

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

DATE: March 7, 2007

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:36 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 7:15 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chair
Vernon Brown
Sherron Franklin
William Oliver
Lincoln Plowman
Cherrish Pryor
Scott Schneider

Absent Members

Lynn McWhirter

AGENDA

Update on the first 60 days of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department – Sheriff Frank Anderson and Police Chief Michael Spears

PROPOSAL NO. 107, 2007 - appoints David Greene to the Marion County Juvenile Detention Center Advisory Board

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 108, 2007 - approves an increase of \$450,000 in the 2007 budget of the Marion County Public Defender Agency (County General Fund) to contract with approximately twenty five (25) attorneys to work part-time on cases involving termination of parental rights (TPR) and children in need of services (CHIN)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 109, 2007 - appropriates \$6,550 in the 2007 Budget of Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to promote local drug court programs and produce a community education video, funded by a grant from the Indiana Supreme Court

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 110, 2007 - appropriates \$174,461 in the 2007 Budgets of the Marion Superior Court, Marion County Prosecutor and Marion County Justice Agency (Drug Free Community Fund) for various Drug Free Community grants: \$62,500 to partially fund the Marion County Drug Treatment Court and a Community Court Resource Coordinator; \$46,961 to fund an investigator in the Community Prosecution Division; and \$65,000 to provide a grant to Drug Free Marion County to cover administrative expensive, financed by a reduction of current appropriations and existing fund balance
“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 111, 2007 - approves an increase of \$400,000 in the 2007 Budget of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and the Department of Public Safety, Fire Division (City Cumulative Capital Fund), to purchase approximately ten replacement vehicles each
“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 112, 2007 - approves a transfer of \$47,600 in the 2007 Budget of the Marion County Justice Agency (Law Enforcement Fund) to fund a contract with IUPUI to extract and analyze data for the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)
“Postpone” until March 28, 2007

Vote: 5-0

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council met on Wednesday, March 7, 2007. Chair Mary Moriarty Adams called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. with the following members present: Vernon Brown, Sherron Franklin, Lincoln Plowman, and Cherrish Pryor. Shortly thereafter Scott Schneider arrived. Absent was Lynn McWhirter.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked to move Proposal Nos. 107 and 108, 2007 to the beginning of the agenda. Consent was given.

PROPOSAL NO. 107, 2007 - appoints David Greene to the Marion County Juvenile Detention Center Advisory Board

Mr. Greene said he serves as the Senior Pastor of Second Baptist Church, and one of the strong components there is working with youth. He has served as a mentor to some Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS), as well as the Our Kids (OK) program. He said working with the youth has driven his desire to serve on this board.

Councillors Oliver, Brown, and Pryor commended Mr. Greene on his service with the youth and expressed their approval of his appointment.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Pryor, to send Proposal No. 107, 2007 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation, pending a successful background investigation. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 108, 2007 - approves an increase of \$450,000 in the 2007 budget of the Marion County Public Defender Agency (County General Fund) to contract with approximately twenty five (25) attorneys to work part-time on cases involving termination of parental rights (TPR) and children in need of services (CHIN)

Robert Clifford, City Controller, said this proposal was originally proposed in January 2007, but was not introduced because it does not conform with Council policy. He said the \$450,000 was taken out of the Public Defender's budget and was never re-inserted. Mr. Clifford said the \$450,000 needs to be put back into the Public Defender's budget because the fact that the money is not in the budget impairs their ability to collect four million dollars from the state. He said they projected that at the end of 2006, the County General Fund balance would be \$675,000, and this proposal will take \$450,000 from that balance. Mr. Clifford said there is some underspending in other department's fund balances (i.e. Marion County Sheriff's Department (MCSD) did not spend the total budget for jail beds, as a result of the jail overcrowding issue last year). He asked the committee to move this proposal forward to the full Council, pending they provide a current balance of the General Fund by March 26, 2007.

David Cook, Marion County Public Defender, said he is comfortable with Mr. Clifford's decision on when the \$450,000 will be appropriated. He said they will need that money

in their budget, as they have employees to pay.

Councillor Oliver asked if the \$450,000 is enough money to pay employees to improve the caseload. Mr. Cook said they are presently in compliance. He said this is not new money; it was originally in his Character 03 budget to pay for contract lawyers.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Pryor, to send Proposal No. 108, 2007 to the full Council, pending a proper County General Fund balance. The motion carried by a vote 6-0.

[Clerk's note: Councillor Schneider arrived at 5:49 p.m.]

Update on the first 60 days of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) – Sheriff Frank Anderson and Police Chief Michael Spears

Chair Moriarty Adams read a statement from Majority Leader Lonnell Conley, which stated that the Law Enforcement Consolidation committee has not been disbanded and future updates need to come before the Law Enforcement Consolidation committee. When this committee disbands, the updates will come before the Public Safety and Criminal Justice committee.

Sheriff Anderson said he personally feels the department is heading in the right direction. He said this police department was put together by both departments, and the public had an opportunity to voice their opinion. Sheriff Anderson said now that IMPD is law, it is their responsibility to make it the best department in the nation, and they are committed to that responsibility.

Michael Spears, Chief of Police, said IMPD has an authorized strength of 1,640 officers; currently IMPD has 1,595 officers (down 45 officers). Twenty-three officers are being assigned to full duty this week and another 52 are in the training academy and will go to field training duty in a few weeks. He said they are in the process of putting together a class in the Spring and Fall and is confident that they will be able to keep up with attrition. Chief Spears said they will be able to better forecast their staffing needs because of the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP). The program indicates how many officers are going to leave due to retirement, and 87 officers will be leaving this year through the DROP. Chief Spears distributed a report from the Communication Division (Exhibit A, attached), which outlines the number of dispatches and productivity of both departments throughout 2006 and 2007. He said they are trying to do some things to improve response time and maintain strength in the neighborhoods. Chief Spears went on to say that the officers from both departments are working well together. He said there have been several success stories with investigations and apprehensions

with arm have been several success stories with investigations and apprehensions in armed that the officers do want to work hard and are working together to make this department work. He said in their crime reduction efforts, there is a lot that can be done through investigation, patrol, and in future investigations. Chief Spears said they also have programs to reach out to children to provide guidance, education, and job skills.

Councillor Brown asked if 1,640 is adequate staffing strength. Chief Spears replied in the negative. Sheriff Anderson said he would like to bring experts in to make an analysis on the needs of the department. He said he wants to assure that he can give the number of staff needed to provide the best public safety for the citizens. Councillor Brown said it is the Council's responsibility to allocate resources to ensure that adequate staff is provided. Councillor Brown asked if the same efforts for diversity will continue in future classes. Chief Spears replied in the affirmative and said they are committed to having the proper representation in all their recruit classes and personnel matters. Councillor Brown asked if any areas are going without coverage in the city. Chief Spears said the department is divided into six districts, and within those districts there are five shifts (day, middle, late, and two overlapping shifts). He said he cannot say that 100% of the time the patrol beats are covered, but overlapping shifts assist in assignments to fill those needs. Overtime is also given to make sure officers are covered.

Councillor Schneider asked how allocation has changed with officers from both previous departments. Chief Spears said the goal was to not remove any officers from the Indianapolis Police Department (IPD) jurisdiction, but to grow the townships. There are an additional 17 officers that are assigned to field patrol, with the hope of additional officers from recruit classes. Councillor Schneider asked what officers' morale is like 60 days into the consolidation. Sheriff Anderson said he is optimistic that all the officers that took the oath to serve and protect will do their civic duty. He said everyone is working together and being professional. Chief Spears said morale is a personal issue, and there are morale issues related to consolidation. Those issues are beginning to dissolve, and officers are accepting the department and working together.

Councillor Oliver asked if there will be an increase in visibility of officers in the community. Chief Spears said one of the things that can be done to be proactive and have an impact on the reduction of crime is being visible. They have already reassigned officers to neighborhood patrols and marked additional unmarked vehicles. Councillor Oliver asked if the new crime prevention security cameras have yielded crime. Chief Spears said the success of the cameras is not yet known. Councillor Oliver asked in what ways IMPD is recruiting for diverse officers. Eva Talley-Sanders, Assistant Chief of IMPD, said they are recruiting for diverse officers by placing billboards in certain areas and advertising in cinemas and outside of the city.

Councillor Franklin suggested having a staff meeting with one person from each shift and each district once a month to allow officers to express their concerns and experiences in the field. Clifford Myers, Assistant Chief of IMPD, said the idea of these meetings is worth exploring. Assistant Chief Talley-Sanders said they want to hear from officers, and this meeting is something that can be done.

Councillor Plowman asked who is doing the staff study and when will it be completed. Assistant Chief Talley-Sanders said they do not know who will be doing the study or when it will be completed; however, this is a project they will start soon.

Councillor Vaughn asked why there is no date to conduct the staff study. Assistant Chief Talley-Sanders said she is not sure when the study will be done, but knows it will be done very soon. Councillor Vaughn asked if the staff study is first priority. Assistant Chief Talley-Sanders said the study is one of the priorities.

Councillor Franklin said, prior to the merger, both departments were short on staff; therefore, time is needed to recruit officers to fill those staff positions.

Councillor Pryor said it is also important to keep in mind that there are 52 officers that are currently in the training academy who will be coming on board. Assistant Chief Myers also added that more than half of the officers in DROP are in supervisor positions. Those positions will be brought back as patrol officers, with less cost and more officers on the street.

Lieutenant Stephen Odle gave a brief overview of Youth Services. He said they have three separate units within Youth Services: Police Athletic League (PAL), Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT), and the Our Kids (OK) program. The goal of these programs is to decrease violence and incarceration, while promoting education and self-worth. He went on to explain how many officers and contracts are involved with each program.

Councillor Brown asked how many years Lt. Odle has been with the police department. Lt. Odle said about 27 years. Councillor Brown asked if Lt. Odle believes these programs are successful in reducing the overall crime rate. Lt. Odle replied in the affirmative and said he thinks of these programs as community policing at its purest form. He said they are actually dealing with the youth on a one-to-one basis.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked for a five-minute break. Consent was given.

[Clerk's note: Councillors Pryor and Franklin left at 7:00 p.m.]

PROPOSAL NO. 109, 2007 - appropriates \$6,550 in the 2007 Budget of Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to promote local drug court programs and produce a community education video, funded by a grant from the Indiana Supreme Court

Sue Patterson, Director of Finances for the Court Services Agency, read and explained Proposal No. 109, 2007 per Exhibit B (attached). She said the video will explain the goal of the Marion County Drug Treatment Court, which is to assist offenders in breaking the cycle of addiction and incarceration. The funding will be used to purchase video production supplies and contractual services to pay for production.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Schneider, to send Proposal No. 109, 2007 to the full Council with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 110, 2007 - appropriates \$174,461 in the 2007 Budgets of the Marion Superior Court, Marion County Prosecutor and Marion County Justice Agency (Drug Free Community Fund) for various Drug Free Community grants: \$62,500 to partially fund the Marion County Drug Treatment Court and a Community Court Resource Coordinator; \$46,961 to fund an investigator in the Community Prosecution Division; and \$65,000 to provide a grant to Drug Free Marion County to cover administrative expensive, financed by a reduction of current appropriations and existing fund balance

Steve Dyson, Fiscal Deputy for the Marion County Justice Agency (MCJA), said this proposal is a combination of what would have been multiple proposals, because there are three county agencies involved in this proposal. He said there is a transfer between county agencies and an additional appropriation. Mr. Dyson said the Marion County Superior Court is requesting an increase of appropriations of \$62,500, and the Marion County Prosecutor is requesting an additional appropriation of \$46,961. There is a decrease in the MCJA of \$109,461, which is the total of the courts and prosecutor’s requests. He said this will be a transfer from one agency to two other agencies, with no new dollars. Mr. Dyson said the second part of this proposal is an increase of \$65,000, which is funded by the unappropriated and unencumbered Drug Free Community Fund.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Plowman, to send Proposal No. 110, 2007 to the full Council with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 112, 2007 - approves a transfer of \$47,600 in the 2007 Budget of the Marion County Justice Agency (Law Enforcement Fund) to fund a contract with IUPUI to extract and analyze data for the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)

Mr. Dyson added that Proposal No. 112, 2007 is also related to MCJA, and they are requesting that the proposal be postponed.

Councillor Schneider moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to “Postpone” Proposal No. 112, 2007 until March 28, 2007. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 111, 2007 - approves an increase of \$400,000 in the 2007 Budget of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and the Department of Public Safety, Fire Division (City Cumulative Capital Fund), to purchase approximately ten replacement vehicles each

Amy Marack, Deputy Controller, said the requested appropriation will pay for additional vehicles for IMPD and the Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD). She said \$200,000 will be used for IMPD to purchase ten new patrol vehicles, and \$200,000 for IFD to purchase vehicles to meet their needs. The source of funding is the City Cumulative Capital Fund. She said both IMPD and IFD have an aging fleet, and the goal is to assist in previous efforts to replace those aging vehicles.

Councillor Schneider asked if they anticipate coming before the Council for additional vehicles. Ms. Marack said at this time they should be able to meet the needs for this year. She said they will be looking into vehicle needs during the budget process this summer.

Councillor Oliver asked for explanation of the replacement program. Ms. Marack said Fleet Services takes a look at the age of the vehicles and mileage, and that report is taken into consideration when figuring the number of vehicles needing to be replaced.

Councillor Schneider moved, seconded by Councillor Plowman, to send Proposal No. 111, 2007 to the full Council with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chair
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee