

Hancock Co Council Emergency Budget Meeting Minutes

Hancock County Annex

111 American Legion Pl Ste 146

Greenfield In 46140

Monday, February 6, 2012

Those present were Council Members, William Bolander, President, Joe Skvarenina, Rosalie Richardson, & Tom Roney. Financial Solutions, Greg Guerrettaz, Auditor Robin Lowder and Deputy Ginny Martin were also present.

The meeting began at 8:00 am with President Bill Bolander opening a public hearing. No public comments, public hearing closed . President read Resolution 2012-2-1

Background information: During the budget process, it became obvious that the 2012 Budget would again be a difficult one. During the planning process for the budget, the Council Budget Committee decided that the proper amount to seek as the 2012 General Fund Budget was \$14,994,834. This amount was published in the newspaper (on Form 3) and was built into Form 4-B. This amount was set at this level to include a raise for the employees and to make up the payment on the Sheriff's Retirement Fund. Both of these are assumed to be ongoing. At the Council meeting (as in the past), the budget was discussed and cuts were anticipated at that meeting.

Discussion took place about cutting two key items:

- 1) The raise to employees
- 2) The Sheriff's Retirement payment (totaling approximately \$394,534). Upon the conclusion of the meeting, the Form 4-B was reduced. This reduction eliminated the two amounts which part of the 2012 Budget plan was built on and resulted in a lower request from the tax levy, on Line 17, of \$394,534. On October 12, 2011, the lower amount of the budget and levy request was submitted via the DLGF Gateway system, resulting in a proposed levy lower than the Max Allowable Levy. The Council did not intend to reduce the 2012 Budget at that time. It merely prepared for cuts that could be necessary.

Upon receiving the preliminary Form 1782/Budget Order, the event was discovered and the Council met in an emergency session to explore options of what to do. An appeal upon receipt of the 1782 was made to the DLGF, that the \$14,600,300 number shown on the 1782 Notice should, in fact, be \$14,994,834.

The appeal request came back on Wednesday, February 1, 2012, allowing the Hancock County Council to request a "technical correction" to Form 4-A and Form 4-B to reflect the corrected amount of \$14,994,834 if so deemed by the Council.

Therefore, if the Hancock County Council deems it appropriate, the Council should hold a Public Hearing, and submit a Resolution and a corrected Form 4-A and Form 4-B, asking for a technical correction to be made by the DLGF on behalf of the County.

The Resolution should read, "WHEREAS, the Hancock County Council hereby requests that the DLGF make a technical correction and restore the request budget of \$14,994,834 (as documented on the attached forms); WHEREAS, the Hancock County Council hereby requests that the DLGF reflects this amount and the requested levy impact on the final 1782 /Budget

Councilwoman Richardson made a motion to pass Resolution 2012-2-1 as read, Councilman Skvarenina seconded, motion passed.

Aye

Joseph Skvarenina

Rosalie Richardson

William Bolander

Tom Roney

Councilman Roney made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Skvarenina. Vote 4-0 motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved this day: February 6, 2012

Attest: _____

Robin D. Lowder