

Hancock County Council

October 6, 2010

The County Council of Hancock County, Indiana, met in the Commissioner Court in the Hancock County Courthouse Annex, Greenfield, Indiana, on the 6th day of October 2010 at the hour of 8:30 A.M. in accordance with the rules of the Council. Council members present were William Bolander, Rosalie Richardson, Dick Pasco, Brian Kirkwood and Jack Leonard. Also, present were Auditor, Robin D. Lowder, Deputy Ginny Martin. Tom Roney, Jim Shelby was not in attendance.

Council President William Bolander, who presided, called the meeting to order.

In the Matter of Sugar Creek Township Budget 2011)

Bob Boyer, township trustee appeared before Council to explain why he did not attend the budget hearing on September 16, 2010. He had a death in the family. Council had given a *not approved* non-binding recommendation since Mr. Boyer did not appear.

Mr. Boyer presented his 2011 budget. Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to amend the budget to approve as written, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Vote 5-0

In the Matter of LEPC)

Dave Sutherlin appeared before Council for 2011 budget for Emergency Right to Know fund 1160. Council had given a *not approved* non-binding recommendation since Mr. Sutherlin did not appear at the budget hearings. Councilman Pasco made a motion to amend the budget *approved* as written, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Vote 5-0

In the Matter of Redevelopment)

Dennis Maloy, Economic Development appeared before Council to present the Redevelopment Commission 2011 Budget. Mr. Maloy presented a letter from Umbaugh and Ice Miller stating the ruling by DLGF that a budget were not necessary to be presented to County Council for their non-binding review. The Redevelopment Commission does not levy property tax at this time. However, it is the County “home rule” that a budget be presented for Council to review each year.

In the Matter of Buck Creek Fire Department)

Dave Sutherlin, Chief of Buck Creek Fire Department appeared before Council to explain the workings of his fire department and the 2011 budget.

In the Matter of Coroner)

Tammy Vangundy appeared before Council to request an amendment to her 2011 budget requesting and an additional \$500 be put in her telephone line item for internet service. Councilman Pasco made a motion to amend the budget as follows:

- Line 0101-007-30-0014 Autopsy reduced to \$16,500
- Line 0101-007-30-0024 Telephone increased by \$500

Motion was seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Vote 5-0

Coroner advised Council that there is a State statute that says if the appropriation that the County approved runs out that the State will pay for autopsies. Auditor will look into this issue.

In the Matter of Substance Abuse)

Judge Marshall appeared before Council to finalize the Substance Abuse 2010 budget shortfall and 2011 budget.

Councilman Pasco made a motion to approve the 2011 budget for Substance Abuse as presented at the budget meeting by Judge Marshall on September 30th, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Vote 4-0

Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to appropriate the shortfall from the Substance Abuse budget at year end from Food & Beverage, the shortfall is approximately \$38,000 (worse case scenario), seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 5-0

Judge Marshall reported to Council that the ADA Probation User fees will increase for next year 2011 helping Substance Abuse shortfall.

Request to Auditor)

Councilwoman Richardson made a request to the Auditor to send out a memo to all departments inquiring what will be left from their Cumulative Capital Development Fund 4000 to plan for the 2011 CCD budget.

In the Matter of Amendments prior to Adoption of 2011 Budget)

Councilman Pasco made a motion to approve all amendments as submitted to Council, seconded by Councilwoman Richardson. Vote 5-0

- Substance Abuse requested 2 new funds be created and was approved by Council.
 1. 0806 ADA Drug Screen appropriated ,
0806-000-30-0014 Drug Screen Lab \$5,000

2. 0797 ADA Probation User Fees appropriated as follows:
- 0797-000-10-0020 Probation Officers \$10,000
 - 0797-000-20-0011 Office Supplies \$2,500
 - 0797-000-30-0013 JIP Contractual \$7,000
 - 0797-000-30-0015 Spanish Interpreter \$2,400
 - 0797-000-30-0022 Work Mileage \$200
 - 0797-000-30-0032 Printing \$1,000
 - 0797-000-30-0092 Meetings/lodging \$1,000
 - 0797-000-30-0061 Miscellaneous Expense \$2,000
 - Total budget =\$26,100

- Auditor Budget
 - 0101-002-10-0021 Deputies decreased by \$4,000
- Coroner Budget
 - 0101-007-20-0012 Autopsy Supplies (new line) increased \$1,000
 - 0101-007-30-0014 Autopsy decreased \$5,500
 - 0101-007-30-0015 Transport (new line) increased \$4,000
- Sheriff Budget
 - 0101-005-10-0020 Deputies decreased \$11,000
 - 0101-005-10-0055 Holiday increased by \$11,000

Adoption of 2011 Hancock County Budget)

Councilman Pasco made a motion to adopt the 2011 County budget as amended, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Vote 5-0

In the Matter of LOIT)

Councilman Leonard introduced the implementation of LOIT (Local Option Income Tax) at the total maximum rate, seconded by Councilman Kirkwood. Roll call vote 4-1

Aye

Nay

Dick Pasco

Bill Bolander

Brian Kirkwood

Rosalie Richardson

Jack Leonard

Councilman Kirkwood left the meeting.

Councilwoman Richardson overview of reasons to implement LOIT as follows:

- \$1.7 million shortfall in 2011 budget
- Loss of \$1 million to the caps General fund only
- Loss of \$1 million to CAGIT
- E911 Center loss of 30% received for wireless and 50% received for landline revenue, which was not anticipated.
- Supplemental deductions by the State
- Appeals from Property tax

Possible fix:

1. Rainy Day stands at \$3.2 million but can't reduce totally because it will not be replenished anytime soon.
2. Food & Beverage has a balance of approximately \$500,000 however, the County has to pay animal control out of it and also the bond shortfall expense, we can't default on bond payments.
3. Our CCD fund we are waiting to see what is left for 2010 and possibly borrow from that amount.
4. The CEDIT fund .10 and anything at .10 should raise \$700,000.
5. LOIT has 3 options for Council to consider. All these options will be looked at by our Financial Advisor and Council.

Step 1-Freeze to Property Tax Levies replaces the normal annual increase in the maximum levy calculation for local units.

Step 2-Property Tax Relief is a Direct Property Tax Relief.

Step 3-Public Safety Pays for public safety expenditures for the county and the cities and towns within the county however this option is very broad.

John Priorie addressed the Council with his concerns for LOIT implementation and public input.

Councilman Bolander, for the record wanted to reiterate that for flexibility purposes they had to introduce the maximum rate but will more than likely the rate will be less.

In the Matter of the Meeting Minutes)

Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes for June, July, August and September as written, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 4-0

Councilman Leonard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Pasco. Vote 4-0
Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED on this day _____

AYE

NAY

ATTEST: _____
Robin D. Lowder, Auditor