

FINAL BUDGET HEARING

OCTOBER 26, 2009

The LaPorte County Council met in the final budget hearing session on October 26, 2009 in the assembly room of the LaPorte County Government Complex, 809 State Street, LaPorte, Indiana 46350.

Meeting was called to order by President Mark Yagelski at approximately 6:15 p.m.

Auditor Craig Hinchman had roll call and the following Council Members were present; Mr. Bernacchi, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Ford, Mr. Garner, Mr. Mrozinski, Mrs. Sosinski and Mr. Yagelski. Also present were Council Attorney Don Baugher, Auditor Craig Hinchman and Chief Deputy Auditor, Mary Ray. Auditor Hinchman declared a quorum.

The Solid Waste budget was discussed.

Motion was made to accept the revised submitted budget

All members present voted in favor

Motion approved

Board of Commissioners budget was discussed

Motion was made to restore all the 200 and 300 accounts as submitted at the October 12, 2009 budget hearing.

All members voted in favor Motion approved

Mr. Lombard from ALCO Television was questioned about some problems with the Council Meetings being televised live. The Council was advised that problems were corrected and our County is only paying for one channel, not two. We have a three year contract with them starting in 2008 for \$15,000.00 per quarter.

Salary of Pam Kieft, Coolspring Assessor was discussed.

Motion was made to reinstate her salary for the 2010 year with the stipulation that she meet with the LaPorte County Assessor, Carol McDaniel to get her assignments and to fulfill the requirements of work assigned. Mrs. McDaniel is to keep the Council informed.

Voice vote taken

Mr. Mrozinski, Mr. Yagelski, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Bernacchi and Mr. Garner voted in favor

Mrs. Sosinski and Mr. Ford voted against.

Motion approved.

Mrs. Sosinski presented a motion as follows:

The LaPorte Council institute a "Hiring Freeze" for LaPorte County Government, effective January 1, 2010 with the following exceptions:

Exception to include EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENTS of the LaPorte County Emergency Medical Services, LaPorte County Sheriff's Department, E911, and HAZMAT & Emergency Management Department will remain exempt from this hiring freeze. Positions being vacated by Termination due to being "Fired" from LaPorte County Government will also be exempt from this Hiring Freeze.

EMERGENCY SERVICES are defined as organizations which ensure public safety by address different emergencies. Some departments/agencies exist solely for addressing certain types of emergencies while other deal with ad hoc emergencies as part of their normal responsibilities.

The Auditor will immediately cease funding for the position being vacated. The LaPorte County Council, at its' next regular meeting, will entertain the Department Head and/or the Commissioner's request to review the vacated position for continued future funding if either feels it necessary to retain said position to operate LaPorte County Government.

The Department Head may, at their discretion, formally ask for an immediate hearing by the county Council. The LaPorte County Council agrees that they will hear said request within forty eight hours. If they fail to meet, or have lack of a quorum, the request of retaining the vacated position is automatically granted.

Voice vote taken

All members present voted in favor

Motion approved

Motion was made to accept the 2010 LaPorte County Budget.

Voice vote taken

All members present voted in favor

Motion approved.

Motion was made to accept the 2010 Salary Ordinance

Voice vote taken

All members voted in favor

Motion approved

Meeting adjourned at 6:50p.m.