paying double for a service. Jefferson Township tax payers feel a lot of money from Jefferson Township is going to the County. They are negotiating with Monticello for a contract for \$58,000 and are asking for some of their money back to help pay the contract. In a meeting with the Commissioners it was stated that nothing would be done until the study and grant were finished. Millhouse was instructed to go back to the Commissioners to ask for help.

2012 BUDGET: The County General 2012 wish list totals \$6,442,260.35. There was discussion among the members about proposed cuts to be made before publication. Nancy Cripe provided information about the money requested for jail doors; Ann Brown stated the Commissioners were not going to fund the \$244,400 to repair the jail doors. Cripe explained that she had the Sheriff put it in the budget to make everyone aware of the problem.

Jim Hancock and Ann Brown had compiled a list of possible items to change in the budgets before advertising. The following changes were approved to be made prior to advertising:

- Jamie Rough made a motion to add \$1,000 plus 5% to the Auditor's salary. Seconded by Jim Hancock, passed unanimously.
- Jamie Rough made a motion to remove from the budget: \$8,010 from Clerk, will be funded in Clerk Perpetuation; \$7,747 from Courthouse for a lawnmower; \$244,400 for jail doors; \$800 from Transfer Station for mowing; \$3,700 from Parks for mowing; \$3,000 from Carroll Manor for mowing; and \$50,000 from Cum Cap for the salt barn. The Commissioners are proposing a lawn/snow removal service rather than County employees and equipment. Marion Huffer seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Billie Hedde of the Park Board was concerned about selling the lawnmower at Deer Creek Park, leaving them with no way to use other equipment. She was instructed to bring that up with the Commissioners.

2012 BUDGET CALENDAR: The August regular meeting has been moved to August 29th and the September regular meeting was moved to September 22nd, both new dates coincide with days the Council will be in session for budget meetings; all agreed with the schedule.

LOIT LEVY FREEZE: Auditor Hathaway reported that we had been informed, like many other counties, that we were using the wrong column when distributing LOIT money. As a result, we had to dip into the LOIT stabilization fund and will be using over half of the reserve this year. Therefore, we must raise the LOIT Levy Freeze tax rate to replace the funds. The only other recourse is to eliminate the LOIT Levy Freeze and rely on property taxes. This would result in caps kicking in reducing that income, which would then require a property tax hike to raise the needed funds. The June financial statement does not reflect the correct stabilization account balance; Hathaway will report on the total to be used for the year at the August meeting. DLGF will advise the needed rate increase; the Council can vote on the rate at the August meeting which will meet the deadline to resume immediate fund building.

OTHER BUSINESS:

President Ann Brown stated that we need to increase the assessed value to make the County better; TIF does not help the County. Brown also stated that the TIF Board should order "Not" to include residential property or it will automatically be included. Scott Ayres stated the TIF Board was thinking that only commercial property would be included, they will need to clarify that decision.

Brown stated the Commissioners are asking for a joint session to discuss the jail. At least six years ago the Commissioners asked for money for a new jail but it was not set up. A Cum Jail account could be created that would not be an additional tax rate. We may be able to take the amount added to Cum Cap for the jail and move it to a Jail Cum Cap line. The Commissioners would like to meet in a joint session at 1:00 p.m. after one of their regular meetings, an October date would be recommend, at that time the budget work will be completed.

The Commissioners have approved their EDIT fund and it will be advertised for Council approval at the August meeting. During discussion of the fire association money it was pointed out that the fire association is not the fire territory; therefore, the distribution would be OK. Council members are to review the EDIT fund info for vote in August. The money in the balance is to go to roads in connection with the Hoosier Heartland. The Council is exercising their right to approve the EDIT funds.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- August 16 at 6:00 p.m. at the Canal Center – Legislative dinner sponsored by EDC and Carroll County Chamber of Commerce.
- August 29 at 8:30 a.m. - Regular Council meeting followed by 2012 budget hearings
- Ann Brown discussed the AIC Annual Conference and reminded everyone of the deadline for early registration.

There being no further business, Jamie Rough made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Nancy Cripe, passed unanimously.

CARROLL COUNTY COUNCIL:

Ann Brown, President

Nancy S. Cripe

Jamie Rough

Joe Bill Northcutt

Marion Huffer

James R. Hancock

Scott W. Ayres

ATTEST:

Elaine Hathaway, Auditor