

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 26, 2005**

The Howard County Council met Tuesday, April 26, 2005 at 7:00 p.m., in Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those present were Council President Richard Miller, Council Vice President James Papacek and Council Members Stanley Ortman, Leslie Ellison and Joseph Pencek. Also present were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Marshall Talbert and conducted by President Richard Miller.

The minutes of the March 22, 2005 Regular Meeting, having been previously reviewed, were considered and approved as presented on a motion made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL OPENING COMMENTS:**

Mr. Miller has noted the taxpayers' discouragement with the increase in taxes experienced by the city and a few of the city related townships. There was even an editorial that quoted a 17% county wide raise in taxes. Mr. Miller wanted to go on record saying that County General taxes went down from the year payable 2004 to year payable 2005.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2005-HCC-17-ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Ordinance No. 2005-HCC-17 was read in full for the first time by Auditor Ann wells, and read in full for the second time by President Richard Miller. Ordinance No. 2005-HCC-17 was presented and acted upon as follows:

**APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTED:**

**001      Howard County General Fund**

<u>004</u>	<u>Recorder</u>		
01114.00	Second Deputy	\$ (13,382.00)	\$ (13,382.00)

Auditor Ann Wells submitted, on behalf of the Recorder Linda Koontz, a request for a reduction in the Second Deputy Line Item of \$13,382.00 to revert back to County General Fund.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the reduction of \$13,382.00 from the Recorder's Line Item 01114.00 and revert those funds back to the County General Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

<u>017</u>	<u>Voter Registration</u>		
01114.00	Part Time Clerical (4)	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 10,000.00

Voter's Registration Co-Director, Ms. Carol Shallenbarger took the opportunity to introduce Ms. Shirley McCoy, Co-Director, to the Howard County Council. Because of the training of new staff in the office and because of the upcoming conversion to the state-wide voter file, more part-time clerical monies are needed. The most time consuming portion of the conversion, is the state's request for a complete copy of all Voter Registration records. The third reason is because of annexation issues that have to be brought to the state.

The Council understands the need for the extra funds in the Part Time line but would like to approve a lesser amount at this time. If Voter's Registration still needs more funds before the end of the fiscal year, they can come back with a request at that time. A motion was made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Ellison to approve an amount of \$10,000.00 additional monies to Line Item 01114.00.

<u>018</u>	<u>Maintenance Department</u>		
01118.00	Part Time	\$ 6,100.00	\$ -0-

Maintenance and Grounds Superintendent, Tom Harrison submitted a request for an additional part time worker for the hours of 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Courthouse. This is especially needed in the summer to cover extra work and vacation schedules.

The Council asked Mr. Harrison about the possibility of flexible hours with the existing employees. On a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Pencek, the Council agreed to table this request for one month, and directed Mr. Harrison to meet with the Board of Commissioners for additional ideas concerning flex-time for the Maintenance Department, to help alleviate some of the additional work load. The motion carried.

<u>032</u>	<u>Soil &amp; Water Conservation</u>		
03252.00	Copier Lease	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00

Ms. Michelle Arvin was in attendance to represent the Soil & Water Conservation Board request of \$400.00. The copier has already been purchased, and the company it was purchased from, now offers a service to network the three employees' computers to print to this copier. They anticipate that this lease would save them money at the end of the year because it also includes toner and other supplies.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the request of \$400.00 in Soil & Water Conservation Line Item 03252.00, Copier Lease.

<b>Total County General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 10,618.00</b>	<b>\$ (2,982.00)</b>
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<u>002</u>	<u>Howard County Highway Fund</u>		
22410.00	Stone	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
22430.00	Bituminous	\$ 352,000.00	\$ 352,000.00
24321.00	Gas, Oil & Lube	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00

Howard County Highway Engineer/Superintendent Ted Cain presented the afore-mentioned additional requests for Stone, Bituminous and Gas, Oil & Lube for Council approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried to approve additional appropriations in the amount of \$20,000.00 for Line Item 22410.00, \$352,000.00 for Line Item 22430.00 and \$14,000.00 for Line Item 24321.00.

<b>Total Highway Fund</b>	<b>\$ 386,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 386,000.00</b>
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<u>007</u>	<u>Howard County Local Road &amp; Street Fund</u>		
23754.00	Bituminous	\$ 243,184.00	\$ 243,184.00

Mr. Cain also presented a request for \$243,184.00 in Bituminous.

Mr. Ortman made a motion to approve \$243,184.00 in Line Item 23754.00, Bituminous. This motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

Mr. Cain wanted to remind the Council that several years ago the Cumulative Bridge Fund was decreased because of shortage of funds. While that fund has continued to operate during the decrease, he feels that in order for the Highway System to be maintained, an increase in funds would be necessary. He asks that the County Council remember his department when they are allowed by the state to increase the county budget. Mr. Miller thanked him for his comments.

<b>Total Howard County Local Road and Street</b>	<b>\$ 243,184.00</b>	<b>\$ 243,184.00</b>
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<u>105</u>	<u>Howard County Adult Probation User Fee Fund</u>		
01115.00	Part Time (Superior Court III)	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
14721.00	Office Equipment	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00

The Judge of Superior Court III, Judge Douglas Tate, was in attendance, along with Senior Probation Officer, Gary Conwell, to request additional funds for part time work, as well as scanning equipment and related software. In 2004 additional part time funds were used to hire two interns to close old files and recoup funds; those funds were then forwarded to the state. The closed files were boxed and carried to the basement outside the Adult Probation offices. Those files are still used by Adult Probation but are in a place where they are being scattered and ransacked. The Judge would like to hire part time workers to scan those documents in the computer so they can be put in

another storage facility, while making the computerized files accessible to the Court, Clerk's Office and Adult Probation. The \$23,000.00 request is for the scanners and related software and licenses to facilitate the project. This scanner is a two sided scanner and will make the work go more quickly. The present scanner will be used as back up. They also plan on using this method to close out felony cases, and facilitate in Protective Order clean up. Mr. Conwell has a similar system available for his office, but this newer system would open access to the Clerk's office as well as Superior Court III. Future licenses can be expanded to include all the courts.

The Council was concerned that Judge Tate would work with the Board of Commissioners in the matter of storage for the hard copies. They approved the Additional Appropriation to Line Item 01115.00, Part Time Superior Court III in the amount of \$8,000.00 and Line Item 04721.00, Office Equipment in the amount of \$23,000.00 on a motion made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

<b>Total Adult probation User Fee Fund</b>	<b>\$ 31,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 31,000.00</b>
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<b>150</b>	<b><u>Howard County Cumulative Capital Fund</u></b>		
04335.00	Vehicle (Kinsey Youth Center)	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -0-

Kinsey Youth Center Director Jan Weaver resubmitted a request for a new vehicle which was tabled from the previous Council meeting (refer to page one of the March 22, 2005 Howard County Council Regular Meeting, *Cumulative Capital Fund Kinsey Youth Center Vehicle Purchase*). She explained, again, the age of the van and the amounts of repairs that are required. Also mentioned was the fact that they are receiving an increase in juveniles from other counties, increasing the need for dependable transportation.

The Council discussed the matter of a limited cash flow in the Cumulative Capital Fund and that there is a roofing project at the Administration Center and Howard Haven, that have already been approved and the bid process begun. After May 10<sup>th</sup>, taxes will have been collected and the bids will be in concerning the roofing project. On a motion made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried, the Council will table this request until the May 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting and exempt Mrs. Weaver from having to be present.

<b>Total Cumulative Capital Fund</b>	<b>\$ 30,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -0-</b>
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	<b><u>Howard County Sheriff</u></b>		
<b>515</b>	<b><u>Misdemeanant Fund</u></b>		
04720.00	Equipment	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00

Howard County Sheriff Marshall Talbert came before the Council to request the correction of an error. Misdemeanant funds were appropriated in 2004 for eight vests for the SWAT Team and a photo digital capture system (CIS Photo). These appropriations were not encumbered into the 2005 budget and the Sheriff requests it be appropriated at this time.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the request of \$18,000.00 from Misdemeanant Funds to Equipment Line Item 04720.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

<b>Total Misdemeanant Fund</b>	<b>\$ 18,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,000.00</b>
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<b>Total Additional Appropriations All Funds</b>	<b>\$ 718,802.00</b>	<b>\$ 675,202.00</b>
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**IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2005-HCC-07 – TRANSFERS**

Resolution No. 2005-HCC-07 addressing requested transfers was presented and read in full for Council information. The following actions were taken:

	<b>TRANSFERS FROM:</b>	<b>TO:</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>ALLOWED</b>
<b>001</b>	<b><u>Howard County General Fund</u></b>			
<b>004</b>	<b><u>Howard County Recorder</u></b>			
01114.00	Second Deputy	01114.01 Job Share	\$ 13,382.00	\$ 13,382.00

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the transfer of \$13,382.00 from Line Item 01114.00 to Line Item 01114.01.

<u>008</u>	<u>Superior Court II</u>				
02360.00	Office Supply	03253.00	Equipment Repair	\$ 133.00	\$ 133.00
03127.00	Witness Fees	03112.00	Translator	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded Mr. Pencek and carried to transfer \$133.00 from Line Item 02360.00 to Line Item 03253.00 and \$150.00 from Line Item 03127.00 to Line Item 03112.00.

<u>023</u>	<u>Howard County Commissioners Legal Department</u>				
			Continuing Legal Education &		
01115.01	Part-Time Legal secretary	03111.00	Books	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00

County Attorney Larry Murrell explained that he believes he does not need all the funds budgeted for the Legal Secretary line. A portion of those funds are needed for continuing education and books.

On a motion made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve \$750.00 transferred from Line Item 01115.01 to Line Item 03111.00 in the Commissioners Legal Department.

<u>921</u>	<u>Howard County Juvenile Probation</u>				
	<u>SHOCAP Tracker Grant</u>				
01524.00	Unemployment Compensation	01523.00	Insurance	\$ 1,966.00	\$ 1,966.00
03213.00	Travel	01523.00	Insurance	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
03590.00	Contractual Services	01523.00	Insurance	\$ 540.00	\$ 540.00

The Council approved the transfer request of \$1,966.00 from Line Item 01524.00 to Line Item 01523.00, \$1,200.00 from Line Item 03213.00 to Line Item 01523.00, and \$540.00 from Line Item 03590.00 to Line Item 01523.00 on a motion made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE NO. 2005-HCC-18 AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2005:**

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the Salary Ordinance No. 2005-HCC-18 as read with two corrections. The first being in Howard County Voter Registration, change the amount in Line Item 01114.00 to \$10,000.00 and in Howard County Maintenance Department, change the amount in Line Item 01114.00 to -0-. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:**

Because the request was not received in time to be advertised, this matter will appear on the agenda for the May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. However, a representative from the Kokomo Fire Department was asked to make an informal presentation and answer questions concerning the need and usage of an arson dog. Mr. Steve Stackhouse, Assistant Arson Investigator for the Kokomo Fire Department, was in attendance to speak of the usage of an arson dog. A presentation was made at the April 18<sup>th</sup> Commissioner meeting by Mr. Patrick O'Neill, Fire Marshal Investigator, and the Board of Commissioners approved a motion to donate \$2,000.00 from the Edit Funds. Mr. Stackhouse reported on funds already received, statistics regarding arson fires in Howard County and City of Kokomo, and who the dog would be made available to. The dog would be housed by the Kokomo Fire Department. A Chocolate Labrador Retriever has already been selected and is in training, as well two dog handlers.

**IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2005-HCC-08:**

Howard County Commissioner Paul Raver was in attendance to present Resolution No. 2005-HCC-08, enlarging participation in the Public Employees' Retirement Fund. The Solid Waste Department has asked Howard County to sponsor three of their employees, director, assistant director and secretary, into PERF. Though sponsored by the County, the funds will be generated by the Solid Waste Department.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried to approve Resolution No. 2005-HCC-08.

**IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:**

Sheriff Marshall Talbert presented the following issues for Council information:

1. **Four of the new vehicles have been received.** Two of them are marked; two of them are unmarked. A quad cab pickup truck for Greg Hargrove in CID has been purchased. Sheriff Talbert reported that the Chrysler Corporation is manufacturing a Dodge Charger with either a V6 or V8 engine, the V6 being useful as an administrative car. He plans to dialogue with Chrysler about the possibility of the Sheriff's Department test driving the vehicles.
2. **Jail population at the present time is 243 inmates.** A request has been made to the Sheriff's Department, from Delaware County, to house twelve low risk inmates (no medical issues, and non-violent offenders). They would pay \$35.00 per day per inmate. The Council reminded the Sheriff that he has authority to accept or reject such requests.
3. **The Monthly Commissary Report for March, 2005** was presented to the Council.
4. **Accident Report and Firearm's Training Funds:** In a joint meeting with the Auditor, Ann Wells, and her financial staff, and Sheriff Talbert and members of his accounting staff, it was concluded that the Accident Report and Firearm's Training Funds do not need to be appropriated. It was suggested that the Sheriff's Department could run those funds in a similar fashion as the Commissary Fund, reporting to the Council on a monthly basis.

The Council stated that, as long as regular accounting procedures are followed and appropriate expenditures are observed, this procedure would be acceptable to them.

5. Both Sheriff Talbert and Attorney Murrell reported on the progress of the **Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee.** This committee is one of the principal suggestions of Consultant Wasson. In issuing invitations to the meeting, Mr. Murrell was met with good responses, and some judges voiced their approval of this Committee. Sheriff Talbert continued to inform the Council of possible scenarios of cooperation between the different arms of the Criminal Justice/Court System.

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:**

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RICHARD MILLER, PRESIDENT

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JAMES PAPACEK, VICE PRESIDENT

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JOSEPH PENCEK, COUNCILMAN

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DWIGHT SINGER, JR. COUNCILMAN

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LESLIE ELLISON, COUNCILMAN

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STANLEY ORTMAN, COUNCILMAN

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JEFFREY STOUT, COUNCILMAN

ATTEST:

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ANN WELLS, AUDITOR  
County Council Minutes, April 26, 2005