

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 28, 2009

The Howard County Council met Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those present included President Richard Miller, Vice President Paul Wyman, and members James Papacek, Stanley Ortman, Jeff Stout and Joseph Pencek.

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 24, 2009 meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and Mr. Ortman, and seconded by Mr. Pencek.

IN THE MATTER OF OPENING COMMENTS BY THE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Vice President Wyman informed the Council members that he attended the MS4 Seminar on behalf of the Council, last week. It was very interesting, and Mr. Wyman will be ready for a budget discussion on that item, this year. Attorney Murrell was also in attendance.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2009-HCCO-15 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Ordinance No. 2009-HCCO-15 – Additional Appropriations was read in full one time by Auditor Ann Wells and acted upon as follows:

<u>001</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>	REQUESTED:	APPROVED:
<u>006</u>	<u>Howard County Surveyor</u>		
01110.00	Surveyor	\$ 24,504.00	\$ 24,504.00

President Miller reminded Council members that this request is to bring the salary level up to the mandated salary increase for a Licensed Registered Surveyor (*please refer to page four, "In The Matter Of Ordinance No. 2008-HCCO-37 – Salary Ordinance For 2009", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated December 9, 2008*).

<u>023</u>	<u>Howard County Commissioners</u>		
01120.00	Personnel Administrative Assistant	\$ (2,311.00)	\$ (2,311.00)

President Miller referred back to discussion regarding the decrease of the Personnel Administrative Assistant Line item from \$31,195.00 to \$28,884.00 (*please refer to page three, "In The Matter Of Ordinance No. 2008-HCCO-37 – Salary Ordinance For 2009", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated December 9, 2008*).

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the request of \$24,504.00 to line item 01110.00, Surveyor and \$(2,311.00) to line item 01120.00, Personnel Administrative Assistant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and seconded.

Total General Fund		\$ 22,193.00	\$ 22,193.00
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<u>002</u>	<u>Howard County Highway Fund</u>		
22430.00	Bituminous	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00

<u>007</u>	<u>Howard County Local Road & Street</u>		
33759.00	Dixon Rd – Zartman Rd to Judson Rd	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 275,000.00
33762.00	Stimulus Program	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00

<u>006</u>	<u>Howard County Cumulative Bridge</u>		
32250.00	Maintenance & Repair by Contract	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 400,000.00
33718.00	B-46 CR 550 N & 30 E	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00

Howard County Highway Engineer / Superintendent Ted Cain explained to the Council his requests beginning with the Bituminous line item in the Highway Fund. That line item had been decreased because of an estimated loss of MVH Funds. Mr. Cain had cash at the end of the year to put into Bituminous.

Concerning the Local Road and Street Fund, Mr. Cain is hoping that Stimulus Package Funds will be able to apply to the Dixon Road Project. The \$5,000.00 request is to pay a consultant for their assistance with the Stimulus Package Application.

The \$400,000.00 request is to install rip-rap around the abutments to prevent scouring and washout. Mr. Cain's department oversees 137 bridges. Bridge 46 needs some repair. Upon request of Mr. Wyman, Mr. Cain explained specific information concerning the Dixon Road Project and that this is the final phase of that project.

A motion was made Mr. Papacek to approve the additional requests in the Highway Fund, Local Road and Street Fund and Cumulative Bridge Fund as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

Total Highway Fund	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
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Total Local Road & Street	\$ 280,000.00	\$ 280,000.00
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Total Cumulative Bridge	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 450,000.00
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<u>004</u>	<u>Howard County Family & Children Fund</u>		
32500.00	Care of Ward in Foster Homes – Child Welfare	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 175,000.00
32520.00	Care of Ward in Institutions – Child Welfare	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
32540.00	Preservation Services	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
32550.00	Miscellaneous Cost of Wards	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
32820.00	Care of Wards in Institutions – Probation	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00

<u>220</u>	<u>Howard County CPRTS Fund</u>		
35700.00	Psychiatric Residential Treatment Services	\$ 58,268.75	\$ 58,268.75

Director Marilyn Robinson thanked the County Council for the opportunity to present Additional Appropriations requests, and provide the Senate Bill 408 update for 2008. Effective January 1, 2009 the Family & Children Fund and the Psychiatric Residential Treatment Services Fund has been taken over by the State. That being the case, the 2008 Budget process allowed for only a three month operating balance in both of the funds. Also, during this year the case loads in both the Howard County Probation Department and the Department of Child Services have increased. Ms. Robinson did note for the record that because of the work done by the Probation Department, between October and December, 2008, the institutional placements decreased from twenty-nine (29) to seventeen (17). As of February 1, 2009 all support orders will be sent to the State for processing.

A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve the additional requests from the Family & Children Fund and the CPRTS Fund as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

Total Additionals Howard County Family & Children Fund	\$ 385,000.00	\$ 385,000.00
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Total Additionals Howard County CPRTS Fund	\$ 58,268.75	\$ 58,268.75
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<u>515</u>	<u>Howard County Sheriff Misdemeanant Fund</u>		
01115.02	Part Time Clerical	\$ 6,360.00	\$ 6,360.00

Sheriff Talbert reminded the Council that money from this fund can be used to pay expenses associated with operating the Criminal Justice Center. This additional request will fund the part-time clerical medical employee through this year, and Sheriff Talbert offered a review of the job responsibilities associated with this position.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried to approve the request for \$6,360.00 in line item 01115.02, Part-time Clerical.

Total Additionals All Funds	\$ 1,301,821.75	\$ 1,301,821.75
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IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2009-HCCR-4 – TRANSFERS:

Resolution No. 2009-HCCR-4 – Transfers was read in full one time 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>027</u>	<u>Kokomo Events Center</u>			
01111.00	General Manager	03120.00 Contract Services	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
01111.00	General Manager	01113.00 Asstnt Events Coord	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00

Auditor Wells read an explanation for this request from Board Member Dwight Singer as follows: "Due to resignations, funds should be transferred to other accounts until permanent positions are filled".

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the transfer of \$9,000.00 from line item 01111.00, General Manager to line item 03120.00, Contract Services, and \$10,000.00 from line item 01111.00, General Manager to 01113.00, Assistant Events Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

<u>252</u>	<u>Howard County Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund</u>			
<u>025</u>	<u>Howard County Sheriff</u>			
01119.01	Correction Officer	01125.02 Part Time Nurse	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00

Sheriff Talbert has extra funds needed to transfer to this part-time nursing position. He informed the Council that the nursing staff does a great job and there are no deficiencies in their record keeping abilities. The current inmate population is three hundred and forty (340), with fifteen of those being Department Of Corrections hold. The prisoners being held by DOC can only be transported out at the DOC's convenience. Our facility has been averaging thirty to forty book-ins on the weekends.

A motion was made by Mr. Stout to approve the transfer of \$20,000.00 from line item 01119.01, Correction Officer to 01125.02, Part-time Nurse. The motion was seconded by Mr. Papacek and carried.

<u>514</u>	<u>Howard County Health – Local Health Maintenance Fund</u>			
03241.00	Printing	01521.00 FICA	\$ 208.08	\$ 208.08
03241.00	Printing	01111.01 Immunization Nurse	\$ 2,720.00	\$ 2,720.00

Health Department Director Kent Weaver reminded the Council that the Health Department currently has a back log of scheduled immunizations and a part time secretarial position was approved at the March 24, 2009 meeting. This transfer request is to be able to fund an extra one hundred sixty hours (160) for the current part-time nurse to help with immunizations.

The requests to transfer were approved as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Stout.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HOWARD COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT PENSION AND BENEFIT PLAN:

Ms. Elaine Beatty and Mr. Craig Dunn of McCready and Keene, Inc. were in attendance concerning the Howard County Sheriff Department Pension and Benefit Plans. One of the services that McCready and Keene offers to their clients is a report that is prepared annually, and "determines the amount of money needed to fund the obligations made to the retirement plan that covers the Sheriff and Merit Deputies." Ms. Keene summarized and reviewed this report with the Council members. She began by stating that 2008 was not a good year for investments anywhere and the retirement plan did lose money. After reviewing the report, she continued with their firm's second service of "keeping the plan in compliance with applicable changes to Federal and State laws". The IRS has set up a five-year schedule for qualified retirement plans to submit all documentation to them for review. This year is Howard County's scheduled year for submission. This required documentation is now submitted to the Sheriff for the approval of the Merit Board and the County Council, whose actions are required before the end of the year. Mr. Craig Dunn took the floor to continue review of the strategy used by McCready & Keene and the State Board of Account's requirement (suggestion) to switch to a managed money platform in lieu of a passive investment strategy using mutual funds which is a little more conservative, with a slight decrease in risk. This resulted in losing fewer funds. Mr. Dunn then submitted copies of the new Retirement Plan, explaining that with the new plan there is more bookkeeping requirements for the trustee of the fund. At the conclusion of the presentation, Sheriff Talbert thanked the County Council for this retirement plan for the Deputies.

IN THE MATTER OF AN UPDATED REPORT FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE 5% BUDGET DECREASE:

Vice President Paul Wyman thanked Auditor Wells and her staff for their cooperation in getting needed financial information to the Committee in a timely manner. The committee has set up meetings with Kinsey Youth Center Director Brent Kelley and Sheriff Talbert, to talk about their budgets in greater detail. Mr. Wyman thanked Attorney Larry Murrell for his assistance with structuring a possible employee incentive program, and garnering information concerning possible incentives to employees to switch to a spouse's insurance program in lieu of the County's program. As a result of the meeting with office holders and department heads, \$400,000.00 worth of proposed budget cuts will be accepted by the Committee. Those decreases will be prepared as negative appropriations, and the paperwork will be presented at the May Council Meeting. As of this meeting, together with the budget cuts, the savings from the hiring freeze and the savings from the change in Insurance for the part time employees working full time hours, the total savings to the 2009 budget is \$600,000.00. The real focus is going to be the 2010 budget with the unknown factor being the loss in income revenue. The State is experiencing a 14% drop in income tax revenue. There is also the question of being able to receive the certified funds from the State. The Committee will gladly receive recommendations for budget decreases from Department Heads and employees.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2009-HCCR-5:

Councilman Papacek, who is the Chairman of the Howard County Plan Commission Board, submitted and read in full Resolution No. 200-HCCR-5, approving the Second Amended Interlocal Cooperative Agreement on Joint Plan Commission Office, authorizing and ratifying the execution of the agreement by the Howard County Board of Commissioners. After a brief explanation of the Interlocal Agreement, Mr. Papacek made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2009-HCCR-5 as submitted. This amendment expires December 31, 2009 at which point the Interlocal Agreement will automatically renew unless there is an interest to terminate the agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wyman and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF THE CORONER OFFICE SURRENDERING UNUSED VEHICLE TO ANOTHER OFFICE:

Commissioner Dave Trine stepped to the podium to thank the County Council for their endeavors and efforts to decrease the County's budget. He believed it noteworthy to inform them of a situation concerning vehicles in the Surveyors Office. About a month ago Mr. Trine was made aware that Surveyor Dan Minor felt that his office would be better served with a Pick-up Truck to accomplish surveying duties rather than the present SUV. Knowing that the MS4 department had budgeted \$30,000.00 for a vehicle for the field technician, Mr. Minor and MS4 Coordinator Greg Lake agreed that Mr. Lake would use the Surveyor's SUV. Because of the request to cut 2009 Budgets by 5%, Coroner Jay Price parked the offices' pick-up truck that was not being used. When word came that the Surveyor's office was in need of a pick-up, Mr. Price surrendered the truck back to the Board of Commissioners to be used by the Surveyor's office. The purchase of an additional vehicle is no longer needed.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Sheriff Marshall Talbert submitted the following issues for the Council's information and approval:

1. **Annual Inspection:** The Sheriff's Department will be holding their Annual Inspection on May 14th. Dinner will be held at 11:30 in the garage area and inspection will begin at 1:00 p.m. Several Deputies will be recognized for their good work in the last year. This is an important time for the Department, and Sheriff Talbert invites the Council and Elected officials to attend the dinner and inspection.
2. **Commissary Reports:** Sheriff Talbert submitted the monthly Commissary Reports for the months of February and March, 2009. The reports were accepted by consensus.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Papacek.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:

RICHARD A. MILLER, PRESIDENT

PAUL G. WYMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

JAMES T. PAPACEK, COUNCILMAN

LESLIE ELLISON, COUNCILMAN

STANLEY ORTMAN, COUNCILMAN

JEFF STOUT, COUNCILMAN

JOSEPH PENCEK, COUNCILMAN

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR

Howard County Council Meeting April 28, 2009