

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JUNE 28, 2011**

The Howard County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 28, 2011 at 7:00 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 Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

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 May 24, 2011 Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Singer and seconded on Mr. Ellison.

At this time, Councilman Stout offered a word of prayer.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL COMMENT:**

President Miller opened the floor for Council comment and read a statement submitted by Councilman Joe Pencek, as follows:

Dear fellow Councilmen,

I've been approached by a couple of small businesses that are struggling in our community. My conversations with these businesses make me wonder if there is something that could be improved on to assist these employers. First, I did find many great programs being offered by Small Business Administration (SBA), the Greater Kokomo Economic Development Alliance, and the City of Kokomo. I was curious to know how small businesses were being affected. With information from the Howard County Treasurer and the Assessors' offices, we found that from 2009 to 2010 Howard County lost seventy-six (76) small businesses. If each of these businesses only employed three people, that would be a loss of two hundred twenty-eight (228) jobs. That is comparable to when we lost Gerber Pottery in Kokomo, Indiana. If we, as community leaders, can help direct some of these small businesses to any of the current, available business assistance programs, possibly we can foster their survival. I bring this information to the attention of Council Members to be mindful of the importance of small businesses in our community as well as large industry. As all of us touch small businesses each day, I ask you to reach out and be proactive in seeing if you can help direct them to one of the many programs offered in our community. I have for you, at the end of this Council session, a package of information on the various programs. Please take one; and as leaders of our community, help these organizations reach the small businesses that could benefit from their programs.

Respectfully,  
Councilman Joe Pencek

Mr. Miller thanked Councilman Pencek for these comments.

**IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2011-HCCO-15 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:**

Ordinance No. 2011-HCCO-15 – Additional Appropriations was read in full one time by Auditor Ann Wells, and acted upon as follows:

		<b>AMOUNT</b>	
		<b>REQUESTED:</b>	<b>APPROVED:</b>
<b><u>002</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Highway Fund</u></b>		
22430.00	Bituminous	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
<b><u>006</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Cumulative Bridge Fund</u></b>		
32250.00	Maintenance & Repair by Contract	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
<b><u>007</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Local Road &amp; Street Fund</u></b>		
23754.00	Bituminous	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00



A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the transfer request of \$750.00 from line item 04721.00, Capital Outlay to line item 03252.00, Repair and Maintenance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF A REHIRE REQUEST IN THE PUBLIC DEFENDER’S OFFICE:**

As Public Defender Steve Raquet previously justified his position rehire request during the Transfers portion of the meeting, a motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the request of Mr. Raquet to replace the Public Defender position vacated by Judge Parry. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried. It was noted that the part time hourly intern position is without benefits.

**IN THE MATTER OF MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

1. Attorney Larry Murrell reminded the Council that at their May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting they approved and appropriated EDIT funds, in the amount of \$56,000 and \$160,000 to the Town of Russiaville for a grant and a loan. They did not approve at that time the amount of \$3,500 for an American Veteran’s Traveling Tribute because it had not been presented. At the June 6, 2011 Board of Commissioner meeting, the Commissioners approved an Amended Capital Improvement including the two Russiaville amounts, which the Council previously approved, and the \$3,500 for the Tribute that had not been submitted or approved at the Council meeting. The Tribute request was to be on the agenda for this evening’s agenda, but was omitted. The Commissioners’ will be at the July Council meeting to submit this request as a joint project between Center Township, the City of Kokomo and Howard County. The tribute will be in town from September 28 – October 2, 2011, and the final payment is due July 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. Sheriff Rogers submitted the May 2011 Sheriff Commissary Report for the Council’s information and record.
3. Personnel Director Wanda McKillip recognized the attendance of City Councilwoman Cindy Sanders, and introduced her to the County Council members. Ms. Sanders lives at 3262 Almquist Lane in Kokomo and is here to make the Council members aware of a flooding issue on Lincoln Road, in between Park Road and Webster Road. Everyone on the north side of Lincoln has been affected by this issue. There had been several residents in attendance concerning this issue, but they did not stay for the conclusion of the meeting. In speaking with several property owners in the area, Ms. Saunders said they believed it was an issue caused by new construction close to the Guardian Hospice location. She believes this flooding also affects several County residents and believes the City and the County will come together to address the issue.

President Miller thanked Ms. Sanders for her attendance at tonight’s meeting and apologized for not recognizing her sooner.

*There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Ortman and seconded by Mr. Ellison.*

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:**

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RICHARD A. MILLER, PRESIDENT

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STAN ORTMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

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LESLIE ELLISON, MEMBER

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JEFF STOUT, MEMBER

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JOSEPH PENCEK, MEMBER

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DWIGHT SINGER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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JOHN ROBERTS, MEMBER

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ANN WELLS, AUDITOR  
Howard County Council Meeting June 28, 2011