

Council Meeting - Budget Hearings

September 15, 2010 – 7:00 am

The meeting was called to order by President Spaetti. Councilmen Spaetti, Ebert, Winsett, Kress, Waninger, Kroeger, and Bunner were present.

Moment of Silence – Rita Stallings

Spaetti requested a moment of silence to remember Rita Stallings, Health Department Sanitarian, who died of cancer.

COIT and CEDIT

Shelton stated that she must send a Declaration of County Tax Rates to the Indiana Department of Revenue reporting the county tax rate for COIT and CEDIT. The current tax rates are .003 for COIT and .005 for CEDIT. Kroeger made a motion to keep both rates the same. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

BUDGET HEARING

Elected officials, department heads and various county agencies outlined their budget requests as follows:

Highway – Superintendent Painter discussed the salaries and wages in the department. Painter showed a comparison of the superintendent salaries in other counties. The mandate to replace the signs in the county was also discussed. The overall request for Highway was \$1,848,052.

Cumulative Bridge – The request was \$978,164.

LR&S – The request was \$200,000 – set by the state.

Council – The council budget was discussed. Kroeger asked for \$45,000 to be put in the budget to show the amount of revenue lost due to the circuit breaker. The total request was \$98,075.

Auditor – Shelton requested \$184,907.

Plat Book – Shelton requested \$8,208.

VSO – VSO Lawson was unable to attend the hearing. His request was \$32,150.

Coroner – Coroner Schulte was unable to attend the hearing. His request was \$50,925.

Commissioners – Commissioner Rininger requested a budget of \$2,454,008. Some of the specific requests will be discussed as the organizations come to the hearing. Becky Guthery discussed the work Ride Solutions has done in the county. Several supporters were present and letters of support were presented to the council. The commissioners requested \$5,000 in their budget for Ride Solutions.

Courthouse – The commissioners requested \$216,112.

Cumulative Capital – The commissioners requested \$978,164. The request includes four sheriff's vehicles.

Drainage Board – The board requested \$6,730, including \$800 for a sprayer to be used by the surveyor.

Redevelopment Commission – Attorney Lueken requested \$7,000 for the Redevelopment Commission in the commissioners' budget.

Election Board – Election Board members Jerianne Burroughs and Gina Pennington and Clerk Harney requested \$100,591, including \$8,400 for the Voter Registration System.

Clerk – Clerk Harney requested \$166,308, including \$873 for a public computer.

EMA – Director Perdue discussed the progress on the proposed Public Safety Building. The EMA requested \$92,875, including \$1,500 for pagers for the county responders.

The hearing was recessed at 10:00 am.

The hearing was reconvened at 10:15 am.

Animal Control – Joy Zook discussed the progress on the Animal Control Building. The Animal Control Board requested \$47,400 in a separate budget in County General. The commissioners requested \$25,000 in the commissioner budget as an alternative.

Building Inspector – The Building Inspector requested \$31,500.

Plan Commission – Administrator Cail was unable to attend and discussed her budget at a prior council meeting. She requested \$46,137.

Engineer – Engineer Lloyd was unable to attend and discussed her budget at a prior council meeting. She requested \$75,067, but stated \$5,590 for summer help can be removed.

Treasurer – Treasurer Frakes requested \$121,150.

Recorder – Recorder Dugas requested \$71,793, including \$500 for a new phone and calculator.

Lincolnlnd Economic Development Corporation – Director Utter discussed the work LEDC has done in the past year. LEDC requested \$175,000 in the commissioners' budget.

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Assessor – Assessor Arnold requested \$60,800.

Reassessment / Board of Review – Arnold requested \$128,550, including \$5,000 for a laptop and software.

The hearing was recessed for lunch at 12:00 pm.

The hearing was reconvened at 1:00 pm.

Southern Hills – The Southern Hills Deputy Director discussed the work in Spencer County. The request was \$202,370. The amount is set by the state.

SIRS – Kelly Mitchell discussed the work SIRS does in the county. The request was \$15,000 in the commissioner budget.

Council on Aging – Emily Neighbors discussed the work the Council on Aging does in the county. The request was \$70,815 in the commissioner budget.

Solid Waste – The state is now requiring the council to review and approve of the Solid Waste budget. The budget total was \$594,000, which is a 2.88 percent increase over 2010. The “Growth Quotient” set by the state was 2.9 percent.

The hearing was recessed for the day at 2:38 pm.

The hearing was reconvened on September 16, 2010 at 7:00 am.

Health – Health Officer, Dr. McGinnis and Administrator Etienne requested 252,872. The council expressed their sympathy for the loss of their co-worker Rita Stallings.

Local Health – The request was \$33,139.

Circuit Court – Judge Dartt requested \$420,880, including a request for an additional secretary.

Spencer County EAS – Director Jane Stout requested \$421,700.

Extension Office – The Extension office request was \$123,328.

Weed Board – The request was \$2,300.

Parks & Recreation – The request was \$40,820.

Indiana Region 15 – Director Lisa Gehlhausen discussed the grants received by the county in the past year. The request was \$9,176 in the commissioner budget.

Carter Fire District – The state is now requiring the council to review and approve the Carter Fire District budget. The percentage increase for the district was over the 2.9 percent growth quotient allowed by the state. The council suggested cuts in the budget and the district will re-submit their budget.

Sheriff – Sheriff Lindsey requested \$1,020,666, including a request for longevity pay and \$50,000 for inmate meals. Since past appropriations for meals have reached over \$85,000, the council decided to raise the initial meals appropriation up to \$85,000 if the budget allows after other cuts are made. Discussion was had on the purchase of new vehicles. Lindsey requested four vehicles in the cumulative capital budget.

Jail – Sheriff Lindsey requested \$1,085,866, including \$75,000 for inmate medical. Since past appropriations for inmate medical have reached over \$100,000, the council decided to raise the initial appropriation up to \$100,000 if the budget allows after the other cuts are made.

E911 – Sheriff Lindsey requested \$144,357.

Prosecutor – Prosecutor Wilkinson requested \$92,145.

Pre-Trial – Wilkinson requested \$65,067. Kroeger asked Wilkinson to submit all the salaries in the pre-trial budget next year and move everything else to the prosecutor budget in order to simplify the budgets.

Child Support – Wilkinson requested \$178,352.

Law Enforcement – Wilkinson requested \$8,483.

Soil and Water - Mark Lubbehusen requested \$55,748.

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Surveyor – Surveyor Herron requested \$71,796 including \$800 for a sprayer – also requested in the drainage board budget. Discussion was had on salary and Herron’s use of his own personal equipment for the county.

Cornerstone Perpetuation – Herron requested \$7,000.

The hearing was recessed at 11:30 am for lunch.

The hearing was reconvened at 12:30 pm.

Discussion was had on salary. The council agreed they would like to give around a 2% raise. Courthouse Deputies would be given \$500 and most elected officials \$650. The Sheriff requested the same salary as last year. Discussion was had on the surveyor’s salary. Herron uses his own equipment for the county work and the surveyors in the past were not given as much of a raise because it was considered a part-time job. A line item was added for rental equipment for \$750 for Herron’s use of his personal equipment. The Coroner’s raise was determined to be \$250. Highway Superintendent’s raise would be \$750, Foremen \$600 and hourly workers .25 per hour. Part-time workers would be raised to \$9.25.

The hearing was recessed for the day at 3:45 pm.

The hearing was reconvened on September 17, 2010 at 7:00 am.

Discussion on salary began with re-addressing the Surveyor salary. The council decided on a salary of \$30,125 to bring the position more in line with other elected officials and other county Surveyors. The salary of the Highway Superintendent was also re-addressed. The council decided on a salary of \$39,325 to bring him more in line with other Highway Superintendents.

Discussion was had on the number of vehicles to purchase from the Cumulative Capital fund. The Sheriff requested four. The council was divided as to funding two or three. Kroeger made a motion to approve the purchase of two vehicles. Ebert seconded. The motion passed.

Animal Control was discussed. Kroeger made a motion to add a line item in the Cumulative Capital fund budget for Animal Control for \$10,000. Winsett seconded. The motion did not pass with Winsett, Kroeger, and Spaetti voting in favor and Bunner, Ebert, Kress, and Waninger opposing.

Each budget was discussed line by line with the totals of each as follows:

Dpmt	2011 requested	2011 approved
Clerk	166,308	159,183
Auditor	184,907	184,896
Treasurer	121,150	118,325
Recorder	71,793	63,175
Sheriff	1,020,666	951,424
Surveyor	71,796	66,568
Coroner	50,925	48,790
Prosecutor	92,145	89,395
Assessor	62,800	62,025
Election Bd	100,591	59,565
Co. Ext	123,328	123,025
Advisory Plan	46,137	44,025
Drainage Bd	6,730	6,730
VSO	32,150	29,275
Weed Control	2,300	2,300
Commissioners	2,454,008	2,376,386
Courthouse	216,112	213,612
Jail	1,085,866	1,063,568
Building Insp.	31,500	29,175
Soil & Water	55,748	53,275
Park & Rec	40,820	35,820

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Circuit Court	420,880	408,583
EMA	92,875	80,850
Child Support	178,352	165,432
Council	98,950	98,075
Engineer	75,067	60,140
Animal Control	47,400	0
	6,951,304	6,593,617
Highway	2,974,508	2,944,180
Cum Bridge	978,164	969,171
Health	252,872	244,059
Local Health	33,139	33,139
LR&S	200,000	200,000
Reassessment	128,550	123,350
Cum Cap	363,657	234,657
Cornerstone	7,000	7,000
E911	144,357	139,777
Pretrial	65,067	63,862
Law Enforcement	8,483	8,483
Plat Book	8,208	8,208
	5,164,005	4,975,886
Total	12,115,309	11,569,503

Various tax levies for the funds were calculated and discussed using the preliminary numbers from the budgets listed above. Final budget adoption is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19 at 5:30 pm.

Winsett made a motion to adjourn. Ebert seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 am.

County Council,

President

Attest:

Cindy Shelton, Auditor

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