

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AND 2016 BUDGET SESSIONS
AUGUST 25, 26, 27 AND SEPTEMBER 2 & 10, 2015

The Howard County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, August 25, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Richard Miller, Vice President Jim Papacek, and members Leslie Ellison, Stan Ortman, Jeff Stout, John Roberts and Dwight Singer. Also present were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Martha Lake.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Steve Rogers and conducted by President Miller.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the July 28, 2015 Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Ortman, and carried.

At this time Councilman John Roberts led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Stout offered a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-HCCO-29 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Auditor Martha Lake read Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-29 – Additional Appropriations through one time and it was acted upon as follows:

		AMOUNT	
		REQUESTED:	APPROVED:
<u>1000</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>		
<u>009</u>	<u>Howard County Coroner</u>		
03263.02	Med. & Hosp – Autopsy / Lab	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00

Howard County Coroner Jay Price submitted the request to augment Autopsy and Lab services through the end of the year. This has been a very busy year and to date the Coroner’s office has had eighty-seven (87) autopsies compared to fifty-five (55) at this time last year. The local hospitals are also sending autopsies to hospitals in Fort Wayne and Indianapolis without informing the Coroner’s office, thus, creating more unplanned costs.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the request of \$50,000.00 to line item 03263.02, Med & Hosp – Autopsy / Lab. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried. Councilman Stout abstained from the vote.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2015-HCCR-17 – TRANSFERS:

Auditor Martha Lake read Resolution No. 2015-HCCR-17 – Transfers in full one time, and it was acted upon as follows:

		TRANSFER FROM:	TO:	AMOUNT:	APPROVED:
<u>1120</u>		<u>Howard County Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund</u>			
<u>018</u>		<u>Howard County Maintenance Dept.</u>			
03253.01	Equipment Repair	03251.00	Bldg. & Struct Repair	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00

Buildings & Grounds Superintendent Bill Stonestreet explained that there are several building repair projects needed at the Criminal Justice Center and there is currently not a line item to address those needed repair projects. There is a painting project and a parking lot project waiting to be addressed before the end of the year.

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the transfer request of \$10,000.00 from line item 03253.01, Equipment Repair, to line item 03251.00, Building & Structure Repair, as submitted.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-HCCO-22:

President Miller reminded the Council members that Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-22, an ordinance of the Howard County Council further amending Ordinance No. 2007-HCCO-12, to increase the Special Jail & Juvenile Detention Center County Option Income Tax, requires a second reading. At this time Mr. Miller opened the floor for council comment or question. There being no comment or question from Council members, Mr. Miller opened the floor for public comment. There being no public comment at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-22 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2016 BUDGET SESSION:

Mr. Miller opened the floor for comment regarding the 2016 Budget Session as follows:

Commissioner Paul Wyman: Mr. Wyman spoke on the financial position of Howard County.

Councilman Jim Papacek: Mr. Papacek commented on the quality of the budgets submitted by the departments. He also spoke to the unfunded mandates the county has to deal with.

Commissioner Tyler Moore: Mr. Moore echoed sentiments expressed by Mr. Wyman, and then thanked the Council for the diligence shown by the Council members during the budget session process.

Councilman John Roberts: Mr. Roberts reminded Council members that at the last meeting the Council was approached by representatives of the City Fire and Police Departments submitting negative issues with the County 911 Dispatch Office. Councilmen Roberts, Stout, and Singer made themselves available for comment and conversation for Dispatch issues. Mr. Roberts contacted several City and County officials, and after speaking with Deputy Fire Chief Hall and Major Arnett, the concerns previously voiced have not materialized. Both Sheriff Steve Rogers and 911 Coordinator Gary Bates are willing to address needed concerns.

Councilman Stan Ortman: During conversation at the July meeting, concerning the proposed increase of the Jail and Juvenile COIT Tax rate, a question was asked about the possibility of installing solar power at the Criminal Justice Center and Kinsey Youth Center in order to decrease utility costs. Mr. Ortman reminded the Council that this issue was reviewed about 1 ½ years ago. It was confirmed that, although the usage is high, in those two facilities, the current rate from Duke Energy is low enough that it didn't make sense to find a different power source at this time.

*There being no further business to come before the Council at this time,
the meeting was recessed at 4:33 p.m., to be reconvened
on Wednesday, opening the 2016 Budget Session.*

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The 2015-2016 Budget Session was reconvened at 8:32 a.m.

The Howard County Councilmen heard budget justification from Office Holders and Department Heads, observing the following schedule.

8:32 a.m.	1000-044	Superior Court IV	Judge George Hopkins
8:45 a.m.	1000-008	Superior Court II	Judge Brant Parry
9:00 a.m.	1000-018	Buildings & Grounds Superintendent	Bill Stonestreet
	1120-018	Jail & Juvenile COIT – Maintenance	Bill Stonestreet
	1138	CCD - Maintenance	Bill Stonestreet
9:15 a.m.		Convention & Visitor's Bureau	Mr. Charles Sparks / Ms. Sherri Matlock
9:30 a.m.		Howard County Recycling	Mikki Jeffers
9:45 a.m.	1000-001	County Clerk	Kim Wilson
	1000-016	Election Board	Kim Wilson
	1119	Clerk Document Storage Fees	Kim Wilson
10:00 a.m.	1000-033	Superior Court III	Judge Doug Tate
10:15 a.m.	1000-009	County Coroner	Jay Price
10:30 am.	1000-005	Sheriff Department	Sheriff Steve Rogers
	1120-025	Jail & Juvenile COIT / Sheriff	Sheriff Steve Rogers
	4903	Sheriff Work Program	Sheriff Steve Rogers
	4908	County Courthouse Security	Sheriff Steve Rogers
10:45 a.m.	1222	Statewide 911 / Howard County	Coordinator Gary Bates
11:00 a.m.	1000-012	Prosecutor	Mark McCann
	1000-036	Prosecutor Title IV-D	Mark McCann
	2511	Pre-Trial Diversion	Mark McCann

4930	Howard Co Law Enforcement Fund	Mark McCann
4905	Prosecutor / Bad Check / Copy Fund	Mark McCann
8109	Stop Domestic Violence Grant	Mark McCann
8112	Drug Task Force Grant	Mark McCann

--LUNCH AT KINSEY YOUTH CENTER--

1:00 p.m.	1000-004	County Recorder	Brook Cleaver
	1154	Enhanced Access Fund	Brook Cleaver
	1160	Recorder ID Protection	Brook Cleaver
	1217	County Elected Officials Training	Brook Cleaver
1:30 p.m.	1159	Health Department	Kent Weaver
	1168	Local Health Maintenance	Kent Weaver
	1206	Health Dept. Trust Account	Kent Weaver
	4928	Tobacco Prevention	Kent Weaver
	8126	Public Health Preparedness	Kent Weaver
1:45 p.m.	1000-020	County Home – Howard Haven	Jennifer Brower
1:50 p.m.	1000-029	Emergency Management	Janice Hart
	1152	Sara Title Right-To-Know	Janice Hart
2:00 p.m.	1000-002	County Treasurer	Ann Wells
2:10 p.m.	1000-023	County Commissioners	Paul Wyman / Tyler Moore / Brad Bray
	1112	EDIT Fund	Paul Wyman / Tyler Moore / Brad Bray
	1138	Cumulative Capital Fund	Paul Wyman / Tyler Moore / Brad Bray
2:25 p.m.	1000-015	Veterans Service Office	Ross Waltemath
2:50 p.m.	1000-022	County Museum	Dave Broman
	1112	EDIT Museum Operating Expense	Dave Broman
3:10 p.m.	1000-006	County Surveyor	Dave Duncan
	1202	Surveyor Perpetuation	Dave Duncan
	4918	Kitty Run Bond	Greg Lake
	1197	Stormwater District	Greg Lake

The Budget Session was recessed at 3:36 p.m. and reconvened on Thursday, August 27, 2015, at 8:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m.	1000-013	Circuit Court	Judge Lynn Murray
8:50 a.m.	1000-034	Adult Probation	Chief Prob Officer Dustin Delong
	2100	Adult Probation User Fee	Dustin Delong
	2000	Adult Probation Administration	Dustin Delong
	2150	Juvenile Probation	Dustin Delong
	2501	Alcohol & Drug User Fees	Dustin Delong
	2503	Informal Probation Fees	Dustin Delong
9:05 a.m.	1120-035	Kinsey Youth Center Shelter Care	Jeff Lipinski
	1120-037	Kinsey Youth Center Residential Care	Jeff Lipinski
	1120-038	Kinsey Youth Center Secure Detention	Jeff Lipinski
	4913	KYC FFT	Jeff Lipinski
9:30 a.m.	1212	CASA	Katina Silver
9:50 a.m.	1000-014	Superior Court I	Judge Bill Menges
	1000-045	Unified Courts	Judge Bill Menges
	2512	Jury Pay Fund User Fee	Judge Bill Menges
	1148	Drug Free Community	Judge Bill Menges
10:20 a.m.	1000-031	Information Systems	Terry Tribby
10:45 a.m.	1000-028	Weights & Measures	Gary Gist
11:05 a.m.	1000-007	County Agent / Extension Office	Paul Marcellino
11:20 a.m.	1000-030	Public Defender	Steve Raquet
	1200	Supplemental Public Defender Services	Steve Raquet
11:25 a.m.	1000-021	County Plan Commission	Greg Sheline

-- LUNCH AT THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER --

1:30 p.m.	1000-034	Soil & Water	Shane Campbell, representing Brd of Dir
1:40 p.m.	1176	Highway Department	Ted Cain
	1135	Cumulative Bridge	Ted Cain
	1169	Local Road & Street	Ted Cain
1:55 p.m.	1000-017	Voter Registration	Carol Shallenberger
2:00 p.m.	1000-002	Auditor	Martha Lake
	1181	Plat Book Fees	Martha Lake
	1150	Auditor Electronic Data	Martha Lake
	1216	Auditor Ineligible Homestead Fund	Martha Lake
	1120	Jail & Juvenile COIT Benefits	Martha Lake
	1121	COIT County Distributive Shares	Martha Lake

At 2:30 p.m. the Budget Session was recessed until Wednesday, September 2, 2015, at 8:30 a.m.

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The continuing Budget Session was reconvened at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 2, 2015. President Miller began the session by opening the floor for Council comment concerning the procedure for the rest of the budget session.

Attendance included President Richard Miller, Vice President Jim Papacek, and members Stan Ortman, Jeff Stout, Les Ellison, John Roberts, and Dwight Singer. Also present were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Martha Lake.

IN THE MATTER OF THE GCC BUDGET:

Ms. Tammy Corn, from the Government Coordinating Council, submitted the 2016 Budget Request and reviewed the budget lines with the Council members.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNCIL NON-BINDING REVIEWS OF TAXING UNITS:

The Council reviewed the following taxing units and gave the non-binding review:

<u>TAXING UNIT</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
Center Township	Favorable
Clay Township	Unfavorable
Eastern Schools	Favorable
Ervin Township	Unfavorable
Town of Greentown	Favorable
Greentown Library	Favorable
Harrison Township	Favorable
Honey Creek Township	Favorable
Howard Township	Unfavorable
Jackson Township	Unfavorable
City of Kokomo	Favorable
Kokomo Center School	Unfavorable
Kokomo / Howard County Library	Favorable
Liberty Township	Unfavorable
Monroe Township	Favorable
Northwestern Schools	Unfavorable
Town of Russiaville	Unfavorable
Taylor Schools	Unfavorable
Taylor Township	Unfavorable
Western Schools	Unfavorable
Union Township	No Submission

-- LUNCH AT THE COUNTY HOME (HOWARD HAVEN) --

IN THE MATTER OF SALARY POSITION INCREASES IN VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE:

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to increase salaries of the Admin Support Manager position and the Claims Adjuster position in the Veterans Service Office (015-01113.00 & 015-01113.01) to \$28,000.00 each. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-HCCO-30 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Auditor Martha Lake read Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-30 – Additional Appropriations through one time in full and it was acted upon as follows:

		AMOUNT REQUEST:	APPROVED:
<u>1120</u>	<u>Howard Co Jail/Juvenile COIT</u>		
<u>025</u>	<u>Howard County Jail</u>		
01122.00	Overtime Corrections Officers	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
<u>1175</u>	<u>Howard Co Misdemeanant Grant Fund</u>		
04721.00	Equipment – Gas Convection Oven	\$ 6,718.26	\$ 6,718.26
<u>4903</u>	<u>Howard Co Work Program</u>		
03252.00	Repair & Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL ADDITIONALS ALL FUNDS		\$ 157,718.26	\$ 157,718.26

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approved Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-30 – Additional Appropriations as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2015-HCCR-18 – TRANSFERS

Auditor Martha Lake read Resolution No. 2015-HCCR-18 – Transfers in full one time, and they were acted upon as follows:

	TRANSFER FROM:	TRANSFER TO:	AMOUNT	ALLOWED
<u>1176</u>	<u>Howard County Highway Dept.</u>			
12110.00	Truck Drivers	34252.00 Repair Trucks	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
11130.03	Drainage Engineer	11130.02 Design Engineer	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
11130.03	Drainage Engineer	12160.00 Part-Time	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
<u>4903</u>	<u>Howard Co Work Program</u>			
03252.00	Repair & Maintenance	04721.00 Equipment	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

Highway Engineer / Superintendent Ted Cain explained that he has many truck issues that are not being corrected because there are currently not enough funds to cover the needed repairs. The transfer request into the Design Engineer line item is to cover vacation days for the employee who recently resigned, along with training costs of the replacement employee that also came out of that fund. The transfer request into Part-Time is to cover some training duties.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve Resolution No. 2015-HCCR-18 – Transfers as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-HCCO-31 – AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2015:

Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-31 – Amending Salary Ordinance for 2015 was read through one (1) time by Auditor Martha Lake and acted upon as follows:

		AMOUNT REQUESTED:	APPROVED:
<u>1120</u>	<u>Howard Co Jail & Juvenile COIT Fund:</u>		
<u>025</u>	<u>Howard County Sheriff Dept.</u>		
01122.00	Overtime Corrections Officers	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
<u>1176</u>	<u>Howard County Highway Department</u>		
11130.03	Drainage Engineer	\$ (7,000.00)	\$ (7,000.00)
11130.02	Design Engineer	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00

12160.00	Part Time	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
12110.00	Truck Driver	\$ (30,000.00)	\$ (30,000.00)

A motion was made by Mr. Stout to approve Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-31 – Amending Salary Ordinance for 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF 2016 EMPLOYEE BONUS DISCUSSION:

The Council members discussed the possibility of, and monetary amount, of an employee bonus for 2016. At its conclusion a motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve an employee bonus for the year 2016, \$750.00 for all full-time employees hired before July 1, 2016, and \$375.00 for all part-time employees hired before July 1, 2016. This bonus would exclude all MANDATED salaries outside of Howard County, and each bonus will be supported in the fund in which the employee is paid from. Elected Officials are included in the employee bonus. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SECOND READING OF THE HOWARD COUNTY RECYCLING 2016 BUDGET:

Recycling Director Mikki Jeffers read the 2016 Budget Request for the second time and it was approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

The 2016 Budget Session is recessed at 2:42 p.m. to reconvene on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

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The continuing 2016 Budget Session was reconvened at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2015. Those in attendance included President Richard Miller, Vice President Jim Papacek, and members Stan Ortman, Les Ellison, Dwight Singer, John Roberts and Jeff Stout. Also in attendance were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Martha Lake.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-HCCO-32:

Auditor Martha Lake submitted and read Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-32, the 2016 Budget for Howard County, through one time. The final 2016 Budget figure, for all funds, is \$43,412,260.00. Mr. Papacek commented that the 2016 Budget process went very smoothly and that was because of the Office Holders, Department Heads, and employees. A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-32, adopting the 2016 Budget as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-HCCO-33:

Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-33, the 2016 Budget for Howard County Solid Waste (Recycling) was submitted for council approval. The final budget figure submitted is \$918,022.00. A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve Ordinance No. 2015-HCCO-33, the Solid Waste (Recycling) 2016 budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

At this time the Council members expressed their condolences to Councilman Les Ellison, in the sudden death of his cousin, Deputy Rod Lynch.

Earlier in the meeting Center Township Assessor Sheila Pullen submitted an article to the Council members concerning the issue of “Dark Sales”. “Dark Sales” is a strategy used by big box stores (such as Kohl’s) to reduce assessments. This is the strategy used by Kohl’s in the current Assessment Appeal against Howard County. Ms. Pullen asked the County Council members to please contact their State Legislators and ask them to define, in the laws, what “Market Value” and “Use” is when it comes to assessment, especially as it pertains to the Big Box Stores. Local governments in the State of Michigan are suffering the effects of “Dark Sales” used by Big Box Stores.

There being no further business to come before the County Council at this time, the 2016 Budget Sessions were adjourned at 8:50 a.m. on a motion made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Roberts and carried.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:

RICHARD H. MILLER, PRESIDENT

JAMES T. PAPACEK, VICE PRESIDENT

LESLIE W. ELLISON, MEMBER

STANLEY E. ORTMAN, MEMBER

JEFFREY A. STOUT, MEMBER

JOHN J. ROBERTS, MEMBER

DWIGHT V. SINGER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

Howard County Council Meeting & 2016 Budget Session September 10, 2015